

MANNING WALLAMBA FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY Inc TAREE

Issue 165 March 2023

THE FIG TREE



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ISSN 2208-3243

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2023 IS HERE—SO REFRESH AND START CHASING THE INFORMATION

Your committee is working to make this a great year for you.

How can you help?

Let them know what you expect from MWFHS.

We need to fund-raise so some helpful suggestions.

We need duty staff 1 or 2 days per month for 2 hours (full training provided) it's not much different to what your doing, you are just helping others.

Sometimes the simplest thought solves the big problem, don't over think it.

To all those having a tough time know, that we feel for you.

Back to it and solve the mysteries that some times you question

Regards

Ken B.

A BIG THANK YOU TO
June Dawson who has donated her very extensive research
of the
Saxby and Payne/Goodsell Families to our Society.
These resources are a valuable addition to our
Resource Library and Research Databases

Disclaimer: MWFHS Inc does not hold itself responsible for statements made or opinions expressed by authors of articles published in The FigTree.

Every effort has been made to ensure that The FigTree is free from errors or omissions. Should these occur we apologise for any inconvenience caused.



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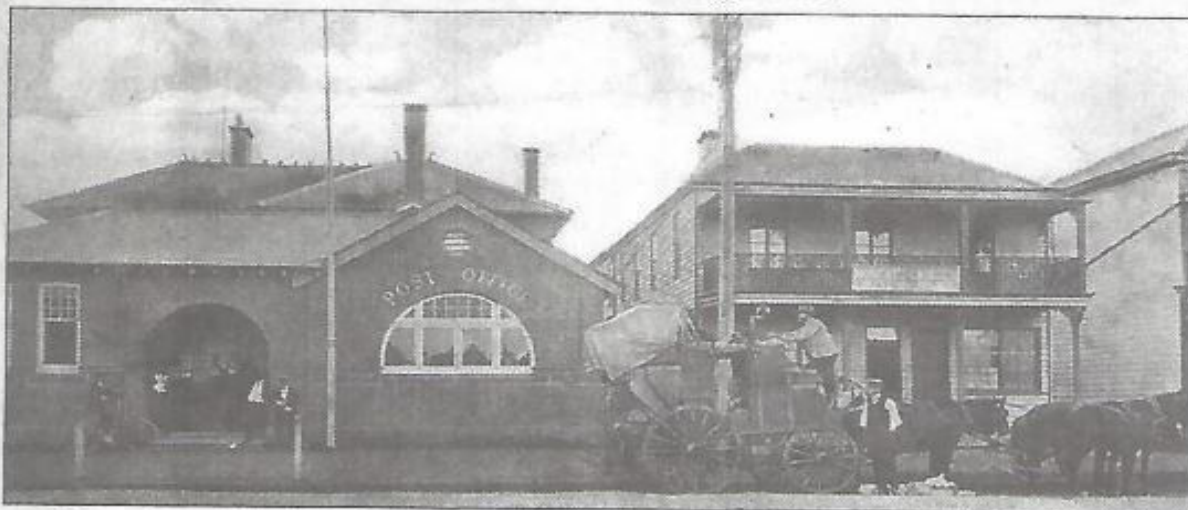
Public Officer—Lyn Haynes

The Early Days of Taree

Keeping a town in touch

ON January 1, 1861, Taree's first Post Office opened, under the direction of Ebenezer Doust, and the fourth in the Manning district. Doust was paid \$24 a year for his postal duties; mails were taken by boat to the Hunter, Clarence, Richmond and Macleay Rivers. In 1863 the steamship *Diamantina* was carrying mail once a week up and down the lower part of the river, as far as Taree.

On November 17, 1899, Taree's new Post Office building, erected at a cost of \$3156 was officially opened. The Taree Telephone Exchange was established on February 22, 1909, its first directory listing 29 subscribers. Taree No. 1 was held by R.H. Robinson, Storekeeper, Victoria and Manning Streets, and No. 2 was Dr J.W. Gormley, Manning Street.



■ Taree Post Office and mail coach 1914, beside Moscott & Holden's Coffee Palace

RESEARCH SERVICE

Research Forms can be downloaded from Society Website

<http://manningwallambafhs.com.au/>

Initial Research Enquiry

\$20.00 including up to 2 hours research and limited photocopying, to the value of \$5.00

Extra microfilm copying \$1.00 per page. Additional

Research \$10 per hour



HAVE YOU HIT A BRICKWALL?

