

THE ENDEAVOUR



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BOTANY BAY FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.

Discovering Your Heritage

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184 Gannons Road
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Treasurer	Brenda Connors	
Ordinary Members	Leonie Bell	Jackie Butters
	Jean Campbell	Maree Kirkland
	Richard Linklater	

OTHER OFFICE BEARERS 2023-2024

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Public Officer	Doug Parkes	
Research Centre Coordinator	Jean Campbell,	
	jeanhcampbell47@gmail.com	

Meetings

Face to face meetings are held on the first Saturday of March, June, September and December at the Research Centre commencing at 1.30pm. Zoom meetings are held on the first and third Wednesdays of the month (except January) starting at 7.30pm.

Library and Research Centre Messages and Bookings Only: 02 9523 8948

Port Hacking Community Centre 184 Gannons Road Caringbah South NSW 2229
Open: 10am-2pm: Mon, Wed, Fri, 1st & 3rd Sat. For bus route 978 & timetable, see:
<https://transportnsw.info/routes/details/sydney-buses-network/978/31978>

Annual Membership Fees

From 1 Jul 2024: single – \$45; family – \$60; distance single – \$25; distance family – \$30. Membership renewals due 1 July each year.

Research

Volunteers from BBFHS will research family history relevant to the Sutherland Shire for non-members: minimum fee of \$30 (first hour) and \$30 per hour thereafter.

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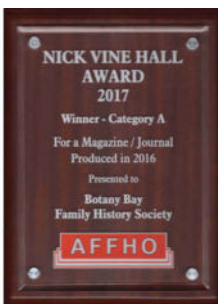
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Calendar

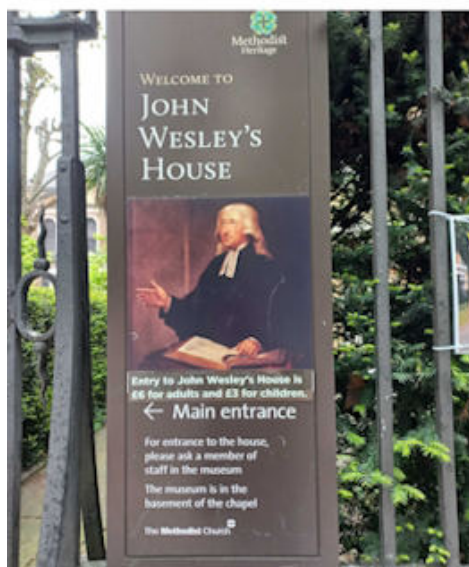


Members are advised to check latest details on our Events calendar at www.botanybayfhs.org.au or see your BBFHS eNEWS

- May 23** Writers Interest Group: 1.30-3.30pm Research Centre
- May 25** DNA Interest Group: 1.30-3.30pm Zoom, Speaker: **Mel Hulbert** - *Exploring Your DNA Results at My Heritage*
- Jun 1** **Meeting – 1.30 pm Research Centre. Helen McDonald. *The Battle of Como***
Please note new day (Saturday), time and venue.
- Jun 10** King's Birthday Public Holiday (Monday, Centre closed)
- Jun 19** **Member's Chat Meeting – 7.30 pm on Zoom.**
- Jun 22** Irish Interest Group: 2-4 pm on Zoom
- Jul 2** Legacy Interest Group: 2-4 pm Research Centre
- Jul 3** **Meeting – 7.30pm Zoom. Speaker to be advised**
- Jul 13** English Interest Group: 2-4 pm on Zoom
- Jul 17** **Member's Chat Meeting – 7.30 pm on Zoom.**
- Jul 25** Writers Interest Group: 1.30-3.30pm Research Centre
- Jul 27** DNA Interest Group: 1.30-3.30pm Zoom
- Aug 7** **Meeting – 7.30pm Zoom. Speaker to be advised**
- Aug 10** Scottish Interest Group: 2-4pm Research Centre
- Aug 17** Australian Interest Group: 2-4pm Zoom
- Aug 21** **Member's Chat Meeting – 7.30 pm on Zoom.**
- Aug 24** Irish Interest Group: 2-4 pm on Zoom
- Aug 27** Family Tree Maker Interest Group – 1.30-3.30pm Zoom
- Sep 3** Legacy Interest Group: 2-4 pm Research Centre
- Sep 7** **Meeting – 1.30 pm Research Centre. Speaker to be advised**
Please note new day (Saturday), time and venue.
- Sep 14** English Interest Group: 2-4 pm on Zoom
- Sep 18** **Members Chat Meeting – 7.30pm Zoom.**
- Sep 26** Writers Interest Group: 1.30-3.30pm Research Centre
- Sep 28** DNA Interest Group: 1.30-3.30pm Zoom



THE PRESIDENT ON HOLIDAY



On Saturday 11 May, I attended the AGM of the Family History Federation in London, and the photo collage is made up from that day. Botany Bay FHS is a member of the Federation.

- Top left is me with Debbie **Bradley** from the Family History Federation.
- Top right is Bunhill Fields Burial Ground in London. I was on an organised tour as part of the AGM events.
- Bottom right is William **Blake**'s grave at Bunhill Fields.
- Bottom left is where the AGM was held.

Jennie Fairs

LYNDAL HOLLAND WRITING COMPETITION

by John Levy (Editor)

The BBFHS Lyndal Holland Writing Competition was established in 2023 in memory of Lyndal Holland, a Foundation Member and inaugural secretary of our Society. The competition is open to all financial members of our Society. There is a \$400 prize for the winner and a \$200 prize for the runner up.

This year's theme, announced in February, is ***My Most Inspirational Ancestor***. Your entry must be an original piece of work, previously unpublished. The word count for entries has been increased this year from 900 to 1000 words. Entries close at midnight on 31 July. An entry form and the full conditions of entry can be found in The Members Lounge on the Botany Bay FHS website: <https://www.botanybayfhs.org.au/>.



Lyndal Holland
(photo: Holland family album)

I look forward to seeing many entries from our many members.

BOTANY BAY FHS NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Botany Bay Family History Society Inc will be held at 1.30 pm on Saturday 7 September 2024 at the Research Centre, 284 Gannons Road, Caringbah South. Only financial members can vote. Any financial member may be nominated for election to the Committee by any two other financial members. Nomination forms are available from the Secretary at botanybayfhs@yahoo.com.au.

ARMY RIOTS AT LIVERPOOL AND SYDNEY

by Doug **Champion** (Member)

Some years ago, during an outing with member Beryl **Bauld** to *Royleston House* in Glebe, we passed through the archway at the eastern end of the country platforms at Central Railway which divides the suburban platforms from the country platforms.

At that time I recalled that, when I was a child, my father had spoken of a riot in the area in which shots were fired and he had shown me the damage on the walls from the bullets. In later years, the damage was repaired by the insertion of some rectangular patches which are still visible. Unfortunately, I could not recall the facts and as I made mention, decided to research the incident.

Contact with the Australian Railway Historical Society provided information that on 14 February 1916 there was a riot between troops at Central Station, where shots were fired killing one and wounding six. Having now been supplied with a firm date, I perused the *Sydney Morning Herald* for the relevant period and found the following.

The whole incident started around breakfast time on 14 February 1916 when 5,000 troops, mostly recruits, of the Australian Imperial Forces (AIF) in camp at Casula refused duty and demanded retraction of a new training syllabus which had been issued that morning. The new syllabus increased their work time by approximately one hour per day, taking total working hours per week to 40½ hours for a five day week. Most people would be working a 48 hour week at that time.

