



Toowoomba and Darling Downs Family History Society

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Welltown Woolshed 1895 by C. Ambler

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The following was published in the society's journal, The Gazette, in July 2006.

WELLTOWN, GOONDIWINDI

'A picture is worth a thousand words'.

Researched and written by Karen Rowe, member.

A photograph of Welltown Woolshed taken in 1895 by C. Ambler (*photograph on our front cover*) which I found on the Internet History Recourses website, became of interest to me, simply because there were names attached to the photograph. Yes.... Names!

How often have we discovered a group photo only to find no names and we don't have a clue as to who the people were? It was refreshing to find somebody was thoughtful enough so that future generations could enjoy someone's effort.

Working from Left to Right and Front to Back (with the exception of the four standing far in the back):

Billy Connolly, Garnet Luscombe, Ted Howell (at point of shafts, left), Billy Cowell (on top of wagon), Johnny Mulholland (on top of wagon), Jim Mulholland (on top of wagon),

Andrew Ross, Jack Garrilla, J. Murray, George Clunes, Billy Newlands, Billy Low, 'Bunya' McManus (behind the two Billys), Dick Ellis (near wagon wheel), ? Blackman, Paddy Ryan (front), Harry Gray (behind Paddy), Jonas Hart (behind Harry), Ted Connell, E Downing and Gordon Clunes jnr. (at back, both in white), Billy Byron (in grey suit), Jack Hegarty (behind Billy), ? (behind Jack), Charley Duffield, Bendy Brack (behind and to the left of Charley), Jim Wilson (behind Bendy), ? (behind Jim), Sid Cowell (short male in front),

Tom Wilson, ? Belford (to the back and middle of Sid and Tom), three standing behind Belford Dick Walton (at left), J. Downing (left) and Jerry Sullivan (right), Bob Allsopp (behind and to the right of Tom), ? (front), group of six standing behind ? – Lenny Winter, Peter Garilla, W. Downing (all front), Jim Reeves and Peter Ralph (behind first 3), and Jim Galvin at back of group, Alick Calvert and 'Liverpool' (both in front with white trousers),

Fred Winter at front, behind these three are a group of 12 – Neil Mackenzie, S. Downing and ? (front 3), Behind these are, Bob Newlands, 'the horse', Teddy Cubiss, Barney O'Toole, Tom Hunt, Tom Connell, ?, Billy McLucas and ? Walsh, 3 standing in the front and at the right are Billy Clunes, ?, and Child Faust.

The four at the far back are – Dick Williams, E.J. Comerford, C.J.C. Cameron and Bill Fullard.

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Toowoomba and Darling Downs Family History Society Facebook Group

This Group is to enable members of the Toowoomba and Darling Downs Family History Society and others with ancestors in the region to exchange news and photos and help each other with their research. For more information on our Society please see <http://tddfhs.org.au/>

Making the best use of our School Records

By Marie Green

School records are one of the best resources we have. For instance, in some cases they are more current than an electoral roll, especially when people just moved from one side of town to the other. They are also invaluable in searching for birth dates post 1922, parents or guardians address or occupation.

On the desktop you will find the Master Indexes.

Open the file School Admission Register Indexes.

You will find 3 databases
Master Schools -Toowoomba only
Master Schools Index (to PDF files)
Master Schools Index

The 1st database is self-explanatory and contains Toowoomba schools only. However, I will deal with them first. There are a number of folders including PRIVATE SCHOOLS. If you're interested in one of these schools, you could find that we have scanned a year book etc. but we don't have the admission records.

All the admission records have been indexed though, either from the original film or the pdf file. If indexed from the film you need to take note of the year and the enrolment number. However, if you are lucky and they have been indexed by the pdf file, you get the page number and enrolment number. Take note of the school and then click on the **Queensland shortcut** on the desktop.

As you will see there are many headings and there are files underneath each of them, eg. Births, Deaths, Marriages; Cemeteries; Electoral Rolls, PO Directories etc.; Government Gazettes; Immigration to name a few.

Schools are set out by alphabet including AAA – QFHS CDs etc. BRISBANE and TOOWOOMBA SCHOOLS. When I identify a Brisbane school, I include it under Brisbane and usually it's found in a separate folder as well.

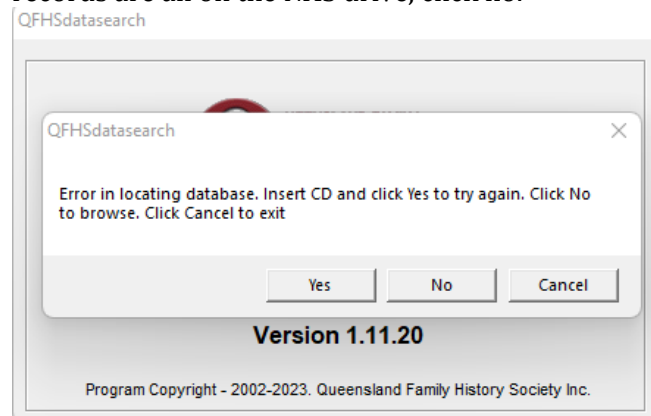
The 2nd database is the one that is constantly growing as members continue to index the schools.

Next step – If you do find an ancestor in the 2nd database take note of the school and then go to the school, open the excel file, take note of the page and enrolment number and then open the PDF file and hey presto there is the record.

The 3rd database

Should you find an entry though in the Master Index and it tells you the reference is QFHS CD 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6, then you would go to the folder AAA. Click on the icon that says Schools Pupils Indexes & Schools Past & Present.

This message will pop up. Because these records are all on the NAS drive, click no.



This will bring up a great list of databases that have been compiled by the Queensland Family History Society. Scroll to the bottom of the page to schools. Open the particular file and put in the surname and given names that you're looking for. The index will tell you if it has been indexed from a publication or the actual admission register. Whatever it is check if we have it.

There are also a lot of school record indexes up in Ancestry and sometimes they have been indexed from a book and other times from the admission register. In any case it is advisable to see if we hold the particular admission register because that will give you more information than the index does.

