



CALOUNDRA CLIPPER

***September 2023
NUMBER 122***

***QUARTERLY MAGAZINE OF
CALOUNDRA FAMILY HISTORY
RESEARCH INC.***

CALOUNDRA FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH INC.

Patrons: Mark McArdle & Judy McArdle

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The objects of **CALOUNDRA FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH INC.** are to establish, encourage and assist members in their research of Genealogy and Family History.

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MEMBERSHIP for 2023/2024

Fees (Incl GST) due and payable 1st July 2023: Single \$79 Family \$115

Joining Fee \$10 Single, \$15 Family.

LIBRARY & RESEARCH HOURS

Thurs 9.30am to 4pm (3rd Thurs 9.30am to 12.00pm)

Sat 9.30am to 12.30pm (3rd Sat 9.30am to 4pm)

Mobile Phone Number 0492 128 499 —Library hours only. No text messages.

MEMBER MEETINGS

Member Meetings are held the 3rd Thursday of each month (except Dec) at 1.30pm

At PREMISES and via Zoom: Corbould Park Racecourse, enter Gate 2,

Guest Speakers as advised in the Clipper. Visitors are welcome to attend.

RESEARCH ENQUIRIES

We are able to carry out research, within the resources we hold, for members and non-members. Cost to be calculated by Research Team. Post or email your enquiry to above address.

CALOUNDRA CLIPPER

The Journal is produced quarterly. Printed copies available for collection by members at Library Open Days and it is emailed as a PDF file to other members.

ADVERTISING COSTS incl. GST: (4 issues) full page \$66, half page \$33, 1/4 page \$16.50

DEADLINE for CLIPPER is the General Meeting before each quarterly publication.

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CFHRI ABN 9025938516

NEWS ITEMS

2023 GENERAL MEETING GUEST SPEAKERS

OCT: Pauleen Cass

NOV: John Blow

ZOOM....ZOOM.....

INTO

GENERAL MEETINGS AND GROUP MEETINGS

Details on pages 12 and 13

Monday 9 October: *War Histories of our Soldiers* project –
time changed to **9AM to 11am**

Tuesday 10 October: *I Age Well*
festival SCTC 9am-1pm CFHRI
Exhibition table

Wednesday 22 November: Qld
Air Museum Caloundra Airport
10am-4pm [Book on our website](#)

CFHRI BANK DETAILS DIRECT DEBIT:

Bank: Bendigo Bank, Caloundra

BSB No: 633 - 000

Account No: 146865399

Hello Members,

After 55½ editions of the Caloundra Clipper since November 2009 I am passing the position of Editor to recently rejoined CF member Terry O'Connor. Thank you for the wonderful stories you have shared during these years. This Clipper includes the winning stories for the 13th Annual Lorrie Barzdo Writers Award. Please continue to write your stories as seeing them published is a proud moment for you.

*Sue Brownjohn, signing off
& Terry O'Connor CFHRI Editor*



PRESIDENT'S **ANNUAL REPORT**

What a busy year this has been. I cannot thank all our wonderful members enough for their help, understanding and support throughout the year. Our group is so fortunate to have people like yourselves.

This is the 30th Annual Report. Imagine still going strong 30 years after we started. That again is a result of the input of our members. We celebrated our 30 years in style too. A book was launched at our May birthday meeting detailing the history of the group and the people who have made it such a successful one. Reaching out to some foundation members was such a highlight and their enthusiasm in family history was still evident in the way they contributed to the book's history. These wonderful people included Fran Lawrence (former President), Jan Hunter (first Publicity and Editor Officers), Brenda Smith (first Treasurer), Pat Norton (Editor), Val Kernovske (Assistant Editor), Theresa Matthews (Secretary). There were many other people who contributed to the book including Valerie Thornton, Loris Gray, Roz Kuss, Pam Scanlan, Bevelyn Doogan, May Dhu (whose daughter Wendy, donated many of May's books and CDs after her mother passed away in 2022), Pattie Wilson and my proof-readers, Trisha Hyde and husband, Allan Blackburn. I may have helped as well. Thanks to all who created this book.

I probably jumped the chronical gun by mentioning the book first, but it was such a highlight of our year, I just could not help myself. Plus, I am still having nightmares of pulling it all together and meeting deadlines, so it is just in the forefront of my poor mind.

Let's look at all the wonderful guest speakers we have welcomed over the past financial year. In July our very own Pattie Wilson shared the story of her ancestor, "Francis Edwin Birtles" and what an interesting man he was. Vince Bourke joined us in September to share his journey into "family

history including the success and not so successful stories along the way". I repeated the presentation given at our seminar *Snapshots of Caloundra's History* on "Early Settlement in Caloundra" at the October meeting and Ian Edwardson did the same with his topic "Caloundra during World War II" at the November meeting. We started 2023 off with Helen Smith talking on "Lost in London" at the January meeting. In February we invited Shauna Hicks (another of our valuable members) who spoke on "Guardians of Family History Treasure". Anne and Tony Swain joined us in March and spoke on the "Biographical Database of Australia". Again, we were fortunate to have one of our members, Trisha Hyde, speak at the April meeting on "Case Studies at the Australian War Museum". Our final guest speaker for the year was our specialist archaeologist, Dr Jon Prangnell, whose topic was "Excavations at the Ayr Pioneer Sugar Mill" which was part of the UQ South Sea Islander Project. I'm sure we all feel privileged to have heard these wonderful speakers. Many thanks to Roz Kuss for organising them.



On 13 July we again hosted a morning tea to welcome our new members. This was highly successful and much appreciated by those who attended. I wish to thank the committee for making it such a success. I would also like to thank Judy and Mark McArdle for attending and donating a lucky door prize.

