

RAYMOND TERRACE & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY Inc

NEWSLETTER

July-August 2016

PO Box 255
Raymond Terrace
NSW 2324



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FB: Raymond Terrace & District Historical Society
eMail: info@sketchleycottage.org.au
Phone: Sketchley Cottage 02 49871036
Research Room: 02 49877446

Linking yesterday with tomorrow

Patrons	Bob Baldwin, Federal Member for Paterson Kate Washington, State Member for Port Stephens Dorothy Wedd, Owner and Curator of Monarch Museum, Williamtown	
President	Ken Barlow	
Vice-President	Boris Sokoloff	
Secretary	Suzie Worth	secretary@sketchleycottage.org.au
Treasurer	Trish Harris	
Minutes Secretary	Robyn Bowden	
Research Officer	Elaine Hall	research@sketchleycottage.org.au
Curator	Moira Saunderson	
Newsletter Editor	Karen Chasty	
Committee Members	David Gunter, Laraine Brown, Kay Newton	



Platt's Hotel c1895

Research Room

The Society maintains a Research Room at the **Raymond Terrace Library** at 18A Sturgeon Street, Raymond Terrace. Opening hours are **Monday 9.30am - 2pm and Wednesday 9.30am - 2pm**, or by appointment.
Phone: 02 49877446

We can assist with family history, local history, historical photos and various local history publications. If you are unable to attend the research room in person, please email us at research@sketchleycottage.org.au with your contact information and details of the subject you'd like to research. Please note that research fees will apply.

Our resources include:

- Marriage, baptism and death records from Parish and Court House records
- Large convict research collection
- Extensive collection of maps, including hand drawn road maps from the 1850s
- An extensive photo collection currently containing over 7,000 photographs
- School records
- Area and family histories in both published and file forms
- Local papers indexed to 1925
- Automatic reader printer and fiche reader available

Sketchly Pioneer Cottage and Museum

ABOUT

Sketchley Cottage is the only known example of an 1840s colonial building in the Port Stephens Shire.

Sketchley Cottage is a rare timber slab colonial farm house, built about 1850 on the Doribank Estate east of the Williams River, near the present New Line Road. From the late 1850's to 1970 it was the family home of William Sketchley (1810-1884) and his descendants.

There is a blacksmith shop used for demonstrations and displays of handmade tools, an early timber jinker, a 1930 Massey Ferguson tractor, and other agricultural equipment.

The cottage houses a collection of handmade underwear, clothing and bed linen and is run by the Raymond Terrace and District Historical Society.

It is located opposite Bettles Park, Raymond Terrace and is open to the public on the 4th Sunday of the month from 10am-2pm or by appointment. Bus groups are most welcome. Please contact the Secretary by email secretary@sketchleycottage.com.au or ring Sketchley Cottage on 49871036 to arrange a date or time.



Want to join the Raymond Terrace Historical Society

We Warmly Welcome New Members

Membership of the Society is open to everyone with an interest in Local and Family History.

Joining Fee \$2.00 Concession \$15.00 Single \$20.00 Family \$25.00

Monthly meetings are held on the third Friday of the month at Senior Citizens Building, Irrawang Street, Raymond Terrace at 7.00pm.

Just email: secretary@sketchleycottage.org.au for a membership form



Hello Everyone.

I love this colder weather, well not the cold, bitter days. Can I hear all the 'cold frogs' cursing at me? Well, time to find a nice warm place, get a cuppa, put on your fluffy socks and curl up reading. Lots of different things in this newsletter. Oh don't forget the biscuits!

Moira and her Cottage Clan have been really busy cataloguing items at Sketchley Cottage. Such a big job but a necessary job. Fantastic work everyone. The RTHS Committee has also been dealing with the issues of the big fig trees near Sketchley as they are causing damage.

Trish has been working her fabulous wand and has obtained a grant which will help us with the \$\$ of cutting tree limbs.