If any member wants the total guide that I've done, please email me at tddfhs452@yahoo.com.au

WILLIAM HENRY GROOM

The late Hon. W.H. Groom, M.P., member for the Darling Downs division in the Federal House of Representatives, who, for many years held the distinction of being the 'Father of the House' in the Queensland Legislature, was born on 9th March 1832, at Plymouth (England). He received his education at St. Andrew's College in that town, and in 1867 he emigrated to Queensland, and began business as a storekeeper in Drayton swamp, as Toowoomba was then called—a village of 100 inhabitants, chiefly fencers, splitters, and sawyers.



From the first, Mr. GROOM took an active interest in public affairs, and on Toowoomba being gazetted a municipality, in 1860, he was elected (in January 1861) at the head of the poll for nine aldermen, by a large majority. A further proof of the appreciation in which he was held by his townsmen was forthcoming when the newly created Municipal Council made him their first Mayor, intrusting him with the duty of initiating municipal administration and work in the town, and of laying the foundation for the future government of the municipality.

The first three years of mayoral life (for Mr. GROOM was elected year by year to the same position) were full of difficulties, and it was not until Mr. GROOM was elected member for Drayton and Toowoomba in the Legislative Assembly in 1862, and again at the general election of 1863, that he was really able to bring the constituency any material advantages, and he began at once to invoke the aid of Parliament on behalf of the electors.

Grants of money and land were obtained for many necessary works, such as the main roads through Drayton and Toowoomba, two important bridges, the site of the

present Town Hall, the Market Reserve, and the Queen's Park. Mr. Groom was also one of the first advocates in the Legislature of the advantages of close settlement, and while he was engaged in making the town habitable, he did not forget that it wanted population and the producing interests to back it up. But the pastoralist section of the Legislature and Mr. Groom's efforts were bitterly opposed.

In the early sixties agriculture in Queensland was discredited, and to counteract the dangerous impression, Mr. Groom, with a few others, started the Drayton and Toowoomba Agricultural and Horticultural Society, acting as its secretary for several years. The society was formed with a specific object—to prove what the district could grow, and is to-day one of the established Institutions of the town and district

The financial crisis of 1866 had its reflex on the affairs of Mr. Groom, and he resigned his seat on assigning his estate in that year, owing to the failure of the Bank of Queensland. He was, however, immediately re-elected in 1867, and in the same year was again appointed Mayor of Toowoomba, in which capacity he officiated at the opening of the Southern and Western Railway to Toowoomba.

The same financial crisis, gave Mr. Groom an opportunity for a further advocacy of a pet scheme. It was due to it that one or more stations on the Darling Downs were offered for sale in Sydney, and Mr. Groom urged that these large estates should be purchased and thrown open for closer settlement. The Land Act. of 1868 also enabled Mr. Groom, in company with others, to insist upon the homestead clauses of the American Land Act of 1862 being inserted. This was the first step towards real close settlement, because it gave to every settler a homestead of 160 acres at 2s. 6d. per acre, and five years to pay for it. Indeed, not a few of the alterations in our land laws have been due to Mr. Groom from this time until 1897, when, as chairman of the Royal Commission appointed to inquire into public lands, he showed that the homestead areas required enlarging.



Toowoomba and Drayton 1887

The Land Act of 1897, which, in fact, was the outcome of this commission, contained clauses altering them to three classes—160, 320, and 640 acres, according to the price and quality of the land.

At the general election in 1869 Mr. Groom was again returned at the head of the poll, and the same compliment was accorded him in 1870, 1871, 1874, and 1878. Up to the latter year, when the redistribution of seats took place, Mr. Groom was the only representative of Drayton and Toowoomba, Aubigny, and a large portion of what is now Cambooya.

In 1878 the electorate of Drayton and Toowoomba was given two members, and Mr. Groom was, of course, the first senior member. In 1875 he assisted in the passing of the Education Act, and carried an amendment in the Committee, which continued aid to nonvested schools for a period of five years, to enable them to meet the new conditions. More recently he was the author of a resolution in Parliament establishing the principles of "bursaries" in connection with State school scholarships.

In 1876, he introduced a bill to consolidate and amend the laws relating to Friendly Societies, which became law after being investigated by a Select Committee, in November of that year. At the general election of 1883, Mr. Groom was opposed by the Hon. John Douglas, whom he defeated by over 400 votes; and in the same year he was once more chosen Mayor of Toowoomba. On the reassembling of Parliament, in 1884, Mr. Groom was chosen Speaker by 29 votes to 18 in a House which consisted then of fifty-four members, having previously refused the

Chairmanship of Committees offered to him under the McIlwraith Ministry.

On the dissolution of the Legislative Assembly consequent upon the passing of the Redistribution of Seats Act in 1888. Mr. Groom appealed to his constituency for re-election and was returned at the head of the poll. In 1890 came the coalition of the Griffith and McIlwraith Ministries, and since then Mr. Groom, hitherto a consistent follower of Sir Samuel Griffith, sat in opposition until his resignation in the early part of this year on his being elected for the Darling Downs to the Federal House of Representatives. He was re-elected in 1893, 1896, and 1899, his companion on each occasion being Mr. John Fogarty, the present senior member for the electorate.

Mr. Groom's career was a remarkable one. He was seven times Mayor of Toowoomba and was member for the constituency for the thirteen consecutive Parliaments of the State. For thirty-nine years he sat for the same electorate, and during that time saw Queensland pass from her Infancy to the time when, as a young but vigorous member of the Australian Group she linked herself with her sister States in the Commonwealth.

He received during that time many marks of appreciation from his constituents more material than the honour of being chosen to represent them, and so great was his reputation and popularity that it has been said that as often as he came forward the electors would send him down as their representative.

In the House Mr. Groom showed himself a keen debater, a fervent speaker, and an earnest worker towards the accomplishment of the many ideals he had set his heart upon. As Speaker he was pronounced one of the best and most impartial that ever presided over the Assembly, and his knowledge of Parliamentary procedure was often made use of both in the House and by young members struggling with the rules of debate or the Standing Orders.