The 5,000 troops from Casula marched to the Liverpool Camp where they coerced their comrades to join them and soon there were 15,000 marching to Liverpool. On reaching Liverpool, they wrecked the bars and adjoining parlours of the *Commercial Hotel* and stole all their stock including 11 hogsheads of beer together with utensils to drink from. Their attempt to gain entry to the bulk store was halted by the police but already damage to the hotel was in excess of £2,000, a large sum for 1916.

Led by a comparatively few irresponsible young privates, some already half drunk although early in the day, they wrecked various premises in Liverpool and then commandeered trains to Sydney, also causing damage to the rolling stock.

Apparently, there were many who quietly withdrew from the "march", probably realising the seriousness of the action, but many thousands still marched through the streets of Sydney damaging shop windows and overturning fruit vendors' barrows and commandeering transport. Before too long, the area from Central Station to Circular Quay had been virtually taken over by the soldiers.



Soldiers marching up George St (photo: Dictionary of Sydney, <https://dictionaryofsydney.org/media/3580>)

In the early evening soldiers were hurriedly brought in from the camp at the Sydney Showgrounds. This force, plus the debilitating effects of drunkenness on the rioters, enabled the authorities to herd most of them back to Central Station for the return journey to Liverpool.

At around 11.30 pm, a group of rioters were locked into the archway by the closing of iron gates at either end. One of the imprisoned rioters is alleged to have fired an automatic revolver into the roof of the arch and this prompted retaliation from the Military Police, who it is estimated fired about 20 rounds into the rioters, injuring six, including a civilian, and killing one rioter.

Apparently the Liverpool area quieted down towards nightfall but the scene was different in the City where many incidents broke out and much damage was done to property and businesses.

In the following weeks, courts martial resulted in the discharge of 279 trainees. Civil courts convicted 36 on charges including riotous behaviour,

assaulting police, malicious damage and indecent language. The majority were sentenced to one or more months of hard labour while the ring leaders' sentences were up to five years. Most of the rioters escaped further discipline because of the urgent need to meet recruiting targets; instead they were sent to the War.



Grand Concourse, Central Railway Station c. 1906. (photo: Honi Soit,

<https://tinyurl.com/nj6acht6>)

There is much more in the reports and I have only covered the basics here. For anyone interested in more detail, I suggest reading the *Sydney Morning Herald* of Tuesday 15 February 1916, pp. 9-10, where there is a mass of information (available on Trove at <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-page1270494>).

I am pleased memory failed me because I found this research very interesting. My father was working in the Southern Branch of the City Bank of Sydney in Pitt Street at the time so probably witnessed the riots firsthand.



Botany Bay Family History Society is a member of:		
	NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies Inc.	
	The Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations Inc.	
		FAMILY HISTORY Federation <small>Supporting Family Historians since 1974</small>

ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE NSW/ACT ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETIES.

Because no society has offered to host the conference this year, the Association has decided to conduct a virtual mini-conference by Zoom on **Saturday 14th September 2024**. The theme of the conference is ***Dig Deeper in 24***, with four guest speakers:

Clive Smith: *Dig Deeper into the Colonial Secretary's Records on Ancestry.*

Andrew Redfern: *AI and Family History.*

Nick Reddan: *The Registry of Deeds Dublin and family history.*

Ruth Graham: *A framework for multidimensional family history research.*

The conference website is [https://digdeeper24.org /](https://digdeeper24.org/). More information will be available nearer the date.

Registrations will be via the *TryBooking* site, located at <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1183571>, with the choice of individual or society/institutional participants. The price will be \$10 for an individual and \$50 for a society/institution. An online raffle will also be held. It is probable that BBFHS will take a society booking and hold a free member's day at the Research Centre.

Members are advised to check for the latest details on our events calendar at www.botanybayfhs.org.au or see your BBFHS eNEWS.



VALE – ANDREA BIDDOLPH

by Rowena **Summers** and Heather **Clarey** (Members)

It is with sadness that we record the passing of former long-time member Andrea **Biddolph** (19 November 1939 - 22 April 2024). Andrea was a member of Botany Bay FHS from 1992 until 2016.

In earlier times, Andrea was part of the team of members who indexed the Sutherland Shire Council's rate books and Olsen's funeral records. In the days before computer records, Andrea was the assistant microfiche librarian. She loaned the Society's microfiche for members to research between monthly meetings until 2006 when we opened our own research library at Gannons Road, and it was no longer necessary to loan the Society's microfiche collection.



Andrea Biddolph
(photo: Biddolph family album)

When our research centre opened, Andrea volunteered there too. We remember Andrea as the lovely gentle lady who was happy to help members with their research. We send our sincere condolences to Andrea's family and friends.



BBFHS INTEREST GROUPS

by Barbara **Barnes** (Interest Groups Coordinator)

Interest groups are led by co-ordinators who have a strong interest in the subject but are not necessarily 'an expert'. They lead the groups whose members share their knowledge to help each other. The group members get to know one another and this social interaction is often a wonderful by-product of their involvement.

Sessions are conducted at the Research Centre or by Zoom. Session dates are organised months in advance. Members are advised to check the latest details on our Events Calendar at www.botanybayfhs.org.au or see your BBFHS eNEWS. You can book and pay the \$5 fee to attend an interest group meeting on the BBFHS website at <http://www.botanybayfhs.org.au/payments.html>, preferably 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Once again we reach out to all members, especially new and distance members, who are not already participating in an Interest Group, to join one or more of the Groups offered. You'll be welcome.

The group coordinators are:

Australian Interest – Lilian Magill (lily@researchbylily.com.au)

English Interest – Jennie Fairs (fairsj@gmail.com)

Irish Interest – Elizabeth Steinlein (care of botanybayfhs@yahoo.com.au)

Scottish Interest – Jean Campbell (jeanhcampbell47@gmail.com)

Writers Interest – Leonie Bell (LeonieNB65@gmail.com)

Family Tree Maker for Windows and Macs –

Pam Heather (pamheather@gmail.com)

Legacy – Sue Jones (scjones@optusnet.com.au)

DNA for Family History – John Levy (j.levy@bigpond.net.au)

UPCOMING PROGRAM

AUSTRALIAN INTEREST:	Saturday 17 August 2 – 4pm
By ZOOM	
ENGLISH INTEREST:	Saturday 13 July 2 – 4pm
By ZOOM	Saturday 14 September 2 – 4pm
IRISH INTEREST:	Saturday 24 August 2 – 4pm
By ZOOM	
SCOTTISH INTEREST:	Saturday 10 August 2 – 4pm
At the Research Centre	
WRITERS INTEREST:	Thursday 25 July 1.30 – 3.30pm
At the Research Centre	Thursday 26 September 1.30 – 3.30pm
FAMILY TREE MAKER	Tuesday 27 August 1.30 – 3.30pm
FOR WINDOWS & MACS:	By ZOOM
LEGACY INTEREST:	Tuesday 2 July 2 – 4pm
At the Research Centre	Tuesday 3 September 2 – 4pm
DNA FOR FAMILY HISTORY:	Saturday 25 May 1.30 – 3.30pm
By ZOOM	Saturday 27 July 1.30 – 3.30pm
	Saturday 28 September 1.30 – 3.30pm

FOSSICKING IN THE VERTICAL FILE.

DID YOU KNOW ?

by Sue **Hewitt** (Member)

...that housed in the grey filing cabinets in our Research Centre is a plethora of local history information. Within the drawers are folders labelled by postcode. Within each folder are articles and leaflets pertaining to that postcode. New items are added each year.