The FigTree is issued 4 times a year, so please feel free to send in any query you may have and it will be included in the next issue.

Our Journal is not only distributed to you, our members, but to other Societies throughout Australia and Overseas.

We also receive exchange Journals from a very large number of Societies electronically, if you would like to receive any of these, please let our Secretary know and you will be added to the distribution list,

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES

Family Membership \$33.50

Single Membership \$25.00

The Membership Renewal Form is available from our room at Taree Library during our normal operating times -

Monday-Saturday 10.00am to 12 noon or alternatively can be downloaded from the Society's web page

<http://manningwallambafhs.com.au/>

Members are entitled to

Use the Society's Resources during opening hours

Attend meetings and workshops, and vote at meetings

Four copies of the Fig Tree by mail or download

Free Research Enquiries in "Fig Tree"

18 free entries per year each membership/family in Society's Members' Interest Directory

2 hours free research per membership year, for out-of-area members, on receipt of a business sized, self-addressed envelope

Tragedy of Whistling

Ernest Hawkins

Submitted by Nancy Dixon

My maternal grandfather, Ernest 'Red' Hawkins (no middle name) was born 9 April 1893 in Eldorado, Illinois, USA, the youngest of nine born to George Fagan Hawkins, farmer, and Emma Fallowfield Hawkins. His father died seven months before he was born aged 48, and his mother died when he was just 2 ½ years old at 41 years, leaving four young children to be raised by other relatives. Ernest worked as a farmhand or farm laborer, as recorded in the 1910 US Census. However, his already challenging life took a further unfortunate turn on the summer evening of Tuesday 10 June 1914 near Hatfield, Indiana, while whistling as he returned from the field to the barn on his mule.

Ernest passed the warehouse of Jacob McCullough, a nearby 60 year old bachelor farmer who was in the warehouse obtaining seed corn.

According to a newspaper report,

"McCullough remonstrated with young Ernest for his whistling and some hot words passed between them but no blows at that time. Hawkins put his mule away and, securing a gun, started back towards the warehouse. He was met in the road by Robert Richardson, who, seeing that some trouble was on, endeavored to dissuade Hawkins and turn him back. He went on however and when he reached the door of the warehouse he covered McCullough with the rifle, making threats at him and at the same time ordering him to drop the half bushel of corn that he held in his hands. Hawkins then entered the warehouse and advanced toward McCullough, who hesitated and walked back several feet. He made an attempt to grab the gun, when Hawkins struck him a blow on the left side of the head with the gun, cutting a deep gash and knocking him to the floor. When McCullough attempted to arise he was struck a second blow on the back of the head which rendered him unconscious and caused his death an hour later. A physician was called but McCullough was beyond any aid he could render." A newspaper report said the barrel of the gun was bent in two places and the stock was shattered by the force of the blow.



Continued../

Tragedy of Whistling - Continued

When Ernest saw that he had killed the farmer, he took the 'first car' 12 miles to Rockport where he gave himself up to the constable, admitting what he had done but declared that it was justified. He was jailed without bail and charged with first degree murder, but subsequently sent to prison convicted of manslaughter to serve between two and twenty one years. After one year, one of his brothers appealed to the parole board for clemency, but it was felt that Ernest had not served enough time to justify parole. Newspaper reports called him a 'youth' or 'boy' but he was actually 21 at the time. It may well be that he was not aware of his actual age being an orphan and as he had a 'baby face' and looked younger.

Unfortunately, Jacob McCullough's brother, James McCullough, was a former deputy attorney-general for Indiana who protested against leniency and described how and why McCullough was so incensed by whistling. Whether Ernest knew it or not, Jacob McCulloch had an obsession bordering on insanity against whistling, from years earlier in Oklahoma when he had a building constructed and on completion, part of the wages of the workmen remained unpaid. This was unknown to McCullough who had paid the contractor in full. The laborers, after failing to get their money in a law suit, vented their hatred by annoying him in every way possible. One way was to stand on the street corner and whistle at him as he passed. In later years, he always believed that whistlers of any sort were making fun of him and had many quarrels because of this belief.