The Queenslander 24 Aug 1901 P366

Boer War Records

Around 15,000 Australians, most of whom were born between 1870 and 1880, served in eight contingents through the duration of the Second Boer War in South Africa between October 1899 and May 1902. The conflict is commonly referred to simply as “the Boer War” because the First Boer War (December 1880 to March 1881) was a much smaller conflict. Overall Australians troops served in mounted units and joined the Boer War in five clear waves:

The first group was raised in response to the outbreak of the war in 1899.

The second wave was called the “bushman” contingent where the soldiers were recruited from much more diverse sources. This was financed by public subscription or wealthy individuals.

The third wave was actually paid for by the Government in London and could be termed the “Imperial” contingent

The fourth wave – the draft contingents – were raised by the state governments after Federation on behalf of the new Commonwealth government, which was as yet unable to do so.

The last wave which was near the end of the war – the Australian Commonwealth Horse contingents – was raised by the new federal government.

The Australian records of the Boer War are incomplete and in some cases the records for whole units are missing.

Because the Boer War spans the pre-and post-Federation periods in Australia, records may be held by state government archives or by the Commonwealth National Archives of Australia (NAA). As a general guide, the pre-1901 colonial period records are held in state government archives, and post-federation records are held by the NAA, although there may be exceptions to this.

See the NAA's guides, *The Boer War:*

Australians and the War in South Africa, 1899–1902 and *Finding families*. Also consult the website for the government archive in each state.

The Official Record of the Australian Military Contingents to the War in South Africa lists persons who served in each contingent for each state. You can find help using this resource through the Heraldry & Genealogy Society of Canberra's (HAGSOC) website. A list of online Boer War links and references to other resources such as newspapers and The Times map of South Africa 1900 are also available through the HAGSOC website. Searches for names of people mentioned on South African Memorials and people mentioned on Australian Memorials can also be performed.

The following abbreviations are used in Boer War records held at Queensland State Archives.

Abbrev.	Rank
Artif	Artificer
Bugl	Bugler
C Sergt	Company or Colour Sergeant
Capt	Captain
Capt Chap	Captain Chaplain
Co Sgt	Company or Colour Sergeant
Corpl	Corporal
CSM	Company Sergeant Major
Far Sgt	Farrier Sergeant
Farrier Sergt	Farrier Sergeant
Frst Sgt	First Sergeant
Lieut	Lieutenant
Lieut Col	Lieutenant Colonel
Major	Major
Pvte	Private
Q M Sgt	Quartermaster Sergeant
QMS	Quartermaster Sergeant
RSM	Regimental Sergeant Major
Sergt	Sergeant
Sergt Major	Sergeant Major
Spl SO	Supply Stores Office or Specialist Service Officer
Staff Sergt	Staff Sergeant
Supt Capt	Supplementary Captain
Supt Lieut	Supplementary Lieutenant
Vet Capt	Veterinary Captain
Vet Sergt	Veterinary Sergeant

au.forces-war-records.com
archives.qld.gov.au, prov.vic.gov.au

TINKER, TAILOR, SOLDIER, SAILOR

(A light-hearted family history approach to the old nursery rhyme)

By Mary E. Metcalfe ©

Some years ago now, on a sultry summer's afternoon, as black clouds gathered ominously on the horizon, I tossed about in my mind, somewhat lethargically, an allocated writing task for a QFHS genealogy group to which I then belonged. Could the expression REALLY apply to my ancestors? Perhaps a few moments of reflection would be in order to determine if I could, in fact, lay claim to at least ONE tinker, tailor, soldier and sailor over several generations.

My efforts were rewarded as I started to gather in the various families. Alexander CUNNINGHAM, (1877-1974) my Scottish maternal grandfather, was at one time the driver of a pedlar's cart around Clifton on the Darling Downs, in the era when that little town was starting to be a destination favourable to migrating settlers, following sales of land in the Headington Hill and Clifton Estates. That tinker's beginning saw the family of William CUNNINGHAM purchase the Downs Store of Clifton, which was conducted as a general grocery and hardware business from the late 1890s to late 1940s when my grandfather retired.

Tailor - in this instance please read 'Tailoress'. Alex's sister, 'May' (Marion Jane CUNNINGHAM) in league with their stepmother, Mina Turnbull CUNNINGHAM, advertised in the Brisbane Courier as dressmakers of fine standard. No doubt the gentlewomen of Clifton appreciated their skills. The family of William CUNNINGHAM had arrived on the *Australasian* in September 1889. A 1905 advertisement described the ladies' sewing as the best business in Clifton. Sadly such handiwork genes did not travel down the line to this author who prefers words to patterns and thread.

Soldier - where to begin? Alex (abovementioned) served as #344 of the 4th Queensland Imperial Bushmen's contingent

to South Africa from 18 May 1900 - 2 May 1901. That company was the first Queensland group to have their wages paid by the British Government. Hence the use of the word 'imperial' in their description. His younger half-brother, James Forrest Turnbull CUNNINGHAM, born 1890, son of Mina TURNBULL, enlisted as a dentist, serving as Captain CUNNINGHAM in the Medical Corps during World War One.

To find a sailor it became necessary to explore my husband's ancestors. His paternal grandmother was known to be the daughter of a Master Mariner by the name of Andrew Matthew POULSON. Whether this person actually jumped ship in Newcastle, NSW, or arrived here deliberately has never really been established by me. A shipping entry for the *Rio Grande* which entered Sydney on 8 September 1883, records that Andrew was a Ships' Mate. Age was given as 29 years.

This sailor had married a lady by the name of Mary POUNDS in 1880 at Mile End Old Town near Tower Hamlets, London. Immigration Deposit Journals show that Andrew sent for his wife Mary and three-year-old daughter Rosetta. Their arrival is recorded in NSW State Records on the *Gulf of Venice* in 1885, and would you believe it, Mary was also a dressmaker. One of their children, Daisy POULSON, born 1889, was my husband's paternal grandmother. The man she married in 1909, Thomas Henry METCALF, was descended from Jonathan METCALF (ship's carpenter) and Hannah ABRAHAM who arrived from Newcastle-on-Tyne in the 1850s, an area renowned for ship building.