Our hugely successful seminar entitled "Snapshots of Caloundra's History" was held during National Family History month on 13 August. We had a full house. Guest speakers included Lyndon Davis who spoke on "What Life was Like Before Europeans Arrived" as well as singing and demonstrating tools used by First Nations peoples; Jill Henderson presented "Early European Settlement in Caloundra"; an interview by Ralph Gray and Roz Kuss with Ivan Maltman who grew up in Caloundra – and even though Ivan could not attend because of ill health, Ralph and Roz did a great job of

presenting Ivan's comments from their previous interviews with him; and



Ian Edwardson who presented "Caloundra During World War II". Jan Swift did a brilliant job as our MC. To everyone who helped set the room up, worked in the kitchen, and cleaned up afterwards, a huge heartfelt thank you for all your efforts. Without your help, the day would not have been the success it was.

Congratulations to last year's Lorrie Barzdo Award winners. Trisha Hyde won the Experienced Award with her entry "A Country Copper" and the Novice Award went to Jan Swift with her story "Looking for James Chant and how we found him". I can't wait to read this year's stories.

The project to digitise National Archives Australia's "Inwards Ships Passenger Manifests, Brisbane & Other Queensland Ports for 1965 – 1974", organised by Valerie Thornton was a great success. It was finalised this time last year. There were 66,132 records indexed. What an achievement and many thanks to Valerie and her team of indexers, especially Ian Edwardson who did the majority of indexing.

The Volunteer Thank You Lunch was held on 28 September with 17 people attending. Considering the inclement weather and having to move the venue to my home, I thought it was a huge success. We had lots of food and entertainment when it fined up and I can't thank my hubby, Allan, enough for being the cook on the day. Nothing will stand in the way of celebrating our wonderful volunteers.

On 13 October the IAgeWell Expo was held in our backyard at the Sunshine Coast Turf Club. We volunteered to help the organisers with parking and registration as well as having our own stall on the day. It was a great fund-raiser as we asked for gold coin donations from drivers, and it was unbelievable just how generous so many people were.

The Council again invited us during October to participate in the Sunshine Coast Open House by conducting history tours along Bulcock Street and

Bulcock Beach. Sadly, the weather on the day was not good and we had to postpone. Those members of the public who joined us at the later date were thrilled with the walks.

With the help of Pattie Wilson, Bob Brummell, Julia Richardson, Valerie Thornton, Peter Hovey and Gaynor McMahon we have continued offering these walks to groups as well as individuals with lots of success. I can't thank these volunteers enough for giving up their free time to conduct and assist with these walks. We love selling our beautiful town to the public and it seems they really enjoy hearing of its history as well.



We also again advertised these walks for the Australian Heritage Festival which was run throughout April and May. All our days were well attended, and I would like to thank all those who assisted on the various days, most of whom are listed above.

Since Trisha Hyde has been appointed as our Training Officer, I cannot believe the number of courses she has organised. Last October we held a Beginners Course for non-members over two days and from that course, we welcomed many new members to our group. The variety of courses is astounding. I can't wait for the "Knocking down Brickwalls" one as I have enough brickwalls for everyone. Thank you Trisha, you are outstanding.

Thanks to member Joe Smith for his presentation on "Researching Family History Cheaply". We applaud any members who are happy to give of their time and energy to present talks or demonstrations.

Congratulations to our very own speakers at the Sands in Time conference in October last year. Fran Kitto, Pauleen Cass and Shauna Hicks did us proud.

Can you believe the number of Bunnings Sausage Sizzles we have had? Cathy Meyer is a genius in organising these. For this financial year we have had five sausage sizzles and raised around \$6,540. Cake stalls are

also back, and Valerie Thornton has taken on the role of Co-ordinator. We had one cake stall this past financial year and raised \$408.00. Congratulations to both ladies for such a fantastic job and to all those who volunteered to work at either. You are all champions. If we add all our fund-raising amounts together for the 2022-2023 financial year, we are looking at an amount over \$7,800. Now we are looking at ways to giving back to our members.

Our Christmas Lunch in the Champagne Gardens of the Sunshine Coast Turf Club was another success story. The food and atmosphere of this venue are always good value. I would like to thank Roz Kuss for organising this event and to all the other volunteers on the day who sold raffle tickets, organised the Secret Santa Table and checked registrations. You all made it a truly lovely day.

Many thanks to Roz Kuss for organising a number of social outings as well as visits to repositories. They have included: QFHS (Jul 22), SLQ (Nov 22), Maleny Pioneer Village & Mary Cairncross Park (Nov 22), Buderim Walk (Jan 23), Trout Game (Feb 23), Pomona Silent Movie (Feb 23), QFHS (Mar 23), new premises, CPR & AED Demo by volunteers from Ithaca Club, Eumundi Museum (Apr 23), and State Archives (Jun 23). The only sad fact is that not many members take advantage of these great outings. Let's hope next year will see more people participating.



Where would we be without our wonderful Interest Group Co-ordinators. Geoff Kelly (England, Wales & Ireland), Chris Richardson (Family Tree Maker), Sue Brownjohn (DNA & Scotland), Sue Schott (Germany), Ralph Gray (FamilySearch) and Fran Kitto (Resources) are all thanked for giving of their time and patience in running these groups. We look forward to the new Writer's Group.

Several of our committee volunteered to be guest speakers at external groups' meetings. This is a fantastic way to promote our group and share our knowledge. To all those who represented our group, you did a fantastic

job in pushing our profile and encouraging others to research their family.

Valerie Thornton nominated our group for an Australia Day award. We did not win but again we were out there waving CFHRI's flag and raising our existence in the public arena.