I have not yet found prison records or any reports about when Ernest was released, but it seems probable that he served at least two years then joined the army. The 1920 US Census shows him again as a farm laborer in Luce township, Spencer County, Indiana. It was soon after this time



that Ernest apparently met my grandmother Ina Elizabeth Walter in the same area and they travelled to California and married 13 June 1921. Ina was born at Rockport, Indiana 1 February 1903 (ten years younger) - a 'Hoosier' who kept strong connections with her family and Indiana. *

Grandpa Ernest worked for several months constructing the road into the Sierra Nevada mountains from the foothills of Springville, up to the hydroelectricity power plant on the Tule river gorge and on to Camp Nelson. Ernest and Ina lived in a tent during this time, moving the tent up the mountain as it progressed. My mother, Mary Hawkins, was conceived during this time and born 5 April 1922. She always loved the mountains, eventually building a new cabin for herself at Camp Nelson, which became a holiday resort with summer cabins, although many people lived there year around.

Continued../

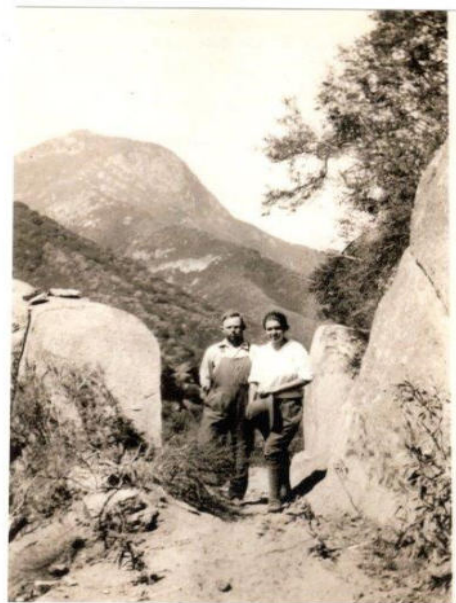
Tragedy of Whistling - Continued

Grandpa and Grandma lived in the Ducor then Terra Bella area for over 40 years, where they eventually raised five children in a small quaint wooden house. Grandpa loved Dobermans and 'Turkey shoots'/clay pigeon shooting and was a proud member of the American Legion until his death in 1964 from heart conditions. Grandma Ina loved embroidery, quilting, reading, antique shopping and served the communities as a librarian for many years. She had fascinating collections of Indian baskets, antique buttons, carnival glass, brass bells, etc. and was an astute collector.

Grandpa Ernest worked for the Union Oil Company and the local Council as a plant operator on a road grader, then finally as the custodian for the Terra Bella Memorial building, where Community functions were held, including our family gatherings where we young cousins would play hide and seek in the darkened large hall, sliding about in our socks on the polished floor.

This dark aspect of Grandpa Ernest's early life was kept secret and only revealed to me a few years ago. Although, one wonders if being imprisoned in 1914 for several years might well have saved his life, as it kept him from serving overseas in the First World War.

Who knew whistling could be so life-changing?



The Family of Frances Ann Northey

Submitted by Joan Irvine

When I started researching the “Northey’s” after finding a connection in my husband’s family, I was a little overwhelmed by the size of the various Northey families and/or whether they were in fact connected. This was particularly the case with the Northey families of Kenwyn and Kea, Cornwall, England. Not only that, but the names of their children were in many cases the same in the various branches of the family! Why do people do that?

In this instance I am starting this article with the line of Northey’s that I found to be the one I was researching, that is Josiah Northey 1787-1851 who married Ann Tyack 1786-1870. Their son James Northey was B: 1820 in Cornwall, England and died in Moonta SA Australia on 4th May 1898 he was married to Elizabeth James 1821-1861. It is their son Josiah Northey that married Hannah Griffiths (see below).

The Northey’s, or at least the Northey’s referred to in this article, are my husband’s grand-mothers’ family – Frances Ann Northey who was born on the 19 Oct 1878 and died 30 Nov 1960. She married John Charles Archdale Irvine on 21st May 1907 at Paddington, Sydney, N.S.W.

Between 1907 and 1914 Frances and John had five children, however in 1918 when the youngest Hector (Harry) was 4 years old Frances left her husband and children behind, having very little contact with them after she left, even though she only lived a suburb away!

