



TRACKS

Journal of the
**Tweed Gold Coast Family History & Heritage
Association Inc**



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Front Cover

Percy Edward Boulton, grandfather of member, Gaynor McDowell. Read a little about Percy's life, starting on Page 8.

From The President's Desk

I do hope everyone had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year.

The years pass so quickly so let's take advantage of 2024 and make the most of it in every way.

I've noticed more and more people are taking up the research of Family Heritage. In my travels this last twelve months I have met a great many people from all over the world who are travelling to dig further into their past and fill in the blanks! Everyone is very excited in anticipation of what they will find!

It's pleasing to see some previous members renew and new members join our group. Please spread the word as the more members we can welcome the stronger we become as well as providing more investigative avenues for the exciting past we have yet to uncover.

We also look forward to another Trivia Night this year following the success of last year. Please spread the word and encourage as many people as possible to attend. Any donations for prizes will be gratefully accepted.

Good luck for 2024 and enjoy the journey.

Wendy Marshall
President

2024 Trivia Night

Our first trivia night last year was a resounding success, so we're going to do it again.

A date hasn't been set as yet, but will probably be in May 2024. The date will be advised in Trails (email newsletter) at a later time.

We are requesting donations from members of items for prizes, please. Anything from a bar of chocolate, small value gift cards, or more, will be gratefully received.

Please contact Linda Threlfo (contact details on inside cover) if you can help.

Editorial

Welcome to the first issue of Tracks for 2024. I hope all members are coping with this very long, very hot summer.

A regular appeal to members for articles—please! I nearly subjected you to more of my early childhood memories in this issue. Luckily, there were just enough articles from members so that my memories can be deferred to another issue.

Recently, we were made aware that we were incorrectly accessing the British Newspaper Archive newspapers as part of our subscription to FindMyPast (FMP). Whilst personal subscriptions to FMP can search from FMP's 'front page', our library subscription works differently. This is the process to search the British Newspaper Archive in the Research Room:

- Ensure that the mobile internet modem is plugged in and connected
- If the browser (Edge) is open on the computer, close it
- Connect the WiFi internet access on the computer to TGCFHHA2
- Reopen Edge
- Open the British Newspaper Archive (BNA) website (listed on the Favourites bar)
- There will be a green banner on the page which reads:
Whilst on these premises, your account will have unlimited credits!
Find out more about free access
- Click on the link 'Find out more about free access' which will open a page where you need to register your name & email address & a password
- Once you are registered, you are free to search the newspapers
- Keep a record of your password

All the articles you view will be kept in your Saved area. You will be able to sign in and access your saved articles at home. You will need to visit the Research Room to carry out any new research.

June 2024 Tracks

The cut-off date for ordering hard copies is 15 May 2024. Each hard copy will be supplied at a cost of \$5.

Get-Together Dates

Place: South Tweed Sports Club, 4 Minjungbal Drive,
Tweed Heads South

Time: 1.15 pm for a 1.30 pm start

Future get-togethers

Tuesday, 2 April 2024 (Daylight Saving Time)

Tuesday, 7 May 2024

Tuesday, 4 June 2024

Details of the agenda of each get-together will be advised in the monthly Trails newsletters, closer to the date/s.

Easter Raffle

Tickets in our Easter raffle will be available for purchase at the March get-together (5 March 2024) and the April get-together (2 April 2024), plus the Research Room from 5 March onwards.

Tickets are \$1 each, with the winner drawn on 2 April 2024 (Easter Tuesday).



Websites of Interest

National Library of Australia (NLA)—Family history research guides

<https://www.nla.gov.au/research-guides/family-history>

This gem of a website is a very handy one to bookmark in your favourite browser. Although it has been set up specifically for users of the NLA, it contains guides and links to many Australian online resources, for instance:

- Birth, death and marriage indexes
- Cemetery records
- Maps
- Shipping and passenger records
- Convict records
- And more

This one website could actually replace a number of your bookmarked websites.

Irish Genealogical Research Society—Church of Ireland Parish Records List

<https://www.irishancestors.ie/church-of-ireland-parish-records-list-99>

This website contains a colour coded resource of Church of Ireland parish records, with information on what survives, where it is and additional information about copies, transcripts and online indexes. The list can be downloaded as a PDF, for your own use.

Dependent Children Registers 1883-1923 (New South Wales)

<https://mhns.wa.au/indexes/child-care-and-protection/dependent-children-registers/>

The records relate to children who were admitted to State care in New South Wales between 1883 and 1923. They record where the dependent children were placed (whether with foster parents or guardians). Some were eventually adopted. Find an entry of interest in the index, click on the details link, then download the file (PDF).



Percy Edward Boulton

My grandfather, Percy Edward Boulton, was born at 35 Llewellyn Street, Balmain, on 10 December 1885, the eighth child of George Boulton and Eliza Jane (nee Bailey). He was called Pomp by his family, but I knew him as Pa.

Percy's family were very religious, going to church at St Thomas, Balmain, every Sunday and donating part of their wages to the church. I found, when I lived with my grandparents for two years when I was 10 and 11 years old and attended Sunday School, that my grandfather knew most of the Bible by heart. As an adult he refused to go to church, even though my grandmother did attend church every week.

I have three books awarded to Percy Boulton at Sunday School, dated 1896 to 1898.

Percy attended Sydney Boys High School and then was indentured to Morts Dock Engineering on 28 July 1902, for five years, under James Peter Frank. He completed his Marine Engineering apprenticeship on 27 May 1908.

From 1908 to 1910, Percy was 3rd or 4th Engineer on PS *Namoi* and SS *Aldenham*. On 24 May 1911 he was certified a First Class Marine Engineer and continued on the SS *Aldenham* until 1914 when he became 1st Engineer on the SS *Empire*.

The PS *Namoi* was a side wheel paddle steamer with a gross tonnage of 1416. She was built at Kinghorn, Fife, Scotland, in 1883 and was registered in Sydney. She was scuttled in Sydney Disposal Area on 16 June 1933. Her routes included Sydney to Newcastle and also taking excursions to Pittwater on weekends.

The SS *Aldenham* plied mostly Asian routes – Hong Kong, Singapore, Phillipines and Japan.