For example, while looking in the 2000 SYDNEY folder, the following interesting items could be useful background material for my (and maybe your) Sydney ancestors:-

- ★ In 1837, due to the increased congestion at Sydney Cove's three landing wharves, Governor **Gipps** ordered the head of the cove to be remodelled. Designed on a Semi-Circular Quay, the aim was to reclaim the foreshore. By 1851 it was referred to as Circular Quay.¹
- ★ There was more than one St Phillip's, later St Philip's church in Sydney. The existing one on Church Hill was dedicated to St Philip the Evangelist. On a different site, the Rev Richard **Johnston** personally funded an earlier Anglican church and named it in honour of Governor **Phillip**.²
- ★ The church in The Rocks is officially the Church of the Holy Trinity, but became known as the Garrison Church because the soldiers at the nearby garrison worshipped there.³
- ★ 19th century records of women in business at Sydney's Hay and Corn and George Street Markets exist in the petitions they lodged with the City of Sydney Corporation.⁴
- ★ There is a list of 21 Sydney Catholic parishes or districts, the year of foundation and the year that the marriage registers began.⁵
- ★ Sydney's Mint Building housed almost 20 different government departments between 1926 and 1997, including the Family Endowment Department, the Land Tax Office and the Divorce Courts.⁶
- ★ A list of all hotels, taverns and inns in NSW has been collated from the New South Wales Directory for 1839.⁷
- ★ The Garden Palace Building in Macquarie Street burnt to the ground on 22 September 1882. Records of Mining Department, Department of Lands, Fisheries Commission, the Linnean Society, the Art Society of NSW's exhibition of Australian and New Zealand artists and the survey branch of the Railway Department were reduced to cinders. Perhaps the greatest loss (to the modern genealogist) was the 1881 NSW census returns.⁸

- ★ In 1943 drums of mustard gas were stored in abandoned railway tunnels at Glenbrook. Spillage accidents occurred at other sites, decontamination was attempted and the chemical weapon episode hushed up.⁹

Your interest may lie elsewhere in NSW or in another state, or overseas. Not every town is covered; some folders have one or two articles; some folders are hefty. Tamworth has three folders! Locate your postcode of interest in the postcode book on the shelf and have a fossick.

REFERENCES

- 1 Sydney Cove, Tamworth Family Historian, Tamworth Family History Group June 1989.
- 2 St Phillip's Church and St Philip's Church Sydney Town. Maitland Reminiscences, Maitland Family History Circle September 2003.
- 3 A Famous Church at The Rocks. Leaflet.
- 4 Women at the Sydney Markets 1842-1865. Australian Family Tree Connections, May 2009.
- 5 Sydney Catholic Districts/Parishes. Descent, Society of Australian Genealogists, June 2001.
- 6 After the Royal Mint. Insites, Historic House Trust, Autumn 2006.
- 7 Hotels, Taverns and Inns Recorded in the New South Wales Directory for 1839. Links 'n' Chains, Liverpool Family History Society, May 2001.
- 8 Destruction of the Garden Palace by Fire Part 2. Dust of Ages, Armidale FHG February 2015.
- 9 Sydney – A Chemical Weapons Depot and Dumping Ground. History, Magazine of the Royal Australian Historical Society, September 2009.

The advertisement features a background image of a lush green lawn with a large tree on the left and a sprinkler system spraying water on the right. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image in white and green fonts.

MARTINS GREEN THUMB
WE DELIVER WHAT YOU NEED
MARTIN PASSFIELD
GARDEN MAINTENANCE/MOWING/LANDSCAPING
4/65 KAREENA ROAD
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mpassfield5@optusnet.com.au
Pensioner discount available

PLEASE MENTION *THE ENDEAVOUR* WHEN CONTACTING

WHAT HAPPENED TO ANDREW BLACK?

by Margaret **De Giorgio** (Member)

One of my direct ancestors was Andrew **Black**. A bounty immigrant, he arrived in Sydney on the *Mandarin* on 19 October, 1838. He had been born in Rasharkin, Ballymena, County Antrim, Ireland.¹

In 1982 I contacted the Raymond Terrace Historical Society to inquire about any records for Andrew Black and his wife and children who had settled at Hinton, near Morpeth on the Hunter River. The research officer responded and said they had no records for Andrew Black but did have a record of a marriage in 1847 for an Ann Black or **McLusky** to John **Taylor**. Andrew Black's wife's maiden name on the shipping record was given as Agnes Ann McClusky.

I didn't follow up on Ann Taylor until my trip to Taree last April. A relative at Cundletown Historical Society who had been involved in transcribing all the burials in the Dawson River Cemetery gave me the burial records to look through. Ann Taylor formerly Black, McClusky was buried in an unmarked grave and also her husband John Taylor.

While in Taree, I met a person who is involved in a research society who put me in touch with a distant Black relative, Robyn. Incidentally the researcher's great aunt married a son of my direct ancestor John Black, son of Andrew, and he and Robyn were able to identify a photo of his great aunt, circa 1902. I have had the photo in my possession since my grandmother's death in 1974.

Robyn wrote to me with information regarding the death of Andrew Black. I was then able to find the reference number on Ancestry. The limited information was: "1844 15 September, accidental death Butterwick, near Hinton".² When I visited NSW State Archives in August 2023, the archivists explained that those records no longer existed and unfortunately the above information could not be expanded upon. Also, deaths in 1844 did not have to be registered, so there is no death certificate available.

I didn't give up and started searching TROVE, which I found difficult with the surname 'Black'. However, in January 2024, I found the following article in the *Maitland Mercury and Hunter River General Advertiser* (NSW:1843-1893), Sat 21 September 1844, page 3. The transcription is:

***INQUEST.**-An inquest was held on Sunday, last, at Butterwick, before J. S. Parker, Esq., coroner, on the body of Andrew Black, and from the evidence which was given it appeared that on the previous day the deceased, in company with his son and a man named Kelly, was felling timber, when a tree which they had just felled got entangled in another: the deceased went to disentangle it,*

when a branch of the standing tree gave way and fell upon deceased's head and fractured his skull. The jury returned a verdict that the deceased was accidentally killed by the branch of a tree falling on and fracturing his head.

REFERENCES

- 1 NSW, Australia 1828-1842: Bounty Immigrants List
- 2 New South Wales, Australia, Registers of Coroner's Inquests 1821-1937, State Archives NSW; Series 2921: item: 4/6612; Roll:343



DIGGINGS



Diggings are titles of articles in journals that we exchange with other societies. We do not list all articles appearing in that particular journal but those that are noted as articles unrelated to the journal's origins. We recommend that you read any journal which originates from an area in which your ancestors had connections.

Members may borrow from the collection of printed journals exchanged with other family history societies held at the Research Centre and Library for the years 2017 to 2022. Please ask a volunteer for the loan procedure. Online exchange journals are also available at the Research Centre and may be viewed on the computers (click on the *Resources on the Server* icon on the desktop).

ENGLAND

Cleveland FHS Oct 2023

Genealogical Research Corner – A wonderful article by Member Carol **McLee** giving excellent tips for researching local heroes (Durham Counties/Yorkshire) in the 1805 Battle of Trafalgar. It offers some names of ships and muster rolls.

IRELAND

Irish Roots 4th Qtr 2023

Using autosomal DNA to break through brick walls
Finding your Irish nun relatives in the convent archive records
Discover resources for researching you Co. Louth Ancestors

Irish Roots 1st Qtr 2024

Donna **Rutherford** answers DNA testing and result queries
Local history resources for family history research for Co. Mayo
Surnames in Co. Mayo
Irish in the North End of Australia

Compiled by Kate **Anderson** (Member)

PRISCILLA THOMPSON – A MAYORESS OF HURSTVILLE

by Glen O'Connor (Member)

Prisilla **Thompson** was born Priscilla **Lattimore** in January 1863 at Glen William, a small farming settlement on the Williams River between Maitland and Dungog in New South Wales. Priscilla was my great great aunt. Her father, William Lattimore with his first wife Eleanor, had arrived in the colony as assisted immigrants from the north west of England in 1839. Eleanor, who gave birth to eight children in the colony, died at Glen William from heat stroke in 1855.