The Sunshine Coast Council asked us to do presentations throughout Harmony Week in March. These presentations were given at Maleny Library by Jan Swift and Roz Kuss, Bankfoot House by Trisha Hyde and Pattie Wilson, Caloundra Library by Kate Bowman and Lynette Wallis and at Kawana Library by me and Bob Brummell. They were all well received and gave us an opportunity to again broadcast our profile.

We hosted History Queensland's AGM on 27 May this year. Roz & Ralph gave an excellent presentation on William Landsborough to those assembled which was really interesting, especially as the building we were in was on old William Landsborough land.

You are all so lucky to have such a great committee. On the Executive we have Roz Kuss as Vice President, Pattie Wilson as Secretary and Sue Schott as Treasurer. Our Management Committee is made up of Kate Bowman whose role as Librarian has continued to build on our resources. Kate and everybody else



just so appreciates Loris Gray, our Assistant Librarian who also encourages people to do their Pedigree Charts and is also a buddy to new members. Sue Brownjohn produced, as Editor, four really interesting Clippers a year which are a great read. Sue also manages the Lorrie Barzdo Awards and is our go to photographer. Jan Swift who stepped up to take on Publicity during the year has done a great job in getting our name out there. As I have already noted, we are so fortunate to have such a great Training Officer in Trisha Hyde. Our website has received many compliments and this is due to our Webmaster, Fran Kitto. Robyn Delaney is the keeper of our records and maintains all correspondence as well as distributes

journals to those who have elected to receive them. Colleen Jones and Richard Slatter supported the Committee throughout the year. I cannot thank our committee members enough on the fantastic job they did in keeping our group going.

But let's not forget about our Sub-committee personnel which we have renamed our Support Team. Ralph Gray and Peter Hovey were always on call to look after our equipment. I thank Ralph also for being our wonderful host at general and other meetings. He is also our Auditor.

Ian Edwardson is our very own quiet achiever and as our Inventory, Insurance and Safety Officer just gets on with the job. Cathy Meyer did a brilliant job as our Fund-Raising Officer and worked tirelessly organising our raffles for Mothers and Fathers Days', IAgeWell Expo, Christmas and so much more. I have already mentioned Cathy's super abilities in organising the Bunnings Sausage Sizzles throughout the year. Our coffers thank her sincerely.

I have mentioned Valerie Thornton throughout this report but apart from her role as Project and Grants Officer, she has also taken on the role of Cake Stall Co-ordinator. We all love a good cuppa and Jen Milner and her band of helpers have always produced just what we need at meetings and seminars.

Tim Hill as our Assistant Treasurer is really a big help to Sue Schott. Colleen Jones has continued to carry out her duties as Facebook Co-ordinator brilliantly. It is very hard to thank myself for being Membership Officer and Group Historian, but I think I did OK.

It has definitely been a busy year and hopefully this coming year will be no different. We cannot do it alone and we plead with members to step forward and help us out when asked. Your input is always welcome.

I feel very proud to be the President of such a dynamic group and thank you all from the bottom of my heart for your support and your friendship.

June Blackburn, CFHRI PRESIDENT





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COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP FUNDING

Caloundra Family History Research Inc. is very grateful to the Sunshine Coast Council for the grant under the Community Partnership Funding Program to provide funding of \$4,000 for three years to go towards our rent costs.

This funding will allow us to use more of our own money to provide training programs and resources for members and the Sunshine Coast community in a range of family history research areas.



Proudly supported by
Sunshine Coast Council's grants program

DATES FOR THE DIARY **OCT 2023 to NOV 2023**



Please check the website regularly for any changes

OCTOBER

SUNSHINE COAST SENIORS MONTH

- Wed 4 **Zoom** Family Treemaker group 2-4pm
- Thur 5 Research 9.30am-4.00pm + **Hybrid** Germany group 1-3pm –
Zoom Committee meeting 9am
- Sat 7 Research 9.30am-12.30pm
- Mon 9 **War Histories of our Soldiers Project in Rooms**
NOTE: TIME CHANGE TO 9am to 11am
- Thur 12 Research 9.30am to 4.00pm + **Hybrid** groups Scotland
12-2pm & Ireland 2-4pm
Close off date for Seniors Beginners course – catered
[Book on our website www.caloundrafamilyhistory.org.au](http://www.caloundrafamilyhistory.org.au)
- Sat 14 Research 9.30am-12.30pm
- Mon 16 **Hybrid** FamilySearch group 10am-12.00pm
- Thur 19 Research 9.30am to 12.00pm + **in Rooms** Writers group
9.30-11.30am + **Hybrid Members' Meeting 1.30pm to 4pm**
Guest Speaker Pauleen Cass
**Profile: Retired University Research Administrator, an
active participant in the online genealogy community, a
Blogger and a regular on the social media scene, Pauleen
is an experienced Family Historian and a CFHRI member.**
Topic: "Copyright, Privacy & Ethics"
- Fri 20 **Hybrid** DNA group 10-12pm
- Sat 21 Research 9.30am-4pm + **in Rooms** Resources group 12-2pm
- Thur 26 Research 9.30am-4.00pm + **Hybrid** England & Wales group
1-3pm
- Fri 27 **Training in Rooms "Seniors Beginners Course-Starting
your Family History Journey"/Public \$20pp- all day Friday**
Registration 8.30am Ends 3.30pm. Catered
[Book on our website www.caloundrafamilyhistory.org.au](http://www.caloundrafamilyhistory.org.au)

CHECK CFH'S WEBSITE FOR ANY CHANGES TO DATES

OCTOBER

- Sat 28 Research 9.30am-12.30pm + **“Seniors Beginners Course- Starting your Family History Journey”** From 12.30pm Ends 3.30pm