SS Aldenham
(Courtesy of the Mitchell Library,
State Library of New South Wales)

This Indenture

made the 28th day of July 1902

BETWEEN Percy Boulton of Sydney, in the State of New South Wales, a Minor about the age of twelve years, of the first part

George Boulton of the said Percy Boulton

of the second part; and James Peter Branks of Sydney aforesaid, the Manager of MORTS DOCK & ENGINEERING COMPANY (Limited), a person exercising the art or manual occupation of Engineer of the third part, WITNESSETH that

the said Percy Boulton doth hereby with the consent of the said George Boulton

notified by his execution hereof, bind the said Percy Boulton

and the said James Peter Branks doth also

herely bind himself apprentice to the said James Peter Branks to learn the art and business of Engineer and with him after the manner of an Apprentice to serve during the full term of five years complete, to be computed from the 28th day of July

And each of them the said Percy Boulton and George Boulton doth hereby for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators, covenant with the said James Peter Branks his executors, administrators, and assigns, that during the said term the said Percy Boulton hereinafter called "Apprentice," shall and will diligently and assiduously apply himself to learn the said art or business, and shall and will serve the said James Peter Branks hereinafter called "Master," and the said Company of which he is such Manager as aforesaid, by day or night as he may be required; the secrets of his said Master and the said Company shall keep, and his lawful orders and the orders of the Manager for the time being of the said Company at all times and everywhere gladly obey; he shall do no damage or hurt to the property of his said Master or of the said Company, nor be a consenting party to its being done by others, nor conceal the same when known to him, but shall do everything in his power to prevent and forbear give notice to his said Master or the Manager for the time being of the said Company of the same; he shall not absent himself from his said Master's service, or from the works of the said Company, without leave, and a forfeiture of one shilling a day for every day he stay so absent himself; but in all things, as a faithful Apprentice, behave himself towards his said Master and the said Company, and all those whom his said Master shall set over him during the said term for the purpose of instructing him in his said art and business of Engineer and for every day's absence obtained by the written consent of the said Master or of the Manager for the time being of the said Company, or through illness (if notice of such illness shall have been given in writing), he shall serve his said Master or the said Company day for day; and for every day absent without leave or otherwise that through illness shall, in addition to the forfeiture hereinafter mentioned, serve two days for every at the end of each year of his apprenticeship, which year shall not be complete till the said days have been served; he shall also pay or cause to be paid to his said Master a premium of

for which covees on the other part the said Master hereby binds himself to his said Apprentice during the aforesaid term, by the best manner that he can, to teach and instruct, or cause to be taught and instructed in the art and business which he useth of Engineer

and during the said term that he or the said Company shall pay to the said Apprentice the following rate of wages per eight hours actually worked, the rate for working being regulated by the general rules of the establishment during the year, viz.:-

1 st 12 months	Four pounds
2 nd 12 months	Five pounds
3 rd 12 months	Six pounds
4 th 12 months	Seven pounds
5 th 12 months	Eight pounds

from which shall be deducted the aforesaid forfeitures, and the balance, after deducting such forfeitures, shall be in full of all the said Apprentice shall have a right to ask or claim for his services aforesaid. The said Apprentice shall be held responsible for all tools, patterns, and other property that may be given into his charge; and in the event of any loss or damage occurring in the same property, or if any tooling shall be destroyed or broken through his carelessness or neglect, the said Master shall be at liberty to make a fair charge for the same and to deduct the amount from the wages above mentioned, and at such time or times as the said Master shall think fit. And for the true performance of all and every of the said covenants and agreements each and every of them the said parties bindeth himself unto the other by these presents under the penalty of £200, to be paid by the party failing in the party observing, or willing to observe the same, over and above performance.

IN WITNESS whereof the parties to these presents have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first before written.

Signed, Sealed, and Delivered by the said Percy Boulton in the presence of William Elliott and by the said George Boulton in the presence of Tom Dope and by the said James Peter Branks in the presence of

Percy E. Boulton
Geo Boulton
J. P. Branks

Apprenticeship indenture for Percy Edward Boulton

The SS *Empire* was seconded to the British Admiralty during World War 1. I have found very little on this ship. I do know it was 'trooping' during the war as this is recorded in my grandfather's papers.

I have a letter dated 5 March 1915 where Percy Boulton, Chief Engineer, was given £25 (a large amount of money in 1915) from the Eastern Australia Steam Ship Company's management, "as a small recognition of recent service in 'Empire', which are much appreciated". He was given another "thank you" bonus in 1919, along with the entire crew.

I found these letters when I was living with my grandparents, and asked my grandfather what he did to earn those amounts from his employer. His reply: "nothing". He would never tell me the reason and I did ask again as an adult. I have tried to find the reason, without success.

In *The Sydney Morning Herald* of Saturday, 5 September 1914, there was an article on the *Empire*, as follows:

In The East – SS Empire Chartered

Mr S R Fletcher, of Manly, third officer of the A and A SS Company's steamer Empire, which has been chartered by the Admiralty, writes to his parents as follows:

HMS Empire, Hongkong Naval Department, August 12.

Things are very serious out here now, and last Tuesday Captain Pilcher in his hearty way called us up and said: "Look here, this ship has been taken over by the Admiralty, and anyone can get out if he wants to". It was the way he said it. A man had to stop. The engineers, however, were exchanged for a double shift from the Aldenham, our lot taking their places.

Where the China fleet is no one knows. We are loading as fast as we can, and with orders to sink the Empire rather than be captured by the Germans, whose stronghold, as you know, is Tsingtao. The China Squadron left for goodness knows where. We are to sail under sealed orders on Wednesday. I wish the ship was going to be fitted with guns, and we were going into action. It would be just right to go away with the fleet to capture the Germans.

Our only worry will be two cruisers, the Scharnhorst and the Gneisenau. They are knocking about somewhere, but where we do not know. There is a naval lieutenant on board this ship with 14 petty officers armed to the teeth, and we are going to be given a rifle each and 60 rounds of ammunition. Yesterday for my own revolver I bought 500 rounds, but I wish I had some target practice, as I am afraid I am not much of a shot. Please do not worry. We shall be all right out here.

We have all signed articles for 18 months to the navy, so I cannot be home for that time at least. Hongkong is under martial law now, and they are not building all these barricades for nothing.