As is frequently the case in families, Andrew's father was also called Andrew and his mother just happened to be another Mary (née HOBSON). The latter appeared in the 1881 UK Census, age 53, described as a 'Master Mariner's wife' at 20 Bath Street, Poplar, London. How the English loved to complicate the identification of the various generations!! No doubt the Scottish naming custom has much to offer to the family historian over time. Graves of the Poulsons who lived in NSW can be found in the Sandgate Cemetery outside Newcastle,

Australia. The second Master Mariner A.M. POULSON was aged 79 years on his death in 1933. His wife Mary (POUNDS) had died on 14 July 1927 at 24 Council Street, Newcastle. A transcription of her death certificate provided vital clues to the family's identity thankfully.

I recall that the words ending the quoted rhyme are 'rich man, poor man, beggar man, thief'. If time permitted, it would be possible to report that William CUNNINGHAM, an ironmonger of Haddington, East Lothian, was indeed a rich man, apparently having gained his fortunes during the diamond rush in the Kimberley, South Africa. Where my great grandfather's estate ended up remains a mystery to date.

My Irish Famine orphan great-great grandmother, Mary Anne CATON, aka REILLY/RILEY/ALCOCK was most definitely a 'poor woman' from Dublin workhouse who sailed on the *Lismoyne*, arriving Sydney 29 November 1849. Her husband, convict Thomas CATON, of 1838 *Bengal Merchant* fame was transported for his 'larceny' activities from Preston, Lancashire. The pair married in Maitland NSW on 31 January 1854.

As to the beggar man description, I am left wondering to whom that might apply. Perhaps other researchers bitten by the desire to put flesh on the bones of our ancestors, may just agree with me that we become 'beggars' for punishment, such is our passion for this hobby!

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Every Woman

Has some chance in marrying. It may be one in fifty, or it may be ten to one that she will. Representing her entire chance at 100, at certain points of her progress in time it is found to be in the following ratio :—

				Per cent.
Between the ages of 15 and 20 years	14½		
"	"	20	"	25
"	"	25	"	30
"	"	30	"	35
"	"	35	"	40
"	"	40	"	45
"	"	45	"	50
"	"	50	"	56
				¾ of 1
				¼ of 1

After 60 it is one-tenth of 1 per cent., or one chance in 1,000.

1905 3 March, QF p11 Every Woman has a chance of Marriage by Age
Sent by Sue Margetts

Robert Mungall

It was because my great grandfather Robert MUNGALL came to Australia in the first place that peaked my interest in family history. If only he was buried in the Toowoomba Regional Council area, he could feature in one of our publications.

Robert, eldest child of Henry and Helen (Eadie) MUNGALL was born September 5, 1840 at Hilderston, Bathgate, Scotland. He grew up, along with his sisters and brothers on this farm until he was about 16 years old, when the family moved to Park Hall, Polmont, Scotland. By 1865 Robert was enticed to migrate to Australia.



The *Queen of the Colonies* left Gravesend on the 9th July 1865 with Robert aboard. It landed in Moreton Bay on 7th October and one week later (14th) Robert received his land orders. He then selected two blocks

of land in Toowoomba. The first block Lot 72 costing £15.10s consisted of 15 acres 2 roods. The second block was Lot 75 costing £18 consisting of 18 acres. Both were paid for on the 28th January 1867 and were later sold to James PATERSON on 2nd June 1870.

Robert no doubt met his wife Jean Ferrier MATTHEWS while living in Toowoomba. Her sister Elizabeth had married Darius HUNT who had gone to Toowoomba to start the



Toowoomba Chronicle in 1861 and the Matthews family followed soon after. Her brother George was post-master at the time Robert arrived and would have gone there to collect mail. Jean was the youngest daughter

of William and Janet (Cleland MATTHEWS) and had been born January 5, 1846 in Sydney.

The mining rush began in Stanthorpe in 1872 and Robert decided to try his luck. For a time, Stanthorpe became the largest alluvial tin mining and mineral field in Queensland. While gold, silver, copper etc. were also found. Robert was granted miners' rights to Talgai, Canal Creek and Lucky Valley Gold Fields in June that year.

It was not long though before Robert made the newspaper when he and three other men refuted the claims that they were stealing tin. It was here he and Jean were married on December 7, 1872. Theirs was the first wedding to be celebrated within the walls of the First Presbyterian Church built in Stanthorpe.

MARRIED.
On the 7th instant, at the Presbyterian Church, Stanthorpe, by the Rev. John McAra, Robert Mungall, tin miner, native of Linlithgowshire, Scotland, to Jean Ferrier, youngest daughter of Mr. William Matthews, builder, formerly of New South Wales.
Toowoomba Chronicle and Queensland Advertiser Saturday 14 December 1872, page 2

Family folklore says he never found more than enough gold for Jean's wedding ring. By 1874 the family were back in Toowoomba where their eldest daughter Janet Cleland was born. At that time, they were living in a four-bedroom weatherboard cottage at West Swamp. The cottage belonged to his brother-in-law Darius HUNT.

The family then moved on to the Severn River and in 1876 their eldest son was born at Severn River. By 1878 when Janet died at just three years of age, they were living at the railway line Rosenthal and she was buried in the Warwick Cemetery. Over the next few years though children were born at Severn River or Toowoomba.

In 1885 work started on a rail link to Wallangarra. Consequently, Ballandean became a populous centre, with hotels springing up along the way between Glen Aplin and the border. Besides the hotels, the township included a post office with a bi-

weekly mail service, a school, butcher and stores. It also included a store called the "Working Man's Friend" a store in which Robert MUNGALL had an interest, while also working on the railway. The store was not of elaborate construction being made of stringy-bark sheets and slabs hewn from the bush.

The township flourished for several years until the completion of the railway and the tin mines were worked out.