Before I go any further I would like to acknowledge the research into the Northey Family carried out by Greg Packer, also a Northey descendant, and who has given his permission to use his very detailed research as required.

Hannah Northey (nee Griffiths) was born in Wales 3rd August 1848 arriving in Australia with her parents and five siblings in October 1849 on board “The Gratitude”. She married Josiah Northey on 3rd August 1868 at Kadina, SA. Hannah died 24 March 1940 at Canterbury, Sydney, where she was living with her daughter Lizzie Hall (nee Elizabeth Northey) in Dibb Street, Canterbury, Sydney, NSW.

Together with her husband Josiah Northey, who was born on 15 Dec 1848 in Burra SA, she moved to Hill End from Kadina, near Moonta in South Australia, I guess with the dream of making a fortune finding that elusive gold. How they travelled to Hill End, NSW from South Australia is not known, but the most likely way was boat to Sydney and rail across Blue Mountains to Tarana or maybe Kelso (but not Bathurst directly as the rail line at that stage had not been completed). Then they would most likely have gone by horse and tray to Hill End - not an easy trip with two small children - James Thomas and Elizabeth Hannah.



Frances Anne Northey

Continued../

The Family of Frances Ann Northey Continued.

Shortly after arriving Josiah and Hannah's daughter Martha Jane was born, sadly she died ten months later, followed by the second of their children born at Hill End - Josiah who died aged eleven months.

One in three children born in Hill End at that time died before school age with disease and infections rampant. However, over the next 5-6 years four more children were born, including Frances Ann on 19 October 1878.

The miner's life and that of their wives at that time would have been a hard existence, most of the dwellings would have been constructed of stone and mud with a canvas/thatch roof and I shouldn't imagine too many "comforts".

Apparently they didn't make their fortune because by 1882 when their son Josiah was born they were living in Prospect, an outer Sydney suburb, before moving to Campbelltown. It was here that her husband Josiah Northey died on 8 January 1888. Four years after Josiah died Hannah remarries Richard Cross who came from Oxfordshire in the UK.

Although I know very little about France Irvines's life, one fact I do know, the following article appeared in the Police Gazette 24 April 1918.

"Fanny or Frances Ann Irvine (41). Tried at the Canterbury Police Court on 12th April, 1918, False Representation; sentence. Three months hard labour To be of good behaviour for twelve months."

Following are brief details of France Northey's siblings –

James Thomas Northey married Mary Robertson – (father Alexander Robertson and mother Elizabeth Hocking) 1891 Granville, NSW

Elizabeth (Lizzie) Northey married William Hall in 1896 in Annandale, NSW

Martha Jane Northey 1st married Sidney Smith in 1892 and had 2 children with him before 'jumping the fence' and taking off with William Hocking Robertson about 1895, however they didn't marry until 1907 (probably due to divorce period). They lived in Annandale, Sydney until about 1912. Her first 2 children Martha and William Robertson had eight children.



L to R Fran, Lizzie, Grace, Hannah, May & Martha (c. 1900)

The Family of Frances Ann Northey Continued.

Mary Jane (May) Northey married August von Moritz in 1898 in Newtown. They had no children and he left May in 1907. May remarried Henry Snelling-Ford and lived in Marion Street, Guildford. They also had no children. Henry had one child Phoebe to an earlier marriage.

Frances as previously stated married John Irvine in 1907.

Josiah Northey married Margaret Brady in 1910 and they had one child.

Grace Northey first married Peter Schulz (German immigrant working in Cobar) in 1904 in Liverpool and had 3 children to him, one who was killed when he fell from a city train in 1916. Grace and Schulz spilt up in 1915 when Thelma Maisie was about six and Frederick was three.

Grace then partnered Vincent Siebert who had come from Adelaide when his wife died, he went on to own Summer Hill buses in the 1920's with Grace and her brother Josiah. They had no children and Vincent died in 1926. In newspapers they are listed as Mr and Mrs Siebert.

After his death she then marries Bertie Jensen. But later had to face court charges of bigamy, because she was not divorced from Schulz. Which makes it interesting why Thelma and Frederick took Siebert as their new surname.