Percy Edward Boulton married Susannah Russell at 'Balmoral', Military Road, Mosman, on 29 May 1915. Susannah had grown up in Balmain and was working as a dressmaker in David Jones, sewing wedding dresses. 'Balmoral' was the home of George and Eliza Boulton and witnesses to the marriage were Percy's two elder brothers, Alfred Sydney Boulton and George Charles Boulton. Percy gave his address as Mosman, New South Wales, so he was probably living with his parents, though he had mostly lived in Balmain. On their marriage, Percy and Susannah bought a house in Raleigh Street, Artarmon.

After twenty-two years, fourteen of them as Chief Engineer, Percy finished his ocean-going experience after bringing the newly acquired ship SS *Famanka*, renamed SS *Ormiston*, from Egypt in 1927. He came ashore permanently. His sons were aged ten and five at this time.

I know my grandfather's pet hate, on voyages as chief engineer, was that he had to dance with passengers. He was also an expert with cards and could do some very fancy shuffling. There was no television in those days and leisure time on board was spent playing cards and wood carving. Some of the Asian seamen were expert at carving, as I saw on the deck chair that my grandfather owned.

An expert in steam turbine engines, Percy was employed by the Metropolitan Water Sewage and Drainage Board (MWSD) as a maintenance engineer at various pumping stations. His first appointment was at Marrickville Pumping Station on shift work, four years before the Harbour Bridge opened.

The family still lived in Raleigh Street, Artarmon, so trips to work meant a walk to Artarmon Station, train to Milsons Point, ferry to Circular Quay, then a forty-five minute train ride to Marrickville and a ten minute walk across the railway lines. It took an hour thirty-five minutes and a similar time home. He worked a nine hour day. Google says it now takes 40 minutes by train from Artarmon to Marrickville.

After selling Raleigh Street, the family moved to Abergeldie Street, Dulwich Hill, relieving Percy of that lengthy commute. Then followed moves to Constitution Road, Dulwich Hill and Old Canterbury Road, Dulwich Hill, both rental properties. When Percy was moved permanently to Ryde Pumping Station, they bought 30 Cheltenham Road, Croydon, where they lived the rest of their lives.

I don't know the exact date my grandfather was diagnosed with bowel cancer, but his eldest son, my uncle, told me it was when he (my uncle) was in his teens, so possibly mid 1930s. Percy was operated on in Prince Alfred Hospital, and was the second person to survive such an operation. He was given a colostomy so was unable to pass a medical examination for the MWSD Board. Accordingly, Percy became a casual employee from then until he retired, aged 78, in 1963.

The MWSD Board had a mandatory retirement age of 65, but my grandfather was a casual employee, so this rule didn't apply to him. He trained a number of employees in steam turbine engines and each of them promptly left and joined the private sector. This went on until he finally decided it was time to retire at age 78.

He died, aged 83, in 1969.

Submitted by Gaynor McDowell (Member number 1098)



Wash drawing by William Bradley—Justinian and Surprize standing in Sydney Bay, Norfolk Island, 1790 (Mitchell Library, State Library of New South Wales)

Does Spelling Really Matter?

In January 1810, John Goldsmith and Charles Granger found themselves in financial difficulties. Their jointly owned crop of standing corn 'down the River Hawkesbury', and other effects were advertised for sale by execution unless creditors' claims were met.

John (a Second Fleeter transported for seven years for stealing a linen handkerchief) and Charles, sent Governor Macquarie a petition requesting confirmation of a land grant issued to them by the anti-Bligh regime. Expressed in homely language, the petition gives a more down to earth and personal view of the experiences of early Hawkesbury farmers than the majority of documents, which were usually expressed in more formal terms.

They wrote:

Your petitioner Charles Grainger Came into this Cuntry in the Friendship the first fleet and J Gooldsmith Came into this Cuntry in the Surprise Second fleet. During ower residing in this Cuntry whe allways keped a good Caricter and have worked hard. Whe have bin renting ground at the Hawksburer for this 13 years and have bin gratli distressed by the fluds. Whe humble hope our Exlance will take it into considerashon and do something for us. whe have now way of giting ower livelihood than by farming. whe pertishond Govr Patterson for a grant of a peas of land and whe have got it meshered. Farming youtenchels is hard to get in this Cuntrey. We humble hope that your goodness will grant to us a little assistance to inable us to prosed in cultivashon. Whe have rented 2 farmes and have bin unfortunate, Whe hope your Exlance will have now objechshon to ower keeping of this land whe have now meshered. You may depend that whe will do all that lays in ower power to Clear the same land.

This letter of appeal met with a good response. On 12 June 1811, John and Charles were granted 30 acres at South Creek, once the land had been surveyed and measured. However John did not settle there. By 1814 he was described as a landholder in the Liverpool District where he was living with his wife and family.

(Source: Colonial Secretary's Papers)

Submitted by Lesley Spalding (Member number 535)

(Editor: See Page 12 for a drawing of the Surprise)

Vic's Diary (Part 2)

Victor Neal Marriott is my Mother's only brother and served in World War 2 in the Middle East and New Guinea. My Mother was Charlotte (Lottie) Elizabeth. What follows is the only surviving of his diaries.

Part 1 of the diary was published in the October 2023 Tracks. We pick up just after Vic had returned to camp near Bacchus Marsh, after marrying Rene. The year is 1943.

Wednesday 19th May

Received my photo of Rene today, have had a fairly busy time. Fixing up the allotment and everything, quite a bludge tho. Received a letter from Laurie's mother, she does not sound happy. However I am too happy to worry over such details & shall not take any notice of it. Also got one from Lot and one from Rene, dear kid. I love her such a lot & will do everything to make her happy. If I can get leave next Sunday I will go thru to town & drop out & see her again. It is worth it as there is nothing else today.

Thursday 20th May

Well this specialist wing is a lovely bludge, we got hold of a ferret, the boys dug it out of a burrow yesterday afternoon & we have rabbiting all morning. Got 3 bunnies, our dog got another, we used our camouflage nets off our tin hats for the burrows, quite successful too. Sent my photo to Rene today, hope she gets it OK. Received a letter from her this afternoon. The boys got paid, I did not as I chew mine up til now, before I went on leave. Did just nothing at all after dinner watched the burrow where we put our ferret in at 11.30 & he went to sleep. Tried smoking him out & finally they started to dig him, but they were still digging at 4.30pm when I left. Quite an exciting day.