NOVEMBER

- Wed 1 **Zoom** Family Treemaker group 2-4pm
- Thur 2 Research 9.30am-4.00pm + **Hybrid** Germany group 1-3pm –
Zoom Committee meeting 9am
- Sat 4 Research 9.30am-12.30pm
- Thur 9 Research 9.30am to 4.00pm + **Hybrid** groups Scotland
12-2pm & Ireland 2-4pm
- Sat 11 Research 9.30am-12.30pm
- Mon 13 **War Histories of our Soldiers Project in Rooms**
CANCELLED - TO BE HELD MON 4 DEC 9-11AM IN ROOMS
- Thur 16 Research 9.30am to 12.00pm + **in Rooms** Writers group
9.30-11.30am + Hybrid Members' Meeting 1.30pm to 4pm
Guest Speaker John Blow
Profile: Author and Family Historian.
Topic: “Sandakan Death March Survivor”
Close off **Heritage trip** Qld Air Museum Caloundra Airport
[Book on our website www.caloundrafamilyhistory.org.au](http://www.caloundrafamilyhistory.org.au)
- Fri 17 **Hybrid** DNA group 10-12pm
- Sat 18 **NO RESEARCH SCTC Day Race Meeting Mooloolaba Cup**
In Rooms Resources group 12-2pm **MOVED TO SAT 25 NOV**
- Mon 20 **Hybrid** FamilySearch group 10am-12.00pm
- Wed 22 **Qld Air Museum Caloundra Airport** Hours 10am-4pm
[Book on our website www.caloundrafamilyhistory.org.au](http://www.caloundrafamilyhistory.org.au)
- Thur 23 Research 9.30am-12.30pm + **Hybrid** England & Wales group
1-3pm
- Sat 25 Research 9.30am-12.30pm + In Rooms Resources group
12-2pm **MOVED FROM SAT 18 NOV**
- Wed 29 Close off date for Christmas Lunch Corner Pocket Bar & Grill,
'Aspect' bldg, Cnr Knox Ave & Lower Gay Terrace, Caloundra
[Book on our website www.caloundrafamilyhistory.org.au](http://www.caloundrafamilyhistory.org.au)
- Thur 30 Research 9.30am-4.00pm

SEE PAGE 38 FOR INTEREST GROUP TIMES AND CONTACTS
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VALE***ANN DICKSON***

In June 2023 we lost a long-standing member with the passing of Ann Dickson. Ann was a great help to the group over the years and will be sadly missed.

Photo taken at 2021 CFHRI Christmas Lunch.



LIBRARY VOLUNTEER ROSTER LIST **NOW FOUND ON CFHRI WEBSITE**
OPENING HOURS THURSDAYS 9.30am — 4pm SATURDAYS 9.30am — 12.30pm
except 3rd THURSDAY 9.30am—12 noon & 3rd SATURDAY 9.30am—4pm
PLEASE ARRIVE AT LEAST 20 MINUTES BEFORE STARTING YOUR SHIFT



CALOUNDRA FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH INC

Invites you to visit our Exhibition of

Tuesday 10 October 2023

between 9 am and 4 pm at the



"CONNECTING COMMUNITIES CELEBRATING LIFE"

The 5th Annual Seniors Festival

will be held at the

Sunshine Coast Turf Club, 170 Pierce Ave,

Gate 6, Corbould Park, Caloundra

The festival will showcase the best the Sunshine Coast has to offer it's over 60 community and will cover a wide range of exhibits, market stalls, workshops, live entertainment, senior talent show, along with great food.

More details at <https://iagewell.com.au/iagewell-lifestyle-expo/exhibitor-information/>

MEMBER QUERIES and BRICKWALLS

Can anyone help our members with these queries?

Member: Judy Matulick — BRICKWALL — McGRATH

In a police report in Adelaide, October 1859, John, Dennis and Daniel McGrath were brothers who were charged. John McGrath arrived in Adelaide with his family on "Sir Edward Parry" in March 1854.

On the same ship are single sisters Honor and Catherine McGrath. The passenger list said they were from Limerick. John was born in 1814. Daniel, born in 1817 arrived with his family in December 1855 on "Fitzjames", also from Limerick.

How are they all related? Who are the parents of John, Dennis and Daniel?

Who are the parents of Honor and Catherine?

Honor/Ann/Hannah was born in 1832 and Catherine in 1834.

Member: Celie Knottenbeld — BRICKWALL— BENSHA

I have a brickwall with my great-grandmother, who was Agnes Bensha, mother of my grandfather who was married in Fort Valley on 5 November 1888. His place of birth is shown as Ballycultra, Down, Ireland and his parents were shown as James McCartney & Agnes Bensha (hand written).

The 1881 census shows Agnes Bernsha, born in 1854 in Lancashire.

The 1901 census shows Agnes McCartney, Widow, born about 1841 in County Antrim. Residence: Ballycultra, Hollywood, Down, Ireland

The 1911 census shows Agnes McCartney, 71 years old, widow, 53 years married, with six children, three living, at house number 51 in Ballycultra (Hollywood Urban, Down). But I can find nothing else.

It would seem to me that Agnes McCartney/Bensha is who I am looking for, but where did she come from?

Member: Joy Sandham – BRICKWALL – TAYLOR

My grandmother, Harriet Taylor, sailed from England on the 'Rimutaka' with daughters Phyllis and Mildred, departing on 8 February arriving in Brisbane on 26 March 1912. When they arrived Phyllis was just 22 months old and my mother, Mildred, had just had her first birthday.

I would love to find out more about that journey. What was it like for Harriet, with two small children to look after? Were they in a tiny cabin or in a large area below decks with other women and children? No disposable nappies in those days.

Does anyone have a family member who came out on the 'Rimutaka' in 1912? Did anyone's ancestor keep a diary of their journey from England in 1912 – even on a different ship?