Alfred (Hannah's youngest child) left Australia as a seaman, settled in England around 1907. In 1909 he married Margaret Whitford and after having 2 children he left his family and returned to Australia. However, his first wife decided to follow him to Australia and did so with her 2 children and confronted Alfred. In his WW1 1916 Enlistment he shows his wife as Margaret. In 1919 he married Bertha Bennett and had 2 boys.



Summer Hill Bus

LES MURRAY: THE BUSH BARD OF BUNYAH

*The Meaning of Existence
Everything except language
knows the meaning of existence.
Trees, planets, rivers, time
know nothing else. They express it
moment by moment as the universe.
Even this fool of a body
lives it in part, and would
have full dignity within it
but for the ignorant freedom
of my talking mind.¹*



Les Murray, with kind permission from photographer Adam Hollingworth/Hire Gun

And

MidCoast Stories

Leslie (Les) Allan Murray AO entered Buckingham Palace in a big dark suit and waistcoat. The baggy striped jumpers and comfy slacks so familiar to his admirers had been cast aside for the engagement, but not the Aussie ruralite's cordiality. He beamed as Her Majesty presented him with the Queen's Gold Medal for Poetry.²

Les was born in Nabiac on 17 October 1938, raised on a dairy farm in Bunyah, and attended Taree High School.³ He later graduated from the University of Sydney with an arts degree.⁴ His desire to become a poet surfaced one evening at eighteen while watching mayflies on the Coolongolook River.⁵

The Bulletin published his first poem in 1961.⁶ And in 1965, his first book emerged.⁷ Throughout his career, Les saw almost thirty volumes of poetry published, winning several international literary awards.⁸ Many poems featured his time in the Australian bush and Bunyah.

He and his family moved to the Murray farm in 1985.⁹ Then, the Bush Bard of Bunyah, as he became known, found himself holding a prestigious medal and Her Majesty grinning back at him – a decade after receiving an Order of Australia in 1989 and two years after becoming a National Living Treasure.¹⁰ The celebrated poet died in Taree on 29 April 2019.¹¹

Author: Kaylah McGilvray

References:

¹ Les Murray, 'The Meaning of Existence', https://www.best-poems.net/les_murray/the_meaning_of_existence.html

² Michael Schmidt. The Guardian, Les Murray obituary, 2 May 2019, <https://www.theguardian.com/books/2019/may/01/les-murray-obituary>

³ Schmidt, 2019.

⁴ Dominica Sanda and Don Woolford. Manning River Times, Australian literary giant Les Murray dies, 29 April 2019, <https://www.manningrivertimes.com.au/story/6096464/australian-literary-giant-les-murray-dies/>

⁵ The Economist, Obituary: Les Murray died on April 29th, 9 May 2019, <https://www.economist.com/obituary/2019/05/09/obituary-les-murray-died-on-april-29th>

⁶ The Economist, 2019.

⁷ Sanda and Woolford, 2019.

⁸ Heather McNab. The Canberra Times, Acclaimed poet Les Murray farewellled, 12 June 2019, <https://www.canberratimes.com.au/story/6214455/acclaimed-poet-les-murray-farewelled/>; Sanda and Woolford, 2019; Belinda Kontominas and Stephanie Tiller. ABC News, Australian poet Les Murray dies at 80, 29 April 2019, <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-04-29/les-murray-australian-poet-dies-aged-80/11055966>

⁹ Kontominas and Tiller, 2019 ¹⁰ National Trust. 'National Living Treasures.' Internet Archive, <https://web.archive.org/web/20140919173538/http://www.nationaltrust.org.au/nsw/NationalLivingTreasures>;

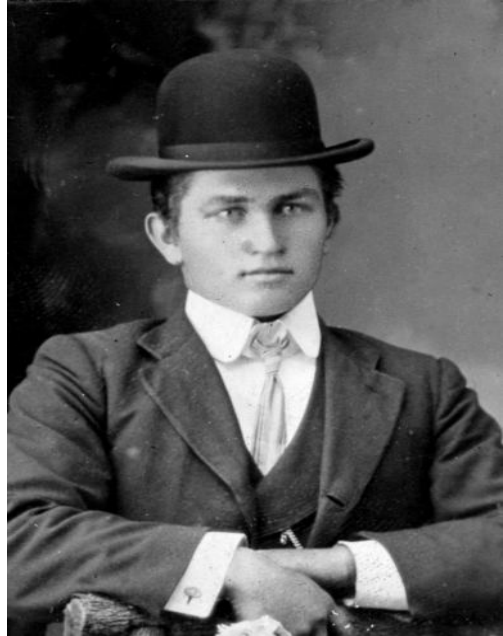
Schmidt, 2019.