William then married Mary **Hancock**, the 15 year old daughter of his neighbour, Robert Hancock. William had another eight children with Mary. Priscilla, named after Mary's mother, was Mary's fifth child. Mary died when she was 39 (the same age as Eleanor when she died).

Perhaps because William Lattimore was illiterate but smart, he made sure his children received as good an education as could be provided in such a remote outpost of the colony. The children were fortunate to have Edward **Madgwick** as their teacher for some years at the local school. Mr Madgwick was an older man with a family and very well educated in the key areas of learning. He arrived at Glen William with a vast library of books. He believed that a love of reading was the key to improvement and success. The children all became prolific readers and writers. Almost all of them left the Williams River area to pursue their dreams, with most of them settling on farms or running businesses in the Clarence and Manning River districts.

Priscilla was an exception. She was the only child to make a break for the big city. She arrived in Sydney before she was 18 years old. She found lodgings in Macquarie Street, which was quite a well to do location at the time.

Priscilla had no discernible income suggesting she had been given some funds or endowment or she was supported by someone else. Perhaps her father William had distributed money to the children to use as a stake for a new life when he decided to retire and hand over the farm at Glen William to his eldest son.

In April 1881 Priscilla married John Thompson at St Simon's and St Jude's Anglican Church at Surry Hills in Sydney.¹ John may have been living in Macquarie Street but by the time of the marriage he was living in Gipps Street, Darlinghurst.

On the marriage register Priscilla put her age up to 21 rather than her correct age of 18, most likely to avoid having to obtain the consent of her father William

as surviving parent. John, on the other hand, had no trouble with his age of 19, having easily obtained the consent of Edward **Ward** who was the Guardian of Children as well as the colony's Registrar General. It helped that John falsely stated he was born in Ireland, meaning consent was too difficult to obtain especially if both parents were falsely stated as being deceased.

Obtaining consent may not have been too onerous for John as he worked as a law clerk in the city with easy access to all relevant Government bodies. John's father, William Edward Thompson and mother Esther (nee **Humphrey**) who was known as Essie, arrived in Australia in the mid-1850s. Even though they both came from County Antrim in Northern Ireland, they may not have known each other before emigration. Essie came to Australia with her sister and her sister's husband William **McIntyre** who paid for Essie's passage. William McIntyre was a master teacher who was soon appointed to the teaching district north of the Hunter River.



John Thompson – Mayor of Hurstville
(photo: Georges River Council
Library Museum Gallery)

William and Essie found themselves working as teachers at or near East Maitland, no doubt with help from William McIntyre. They were married in early 1858 and had 10 children over the next 20 years, including John who was born at Tamworth in January 1862. As a teacher, William was sent to schools around NSW including Carcoar, Tenterfield, Wollongong and of all places, Glen William. Although he had some problems with excessive drinking over the years (stressed teacher syndrome?), he managed to keep working and finally retire in 1892 to grow fruit at Lyndhurst near Penrith.

John most likely met Priscilla when they were both living at Glen William. They may well have eloped to Sydney. They had one child, born in 1883, who they named James Ernest Thompson (although he became better known as Ernest).

By 1886 Priscilla and John were living in the southern Sydney suburb of Hurstville. The same William McIntyre, who was now a metropolitan inspector, had officially opened a public school at the settlement of Gannon's Forest in 1876

but, not liking the name of the settlement, he named the school Hurstville. It is unlikely he borrowed the name from Ireland or England, rather he probably went for the name's literal meaning of "town in the woods".

The suburb later took on the name of Hurstville when the railway station was built in 1884. Hurstville was then the end of the rail line and the southern end of Sydney's metropolitan area.

Priscilla and John lived most of their married lives at a house named *Namoi* at No 70 Gloucester Road, having previously lived in The Avenue. John worked as a qualified conveyancer and managing law clerk. He became involved with many community projects and organisations including the local Starr-Bowkett Building Society of which he was chairman.



The Thompson Family Home on Gloucester Road, Hurstville
(photo: Google street view)

John was elected an alderman to Hurstville Municipal Council in about 1890 and served continuously for over 20 years.² His dedication, diligence and warm hearted spirit saw him elected Mayor of Hurstville at various times during those years, affording Priscilla the opportunity to perform many civic functions as Mayoress.³ Over those 20 years Priscilla worked on behalf of the Red Cross and the Royal Alexandria Hospital for Children. She spent much time working on the

development of Hurstville Public School. As Mayoress, she took on many roles as patroness of various charities.

John remained very popular on the council and in the community, which was an admirable feat considering the feisty politics of the times. In 1911 the council voted to raise funds to building a pavilion in Hurstville Park to be named the John Thompson Pavilion. The first fundraiser was a masquerade ball followed by a cricket game between the NSW Ladies team and a fancy dress men's team from Hurstville.⁴

Unfortunately, the pavilion soon outlived its usefulness. The park became Hurstville Oval and the number of spectators at sporting events went well beyond the capacity of the pavilion. A new larger pavilion, which incorporated the old one was opened in 1925. It was renamed the Dunbar Pavilion.



The Dunbar (formerly John Thompson) Pavilion
(photo: Georges River Council)

John became very ill in the late 1910s. He and Priscilla had bought a holiday house in Plateau Road, Springwood in the Blue Mountains where they would go to get fresh mountain air away from the smog of the city and to generally improve John's health.

John was 58 when he died in July 1920 at the Springwood home. His funeral was largely attended by members of the legal profession and members of the St

George Lodge of the GUOOF and the Masons, both of which John was an esteemed member. Also at the funeral were his son Ernest and his wife as well as John's parents (still not deceased) and his brother William. John's mother Essie died only a few months later.

John presumably died of natural causes. I mention this because he once stood successfully for council against Thomas **Ley**, a partner of Sydney's oldest law firm Norton Smith & Co. Ley was later successful in being elected to the NSW Parliament as the member for Hurstville. He served as Minister for Justice before switching to Federal politics where he was elected for the seat of Barton. Ley was linked to the deaths of at least three people who stood in his way including another candidate for election. He was eventually convicted of a murder in London many years later.

Priscilla was 65 when she married 48 years old Robert Frederick **Stokes** in July 1928.⁵ They lived at Gloucester Road until they moved to a house in Leeder Avenue at nearby Penshurst. Robert worked as an attendant at the NSW Parliament. He was appointed a Justice of the Peace in 1935 and was an honorary ranger at Springwood.



It is hard to know how Priscilla's son Ernest felt about this marriage as his step father was only four years older than he was.

A unique event took place at the Hurstville Council Chambers in September 1935. All of the ex-Mayors and ex-Mayoresses (at least those still living) were invited to a banquet for the unveiling of an honour board naming all of the Mayors since the incorporation of the Council in 1887. Priscilla took her place at the feasting table where she listened to many stories eulogising the pioneering work of the Mayors and the Council.

It was said that the secret to the success of the municipality was that about 75% of residents owned their own homes, which motivated a higher level of civic pride. There was also pride in that Oatley Park was saved as virgin bushland and that the municipality now had excellent parks, gardens, footpaths, roads and local businesses. One ex-Mayor commented he made the Council borrow a couple of thousand pounds and wondered if they would ever be able to pay it back, but now the Council borrows hundreds of thousand pounds without a qualm.