Robert had grown to love this part of the country and wanted to settle. So, on August 9, 1887 he applied to the Land Agent, Stanthorpe to select an agricultural farm. He paid a total of 9 pounds thirteen shillings and ten pence, which included 6d per acre rent on these 80 acres. He continued payment of 2 pounds a year rent for 9 years, before the land was his.

The land was heavily timbered. Robert soon cleared the land, planted fruit trees and built a home for his family. In this 4 roomed iron and bark house, only 21ft by 22ft Jean and Robert raised their six children, Henry, George, Helen, Elizabeth, Janet (known as Jess) & Jean, one daughter Janet dying when only 4 years of age. He named his property "Park Hill" after his home in Scotland.

His cousin John GENTLEMAN, travelled for D.J. BROWN and it was to him that Robert sold his fruit. John had married Jessie GORDON, daughter of Maggie EADIE, his mother's sister and had settled in Brisbane some years earlier. It was possibly through John, that Robert first came to Australia.

On January 9, 1888 Robert selected another 80 acres adjoining his property and he stocked this land with cattle and horses. By 15th July, 1901 he had selected yet another 20 acres containing patches of sapling, pine scrub. He cleared this and used it for fruit growing.

Life was not easy for the Mungall family, nor for their neighbours. Depressed conditions prevailed throughout the land. By 1893 many of the banks crashed. The droughts from 1888 to 1902 were as bad as any ever known in the district.

However, Robert continued to build up the size of his holdings and on 20 April 1904 selected another 169 acres. This land was only used for pasture for cattle and was later transferred to his son George, on 24th April 1912 for the sum of 60 pounds transfer fee.

The family were to remain close to their church and records show that in 1906 George MUNGALL and William CAMMACK (who had married Helen MUNGALL (known as Nell) were elected to the building committee for a new Church.

Robert and Jean were to live in their home at Park Hill, Ballandean until Robert was hospitalised with a gangrene leg. After several amputations, the last one being above the knee, Robert died January 31, 1917 in Brisbane. Robert is buried in the Stanthorpe Cemetery.

Robert was a stern but just man. As was the order of the day, he would always sit at the head of the table and carve the meat. The Parson was always entertained to lunch when he was in the district and Jean and Robert often boarded the schoolmaster.

After Robert died, his wife Jean moved into a worker's cottage in Stanthorpe across the river. She suffered a stroke and was confined to a wheelchair and so the family took her to Brisbane to live.

She stayed for some years with her daughter Jean GOODSALL and then with her other daughter Nell CAMMACK.

Robert would have been happy to see his beloved wife being well cared for by her family and to see the enjoyment she gained from small pleasures such as sitting on the verandah of Jean and Roberts home at Lutwyche and chatting to the many people passing by. Jean died 30th December 1927 and was laid to rest beside Robert.

MUNGALL.—On 30th December, at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Gammick, 9th Avenue, Kedron, Jean Ferrier Mungall, widow of the late Robert Mungall, in her 84th year. Interred in Stanthorpe Cemetery.

Brisbane Courier 31 December 1927, page 14

Desley Telford

Desley was born in Toowoomba and spent the first 13 years of her life with her family on their farm at Hampton. In those days, she went to school by horse.

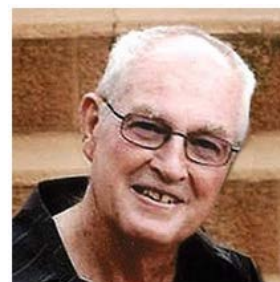
She sat for the Scholarship exam in Brisbane, returning to Toowoomba, then with the family to Roma, where she finished school after sitting for the Junior exam. Many years later she and her daughter Jeanette went to night school to do Senior. Desley also studied with U3A for subjects she was interested in.



Desley Jean Telford

1941 - 2022

At Roma, Desley worked for the Commonwealth Bank as the manager's secretary, only leaving the job when she was married as was done in those days. Desley and Arthur married in 1961 and had four children. Arthur established his own business, Telford Electricals. They lived variously in Roma and later in Bundaberg, before coming back to Toowoomba where they joined our society early in 2009. Arthur didn't rejoin in 2012, but Desley retained membership until 2018.



Arthur John Telford

1939 - 2022

Desley was Vice-President of the Toowoomba & Darling Downs Family History Society from 2014 to 2015. She contributed to the society by indexing schools, helped

with catering for functions, and did library duty for some time until her health meant she could no longer continue.

Desley and Arthur both died last year, Arthur in June and Desley in November.

St. Patrick's Cathedral James Street, Toowoomba

The present blue-stone Cathedral is the third church under the name St' Patrick's to stand on the site in James Street, Toowoomba. The first was erected in 1863 under the guidance of the first Parish Priest, Father Fulgentius HODEBOURG.

This small wooden Church-school soon became too small for the ever growing congregation and was expanded in 1880, only to be burnt down the day after completion.

THE FIRE IN TOOWOOMBA.
About half past 3 o'clock on Saturday morning (says the *Chronicle*) the ringing of the bell, and blowing the steam whistle at the railway station, gave the alarm of fire, and on proceeding to the spot we found St. Patrick's Catholic Chapel gatted and blazing in every part. Before any number of people were assembled on the spot, all the planking and boarding of the structure was either consumed or had fallen in, and the skeleton of the building burned fiercely in all parts. It was utterly hopeless to attempt to save any portion of it, and nothing was attempted. For two hours the large wooden structure blazed brightly, and the fall of the bell from the burning belfry was the culminating point of interest. The matter still remains veiled in mystery and it certainly is not easy to account for a fire occurring between 3 and 4 o'clock in the morning. The contractor, Mr. Collins, and one of his workmen, named Cavanagh, left the building shortly after 5 o'clock on Friday evening, and, so far as can be ascertained, were the last people on the premises. The loss of the building is a very serious one to the Catholic community here. The bulk of them are poor, and most of their subscriptions towards church building have, as yet, been diverted to the Catholic Cathedral in Brisbane. A considerable quantity of carpenters' tools was lost in the fire. The usual Sabbath services were held on Sabbath last in the new Hibernian Hall, which building is unseated, and in size is totally inadequate for the congregation.