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LORRIE BARZDO WRITERS AWARD

The co-ordinator of the LBWA, Sue Brownjohn, introduced the judges **Margaret Lenz, Trisha Hyde and Kate Bowman.**

There were seven award entries received, five in the Advanced Section and two in the Novice Section for members who had not entered before. There was a wide variety of topics and the members who entered the competition were congratulated and it was added that they should all be proud of their work.



The winner of the **Advanced Award** was **June Blackburn**, *left*, with her story **"The Man who saved Melbourne"**.

The winner of the **Novice Award** was **Maree Sutton**, *right*, with her story **"Molly"**.



Margaret and Trisha spoke briefly on behalf of the judges and presented

The problems of ageing

"The years between 50 and 70 are the hardest. You are always being asked to do things, and yet you are not decrepit enough to turn them down." — **T.S. Elliot**

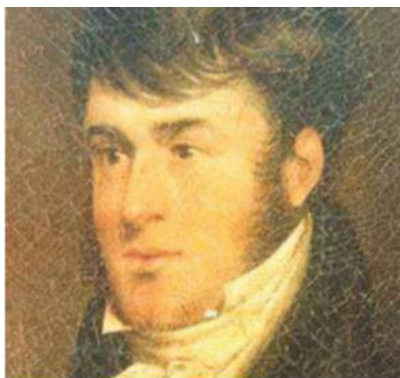
"At age 20, we worry about what others think of us; at age 40, we don't care what they think of us; then at age, 60, we discover they haven't been thinking of us at all."
— **Ann Landers**

"The important thing to remember is that I'm probably going to forget." — **Unknown**

"The older I get, the better I used to be." — **Lee Trevino**

THE MAN WHO SAVED MELBOURNE

Guilty! Aged 29 – Transported for Life. Why did he throw it all away? James Blackburn had it all. A beautiful wife and two delightful children. A well-paid job as Inspector of Sewers, although probably not the most salubrious of titles. He was also an entrepreneur, building homes for the wealthy and selling them on at a profit. He actually lived in one of these architecturally designed houses with his family.



But like a lot of people who try to go it alone, he faced an uncertain market which eventually crashed, and the houses remained empty. This resulted in a severe cash flow problem. His furniture was taken, and he was threatened with the loss of his own home.

Unfortunately, the quick fix of writing a cheque for £600 and forging his employers' signatures was not the right decision. He was arrested and brought before the Old Bailey in May 1833 where he was pronounced guilty and sentenced to life in the colony of Australia.

Surprisingly, the same men whose signatures he forged, attended the Court and gave glowing references to his previous good character. Sadly, that did not sway the Judge in his ruling.

James joined 299 fellow convicts on board the Isabella and departed England on 11 July 1833, arriving in Van Diemen's Land some four months later, on 13 November 1833. Whilst on the voyage, he was given charge of the juvenile prisoners.

He was assigned to the Roads Department but not to do the back-breaking work. His skills and knowledge of surveying and architecture were soon put to use. Launceston residents had been complaining about the poor water quality since 1824. James was commissioned to survey the best way to bring clean water to this town. This he did and the people of Launceston rejoiced in 1836 when this valuable clean resource became a reality.

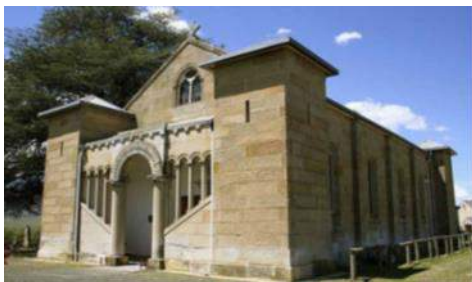
Rachel Blackburn and her youngest daughter, also named Rachel, joined her husband in 1835. His eldest son, James journeyed unaccompanied to Australia at the age of 13 in 1842. Resilience seemed to abound in members of the family.

By 1839 the Department of Roads and Bridges came under the Department of Public Works. The department head, Alexander Cheyne, along with James, formed the nucleus of the new department. At the time, James was still a convict. Many of James' projects appeared over Cheyne's signature. This was mainly due to the fact that Cheyne was untrained in most of the duties required for his position.

From 1833 to 1839 a very large part of the island's roadmaking, surveying and engineering work, was performed by James Blackburn.

James petitioned the Secretary of State for emancipation in 1836. His appeal was supported by Lieutenant-Governor Arthur. His appeal was unsuccessful. But James was not one to give up. He renewed his plea for emancipation in 1839 and again the Lieutenant-Governor wrote of his exemplary conduct and intention of not returning to England. Finally, on 3 May 1841, he was pardoned, eight years after receiving a life sentence.

Over the ensuing years, James became a sought-after architect in Tasmania and Victoria. Some of his



St Mark's Anglican Church

accomplishments included St Mark's Anglican Church in Pontville, the Naves of St Andrews, Westbury, Lady Franklin Museum and Community Centre, Lenah Valley, Holy Trinity Church, Hobart and the Red Bridge, Campbelltown. It has been rumoured that he also designed the church at Port Arthur.

James and his family relocated to Melbourne in 1849 where he set up a practice as an engineer and architect. He formed a company to sell filtered and purified water to the public. On 24 October 1849 he was appointed City Surveyor - a far cry from being a convict not that many years ago.

The Yarra River was Melbourne's main water supply. Residents would fill buckets of water from the river to take home. People bathed in the river, they swam their horses in it and tossed carcasses of cattle and other animals into it. Boats churned up its muddy bed. This is the water the population drank. Typhoid and other diseases claimed a heavy toll.

Some enterprising individuals created a water delivery service where they could charge exorbitant prices. Those who bought barrels of water from these people tried to make one barrel last a whole week.