Friday 21st May

Horrible wet day, nothing much doing, still doing a spot of bludging. Sat down all morning & this afternoon we were supposed to be doing Thomas splinting. I added out & went & did my washing & had a shower over at the nursing orderlies wing. They have hot water there, we have none in our lines, that is the only drawback.

Saturday 22nd May

Same old routine, still bludging. I am getting sick of it, wish we were close to Melbourne. Watsonia would do me again. I will go thru to see Rene tomorrow. I have put in for leave. I think we are duty company but I don't care. I must go. Got 2 letters from her this evening, she has had none of mine yet. Although she has got my photo.

Sunday 23rd May

Went on church parade & got the leave pass at 10.30. We were duty company & I, for a wonder, did not get a job tonight. 3 of us decided to cross country as the provosts were supposed to be along thro ad, we were going to bypass them. However we were turned back before we left the camp. Got on the road from Bacchus Marsh & picked up a Yank truck at 12.15. He picked up blokes along the road thru the town. It is a wonder we weren't stopped before we started. If my hair never stood on end before it certainly was up on that ride. A 3 ton truck doing 50 or 60 mph with 30 men in the back. It left the road once & I thought we were gone, they are barmy, we did the 40 miles to Spencer Street in 55 minutes there at 13.10 hrs. Got out of the road quick & got on to Ivanhoe at 14.00 hrs and saw my Rene. Had a great afternoon it was well worth the risk. Got the troop train at 20.00 hrs for camp from Spencer Street & got to bed at 22.30 hrs after a wonderful day.

Monday 24th May

Have been home in Australia just 12 months yesterday. Had a battalion parade & stood out in the freezing bloody cold for 1 hour & 20 minutes, nearly died. I never cracked it for an easy job for the week, 6 men & myself go to Bacchus Marsh station every day unloading trucks. Did not get a start til 13.30 hours & unloaded 12 tons of chaff & 500 4 Gallon Drums of petrol. Was 17.45 hours when we knocked off & 18.30 hours when we got back to camp. I will say this for my gang they did work hard. Fixed up the room for Rene tomorrow night. I will be glad to see my dear little wifie again. Was working like a trojan this afternoon til I woke up & sacked myself. It is a poor job if it won't stand one boss.

Tuesday 25th May

Back into the railhead at Bacchus Marsh today, nice easy day quite a change from the hum drum monotony of camp. Got back at 5 pm & did a quick change & got the 5.30 bus to town. Had tea at the Bridge Inn & a few drinks & went & met Rene at 7.30. Not much sleep all night & set out back to camp at 4.30 am.

Wednesday 26th May

6am back in camp after walking all the way. It was lonely along the road, brilliant moonlight & nice & warm walking. Got my gang together & waited til 10.00 for a truck & got to the station at 11.00. Started very easy day, I faded away & had lunch with Rene & spent the remainder of the afternoon with her, dear kid. Had a simply marvellous day, lazing in the sun with the wife. I was lucky to get this job this week, just worked in nice. Back to camp at 17.00 had tea & changed & caught the 18.00 bus back to my Rene. Had the last couple of hours together & saw her off in the 19.45 train after a wonderful day. Have been doing a lot of running around lately & turned in at 21.30 hours completely buggered.

Thursday 27th May

Had a good sort of a day, when we started at 13.30. Actually on an afternoons work. We waited for the truck at camp for 3 hours. Just kept going nicely. Had Lectures to-night they said that I had to go thru it all over again, til I bucked & was taken off again.

Friday 28th May

Same procedure as yesterday left our lines at 08.30 & waited at the R.S.L. hut til 11.45 for the truck. Did not start work til 13.30 what a lovely bludge this is. All we did this afternoon was sweep out the chaff shed & petrol store, 20 minutes work & it took & us 3 hours. Got a letter from Lottie this evening, a very nice letter too. She is just about the best sister in the world. One thing about this rail head job is that you get a hell of a lot of letters, from various blokes to post. I sent about 10 away today. The weather here is beautiful lately, thru the day, although the nights are extremely cold & the mornings are frosty. It is very hard getting out of a warm bed at 6.30 am.

Saturday 29th May

Well today was one of the easiest days I have ever had in my years of army experience. Sat down at the R.S.L. hut til 11.30 & then went to the rail head, there was another working party there who had done all the work. We did S.F.A. One of my men went off down to the pub & got drunk & nearly got us all into bother. Gee I was annoyed. I had a hell of a job trying to keep him out of trouble. Sometimes I wonder if it is worthwhile. Must try & go thru to town again tomorrow to see my Rene. I was expecting a letter from her today but was disappointed. I worry over her such a lot when I don't hear from her.

Sunday 30th May

Day of rest. Went on church parade, got our leave passes at 10.45 into the marsh at 11.30. Got out on the road to Melbourne & sat there til 14.30 hrs & could not get a ride. So we packed up & had a feed & back to camp. Wrote to Rene after tea & did a spot of Sketching to fill in time. Rotten place this & I was disappointed that I could not get to town.

Monday 31st May

Have had my stripes just 2 years today, 12 months ago we left Adelaide on our disembarkation leave. Sydney was raided by jap subs this time last year & Rene has been in the A.W.A.S. 1 year. So we have a lot of anniversaries between us. Very cold miserable day, the rail head job fell thru so I put the day in bludging. On guard tonight, we have 6 prisoners & 9 guards, it is sergeants guard so I am 2 I/C.

Tuesday 1st June 1943

Cow of a day, but we were inside most of the time around our fires. The camp looked very deserted. I have been wondering for some time now & I have come to no satisfactory explanation, is why people live in such a cold place. Beats me.

Wednesday 2nd June

Usual routine, I have the flu or something. Have felt rotten all day & had a cow of a night. Very cold could not get warm. Had a medical exam this afternoon, don't know what for tho maybe draft.

Thursday 3rd June

This place will drive me slowly mad if I am here much longer. Just plodding along in the same old way. We could do it under better & warmer conditions.