By the time of the Second World War Priscilla and Robert had moved to 440 Forest Road, Hurstville. Priscilla maintained the mountain retreat at Springwood which was known as *Rose Lea* (although not always with that spelling).

After the war and with Priscilla now in her 80s, the couple moved full time

to Springwood. Priscilla was 91 when she died in March 1954.⁶ A memorial was placed at Woronora Cemetery alongside her first husband John. Robert Stokes survived his wife by eight years. He passed away in May 1962 at the age of 82.

Priscilla was the only one of her generation to leave the farming communities for a life in the city and not return to be close to her family. Instead she made a new life far away, always closely attached to the politics of the day through both her husbands. She kept in touch with her north coast relatives and frequently offered a home away from home for family members when travelling to or staying in Sydney.

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PLEASE MENTION *THE ENDEAVOUR* WHEN CONTACTING



By Noele **Watkins** (BBFHS Organiser)

As part of the 40th birthday celebrations for Botany Bay FHS, we hosted the official launch of the Sutherland Shire Citizens' Heritage Festival which was held in the Port Hacking Community Centre hall, next to our Research Centre, on Thursday 18 April from 6pm till 8pm.

Heather **Clarey**, a long-time member and ex-President of BBFHS, who was emcee for the meeting, welcomed the guests and recounted some of the major milestones in our Society's history. Her address was followed by short speeches from Mark **Speakman**, State member for Cronulla, Carmelo **Pesce**, Sutherland Shire mayor, and Anita **McAuliffe** from the Australian National Trust Heritage Festival.



Cr Jen Armstrong, MP Mark Speakman, Mayor Carmelo Pesce, Coordinator for the Australian National Trust Heritage Festival Anita McAuliffe, Chairperson for SSCHF Noele Watkins, Cr Peter **Scaysbrook**, Cr Leanne **Farmer**, Emcee Heather Clarey
(Photo: Glenda Buck)

Among the 60 attendees, many showed interest in our Society and took a tour through the Research Centre. I am sure that everyone learnt a lot more about the histories of both BBFHS and the Sutherland Shire Citizens' Heritage Festival.

I cannot express my gratitude enough for the Botany Bay members who volunteered to help at the launch. My thanks go to all of you. We received many good comments. Thank you to Glenda Buck for the great photos.



MP Mark Speakman, Deputy Mayor Carol Provan, Noele, BBFHS members, Brenda Connors and Maree Young



BBFHS members Lynne Phillips and Heather Clarey



BBFHS barmen, Warren Saxelby and Richard Linklater



BBFHS members Jennifer Gibling, Wendy Targett, Dianne Franklin, Narelle Hitchcock and Leonie Bell



BBFHS Members Warren Saxelby and Jeff Madsen



BBFHS Secretary Anthony Wright and Endeavour Editor John Levy



Cr Leanne Farmer, BBFHS member
Kate Anderson and Mark Speakman



Heather Clarey, Leanne Farmer,
Glenda Buck and Noele Watkins

Journal Contributions

All journal contributions – large or small – are welcome. Email your input to bbfhs_eds@yahoo.com.au, leave it in the Editor's folder at the Research Centre or hand it to the Editor or any Committee member at our quarterly meetings. Please add your name and contact details.

TWO IDENTITIES – HAROLD KATTE AND MARCEL CAUX

by Frances Cairns (Member)

My paternal grandmother was born on 3 November 1901. Emily Gladys Naomi Helena **Katte** had two older brothers: Victor Clarence Percy Alexander Katte born on 20 March 1897 and Harold Katte, born in 1899. Their mother, Emily Jane Katte (nee **Dyer**) died on the day of Emily's birth in 1901. The two brothers and step brother George were cared for by their father Stephen George Katte, and Emily by Stephen's two sisters, Minnie and Elsie. In 1905 Stephen re-married and Rhoda Caroline (nee **Macguire**) became Victor, Harold and Emily's step-mother. They had three children together between 1908 and 1911.

When war broke out in 1914 and when the United Kingdom declared war on Germany, there was enormous pressure on Australian young men to enlist. Recruitment drives in 1915 resulted in Harold, at the age of sixteen, signing up in the AIF. On 19 January 1916 Harold sent a photograph of himself, dressed for action including holding his bugle, to his grandmother Naomi (my great, great grandmother). The next day he joined the rest of the draft, some 800 reinforcements to travel overseas.

At the age of seventeen, Harold in the 20th Battalion, attached to the 5th Brigade, 2nd Division found himself at the Battle of Pozieres during the Somme Offensive from July to September 1916 where he was wounded by a gunshot to his shoulder, amidst the



Harold Katte, with bugle
(photo: Cairns family album)

horror of decayed and mutilated bodies. Charles **Bean** described the ridge at Pozieres as 'more densely sown with Australian sacrifice than any other place on earth'! The Base Records Office at Victoria Barracks informed Rhoda Katte, his step mother, that Harold had been wounded. In November 1916 Harold was at the Somme moving back and forward between the reserves and the front line and in April 1917 on the fringes of the Hindenberg Line at Bullecourt.

During 1917 he was absent without leave many times and he served time in close confinement. In June 1918 he deserted, posing as a Frenchman. He obtained treatment at a hospital and it took the staff ten days to discover the deceit. He was arrested and put in a military jail, avoiding a lengthy gaol term and was not subjected to a formal court martial. After three months he re-joined his unit at Villiers-Bretonneux and also took part in the Battle of Amiens. After Private Katte was shot in his left knee, he was invalided to a military hospital in north London remaining there until December, spending much of the rest of his war in hospital.

In March 1919 he was discharged and returned to Australia, arriving in Melbourne in May, then on to Sydney. He was re-united with his family who knew he was coming home from telegrams and letters sent by the Army. He gave his bugle to his seventeen year old sister Emily (known by her second forename as Gladys, my grandmother) who had seen very little of her brother as she was raised by other families.

Sometime during 1919, Harold cut himself off from all his family and never spoke to or saw any of them again. Reasons for his alienation may have been due to the traumatic experiences he endured and the wounds that crippled him. Another explanation for the breach could have been that the family found out about his desertion and his treatment for venereal disease while in France, both of which were a disgrace to the nation. News of these misdemeanours might have come from his brother Victor who arrived back in Australia four months after Harold. Not only had Victor been stripped of his corporal's stripe but he had also been court-martialled for overstaying his leave from the 18th Battalion in August 1918 and later in November went absent without leave. Perhaps in confronting his family, Victor had revealed that Harold too had brought little credit to the family name. Having been in the same brigade, Victor would have been aware of all that had happened to his brother. Victor also cut himself off from his family for thirty years. Maybe to explain the disappearance of both Victor and Harold, the story was circulated that the brothers had gone to Queensland.

When Victor and his sister Gladys reconciled he told her that the falling out had been about money. Harold on the other hand simply disowned his family and reinvented himself, changing his name to Marcel **Caux**, after Pays de Caux in France. He emerged as a veteran of World War 1 at Remembrance Day in Martin Place in 2000 and explained that he had never attended an Anzac Day or

Remembrance Day service because he wanted to forget the war experience. At this time, he was one of seventeen Australians still alive who had enlisted in the war to end all wars.

From 1919 onwards Harold Katte ceased to exist. He never applied for his medals or collected them and seventy years after the Armistice, the government sent them to him, assuming that he had forgotten to claim them. To cover his tracks he said it was a mistake and they weren't his as his wife and son Marcus thought he had fought in WW2 not WW1.