The City Council gave £300 of city funds to James to survey the various modes by which the city could be supplied with clean water. A year later he presented his report. By damming the Plenty River, Melbourne would be supplied with pure water and a guarantee against future contamination. The Yan Yean Reservoir (*early photo of this reservoir shown*) would hold this clean water. Yan Yean comes from the Wunundjeri leader who signed the 1835 Batman's Treaty. It means

bachelor or young male.



However, after all his work, the Council rejected James' report and accepted an earlier plan to take water from the Yarra above Dight's Falls. This later plan was submitted to the Government of the Victorian Colony on the basis that Yan Yean was not feasible because of the difficulties in procuring labour.

The Government had heard good things about James Blackburn and decided to appoint a select committee to investigate both proposals. Yan Yean was given the go-ahead. Work began in December 1853 with the first sod being turned by Lieutenant Governor Charles La Trobe.

A canvas town appeared on the banks of Yan Yean with a population of 1,000 men, women and children. The men, mainly returned miners, were a very mixed lot. Armed police had to be sent from the city to deal with frequent disturbances and sly grog trading.

The project was completed four years later and water from the storage was formally turned on in the city by Major General McArthur on 31 December 1857. Two large jets of water spouted high in the air in Melbourne, spraying a wildly excited crowd. Finally the population had freedom from the fear of foul water.

The Fitzroy neighbourhood became the centre of James, Rachel and their 10 children. Apart from his surveying work, James was also a member of the community. He was on the committee that raised funds for St Mark's Church. His daughter, Rachel who accompanied her mother out to Australia in 1835 was one of the first Sunday School teachers in the parish.

Sadly, she died aged 20 along with four of her brothers from the dreaded disease, typhoid. It is no wonder that James worked so hard to help rid Melbourne of this foulest of diseases.

Did he revel in his accomplishment in giving the citizens of Melbourne clean water? Sadly no, as he died a mere three months after his project began from typhoid. He was only 51 years old. What he could have accomplished if only he had lived.

A fellow surveyor and friend of James was Clement Hodgkinson. He named Blackburn Creek after his friend. By 1865 the Blackburn Creek Hotel was operating. The Blackburn Creek Post Office opened in 1876. In 1883 the word "Creek" was dropped from the name and the district became Blackburn – now a suburb of Melbourne.

From making one of the stupidest mistakes of his life, James Blackburn became a hero, saving countless lives in his endeavours to improve water quality. His architecturally designed buildings still stand today in testament to his unique skills as an architect and engineer.

He is a man that his descendants hold in great esteem and one whose name will live on for future generations to also be very proud of.

***By June Blackburn CFHRI Member #612
WINNER Advanced Section Lorrie Barzdo Writer Award***

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MOLLY

A little shiver ran through Molly Beamond's spine as the carriage she was riding in approached the small village of Pontesbury, in Shropshire England. She was startled as the horses came round the corner, down the hill and splashed through the ford leading to the centre of the village, sending spray up to the windows.

As they rounded the corner, her eyes widened when she caught sight of the imposing St. George's Church set on the highest point in the surrounding area. The driver called out "Whoa, whoa" as he reined in the horses and slowly pulled up directly in front of the large metal gates leading to the church. He sprang down from the carriage with a bounce that belied his years and opened the door to the carriage saying, "Here we are Miss Beamond, this is where you get off."

Molly gathered up her belongings and shyly bid goodbye to her fellow passengers. She gave her hand to the driver and he commented, "What's the matter love, you're shaking." She thanked him for the ride and handed over the 10p for the 8 mile ride from Norbury to Pontesbury. "I'm alright," she said, "I am just a bit nervous about the interview I am going to." He gave her a little wink and said, "Don't you worry my love," he said, "with looks like yours, they are going to love you." Molly gave a wry smile and turned towards the Deanery gate which was just a few steps away from the church gates.

She stood there taking in the size of the building before her and thought, "Oh please God, if I never ask for anything again, please grant me the courage to get through this interview."

I need the Reverend to approve of me as after all that has happened in the past twelve months, I really need this job."



The day was cloudy and cool so Molly wrapped her coat tightly across her chest and resolutely stepped through the gate. She was aware of the crunching noise her feet made on the crushed gravel pathway as she looked across to the beautiful gardens next to the house. She was fascinated to see that there were a number of Crab Apple trees and thought to herself, "my Mother would love those, she makes the best Crab Apple jelly in the County". With every step she took her anxiety grew and she thought, "I do hope he doesn't question me too closely about how I have spent the past twelve months. I don't want to lie to him, but if I have to, I will."

As she made her way towards the Deanery, she thought to herself, "I wonder what the situation is going to be here? The Vicar in Shrewsbury only said that the Reverend needed a nurse for his wife, but I know that she has been having problems since the birth of her last child and my training at the Lunacy Hospital in Stoke on Trent is the main reason I got this interview. Oh, I do hope I make a good impression," she thought. "I need this job."

The Reverend William Francis Lightfoot Harrison MA, Rector of St Georges Parish Church in Pontesbury, was sitting at his desk in the Deanery study preparing his sermon for the following Sunday, when he heard the crunch of footsteps outside the window. Some minutes later his maid announced, "There is a Miss Beamond to see you Sir." "Show her in," he said.

Molly came timidly into the room and was not sure whether she should curtsy in front of this distinguished and very aristocratic looking man. Instead, she just stood there clutching on to her purse and waited for him to speak. "Take a seat Miss Beamond" he said. Molly sat and was aware that the man facing her was probably in his late thirties or early forties but looked much younger. She felt sorry that he had experienced so much sorrow in his life.

"Thank you Nurse Beamond, you need to know that my wife has been suffering from an illness of the mind since the birth of our youngest child and your duties would be solely to care for her. You will live in the Deanery with us and I expect you to attend Church services every Sunday and respect the reputation of my position."