I want to mention our own "Kath & Kim", you know who you are, who have been working tirelessly by coming in twice a week to catalogue, identify, file and computerise all the photos the Society has received. They have been doing such a phenomenal job.

Thank you for the members who forwarded emails to me re: my first newsletter. All very positive thankfully. Good to know I am on the right track with things. I love doing it.

I have been busy snooping around for articles and whatnots for this newsletter. Got a couple of stories on people, stories on goings of early Raymond Terrace, the next continuing pages of Clearing Sales 1895-1930 and some exciting reading from two of our members on Sheepskins in the war. I have also included some information about things I have found in genealogy magazines, websites and on other historical societies pages.

Remember...got an ancestor that you would like to be shown, got a story that needs to be seen, been somewhere you think we should all know about, please forward it to me for the next newsletter.

**** Don't forget, annual membership fees are now due please. ****

So until the next newsletter, be well and remember....**Genealogy is like gardening, you'll never be finished.**

Karen
Newsletter Editor

COMING EVENTS

July

- 9th BBQ outside Dan Murphy's at Raymond Terrace
Come along and show your support.
- 15th General Meeting – Senior Cit's Centre, Irrawang St, Raymond Terrace.
Starts 7pm
All members & guests encouraged to attend.
- 24th Sketchley Cottage and Museum open, 1 Sketchley Street, Raymond Terrace.
10am – 2pm

August

- 13th BBQ outside Dan Murphy's at Raymond Terrace
Come along and show your support.
- 19th General Meeting – Senior Cit's Centre, Irrawang St, Raymond Terrace.
Starts 7pm
All members & guests encouraged to attend.
- 28th Sketchley Cottage and Museum open, 1 Sketchley Street, Raymond Terrace.
10am – 2pm

September

- 10th BBQ outside Dan Murphy's at Raymond Terrace
Come along and show your support.
- 16th General Meeting – Senior Cit's Centre, Irrawang St, Raymond Terrace.
Starts 7pm
All members & guests encouraged to attend.
- 25th Sketchley Cottage and Museum open, 1 Sketchley Street, Raymond Terrace.
10am – 2pm

After previous successful trivia nights, another one is planned around October. Further information to come.
Any information about future guest speakers or events, not included in this newsletter, will be emailed or sent to members & surrounding Historical Societies.



2016/2017 Membership Fees Now Due

You may pay either by mail, at the Research Room, or into our Bank Account.

Details: Newcastle Permanent Bldg. Society – BSB 650000 – A/C 818315201

Remember to reference your name.

If you have changed any of your details, please fill out form below.

NAME..... PHONE.....

ADDRESS.....

EMAIL.....

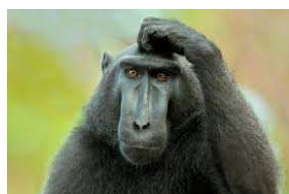
YEAR OF BIRTH FOR INSURANCE PURPOSES.....