After doubts were raised about the identity of the old soldier, the *Sydney Morning Herald* discovered that there was no record of Marcel Caux fighting in the Australian forces in WW1. Veterans Affairs confirmed this and was emphatic that his service records would remain private. The Department of Repatriation knew him by the name Marcel Caux and he was discharged in November 1920.

Harold's post war family had known nothing of his war service until 1998, when the French called his son, Marcus de Caux to ask how his father was. At that point, Harold was invited to France to accept the Legion of Honour for his service in WW1. After claiming a mistake had been made because he was too young to have been in France during the war, he eventually confessed to being Marcel de Caux but declined the offer of a return trip to France, accepting the medal instead at a private ceremony in Sydney.

Following the presentation Marcus contacted a prominent radio journalist believing his father's stories that he had been treated badly by the government. The commentator immediately mounted an energetic campaign on behalf of an 'aged WW1 veteran' who had been shot three times in the service of his country. When newspapers published lists of WW1 survivors in 1999 and 2000, Caux's name did not appear although he was included in "Anonymous".

In 2002, Marcus Caux finally discovered his father was Harold Katte and he confronted him. Unable to deny it, Marcel swore his son to secrecy, stating 'I never want to hear that name. I hate the name. I hate that family!'

The Caux family and military history researchers have pieced together much of his life story, discovering that records issued in the name of Marcel de Caux were that of Harold Katte who was born in 1899 at Marrickville, NSW. The records show that he had 3/5ths of his army wage paid to his stepmother, Rhoda Katte and she was listed as his next of kin.

Marcel had told his son Marcus that he had cut all ties with the Katte family after the war because they had treated him badly.

When Harold married Irma **Davis** in 1929, he had become Marcel Caux and she believed him to be French. Their marriage certificate records him as having

been born in Brest. Although there is no record of a divorce, he married Doris **Young** in 1949, this time claiming he was born in Quebec, Canada. The marriage certificate refers to him as Marcel Cause, aged forty four, which would have meant he was born in 1905.

Percy Katte died in 1944, with the death notice advising that he was the ‘loving father’ of his five surviving children, one of whom was Harold. However, according to the funeral notice, Harold and his family were not invited to attend the funeral at St Raphael’s Church in South Hurstville, nor the interment afterwards at Woronora Cemetery.

According to family sources, Harold had been killed in the war, had gone to Queensland with his brother Victor or had simply disappeared. However, document examination by handwriting experts in Australia confirmed that Harold Katte and Marcel Caux were the same person.

The deception continued even after Marcel’s death on 22 August 2004, with his birth name not mentioned at his funeral or as an alias in the probate notice. The service documented his life as if Harold Katte, the sixteen-year-old boy from Marrickville had never existed. At that time NSW Births, Deaths and Marriages reported to the researchers that the search for the death of Harold J.S. Katte between 1945 and 1973 showed no trace.

Onwards from enlisting in WW1, Harold’s life was full of lies and deceit and he got away with it.

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COPY DEADLINE

Please submit copy for the September 2024 journal as soon as you have it available but the deadline is **Wednesday 7 August** – preferably by email to the Editor at bbfhs_edu@yahoo.com.au. Copy may also be left in the Editor’s folder at the Centre, handed to the Editor or a committee member at a quarterly meeting or posted to 184 Gannons Road Caringbah South NSW 2227. Please include your name and state if you want any materials returned.

A CAREFUL LOOK AT THE 1921 ENGLAND CENSUS

by Jenny **Bissell** (Member)

I recently visited our local Forster library to access the 1921 England census on Find My Past. After searching for nearly two hours I finally found the person I was looking for: Thomas Johnson **Martin**, (my mum's great grandfather). He and his wife Mary Ann Martin née **Haynes**, were living with their son-in-law in Kingswood, Bristol.

The reason it took me so long to find him was because their names were recorded as Morton, not Martin, and the son-in-law and granddaughter's names were written as Edward Norman Carslake and Beata Emma Carslake instead of Edward Norman **Curnick** and Reita Emma Curnick. Edward's wife had died between 1911 and 1921.

It's so easy to bypass a record if it hasn't got the right names, but everything should be read thoroughly before being dismissed as "not my family". I'm off to the library again to search the 1921 census for more relatives, but will look more thoroughly this time!



NEW MEMBERS

We offer a warm welcome to the following new members. Please use your membership to attend meetings, interest groups, classes and the Research Centre (and please ask for help if you need it).

1946	Lee Fairall	Taren Point
1947	Geraldine Roberts	Woolooware
1948	Helen Roberts	Cronulla
1949	Barbara Burrige	Bundeena
1950	Kim Honeyman	Barden Ridge



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HOLDING IT TOGETHER

by Jennifer **Jacobs** (Tasmanian Family History Society)

Jumping from the shower, you dry off and within a minute or two, clothes arranged, you are ready to start the day. For our ancestors, the act of dressing was far more involved.

Back in Roman times, clothes were rather loose. A dress might have an opening at the neck to allow room for it to go over the head. A simple brooch or simple pin held it all together and preserved modesty for the ancient wearer. Men going off to war might also wear a buckle to hold helmets and armour in place. In fact, the name comes from the Latin *buccula* which means "little cheek." and was the area the buckle was protecting.



A baldric or sheath made from leather could be buckled across the chest to hold the sword in a convenient position. Buckles could be made in varying sizes and from many materials and were so successful they are still in use today.

Around the 12th century, lacing began to be used to join garment openings. Worn at the front, back or side, laces could be in ladder, spiral or crossed formation. Cord was passed through hand-sewn eyelets, sometimes reinforced with a metal ring. Women have always wanted to change their shapes and one of the early ways to do this was by wearing corsets. These were laced so tightly that women had difficulty breathing. Originally used in the Indus Valley in ancient times, buttons were more for decoration. In Europe in the 13th century, they became popular as fasteners. Made from metal covered with cloth, they had a shank to stitch them to the clothing. The addition of two or four holes came much later, as did the idea of the buttonhole. Initially, they were buttoned into a series of loops along the edge of the garment. It was possible to display wealth by the number of buttons and buttonholes you could afford. In the 16th century, men usually dressed themselves and their buttons faced right. Women had their buttons in the opposite direction as it was more convenient for the maid who helped to dress them. Sometimes whole sleeves were buttoned on so that they could be swapped from one garment to another, or removed altogether for washing if the

whole garment did not require laundering. In 1783, the **Mongolfier** brothers launched the world's first hot air balloon. Made from fabric and paper lined with alum for fireproofing, its sections were held together with 1800 buttons!

Next to come along, was the hook and eye. Often used to spread the load and prevent an explosion of flesh, it was used particularly on doublets and breeches and later on corsets and waistbands. Originally made from coiled wire, the modern version was not patented till 1900, when the Delong hump was added to the hook to prevent it slipping open.

A debt of £15 convinced Walter **Hunt** to invent the modern safety pin in 1849. When fiddling with a piece of wire he discovered that it would spring. He added the coil to the base and a safety cap to the top. He sold his invention for £400, easily paying his debt but losing a fortune in future earnings. Unfortunately he was more interested in paying his debt than protecting his invention by patent. He had previously invented the lockstitch sewing machine, the snow plough and a forerunner to the Winchester rifle.

It took nearly another forty years for the press stud to come along. Patented in 1885, three designers came up with similar ideas at the same time. Studs could be invisibly attached to clothing but became a hit on western shirts when attached as a decoration. No pair of jeans would look genuine nowadays without all the rivets and studs. A quicker way to close the fly would have been the zipper, but that had not yet been perfected.