"Of course Sir," said Molly. Secretly she was thinking, "What a cold, formal man he is?"

William then asked her a number of questions relating to her time in Stoke on Trent but asked very little about her private life. Molly couldn't believe her luck when she realised that the interview was going well and she wasn't going to have to lie about the existence of the baby boy she had left with her Mother in Norbury.

She breathed an enormous sigh of relief when William said, "Well Mary,"

"Oh sir," she said, "I know that is my name but I have always been known as Molly, so could you call me that please?"

"Oh, very well," he said, "Molly it shall be."

"I think it is time to take you upstairs to see my wife, it is very important that she relates to you as she can become very difficult with people she doesn't like or trust."

Molly followed him up the stairs to meet his wife. As soon as Gertrude saw William she started yelling, "Get him out of here, I don't want to see him, get him out, get him out!" She

was quickly getting extremely agitated so Molly told William to leave and calmly and slowly approached the distressed woman. "There, there, it is alright now, he has gone and I am here to help you. Will you let me help you?" Gertrude looked at Molly suspiciously but was fascinated with her sparkling blue eyes and could see the warmth in the smile she was giving her.

Unbeknown to Molly, William had been watching from outside the room and was greatly relieved to see how well she handled Gertrude. He felt as if a weight had lifted from his shoulders and decided there and then that this girl would be the ideal person to look after his wife.

Once Gertrude was completely calm, Molly went back downstairs to William's study, where he was waiting for her.

"Well, Nurse Beamond," he said, "I can see that you are more than capable of caring for my wife and I would like to offer you the position. When can you start?" "As soon as I can pack my belongings, Sir," she said.

"Wonderful," said William, "I shall expect you here by this time next week."

Molly left the Deanery and walked the short distance to the centre of the village. The sun had come out and the warmth seeped through her skin as she sat on the seat outside the Plough Inn. She couldn't help but notice the freshly white washed walls of the inn and the church on the hill overlooking the centre of the village. "This looks like such a lovely place," she thought, "I am sure I could be very happy here." Her heart was racing and she was elated that the interview had gone so well. She had a spring in her step and couldn't quash the feeling that this was turning out to be a momentous day in her life. Little did she know what the future would bring.

***By Maree Sutton CFHRI Member #971
Winner Novice Section Lorrie Barzdo Writers Award***



NORWAY 1910 CENSUS now online.

MyHeritage recently updated the 1910 Norway Census to include beautiful high-quality scanned images of the original census. This important project was done in collaboration with the National Archives of Norway. The addition of images makes this valuable collection an even richer source of information about individuals living in Norway in 1910, as the images can provide information not included in the original index, for example, a person's occupation. If you have Norwegian roots, you may find exciting details about your ancestors from this pivotal period in Norwegian history.

The collection includes names, genders, residences, relationships, marital status, birthplaces, and, for most people, full birth dates. Censuses rarely include full birth dates (day-of-month, month, and year), making this an important birth index that provides this detailed information for almost everyone living in Norway in 1910.

The 1910 Norway Census was the first one conducted after Norway's separation from Sweden in 1905, which led to a period of significant national pride. Consequently, many of the Danish or Swedish city and municipality names were replaced with traditional Norwegian names. For instance, the capital Kristiania, named after Danish King Christian IV, was renamed Oslo in 1924.

For more information go via [MyHeritage.com](https://www.myheritage.com)

Paul Seto CFHRI Member #732

Joe Smith sent details of this presentation with RootsTech on a new genealogical venture that he thought would be of interest for members.

<https://www.familysearch.org/rootstech/session/creating-the-deepband-an-anchor-beyond-the-census-in-england>

Joe Smith CFHRI Member #1029

HOW TO FIND HISTORIC NSW MAPS ONLINE

Go to the website of the NSW Land Registry Services
<https://www.nswlrs.com.au/>

From their homepage: click on Online Portal, accept the terms and conditions and proceed.

Then click on Historical Land Records Viewer and Launch HLRV and accept their terms and conditions.

Using the drop-down box, choose to **search by Parish**

Then type the Parish name into the Search Box.

Then click on whatever map of the Parish applies to the year you are interested in.

Don't know the Parish Name?

Go to the website of the Geographical Names Board NSW
<https://www.gnb.nsw.gov.au/>

Click on Place Name Search, type in the place, and this will give you information about the place including the Parish name.

Jan Swift CFHRI Member #954

Thank you Jan. I used your instructions and found this map for my adopted 4x great grandfather James Ruse in County of Cumberland, Parish St John.

Sue Brownjohn





LIBRARY **FROM THE PRINTED** **JOURNALS**



*Thanks to **Sue Schott** for reading the incoming printed journals for this report and thanks also to **Assistant Secretary, Robyn Delaney** who forwards the e-journals to CFHRI members by email.*

So much great information and tips can be found in journals.

Irish Roots 2nd Qtr: Clare ancestors; And another thing; Visiting the PRONI; Connecting the dots – The role of Clustering & shared matches in DNA Research for Genealogy; What's in a name?; Publishing your FH Resarch; Australian Irish Connections – Immigrants lured by gold to 1850s Victoria

The Explorers' Tree Jun: The Eliza Mystery – 1,2 or 3; Influence, Power, Glory, Control & Wealth – is anything new; The Bounty ships scheme to Australia – Voyage of the Brilliant; Going home

Family Tree Jun: Vital records – includes Free finding aids for BM&D – in-depth marriage records masterclass; Dear Paul; Unlocking the clues in ancestors wills; Show & Tell your FH as a Family line; Establish your family's online archive

Family Tree Jul: How to build a "Quick & Dirty" Family Tree; Immigration (Ancestors arriving in Britain); Gain some Super-sleuth research skills – introducing the six hats method; African DNA? What you can learn; Clandestine Marriages