The Telegraph 15 June 1880 P2

Due to the dedication of parishioners, a new St Patrick's was erected in little over two weeks. It too was of wood and when its life as a church came to an end, it served as a school utility until 1975.

The beginnings of the St Patrick's cathedral we know today, came with the laying of its

foundation stone in 1883. The foundation stone was laid by the Bishop with about 200 people present for the occasion. The architect was James MARKS, who has numerous works featuring prominently throughout Toowoomba. Built in neo-gothic style, the Cathedral consisted of a nave and single aisles with a clerestory 12 metres in height. It was officially blessed and opened on 17 March 1889 – St Patrick's Day.

On 1 September 1929 Dr BYRNE was consecrated as Bishop to the newly-formed Diocese of Toowoomba. With his appointment, Bishop BYRNE immediately began to plan for the transformation of his simple Parish Church to that of a true Cathedral.



Amidst a crowd of over 7000 people, the new Cathedral was opened on 24 March 1935. It now measured 64metres in length, while the new transepts were 30 metres across. The Sanctuary, one of St Patrick's outstanding features, now measured 10 metres by 17 metres.

ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL, TOOWOOMBA
BLESSING AND OPENING CEREMONY.
BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE APOSTOLIC DELEGATE.
SUNDAY, MARCH 24th.
SPECIAL CHEAP EXCURSION TRAINS WILL RUN AS FOLLOW:—
MILES—Depart 5.15 a.m. Toowoomba, depart 5.20 p.m.
CHINCHILLA—Depart 6.25 a.m. Dalby, depart 7.25 p.m.
DALBY—Depart 8.35 a.m. Chinchilla, depart 9.50 p.m.
TOOWOOMBA—Arrive 11 a.m. Miles, arrive 11.10 p.m.
Stopping at intermediate stations as required for passengers.
SPECIAL CHEAP EXCURSION FARES FROM ALL STATIONS.
FULL PARTICULARS FROM STATION MASTERS.
P. S. CARROLL, Hon. Secretary.

Dalby Herald 19 March 1935 P2

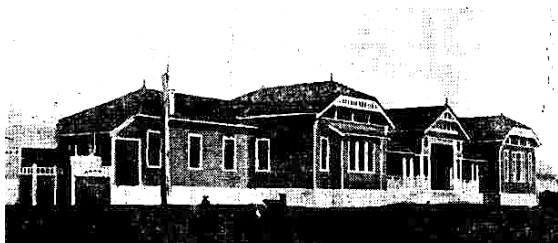
In 1972 extensive renovations were undertaken. Two major improvements were the installation of a well-planned public address system and a specially designed lighting system.

Dalby Railway Station

The Dalby railway station is located on the Western line serving the town of Dalby. The station has one platform with a passing loop and opened on 16 April 1868.

The Dalby station has had 3 station buildings over its lifetime. The first was built at the western end of the platform. This was removed and a new building built at the eastern end of the platform so that an additional platform could be constructed to service the newly created branch lines to Tara (which would eventually stretch to Meandarra and Glenmorgan), Jandowae and Bell.

The Bell branch railway was mothballed in 1994, the Jandowae line was closed in 2013 and the Glenmorgan Line was closed to rail traffic past Meandarra in 2013 and remains "booked out of use" as of 2022.



The New Dalby Railway Station
The Brisbane Courier 13 June 1914 P 13

The wooden station building built in 1913 was burned down in 1930, to be replaced later in that year by a pre-cast concrete building using the same foundations and floor plan of the original building.

As of 1 December 2015, the building is occupied by the community group "Western Downs Outreach Project". The station building is now used as a community lounge that is open six days a week. A soup kitchen operates on Monday, Thursday & Saturday nights. Markets are held at front and within the station building on the first Sunday of each month. All proceeds are used to restore the building and continue the soup kitchen.

[Wikipedia](#)

RECKLESS RIDING THREE YOUTHS FINED.

It was St. Patrick's Day, the sports were just over, and the people were leaving the show ground, when the three defendants and another boy, who will be brought before the Children's Court, galloped from the show ground right amongst the thick of the crowds of people. They did not see the police, who were riding on a motor truck at a speed of 25 miles an hour, and so fast were the defendants travelling that they passed the truck, and on its wrong side.

This statement was made in the Police Court this morning by Sergeant P. J. McGreevy to Mr. R. H. Allen, P.M., when three youths, Barney Pitt, of Taunton, Maurice Lane, junr., William street, Dalby, and Samuel Doxey, Loam street, Dalby, pleaded guilty to a charge that at 5.50 p.m., on March 16th, they recklessly rode their horses in Edward street, the street leading from the show ground to town.

The P.M.: What have you to say, Doxey?. You were having a celebration of your own, eh?

Doxey: I have nothing to say. We got off together.

The P.M.: And you, Lane?

Lane: The same as Doxey. But we left before the truck and the truck passed us 300 yards from the showground.

RODE BAREBACK.

The P.M.: What have you to say, Pitt?

Pitt: I was riding home with another fellow bareback when these other young chaps rode along. My horse is an old racehorse, and being bareback I could not pull my horse in. I had no power over the reins.

The P.M.: Do you not recognise that you endanger the lives of children and people? It is a foolhardy practice.

Pitt: It is not a practice I indulge in. On account of having no saddle on my horse, the harder I pulled the faster the horse went.

The P.M.: It is time you arrived at years of discretion and not "lairising" along the streets. How old are you?

Two of the defendants said they were 21 and the other said he was 18.

The P.M. said they were liable to a fine of £20.

Sergeant McGreevy said the three of them were hardworking boys with decent parents.

Defendants were convicted and fined 10/ with 6/ costs of court, to be paid forthwith.

The P.M.: Will you undertake to behave yourselves in future?

The defendants: Yes.

The P.M.: I can assure you I will take a more serious view in the future if you again come before me.

Dalby Herald 26 March 1935, P 3



In an Act of Parliament for the Preservation of the Northumberland Turnpike Road, leading from this town to Buckton Burn, there is a clause for allowing all people, within their respective parishes to pass the gates toll-free on the Sunday, to and from Church.