HELP NEEDED!!!

One of our members needs help in identifying the following photos—it is thought that they may be “MARTINS”? - If you can identify them please email information to -

secretary@manningwallambafhs.com.au

More photos are available if needed.



SELECTED FROM THE FILES OF THE 'MANNING RIVER NEWS.'
PUBLISHED IN TINONEE BY THE LATE HORACE DEAW.
(The First Paper Printed on the Manning River.)

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY MAY 13, 1865.

A number of gentlemen favourable to the formation of an Agricultural Society, assembled at the School Room in Tinonee on Monday last. The proceedings were commenced by Mr. Morgan Poole, who read the advertisement convening the meeting from the "News."

Mr. Else suggested that the names of those favourable to the formation of a society should now be taken down - Mr. Joseph Andrews objected. He thought a Chairman should be first selected, and he moved that Mr. Poole be requested to take the chair. Mr. Flett seconded the motion, which was carried. Mr. Else again renewed his proposition that members' names should be enrolled.

Mr. Richardson: Name the basis. Tell us on what terms and for what purpose you wish to obtain subscription. Mr. Flett thought it should be first determined whether it was expedient to form a Society. The present was a small meeting, but in his opinion it was sufficient to justify a commencement. He thought such a Society might be made instrumental in doing a great deal of good to the district, and he would support it as far as he could. He thought its quarterly meetings should be held alternatively at Taree, Tinonee, Wingham and Cundletown, and that if Shows were determined on every part of the river, should share the benefit to be derived from these exhibitions. Mr. Andrews said he was in favour of an Agricultural Society, but should like to hear more of the views of those who had called the meeting. Mr. Else explained some, two or three weeks ago at a dinner to commemorate the establishment of a newspaper on the Manning, the idea of getting up an Agricultural Society was broached. He talked to Mr. Poole, Mr. McLeod, Mr. Dean, Mr. Moore, Mr. Mur; and other gentlemen on the subject, and as they were all agreed that such an Association was practicable, Mr Poole had convened the meeting, and he (Mr. Else) had written to the Secretary Hunter River Society for a copy of rules, etc., etc., and he had pleasure in placing the information before the meeting. Mr. Flett said: I consider Societies of this kind very useful. It is said we are all corn growers, and therefore have no need for a Society but I maintain that is the very best reason why such an Association should be formed. We need information on various subjects, which this Society would be the means of disseminating. We shall have new seeds, new grasses, new implements, etc. I think the sugar cane is bound to succeed on this river, and that it will, at no distant period, constitute the principal crop, but we need a Society to experiment with this plant, and to furnish notes as to its management. Then we should improve in the breed of our stock, some cattle being better for beef, whilst others are best for dairying purposes and for cheese. We are not always going to devote the whole of our attention to corn growing. Mr. Joseph Andrews said: The days maize growing on this river are nearly at an end. There is a great deal too much corn grown now in this Colony - more than there is a market for. Last year a large proportion of the crop was destroyed by Floods, and after all, the price was not high enough to pay the grower. What is likely, therefore, to be the result when crops are good. So with potatoes, they are scarcely worth sending to market. I am able to say that sugar cane can be profitably grown on the Manning. My plants are doing well, and there is nothing else worth looking at. If we grow sugar instead of maize, the market of the whole world will be open to us, and we must prosper.

I trust the Society will be Horticultural as well as Agricultural in its character. I am prepared to support it.

Continued.. /

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY MAY 13, 1865. Continued

Mr. Else said:

Everybody I have spoken to seems to be in favour of it. I may have proposed to take names too early, but I think the time has now come for receiving them:

Mr. Richardson said:

We have no Secretary to receive the names. I suggest that Mr. Else be appointed Secretary; Mr. Flett seconded the motion, which was agreed to.