Tamworth Fam Historian Jul: Sister Ellen Savage (A nurse on the Centaur); Tamworth tornado; Newspaper reports

Tasmanian Ancestry Jun: Launceston Catholic Baptism Records 1845-1885 or What the Transcriber saw; Robert Salmon & Elizabeth (nee Dell) Rattray; John Marryact Hornsby – Let there be music; Who gives a Figg – the life of entrepreneurial tailor William Figg 1799-1867

Timespan Jun: A reminder of the Importance & Value of Original Documents; Finding my Gt Grandparents pt1; Letters from home - The story of an ANZAC; Pioneers of Bathurst Pt 4; Pioneers of Liverpool Pt 1

The Genealogist Winter: Using Digger; Letter from England (tells you what is new online etc); The Meurants; Staff nurse May Semple

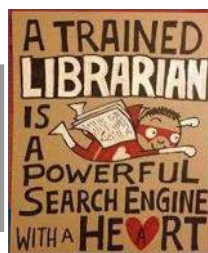
Ancestor Jun: Jane Elizabeth Bear – the photo on the biscuit tin; Intro to sourcing Italian Genealogical records; Nenagh, County Tipperary; Getting it write – Oral history

Traces Ed 23: The Dudleys – Lives in Performance; Message in a Bottle; Murder in The Rocks; The Power of One Book; Finding Fannie Starr; I M Kelly – the real story

Family Tree Aug: On the Move – Ancestors Departing Britain; Investigating Burial Records; Dear Paul; DNA First Aid; Family History, our health & well-being

**THESE JOURNALS ARE AVAILABLE FOR LOAN FROM
THE LIBRARY.**

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NEW MEMBERS

The Committee would like to welcome the following

New Members:

Michael Bowman, Carol Watt, Cheryl Robinson, Peta Winzar, Joy Sandham, Helen Callaghan, Bryan and Joanne Andersen, Brenda Barnes and Carol Blackshaw,

Returning Member:

Terry O'Connor

CFHRI MEMBERSHIP:

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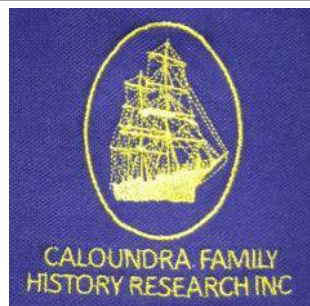
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— please see the Librarian Assistant or one of the Volunteers on roster.



CFHRI INTEREST GROUPS

FAMILY TREE MAKER

2PM TO 4PM

1st Wednesday of month

Contact - Chris Richardson
cj_richardson1@bigpond.com



WRITING GROUP

9.30AM TO 11.30AM

3rd Thursday of month

Contact - Trisha Hyde

traiing@caloundrafamilyhistory.org.au



GERMANY

1PM TO 3PM

1st Thursday of month

Contact - Sue Schott
gands.schott@gmail.com



DNA

10AM TO 12 NOON

Friday after 3rd Thursday of month

Contact - Sue Brownjohn
brownjohn@bigpond.com



SCOTLAND

12 NOON TO 2PM

2nd Thursday of month

Contact - Sue Brownjohn
brownjohn@bigpond.com



CFH RESOURCES

12 NOON TO 2 PM

Saturday after 3rd Thursday of month

Contact - Fran Kitto
fran@travelgenee.com



IRELAND

2PM TO 4PM

2nd Thursday of month

Contact - Geoff Kelly
gandikelly@bigpond.com



FAMILY SEARCH

10AM TO 12 NOON

3rd Monday of month

Contact - Ralph Gray
ralphgray@hotmail.com



ENGLAND & WALES

1PM TO 3PM

4th Thursday of month

Contact - Geoff Kelly
gandikelly@bigpond.com



MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Members are encouraged to **submit their interests** to be included on our website. If you have not filled in your interests, forms are available on the Website under Resources-Surname Interests. OR Additions/Deletions to the Members' Interest list, email the details to our Librarian. **INFORMATION NEEDED:** Surname, Year you are searching, Parish/Town, County/State and Country.

PEDIGREE CHARTS

Members are encouraged to submit their Pedigree Charts to the Library. The Blank Charts are included under RESOURCES:KNOWLEDGE BASE on our Website. Please give your completed Chart to the Librarian. It is a good way to discover if other Members are researching the same lines. These appear on our Website in RESOURCES:SURNAME INTEREST LIST.

QUEENSLAND FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

In accordance with our Country Membership of this Society, two members at a time may conduct research in their **QFHS** Research Rooms at 46 Delaware Street, Chermside. The Membership Card is held by the Secretary. Please see the QFHS website for opening times.

Website: <https://www.qfhs.org.au>

GENEALOGY SUNSHINE COAST

We have reciprocal membership with **GSC** at Petrie Park, Nambour. Our members can visit their rooms and are entitled to full use of their facilities for \$2 per session—your current CFHRI membership card is needed. Please see their website for opening times.

Website: <https://sites.google.com/site/genealogysunshinecoastinc>

HISTORY QUEENSLAND Inc.

We are proud to be a member of **HQ Inc.** Look for their Newsletters held in our Library.

Website: www.historyqueensland.org.au

AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION OF FAMILY HISTORY ORGANISATIONS INC.

We are a member of **AFFHO** which is the umbrella organisation for family history societies in the region. AFFHO was established in 1978 to co-ordinate & assist the work of Aust. & NZ groups with interests in family history, genealogy, heraldry & related subjects.

Website: <http://www.affho.org/index.php>

SHIPPING RECORDS

Our index to Shipping Information Records is growing. If any members would like to make copies of their research available, this would help other members. Such information may include passenger Lists, Newspaper Articles and Photographs, etc. Please give them to the Librarian.

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