Several persons, under the pretext of going to public worship have gone through all the gates leading from hence to Alnwick, toll-free, to the no small prejudice of the Receivers.

In order to prevent such illicit and shameful practices, in future, we hear, the strictest orders are given to each Gatekeeper.

Newcastle Courant 6 September 1766

TROVE – NOT TROVE

We have all used the Trove website www.trove.nla.gov.au when researching our family history in helping to 'put meat on the bones' of our family members stories. It is a wonderful free resource, and the digitised newspapers held there can be especially informative.

It does carry the following warning – '*Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people should be aware that Trove contains images, voices or names of deceased persons in photographs, websites, film, audio recordings or printed material.*'

When researching the Toowoomba content of the digitised newspapers however, you may find that much of the information ceases around 1933. Fortunately for us, the Toowoomba and Darling Downs Family History Society has the Toowoomba Chronicle on microfilm and we have indexed it from 1934 to 1995.

A simple story can hold a wealth of information about family relationships, fashion, locations and the cultural practices at the time, as the following articles from 1935 show.

SMITH-HODGEN

A very pretty wedding and one of great interest to many friends in Toowoomba, was solemnised at Neil Street Methodist Church, Toowoomba on December 28 last, when Miss Ruth Margaret ("Peggy") HODGEN (elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H.G. HODGEN, Bridget Street, Toowoomba) was married to Mr. Frederick James SMITH (elder son of Mr. F.W. SMITH Perth Street, Toowoomba).

The church was attractively decorated by girl friends of the bride with bowls of blue and ink hydrangea and fern, and from an arch a wedding bell was suspended over the bridal couple.

The dainty bride, who was given away by her father, wore a long-sleeved gown of white angel skin, cut on straight lines with fully

trained skirt and featuring a cowl neckline, Her veil of embroidered tulle (kindly lent by Mrs. P.C. SLAUGHTER, Brisbane), arranged in Madonna fashion and set to the head in a lace cap, was finished with orange blossom. A shower bouquet of white agapanthus, carnations, and asters was carried.

The chief bridesmaid, Miss Audrey HODGEN (sister of the bride), was frocked in powder blue crepe de Chine, cut on straight lines, showing circular frill at back of bodice and skirt, and finished with hand-made flowers at neck. The second bridesmaid, Miss Kate SMITH (sister of the bridegroom) wore a powder blue crepe de Chine frock with cape sleeves and faggoted neckline, the skirt falling from the knees in a full flare. The waist was finished with a bustle bow. Both maids wore flower necklets of pink flowers and carried bouquets of pink gladioli and oleanders. Blue crinoline hats to tone were worn.

Mr. George SMITH attended his brother as best man, and Mr. Ken GAYDON acted as groomsman. Rev. B. FREDERICK was the celebrant, and Mr. A. ROSS presided at the organ. During the signing of the register Mr. Wilfred ROBERTSON sang "Because".

After the ceremony a reception was held at the Cafe Alexandra, where Mrs. HODGEN (mother of the bride) received the guests, wearing a patterned frock of grey crepe de Chine and grey swagger coat. Her hat was of black neora straw, and she carried a bouquet of autumn-tinted marigolds.

Mrs SMITH wore a frock of blue and mastic flat crepe and a mastic neora straw hat. She carried a bouquet of red gerberas. The bouquets, which were all very artistic, were the work of Mrs. H. ELCOCK, Hume Street.

On leaving for the honeymoon, which is being spent in Sydney and the Blue Mountains, Mrs. F.J. SMITH wore a brown and mastic figured crepe de Chine frock, with mastic swagger coat and a neora straw hat, with handbag and shoes to tone.

Toowoomba Chronicle 5 January 1935

OBITUARY

On January 8 the death took place of Mrs. Christina FLUERTY, widow of the late Mr. C.H.T. FLUERTY, of "Kingston" (South Dulacca).

Beloved by all, and a friend to everyone, Mrs. FLUERTY for the past 20 years had been a great sufferer with asthma, and had tried many remedies to seek relief. During the past two years her sufferings were intense, and rheumatic antroids having also taken a hold, caused her family grave concern.

She had been carefully nursed in her home by her two single daughters (Misses Blanch and Isobel), but her condition in the past month became decidedly worse. It was deemed advisable that she should be removed to the Miles District Hospital, where she would have the attention of skilled nurses and a doctor, but her condition did not improve.

She passed away at 6 o'clock on Tuesday morning last, at the age of 73 years. She as laid to rest in Miles Cemetery that afternoon.

The cortege moved from the Presbyterian Church (Miles). Rev. Oswald ANDERSON officiated at the graveside.

Mr Harry FLUERTY, eldest son, arrived from Biggenden before his mother passed away, and other members of the family are: Messrs. Alex and Herbert (South Dulacca), Misses Blanch and Isobel ("Kingston" South Dulacca) and Mrs. H.J. HARRISON (Dulacca); also 12 grandchildren. Mesdames DICKENSON, POSTLEWAITE, SMYTHE and Mr. J. BURROWS, who reside in the Kingaroy district, are sisters and brother.

Toowoomba Chronicle 12 January 1935

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An example of a black Neora straw hat.



'A smart design in black Neora showing the tailored finish.'

The Telegraph
22 January 1934

Flagstone Creek Tragedy - Jacqui Brock

In 1893, Alexander DUNCAN of Flagstone Creek reported to the Queensland Times and several other newspapers, that a selector by the name of PRIOR had found the remains of three human beings in a cave at Stockyard Creek about 16 miles from Helidon. The cave being located about 20 feet (six metres) above the creek in its bank, was 'accessed by vines', and on entering the cave, Mr PRIOR had discovered a pile of bones and three skulls. The matter had been reported to the police in Helidon and as far as Mr DUNCAN could ascertain there had been no further investigation as to whether they were 'whites or blacks'.