Mr. Else then moved -

That a Society be now formed to be called

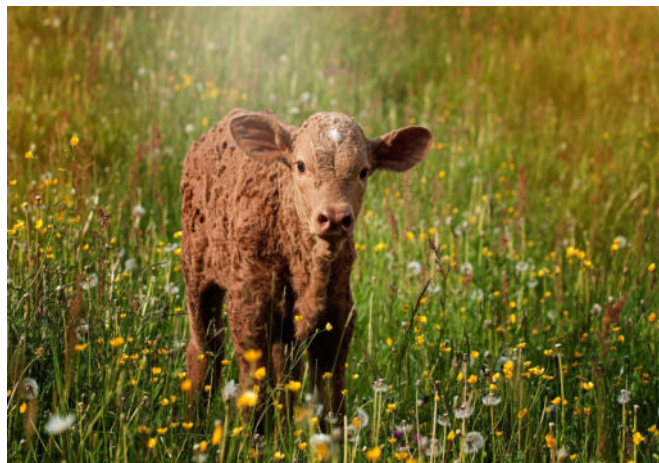
The Manning River Agricultural and Horticultural Society

The motion was seconded by Mr. Andrews and carried. Mr. Richardson moved that the membership fee be the payment of £1 per annum.

Mr. Flett thought a pound a year little enough. Mr. Targett was in favour of a smaller sum.

Mr. Andrews agreed with Mr. Flett. Mr Dean -said it was not exactly the point to be determined what sum the gentlemen prescribe at this meeting he might be willing to contribute, to so laudable an object, but what the farmers throughout the district would think of the matter. He was of opinion that more money would be collected in 10/- subscriptions than from the larger amount. And it seems to him to be very desirable to enlist as large a number as possible in support of the enterprise. Besides, gentlemen who felt able and willing to do so, might give whatever they pleased to the support of the Society, in addition to the amount required to constitute membership. Mr. Campbell thought membership should be one pound. The Chairman then put the question to the meeting, and it was decided that membership should be 10/- per annum. The following gentlemen then joined the Society: Messrs. Joseph Andrews, M. Poole, D. Targett, Henry Flett, D. R. Campbell, A. Moore, William Plummer, J. Bates, H. Richardson, William Andrews, Arthur Else, C. Wyatt, W. Steel, Veitch Murray, W. Chapman, H. Dean, D. McLeod, and John McLeod. A Committee to draw up rules, etc., was appointed as follows: Messrs. Andrews, Poole, Targett, Flett, Campbell, More, Plummer, Bates, Richardson and Chapman. Committee to meet on Monday next. Next meeting was held at Taree on June 8th.

NB: This Society is still functioning today.... 155 years on.



THE CHANGE IN THE CALENDAR – 1752

And other interesting things regarding dating of records

While trying to pinpoint an exact date of birth, marriage or death in searching British records, there are two traps for the unwary:

1. There was a major change in the calendar in 1752, in which the days between September 2 and 14 were 'dropped'.
2. The New Year was changed from March 25 to January 1, shortening the year 1751, which started 25 March, and extended to 31 December – or 282 days. As background - Before 1582, the Julian Calendar was used throughout the Christian world. The calendar divided the year into 365 days, plus an extra day every fourth year. The year started on March 25, and ended on March 24. Then astronomers discovered that there was an error of eleven minutes a day, or three days every four years. From 325 to 1582, that amounted to ten days in all. Therefore, Pope Gregory X111 decreed in 1582 that ten days be dropped from the calendar to bring Easter to the correct date, and that every four hundred years, Leap Year's extra day should be omitted in a centennial year, when the first two digits cannot be divided by four without a remainder. (This means it was omitted in 1770, 1800, and 1900, but was not omitted in 2000. Great Britain did insert a leap year day into 1752, as it was divisible by 4).

All Roman Catholic countries changed their calendars accordingly; Protestant nations did so later, at various times. In the case of Great Britain, it was 170 years before the change was made. These changes affected records in many ways. Some educated persons, believing the change should have been made in 1582, recorded a 'double date' – for instance, 7 January, 1687/1688, indicating that while it was officially 1687, they considered it should have been 1688. This 'double dating' only applied to the periods of 1 January to 25 March, as the rest of the year was not in question. Also, many parish registers show 17 August (O.S.) or 18 August (N.S.) – especially in the years 1751 and 1752. (O.S.= Old Style, - N.S.= New Style.) The unwary researcher may not be consistent in noting their records, but it is essential to understand which dating system was used, and what possible changes/corrections might have been made in various records because of these changes.