Friday 4th June

I started this diary with the purpose of putting all down that happened, but the trouble is that nothing happens here.

Saturday 5th June

Had a break today, got into the railhead again, & my men worked hard, unloaded about 60 tons of wood & stacked it. Went into action when a girl fell off a bike about 200 yards across from us on the road. She had a badly sprained ankle & she was hysterical & screaming. I thought at first that she had broken her leg, but after we got her slacks up & had a look at her ankle we knew different. Took 3 of us to carry her 100 yards to where she lived. She must have weighed 14 stone. Was going thru to see Rene tonight, but thought they may have lumbered me as I did not have my meal tickets on parade this morning, just another one of their childish pranks.

Sunday 6th June

Saw Rene today, got ride thru to Melbourne with a civvie chap. Young Ron Stevenson & I went. We got there at 3.15pm & I got out to Ivanhoe at 4 pm. Had a marvellous time as I always do when I am with my Rene. Got back on the troop train.

Monday 7th June

Bloody cold today, but they had savvy enough to let us wear our overcoats. Bludged all day. I have come to the conclusion that the less you know & the less you do the better chance you have of getting out of this ratty of a place. So from now on I am not soldering on, just bludging.

Tuesday 8th June

Put my new bludging program into operation today & I must say it is very successful. Was on company fire picquet last night, 6 men & myself & one man on 2 hours. They were supposed to wake me every 2 hours, which ideas I crushed pronto. I made it very plain & in no uncertain manner that the first man who woke me would be summarily dealt with. The picquet was complete success. Rene came up tonight & stayed at the Bridge Inn. Came on the 19.30 hours train. Met her & was more than pleased to see me dear wife again.

Wednesday 9th June

Left the Marsh at 05.00 & got back to camp just in time for roll call at 06.30. Walked all the way gee I was tired after a heavy night. Expected to go in on the rail head job today, but was disappointed. I went to see Rene, however I waited til 14.00 hours & went thru. Walked across the paddocks, over fences & crops of oats. It is a heck of a long way. Stayed & had tea with Rene & saw her off in the 19.37 hours train. Every time I see her go it feels as if something is tearing my heart out. I hope to be seeing her next Saturday on our 2 days home leave.

Thursday 10th June

Went to bed very early last night. I was done in properly. A lot of drafts going out lately. A.I. men too & also they are sending men back to their units, so maybe I will be getting a move very soon. This is great life here, apart from P.T. from 08.30 til 09.15 do just S.F.A. & I am trying to beat the P.T. now. This afternoon Ron & I went down the river ½ a mile away & had a sleep from 2 til 4.30. I was very tired. Did some compass reading tonight out in the bush & our few were about the only ones who were not lost.

Friday 11th June

Nice easy day, fairly cold tho in the shade, kept out of the road all morning & went over & saw about my 2 days leave tomorrow. Had to kick up a row about it & put in an application, but I got it, I go at 13.00 hours tomorrow to see my dear Rene. Had an easy job this afternoon, took 3 men over to the dentist & sat in the sun from 1.30 til 4.15 not too bad, I am getting my money easy.

Saturday 12th June

Took the morning off ostensibly to get ready but had a bludge instead. Reported over to B.H.Q. at 12.40 hours for my leave pass & caught the 13.30 hrs train, arrived at Spencer st at 2.30 & went straight out to Ivanhoe to get Rene. She was waiting, dear kid, & got her pass an hour earlier. Leave to Melbourne together & had tea & got the 6.20 train for Chewton & home. Arrived there at 9.30 pm the train was late. Had supper & went to bed.

Sunday 13th June

Saw our photos today & they are very nice. Sent one each to Lot & Dad. Had breakfast in bed together but got up for dinner at 1pm for a wander. Went over & saw Rose & Joe & had tea with them. Gee it is cold here & frosty this AM, I believe, altho I did not see it. It is lovely to lie in bed with the one you love, too good to get up to look at a frost.

Monday 14th June

Another lovely sleep in, we were going to catch the midday train but was too lazy. Did not get up til dinner time & went back to bed later. Finally had to get up at 4 pm & get ready. Caught the 7.30 pm train or rather Rene got up in the first carriage & I forgot my pass & had to run back to the other end for it. Just got in another carriage & could not get back to my darling til we got to Kyneton about ¾ an hour. Got to town at 10.30 & had tea & toast before I saw Rene back in her train. I got electric to Albion & started to walk back to camp.

Tuesday 15th June

Hit the road at 12.30am cold as blazes 23 miles from Bacchus Marsh, & 27miles from camp. Had to keep walking to keep warm. Walked 15 miles til 5.30am to Melton & in all that time only one car passed going the same way as I was, the so & so did not stop. I was starting to stagger & was just about all in, so sat down til 6 am & at last got a ride in a utility to the Marsh. Got there at 6.40am & walked the remaining 4 miles to camp & rolled in at 8 am. Fully expected to get matted as my pass expired at 10pm last night & I should have been in for 6.30 roll call this morning. God I have never been so tired & was too late for breakfast so had none. Nothing was said about me coming in late, so I did not remind them. I am lucky to get out of it so easily. The only thing was getting my bed & gear out of the Q.M. without the C.S.M. seeing me & getting suspicious but I managed it OK. So everything went off well except for being terrible tired. I am none the worse for my experience.

Wednesday 16th June

Heard nothing about being ack willie yesterday, I must have some mates here. It will do me. Not much doing here.

Thursday 17th June

Pay day, so there was not much work done. I drew a full pay 2.10.0 pounds just getting over my honeymoon. Also got 2 razor blades which should last us a fortnight. Read in the paper a couple of weeks ago where they are making them out of horse-shoes & by gee it certainly feels like it.

Friday 18th June

Another easy day, got our coupon ration today, 25 for the year. I only used 7 out of my last issue over 12 months & gave to rest to Rene. I will give her all this issue too. Have a plan to go then to Melbourne tomorrow night without a leave pass & see my dear wife. Have put in for leave Sunday. Lovely day, nice & sunny but if it is cold you can always find a warm spot in our drying room, although at times it is like a Turkish bath.