Inventors including Enoch **Howell** began working on the zipper concept in 1851, calling it the automatic continuous clothing closure. Whitcomb L **Judson** patented the slide fastener in 1893, displaying it at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. His innovation was to join the teeth to strips of fabric which were then sewn onto the garment. Earlier ideas had been to attach the teeth directly to the garment. Gideon **Sundback** joined the company in 1906 and continued to work on the process. He patented the plako zipper in 1913. This replaced the earlier system of hook and eye technology with the modern system of interlocking oval scoops – less likely to pop open and could be closed with a slider. B F **Goodrich** used the zipper in his boots and named it for the zip noise it made when being closed. Its only other use was in tobacco pouches until it gained popularity in flying suits and money belts during World War 1. The introduction of colours and the move to use nylon as well as metal has given the zipper universal appeal.

Another modern product put to use in a war zone, but which failed the test, was Velcro. Velcro was invented in 1951 when Swiss engineer, George **de Mezzstrel** noticed that burrs stuck to his dog and his clothing while he was out hunting. He developed the idea of using a piece of cloth containing tiny nylon loops. The tops of the loops were cut off to create tiny hooks which attached to a

fuzzy surface. His idea, patented in 1955, was first used in space suits and ski and scuba gear, where it provided wind and water resistance. Velcro, which gets its name from the words velvet and crochet, was used to hold the heart together in the world's first open heart surgery operation. In space, it stopped items from floating away. Used on shoes, it enabled even small children to manage alone. Unfortunately, when used in the Afghanistan war, the tape filled with dust and the product was too noisy, so it was back to that old standby, the button.

Queen Victoria loved her elastic sided boots, but her elastic consisted of rows of tiny coils of wire covered in thread. It wasn't until 1820 that Thomas **Hancock** invented the masticator which chewed up the scraps of rubber left over from the closures he used on gloves, shoes, stockings and suspenders. He joined with Charles **Macintosh** who dissolved the offcuts in coal tar naphtha and sandwiched them between pieces of woollen fabric to produce waterproof fabric for raincoats. These were not entirely successful as they melted in hot weather and became stiff in winter. However, when Charles **Goodyear** discovered the process of vulcanisation in 1839 these problems were overcome. Vulcanised rubber quickly gained many uses. In Tasmania, in 1870, the elastic sided boots were popular even amongst convicts. It is hard to believe that it was not until the 1930s that elastic began to be used in underwear. In fact, in the 1800s, knickers or bloomers were initially two separate legs and that is why we call them a pair. Elastic brought the sides together!

On a trip to the haberdashery department one will find many variations of these fasteners. Different sizes, shapes, colours and materials have made closures both a practical and a fashion item, making dressing much faster than in Roman times.

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Thank you to the author, Jennifer **Jacobs**, and the editor of *Tasmanian Ancestry*, 37-4, March 2017 (Tasmanian Family History Society) for permission to reproduce this article and to Sue **Hewitt** of Botany Bay FHS for recommending it.

This article lists the new Library accessions. We remind members that there is a wealth of family history information accumulated over some 40 years in our Library. **Not everything is online!** Check out our library catalogue at <http://www.botanybayfhs.org.au/library--research-centre.html>. You may be very surprised at what you find! **Come to the Research Centre and have a look.** Thank you for the donations from those members who are ‘downsizing’.

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NOTE: ‘LC’ indicates a loan copy, which can be borrowed; ‘CD’ a compact disc.

Compiled by Janette Daly (Librarian)

BBFHS RESEARCH CENTRE AND LIBRARY

by Jean **Campbell** (Research Centre Coordinator)

At the recent Sutherland Shire Citizens’ Heritage Festival launch, (which was held in the Hall next to our Research Centre), quite a number of people came into our Centre to have a look around. Most were certainly impressed by the number and variety of resources we have on offer, as well as the diverse content.

A number of members have donated their valuable books to our Library recently. We thank these members most sincerely, for adding to our extensive resources.

Some of the Interest Groups hold meetings in the Research Centre and some on Zoom. The eNEWS, which is emailed to you each fortnight, has the locations of these meetings and the Zoom information.

Face to face quarterly member meetings are held in the Hall next to the Research Centre, on **Saturday afternoons at 1:30pm on 1 June, 7 September (AGM) and 7 December**. The Research Centre is open on those days too, so if you want to do some research before the meeting, (10am – 1:00pm) you are very welcome.

The NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies is holding their State Conference this year on **Saturday 14 September** as a Virtual Conference, because no society was forthcoming in hosting a Conference this year. This will involve four guest speakers and theme of the conference is: ***Dig Deeper in 24***. BBFHS will probably pay for a society entry and hold the conference in the Research Centre, as we did last year. More details to come – see our website and eNEWS..

The draft programme is:

Clive Smith, topic: *Dig Deeper into the Colonial Secretary's Records on Ancestry*

Andrew Redfern, topic: *AI and Family History*

Nick Reddan, topic: *The Registry of Deeds Dublin and family history*

Ruth Graham, topic: *A framework for multidimensional family history research*

AUGUSTA SUFFIELD AND THE TWO MARRIAGE REGISTRATIONS

by Janet **Kendrigan** (Member)

The *Westminster* was built in 1837, probably by the James **Laing** yard at Southwick, Sunderland, England for Duncan **Dunbar** of London. Laing's yard built many East Indiamen. Its tonnage was 610.3 and its dimensions 35.7 x 8.32 x 6.34 m. She was ship rigged and carried a female bust as figurehead. She was registered in London on 8 March 1838 to owners Duncan Dunbar, London ship owner, 44/64th shares and Philip Laing, Sunderland, ship owner 20/64th shares. The fact that Philip Laing was a part owner for the first twelve years, helps to confirm him as the builder.



The barque, Westminster

Her first voyage was from Gravesend when she sailed on 25 March 1838 with 250 emigrants to Sydney. During the voyage 10 persons died. The ship arrived on 26 June. On 18 August 1839, she sailed from London on her second voyage with assisted immigrants to Australia under the command of Captain A.S. **Mollison** and arrived at Port Phillip, Melbourne on 13 December 1839.

On this second voyage, Augusta Maria Julia **Suffield** was a passenger, coming to Australia under the Bounty Scheme. Although her marriage to Richard Darcy **Forrest** (who was on the same ship), is recorded at St James Church of England, Melbourne, witnesses to the marriage were the ship's captain Mollison

and the ships' doctor, Dr. **Davies**. It could be that the marriage was performed at sea and was recorded when the ship arrived in port. (Source: Noela **Summers**, nee Forrest).

NEW SOUTH WALES

Marriages Search Results

Registration Number	Groom's Family Name	Groom's Given Name(s)	Bride's Family Name(s)	Bride's Given Name(s)	District	PDF availability
<input type="checkbox"/> 567/1839 V1839567 23	FORREST	RICHARD	SAFIELD	AUGUSTA M J	ME	Unavailable

VICTORIA

Family name ^	Given name(s)	Event ^	Mother's name / Spouse's name	Mother's family name at birth	Father's name	Place of birth	Place of death	Spouse at Death	Age at Death	Reg. year	Reg. number ^
SUFFIELD	Augusta Maria Julia	Marriage	FORREST, Richard							1839	4196/1839

The index entries for the two marriage registrations, one in New South Wales, the other in Victoria

There are two marriage registrations for this couple. One is in New South Wales, with the index number 567/1839 V1839567 23 and Suffield mistranscribed as Saffield or Safield. The other registration is in Victoria – indexed as 4196/1839 with the correct surname spelling. Victoria was originally a district in the Colony of New South Wales. It separated from New South Wales in 1851.

Richard and Augusta were both from Ireland and were the in-laws of my great grandaunt.