QUAKER DATING Quakers almost exclusively used numbers for months. At times, they showed the number and name of the month, such as "4th month called June" or "the 10th day of the 10th month called December 1690." Any date in March was considered the first month. After 1752, Quakers adjusted to the calendar change by calling January the first month, February the second month, December the twelfth month, et cetera. Quakers also wrote numbers in their meeting records, such as "3rd month" instead of May (before 1752, of course). Saying July (Julius), after Julius Caesar, or August, after the Roman Emperor Caesar Augustus, was considered too pagan or worldly. Sunday was the first day of the week, Monday the second day, and so forth. An example of an early Quaker date might be: 4/17/1710 (with 4 being the fourth month). This date should be interpreted as 17 June 1710. Many mentions of persons in older records show dec'd, or decembered. This indicates they died, and has nothing to do with the month of December per se .

Taken from Cornwell Parish Clerks Resources

WHAT DO THESE INITIALS MEAN?

Initials after your ancestors' names may provide useful information that you had not expected. The following list includes initials you may come across when reading old wills or other documents.

a.a.s.	died in the year of his/her age (anno aetatis suae) (86 year old died in year 86)
d.s.p.	died without issue (decessit sine prole)
d.s.p.l.	died without legitimate issue (decessit sine prole legitima)
d.s.p.m.s.	died without surviving male issue (decessit sine prole mascula supersita)
d.s.p.s.	died without surviving issue (decessit sine prole supersite).
d.unm	died unmarried
d.v.p.	died in the lifetime of his father (decessit vita patris)
d.v.m.	died in the lifetime of his mother (decessit vita matris)
Et.al	and others (et alia)
Inst	present month ((instant)
Liber	book or volume
Nepos	grandson
Nunc	Nuncupative will, or oral will, written by a witness
Ob	he/she died (obit)
Relict	widow or widower (relicta/relictus)
Sic	so or thus, exact copy as written
Testes	witnesses
Ult	late (ultimo)
Ux	wife (uxor)
Viz	Namely (videlicet)

PIONEER DAYS

Our forbears endured such trying times, of pestilence, drought and flood.
The rivers rose above their banks, houses filled with stinking mud.
Times were hard, doctors few, roads ?, mere tracks, and rough.
The rivers were main thoroughfare, in flood, they called one's bluff.
Babes were born at home, kindly neighbour assisting there.
Or maybe an experienced midwife called, for those with funds to spare.
Tragedy and illness were common, no distinction, between status, race or creed.
Gravestones in our cemeteries stand testament to this, or maybe some brave deed.
Nowadays we have gone soft, complain bitterly to get our way.
How would you cope, 200 miles in heat, rain or cold on a lumbering bullock dray?
We need to look back and be thankful for our lot.
And praise those gone before us, who lie resting in a lonely plot.

Dear Member, if you are interested in the following Open Day,



OPEN DAY and book sale

Lake Macquarie Family History Group

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and
Luck

MARCH 18TH 2023 | 10.00AM – 4.00PM

MARMONG POINT COMMUNITY HALL

GUEST SPEAKERS;

Allison Trindall, a Gamilaroi who will speak on the Family Tracing Project which she has facilitated in partnership with the Wollotuka Institute of the University of Newcastle. 11.00 – 12.00

Christine Yeats has an interest in colonial history and will speak about Crimes and Misdemeanor. 2.00 – 3.00

Cost \$15.00 which includes Morning Tea and Light Lunch.

Please register by completing the attached form and returning to

secretary@lmfhg.org.au – registrations close 10th March 2023

Morning Tea and Light Lunch available - \$15

LAKE MACQUARIE FAMILY HISTORY GROUP

OPEN DAY REGISTRATION FORM

NAME:

ADDRESS:

CONTACT PHONE NUMBER:

ORGANISATION:

I will require Morning Tea	yes	no	\$5
Lunch	yes	no	\$10
I will be attending Morning Session	yes	no	
Afternoon Session	yes	no	