Saturday 19th June

Went off this afternoon & had a shower & dodged the C.S.M. for a couple of hours. As he came in one end of the hut we went out the other end. Got out of camp at 4.30pm without a leave pass together with 5 mates, all in a similar plight. Plenty of provosts on the bus stop & station but they never asked anyone for a pass. In fact they helped us buy our tickets & put us on the train & warned us not to leave at all. Left the Marsh at 5.40 pm & got to town at 7. Went straight out to Ivanhoe & met Rene. She was waiting for me on the station, dear kid. Had a good time & arrived back in camp at 1.30am Sunday.

Sunday 20th June

When we got back this morning we raided the kitchen & had bread & tomato sauce & jam til 2 am. Moore. our C.S.M. turned a blitz on & booked all those not in bed by midnight. Of course I was in it & got a penalty duty today of orderly corporal & the other blokes got guard duties tonight. 50% of the company were A.W.L. but he could not prove it. I could not get into see Rene, so rang up & left a message for her. How the row started was one of my mates was on duty on Saturday night, he went before the duties were read out. He was on my roll book & I marked him present this morning before I knew that the C.S.M. knew that he was missing, but I talked my way out of it. Very funny affair.

Monday 21st June

Had a great bludge today on orderly corporal & get next Wednesday off on account of working yesterday. It will do me as Rene will be in Bacchus Marsh. Nothing much happened, just the usual bludge.

Tuesday 22nd June

Looked forward all day to meeting Rene. Put in a leave pass on account of the blitz last Saturday night & was very near knocked back. So I won't put in again, but go thru as I usually do. Borrowed a bike & rode in pouring rain & blowing like blazes. Had wind all the way & just about buggered me. Met her off the train. I thought she may not have come as the weather was awful. But she was there, the darling.

Wednesday 23rd June

Got back, per bike in time for roll call & got the day off from 9.30am & got back to the town at 10. Had a wonderful day with Rene & was just about broken hearted when she went tonight. Could not get a bus back to camp for 2 hours. So I went up to the club & had a yarn & a couple of cups of coffee.

Thursday 24th June

Did not like working again & was on duty again tonight, so wrote 5 letters, some long delayed.

Friday 25th June

Was orderly corporal & read all day except for a couple of trips over to the Q store. The boys were on a nice long march. So I missed it, not that I minded much. There has been a couple of drafts going lately & we heard today that N.C.O.s were not wanted anywhere, so it looks as if I will be here indefinitely DAMN

Saturday 26th June

Did a C.T.W. (collection & treatment of wounded). Charlie Clegg & myself, supposed to be the 2 greatest bludges in the company, got away & had a yarn in the hills this AM. This afternoon got down in a couple of haystacks & read. Just a bludge.

Sunday 27th June

Did not go thru to town last night but as it turned out it was quite safe. However today we got our passes & got out on the road & got a ride at 1.30pm & got to town at 2.30. Went out to Camberwell & met Rene. Had a good time with our friends the Newmans. I was going to come back in the 8 o'clock troop train but jibbed at the last minute. Saw Rene onto her train at 10 pm & then got the elec. train to Albion. Got on the road to camp at 10.30 in hopes of a ride. Did not walk like I did last time, sat in a shed till 12 midnight & finally got a ride in a taxi with a N.E.I. soldier who was coming right back to the camp. Picked up another bloke from our company & got back at 1.15am. We were very lucky.

Monday 28th June

Was fairly tired all day & don't feel at all well. Have a terrible back ache, still the same old bludge.

Tuesday 29th June

Went on sick parade & have been on light duties all day. Feel bloody terrible. I think I may be going on draft soon. Was semi officially notified this afternoon & have high hopes of getting away in a day or two.

Wednesday 30th June

Have had a wonderful bludge, seem to do less & less each day, if that is possible. Went thru this afternoon & did my washing. Was not away 10 minutes & they were looking for me. However, I talked my way out of it as usual.

Thursday 1st July

Much the same as yesterday, went for a march tonight & when we came back we were named for draft. Not allowed to leave the camp, nothing new, no one is & have to have a kit check in the morning. Charlie hiding, may get interesting.

Friday 2nd July

No parades today, had a kit check & went over to the dentist & had a couple of teeth filled. We had to change our khaki for green clothes, 3 pair of green trousers, 3 green shirts & anything renewed that we wanted. Never struck a Q store so generous in all my army career. Looks like we are going places this time of course. There are all sorts of rumours as to where we are going. West Australia, Queensland, New Guinea which seems to be the more likely. Our green suits indicate that. I ended with 3 khaki shirts, 1 shorts, 1 long trousers after handing in enough to square up my F 200. Sold a new jersey & underpants & singlet for 7/6, nice profit & without putting myself in any trouble. We go at 12 tomorrow for a destination unknown. I wired Rene to meet me at Spencer Street just in case we go straight thru instead of staying in Melbourne for a day or two. Hope we do as I want to see her before I go as I don't know when I will see her when I leave her. I am not particular about going away anymore now I am married.

Saturday 3rd July

Did nothing much this morning except the usual thing. Had to 2/IC all of us. We left the camp at 10 o'clock & Bacchus Marsh at 1.30. I had sent telegram to Rene to meet me at Spencer St & she was not there. I had put 3.45 instead of 2.45 as the meeting time on the wire & the poor kid nearly missed me. She caught up with us just as we were going down on the suburban platform to get train to camp Pell. She came out there with us & had to leave at the gate. We are leaving here tomorrow as far as we know now & got leave passes from 4.30pm to 8 in the morning. On our way from the station to the camp we bailed up a truck for our kit bags, which turned out later to be a mistake as the blokes we sent on it, did not know the way. We got our leave passes & then wasted an hour & a quarter trying to find our bags. It did not improve anyone's temper when we finally tracked them down, as they were only a few hundred yards from where we were waiting. I got away at 6 pm went straight out to Rene at Ivanhoe. Poor kid, I hate leaving her. She is taking it well tho, but I know it is breaking her heart. We got a room close handy to where she is camped after a lot of running around. At one stage I thought we would have had to camp down on the river bank. She was tired & so was I, so we went straight to bed after a nice supper.