Botany Bay FHS members should note that for births, deaths and marriages in the Colony Of New South Wales before the start of civil registration in 1856, our Research Centre and Library holds the early church records on microfilm which record baptisms (and sometimes births), marriages and burials (and sometimes deaths). If the NSW index number contains a V as shown for the marriage above, then a photograph of the original entry in the church register can be found at the Centre. Ask a volunteer.

REFERENCES

New South Wales Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages, <https://www.bdm.nsw.gov.au>
 Victoria Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages <https://www.bdm.vic.gov.au/>



Maree Shilling. It is with sadness that we report the death of distance member Maree Shilling. Maree was active in the Newcastle Family History Society and the author and co-author of a number of family history books. We extend our condolences to her husband Ken, her family and friends.

Local Newspapers Online are available via Trove at <https://trove.nla.gov.au>

Select the following papers in the **Advanced Search**, under **Titles and places**

The Cronulla Sutherland Advocate (1927-1939)

The Observer (Cronulla: 1939-1954)

The St Georges Advocate (Rockdale: 1899-1903)

The St George Call (Kogarah: 1904-1957)

The Propeller (Hurstville: 1911-1954)

It is worth checking all the papers for local news. I have found articles about North Cronulla Surf Club and persons in Sutherland township in *The Propeller*, even though it was published in the Hurstville area.

Genealogy SA: Search online data bases (BDM, newspapers, church records, ships passengers, school, deceased estates and hospital and asylum admissions) for family information in South Australia at <https://www.genealogysa.org.au/>

The Society of Australian Genealogists (SAG) Convict Research Tips:

- The National Library of Australia has an extensive set of guides to help identify a convict ancestor, plus a timeline of a convict's life and the relevant records to check for each stage. See: <https://www.nla.gov.au/research-guides/convicts#>
- Museums of History NSW (MHNSW, formerly State Archives NSW) also has an extensive list of indexes, guides, articles and webinars to help in your convict research. Search for Convicts in their A-Z guide, or click <https://mhsw.au/archive/subjects/convicts/>
- Libraries Tasmania at <https://tinyurl.com/2zb4xtvz> also has an extraordinary amount of information available for convict research. If your convict ancestor committed a secondary offense, s/he will likely appear in these records.
- SAG itself has a collaborative convict project: *Ironclad Sisterhood: Telling the Stories of Convict Women in NSW* at <https://ironcladsisterhood.sag.org.au/>



WHEELCHAIR ACCESS

is available at the Research Centre.

Please phone 9523 8948 to make arrangements.

OLDIES BUT GOLDIES

by Bill Allison (Shropshire FHS Member)

It always seems a shame to have all those family photographs, both ancient and modern stored away in filing cabinets, albums and these days on phones. If we are honest with ourselves they don't get looked at very often. I wanted to find a way in which these images could be rather more useful. So I hit on the idea of making a calendar. The first one I did was several years ago for Granny and Grandpa. They hung it on the wall over their small breakfast table and had a conversation about the photos, it turned out, every day. It proved a wonderful talking point when the members of the family visited. This, in its turn, gave rise to family stories and more wonderful for family historians like me, photographs appeared from their own albums to enrich the family archives.

What can you give as a present to everyone who has everything? So I made a second calendar and gave it to Granny and Grandpa as a Christmas present in December 2021 for 2022. It proved to be just as successful. One of my anxieties was that if I wanted to carry on this tradition, which it has become as I have just presented them with the third calendar for 2023, was that photos would dry up. Not so, because everyone in the family started looking for ones that could be used and much to my delight some amazing stuff turned up.

On a sad note, Granny developed signs of dementia in November 2021. It is now well established that an often useful aid for this upsetting situation is to show photographs of their own past to those suffering to help them recall periods in their life. So the calendar took on a more powerful role rather than just displaying pictures that might enlarge family history. As a family we know that the 2023 calendar will continue to comfort Granny.

In the best tradition of Blue Peter and here's one we made earlier, I have fairly basic guide lines. A4 Calendar blanks are readily available. I have made each photo panel in Publisher, cut it out and stuck it onto the calendar. One of our daughters laughed at the crudity of this. Good old cut and paste as it used to be. I tried to get a balance of old and new on each page. This year, after some demand, I also made calendars for other members of the family.

We are always looking for ways of making our family history interesting for others and giving it vitality rather than just resting in files and on computers. Furthermore there is something for us as family historians in that it has turned up stories and photographs I wasn't aware of. Creating a calendar such this might be an idea to bear in mind for 2024.

January 2023



Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						1 New Year
2 New Year	3 New Year	4	5	6	7	8

EDITOR'S NOTE

Thank you to the author, Bill **Allison**, and the editor of the Journal of the Shropshire Family History Society for permission to reproduce this article from their September 2023 edition. I thought our members could make good use of it.



Journal Contributions

All journal contributions – large or small – are welcome. Email your input to bbfhs_eds@yahoo.com.au, leave it in the Editor's folder at the Research Centre or hand it to the Editor or any Committee member at our quarterly meetings. Please add your name and contact details.

BBFHS EDUCATION PROGRAM

by Carol **Cronan** and Lilian **Magill** (Educators)

The year began with much interest in the education classes offered in March. Firstly there was the very expansive insight into Wikitree presented by Alan **Cobcroft**. Twenty three members joined the Zoom session and Alan very patiently took us through many of the layers of resources and research available when using Wikitree.

A week later we again had seventeen members glued to their zoom screens embracing the presentation by Fiona **Brooker** on the Leeds method of organising/identifying your DNA matches. And only another week later we had yet another class presented at the Research Centre by our member, John **Hely**, on managing our research.



Diane Franklin, Brenda Connors, Carol Cronan and John Hely at John's class in March
(photo: Lilian Magill)

Each of these classes were well received and indicated that we are all keen learners at BBFHS.

Of course, late February early March also provided us with the wonderful world of RootsTech and its vast array of webinars. The diversity of offerings is more than enough to keep us all busy throughout the remainder of 2024 so don't forget that you can still log in to investigate RootsTech's many offerings!

Just a reminder that you need to book by 5pm the Friday prior to any education class that is advertised on our website. This enables us to let presenters know the size of their class and time for them to prepare any materials they may wish to hand out on the day.



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Saturdays by appointment, by the prior Wednesday night.

Please phone 9523 8948 if going in after midday.

Closed Public Holidays

When researching, please ask for help if you need it – it is why
the Centre assistants are there and they love to help.

FAMILY HISTORY AIDS – SALES TABLE ON MEETING NIGHTS OR AT THE RESEARCH CENTRE & LIBRARY

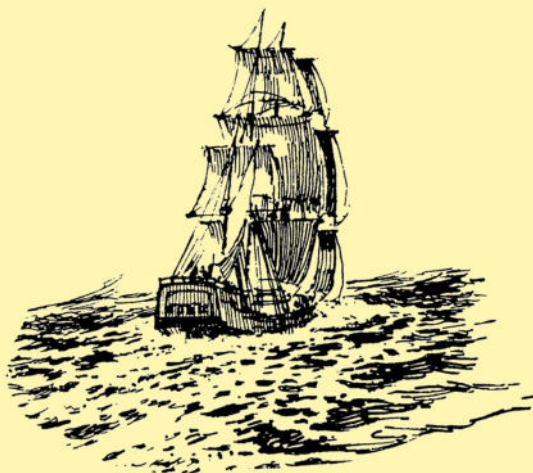
(Prices current at Jan 2024, subject to change without notice)

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Sewerage Records – Suzie Zada	\$ 5
Social Media For Family Historians – Carole Riley	\$15
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