On 21 October 1893, The Telegraph reported that a Mr A MESTON had started out the previous day (20 October), with Senior Constable KELLY to locate the remains, and was happy to advise that they had been found in a wonderful state of preservation. Archibald MESTON, an amateur ethnologist's goal had been to collect them on behalf of the Brisbane Museum. A group of men including Alexander DUNCAN, the author of the letter to the newspapers, travelled with Mr MESTON and Senior Constable KELLY that night to recover the bones, and after successfully doing so, the group stayed overnight at Mr Duncan's home at Flagstone Creek. On Saturday morning, 21 October 1893, after Senior Constable KELLY had left to head home, Alexander DUNCAN and Archibald MESTON chose to take a walk down Flagstone Creek.



Archibald Meston Source: Mapping Brisbane History website.

On their return, they followed the main track and had not long parted from a selector named HAMILTON when tragedy struck. Mr MESTON was walking about two yards ahead of Alexander DUNCAN when he heard him say 'We have a mile to go from that corner'. Mr MESTON detected a peculiar change in Mr Duncan's voice. He turned to see Mr DUNCAN swinging around apparently trying to save himself from falling. MESTON dropped his

gun to catch him, but Alexander DUNCAN came down heavily on his shoulder, and was already dead. Mr MESTON then, 'with unspeakable emotions' returned to Duncan's home to relay the sad news to his wife and sons and daughters. He described it as a heart-breaking scene.

Archibald MESTON was a journalist, poet, botanist, historian, politician (MLA Rosewood 1878-1882) and amateur ethnologist. He described Alexander DUNCAN as a fine, stalwart broad-shouldered Scotchman, respected by all classes – a good colonist, a kind husband and father, and a faithful friend. He was reported as saying 'My life has had a fair share of tragedy, but never anything under such acutely mournful circumstances as this death of DUNCAN.'

Prior to his death, Alexander DUNCAN had been a selector in the Helidon and Tenthill districts for many years. He had been a railway sub-contractor, and for some time served on the Tarampa Divisional Board.

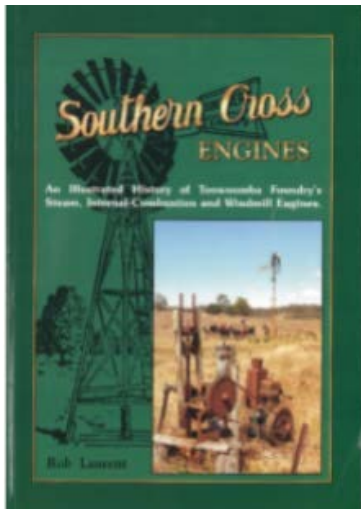


The resting place of Alexander Duncan and his wife Elizabeth at the Helidon General Cemetery. Photo by Jacqui Brock.

He died at just 52 years of age, leaving behind his wife Elizabeth, who continued to live for another 30 years in the Flagstone Creek district. In 1924, her obituary listed the following grown-up family, sons George, James and William DUNCAN of Flagstone Creek, David (Toowoomba), Alex (Warwick); and daughters Mrs W SMITH (Flagstone), Mrs A TELFORD (Rockhampton), and Mrs J CANNAN (Maroochydore). The couple are buried in the Helidon General Cemetery.

In 1897, Archibald MESTON was appointed Protector of Aborigines for South Queensland. During his travels in this role, he continued to collect artefacts, particularly traditional weaponry, and later sold his collection of approximately 285 objects to the Queensland Museum.

New in the Library



Rob Laurent, *Southern Cross Engines*: an illustrated history of Toowoomba Foundry's steam, internal-combustion and windmill engines, Blue Flyer Publishing, Highfields, 2002, 296 pp.

Ten chapters, Epilogue, two Appendixes, Bibliography, and Index.

Interestingly, members of the Griffiths family are mentioned throughout the book, and the next book listed here relates to that family.

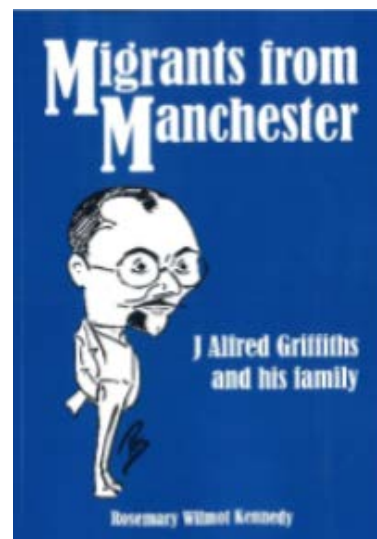
Microfiche - Archives Office of NSW Colonial Secretary:
 Memorials, 1810+
 Petitions, 1810+
 Lists of Memorials, Letters etc, 1822+
 Miscellaneous Records re Land Grants, Leases etc
 Logs, Diaries and Journals of Exploration
 Miscellaneous Records re Immigration, Shipping & Trade
 Miscellaneous Records re convicts, criminal and legal matters
 Miscellaneous Records re public service and administration
 Miscellaneous Records Relating to Education & Clerical Matters
 Miscellaneous Records Special Bundles
 N.B. These are hand-written documents.

Rosemary Wilmot Kennedy, *Migrants from Manchester*: John Alfred Griffiths and his family, self published 2022, 132 pp.

Twelve chapters, Epilogue, Bibliography, Appendixes. Unfortunately, this well researched and presented family history book is not indexed, but there is a comprehensive list of the 38 photographs included, and there are nine appendixes.

Rosemary wrote that the book 'may be useful for some [TDDFHS] members to read ... as a spring board for "getting started" in their own way.' In the introduction, Rosemary asked the question 'How can a writer represent "the truth" in a family history?' She goes on to use the process she followed to try to answer the question.

If anyone is interested in obtaining their own copy, Rosemary has some for sale at \$30 each. If you are interested, please contact TDDFHS.



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**Toowoomba and Darling Downs Family
 History Society**
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There is always a Duty Member available to assist at the family history centre to give advice on where you might find that elusive piece of information.

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- (1) Simple requests: price on application.
- (2) \$30 for full research for one family name. The research officer will advise if there are additional charges.

USB

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Queensland Electoral Rolls

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