(Editor's note: We will leave Vic's Diary again for now. See the June 2024 Tracks for the rest of the diary. As I mentioned in the October 2023 Tracks, Faye suggested that some days' entries could be skipped, due to monotony, but I feel that the monotony, together with the days when there was more action, gives a true picture of life in the Army at the time. I found it an interesting read, even the monotony.)

Submitted by Faye Rowles (Member number 893)

Blogs of Interest

All of the major libraries in Australia now have their own blogs. Occasional articles are included in Trails, our email newsletter. If you would like to explore other subjects and articles, here are some of the websites.

National Library of Australia

<https://www.nla.gov.au/stories>

State Library of New South Wales

<https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/blogs>

State Library of Queensland

<https://www.slq.qld.gov.au/blog>

State Library of Victoria

<https://blogs.slv.vic.gov.au/>

Spied in Trove

The Maitland Mercury & Hunter River General Advertiser, Thursday, 2 September 1880, Page 3

John Geis, a cigar maker, has been sick for some time. The doctors treated him for consumption. On Saturday he was seized with a severe fit of coughing, and expelled a large green Frog. He is of the opinion that he swallowed the reptile when quite small in some drinking-water, and that its violent effort to escape from his stomach occasioned his sickness

Submitted by Kerry Golds (Member number 835)



Acquisitions to January 2024

Please note that as some items may only have recently been received, they may not yet be in the Room due to the need for processing.

BOOKS

From Nobbys to Paterson (donated by Sue Thompson)
How to write the Family Story by Janet Reakes (donated by Sue Thompson)
The A to Z of Genealogy by Janet Reakes (donated by Sue Thompson)
Turnock on Tweed by T H Turnock (donated by Kerry Golds)

MAGAZINES

Irish Roots 3rd & 4th Quarters 2023
Family Tree October, November & December 2023
Who Do You Think You Are (3 issues) (donated by Trish Oldham)
Family Tree (2 issues) (donated by Trish Oldham)
History Scotland (1 issue) (donated by Trish Oldham)
Traces (1 issue) (donated by Trish Oldham)

EXCHANGE JOURNALS (Hard Copy)

Blayney Diggings (Blayney Shire Local & FHG) July & November 2023
The Line of Lode (Broken Hill FHG) 2023
The Explorers' Tree (Blue Mountains FHS) October 2023
Timespan (Nepean FHS) September & December 2023
Links 'N' Chains (Liverpool GS) October 2023
The Tamworth Family Historian (Tamworth & District FHG) November 2023
Journal of the Cleveland (South Durham & North Yorkshire) FHS October 2023

EXCHANGE JOURNALS (Electronic PDFs – Computers 1-8)

Camden Calling (Camden Area FHS) May 2022, November 2022 & May 2023
Spreading Branches (Narre Warren & District FHG) August & November 2023
Journal of the Newcastle FHS September & December 2023
Cedar Log (Richmond-Tweed FHS) September & December 2023
The Fig Tree (Manning Wallamba FHS) September & December 2023
The Hawkesbury Crier (Hawkesbury FHG) September & December 2023
Lancashire (Lancashire FH&HS) August & November 2023
The Log Book (Tweed Heads Historical Society) September & December 2023
The Endeavour (Botany Bay FHS) September & December 2023

EXCHANGE JOURNALS (Electronic PDFs – Computers 1-8) (continued)

Caloundra Clipper (Caloundra FHR) September & December 2023

The Barracks News (Maitland & Beyond FH) October & December 2023

Golden Links (Bendigo Regional GS) September & December 2023

The Bendigo Genealogist (Bendigo FHG) October & December 2023

The Mail (Descendants of Convicts) October 2023

Missing Link (Cooroy-Noosa G&HRG) November 2023

Lachlan Valley Gold (Forbes FHG) October 2023

Relative Thoughts (Fleurieu Peninsula FHG) October 2023

Lithgow Pioneer Press (Lithgow & District FHS) October 2023

The Gazette (Toowoomba & Darling Downs FHS) November 2023

The Crossing Place (Casino & District FHG) November 2023

The Argyle Bulletin (Goulburn District H&GS) November 2023

GhostBuster (Campbelltown District FHS) November 2023

Time Traveller (Shoalhaven FHS) December 2023

Ancestor (GSV) (7 issues from June 2022 to December 2023) (donated by Marion Kelso)

Sussex Family Historian (Sussex FHG) (7 issues from June 2022 to December 2023) (donated by Marion Kelso)

OTHER (all PDF – Computers 1-8)

RIP Rookwood in Profile September & December 2023

NewsFlash (AFFHO) September 2023

Really Useful Bulletin (Family History Federation UK) September, October, November & December 2023

Newsletter of the Parramatta Female Factory Friends September-October & December 2023

Newsletter of the NSW/ACT Association of FHS November 2023

Newsletter of the Fromelles Association of Australia December 2023

But I'm A Republican!

Discovered recently in FamilySearch's Family Tree, as a match: to myself:

Queenie Victoria Elizabeth R Munsie, born 1912, Ballina, New South Wales

I went to school with Munsie children in Ballina, probably Queenie's relations.

Submitted by Kerry Golds (Member number 835)

Featured Articles from Magazines and Journals

Following is a sample of articles found in journals received from other societies on an exchange basis and other magazines and journals:

Camden Calling (Camden Area FHS) May 2022 (PDF)

- Why did my ancestor come to Australia? And where did he go? Louis Gauvin

Camden Calling (Camden Area FHS) November 2022 (PDF)

- I know they were Robsons
- Camden: town, county or parish?

Camden Calling (Camden Area FHS) May 2023 (PDF)

- Down a rabbit hole – the story of a Warren family

Journal of the Newcastle FHS September 2023 (PDF)

- My ancestor was a master thatcher
- Obscure occupations

The Cedar Log (Richmond-Tweed FHS) September 2023 (PDF)

- Stanley Desmond Karkoe, an accidental drowning
- When the death certificate states accidental drowning – Keith Macleay Toose

Blayney Diggings (Blayney Shire Local & FHG) July 2023

- Various articles with a circus theme

The Hawkesbury Crier (Hawkesbury FHG) September 2023 (PDF)

- Travels with my ancestors: Elizabeth Lee, Lancashire lass
- Local history – Richmond

Lancashire (Lancashire FH&HS) August 2023 (PDF)

- Encounters with alcoholism in a Blackburn family; dilemmas and conflicts

The Log Book (Tweed Heads Historical Society) September 2023 (PDF)

- A decade of fabulous entertainment and another iconic 'Aussie' song
- Coffee in the Tweed

Really Useful Bulletin (Family History Federation UK) September 2023 (PDF)

- Harnessing the full potential of DNA

The Line of Lode (Broken Hill FHG) 2023

- Tarring and feathering
- History on some of the people who lived in the district of Broken Hill

Irish Roots Third Quarter 2023

- Local resources for family history research – County Sligo
- Journal of the Association for the Preservation of the Memorials of the Dead in Ireland
- Surnames of County Sligo

The Explorers' Tree (Blue Mountains FHS) October 2023

- My ancestral mothers

Timespan (Nepean FHS) September 2023

- Travels with my ancestors: Jane Longhurst from Surrey, England
- Mary Rugg, the West family convict matriarch
- How to get kids hooked on family history

The Endeavour (Botany Bay FHS) September 2023 (PDF)

- Arthur Mailey – the man who perfected the art of leg spin

Caloundra Clipper (Caloundra FH Research) September 2023 (PDF)

- The man who saved Melbourne

Golden Links (Bendigo Regional GS) September 2023 (PDF)

- Golden Square Fire Brigade
- Origins of Golden Square

Family Tree October 2023

- Sources, evidence & proof: what is evidence?
- Investigating our ancestors' wills
- Flamborough lives

Links 'n' Chains (Liverpool GS) October 2023

- Five great ways to share your family history

Really Useful Bulletin (Family History Federation UK) October 2023 (PDF)

- Births, marriages & deaths in Scotland before 1855

Missing Link (Cooroy-Noosa G&HRG) November 2023 (PDF)

- Royal chocolates
- Family discovery using DNA

Lithgow Pioneer Press (Lithgow & District FHS) October 2023 (PDF)

-My grandfather (3 articles)

Spreading Branches (Narre Warren & District FHG) November 2023 (PDF)

-Pastor Laurie Dyer

The Crossing Place (Casino & District FHG) November 2023 (PDF)

-A lone grave in a paddock – the suicide of Ralph Reid

The Cedar Log (Richmond-Tweed FHS) December 2023 (PDF)

-Finding a hidden photo and unearthing new family

Really Useful Bulletin (Family History Federation UK) November 2023 (PDF)

-Through the mists of time – searching for English ancestors

-Segments are pure gold

Family Tree November 2023

-Sources, evidence & proof: what is proof?

-Imagine – one single family tree in the world (Wikitree)

-Friends, associates & neighbours

-Preserving your family's oral history Part 2

-How to undertake a successful graveyard research trip

Irish Roots Fourth Quarter 2023

-Catholic convent schools – finding Irish teachers and students in the convent archives

-Local resources for family history research – County Louth

-Surnames of County Louth

Lancashire (Lancashire FH&HS) November 2023 (PDF)

-Reflections on 60 years of family history

The Log Book (Tweed Heads Historical Society) December 2023 (PDF)

-Monastery Hill, Tweed Heads

Caloundra Clipper (Caloundra FHR) December 2023 (PDF)

-Turning of the tides

-January 2024 – 50th anniversary of floods in the Gulf

The Hawkesbury Crier (Hawkesbury FHG) December 2023 (PDF)

-A new calendar

Really Useful Bulletin (Family History Federation UK) December 2023 (PDF)

-Women at war

- Specialist records; specialist skills
- FindMyPast: master game-changing tips
- Surname clues
- Samplers
- Preserving your family's oral history Part 3
- Do I have the right ship?

Members' Interests

NAME	TIME PERIOD	TOWN/CITY	STATE/COUNTY	COUNTRY
ATKINSON	1850s	Manchester		ENG
BILLINGTON	1850s	Manchester		ENG
COX	1850s	London		ENG
DANGLADE	1850s	Bordeaux		FRA

Ronald Atkinson (Member number 1128)

NAME	TIME PERIOD	TOWN/CITY	STATE/COUNTY	COUNTRY
CAREW	All		TIP	IRL
DRURY	1800+		TIP	IRL
FITZGERALD	1800+		TIP	IRL

(to be continued)

Kathleen Lommel (Member number 662)

These members may be contacted by sending an email to tweedfhs@hotmail.com or writing to PO Box 6729, Tweed Heads South NSW 2486.

There are many more entries on our website (see the inside the front cover and the back cover of Tracks for the website address).

Note: We use the Chapman codes to abbreviate the State/County and Country fields of our members' interests. If you are unfamiliar with the codes, google "Chapman Codes Genealogy". There are a number of sites with details.

New Members

1126 Adele Gabbey
1127 Jayne Henry
1128 Ronald Atkinson
1129 Pamela New
1130 Marilyn Bromley
1131 Beverley Major

Rejoined Members

8 Sherene Tregellas

*A warm welcome to our new & rejoined members.
Happy ancestor hunting!*

*Members should note that we hold **free** classes in several subjects (beginner's, internet resources, Family Tree Maker, etc.) Please ask a Room Assistant in the Research Room or send an email to tweedfhs@hotmail.com if you are interested in a class.*



RESEARCH ROOM
SOUTH TWEED SPORTS CLUB
4 MINJUNGBAL DRIVE, TWEED HEADS SOUTH
TELEPHONE: 07 5524 3655 Ext 238 (Room Hours only)

RESEARCH ROOM HOURS
TUESDAY — 10AM TO CLUB BADGE DRAW (APPROX 7PM)
*(CLOSED FIRST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH BETWEEN 1PM & 4PM FOR
GET-TOGETHER)*
WEDNESDAY TO FRIDAY — 10AM TO 4PM
SATURDAY — 10AM TO 3PM

ROOM ASSISTANTS

The Research Room is voluntarily staffed by members of the Association. We are always in need of assistance. Your assistance would be appreciated whether morning, afternoon or whole day, even in the event of an emergency. Please contact the Roster Secretary, Peter Johnston, or place your name in the Roster Book located in the Room.

JOURNAL

The Editorial Committee is appreciative of all articles provided for our Journal and we hope for continued support during the year. Material for inclusion may either be left at the Research Room, posted or emailed to the Editor.

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