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Single \$20

Family \$25

Concession \$15

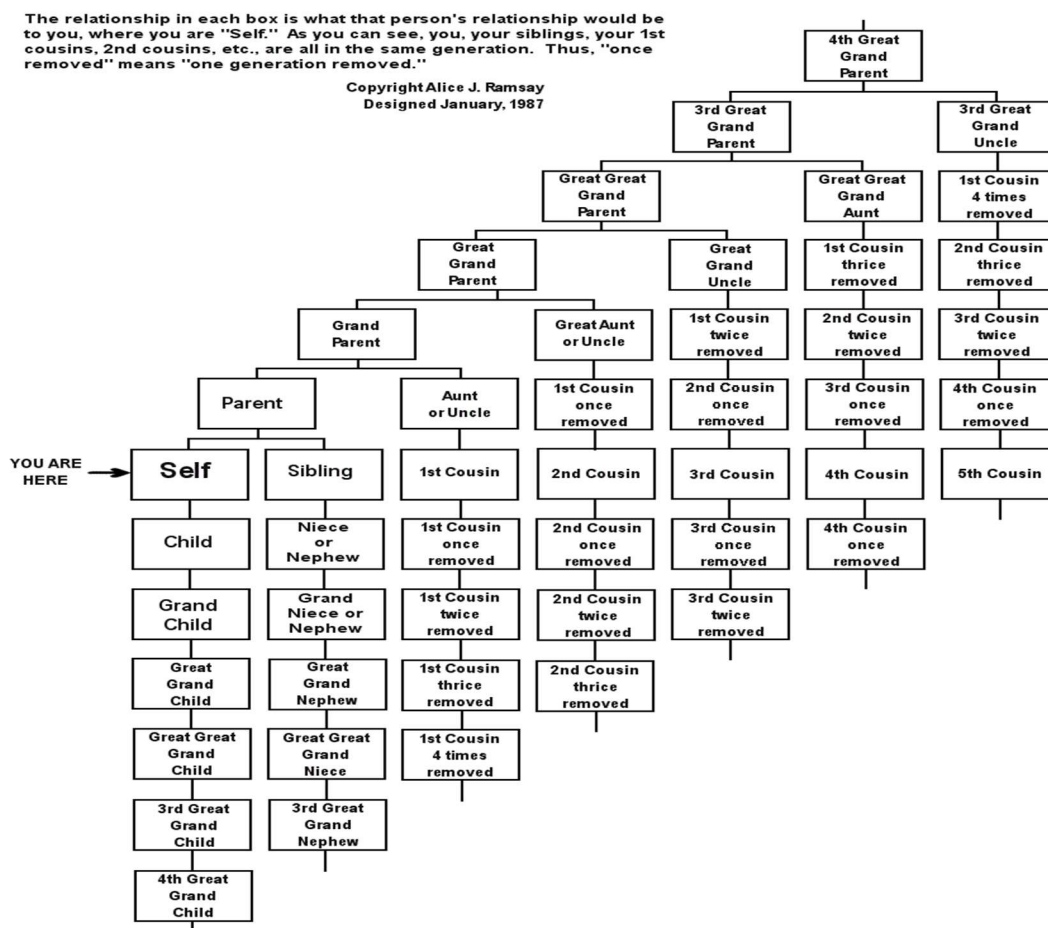


"What is a 2nd cousin twice removed?"

Ever wondered how to work out what your 2nd cousin twice removed or your 4th cousin once removed means???

I certainly have. I found this great chart and I hope it helps us all.

You and your first **cousins** are in the same generation (two generations younger than your grandparents), so the word **"removed"** is not used to describe your relationship. The words **"once removed"** mean that there is a difference of one generation. For example, your mother's first **cousin** is your first **cousin**, once **removed**.



RAYMOND TERRACE and DISTRICT: THE MAIL ROUTES

Dungog Chronicle: Durham and Gloucester Advertiser, Friday 7 Feb 1941

The transit of mails in the early days of Raymond Terrace was an important business, as all the mail, as far north as Port Macquarie, once came from Sydney to Raymond Terrace per steamer, and from Raymond Terrace was carried on first by horse and packhorse, and later about 1865 by coach. The early coaches drawn by four horses were also the means used for the conveyance of much luggage and passengers, and those who essayed the ride from Raymond Terrace and later Hexham, from where the coaches started after the railway opened up from Sydney by the northern line, had a trying experience, for the journey was long and most inconvenient and particularly so when the coach was crowded. The journey was done in stages and relays of horses, and the first stage was from Hexham to Limeburner's Creek, but the headquarters of the coaches were at Raymond Terrace and all business in connection with the conveyance of mails and passengers was done at Raymond Terrace. From Limeburner's Creek the next stop for a change of horses was Stroud: then on to Ward's River; then Gloucester; and from Gloucester by 15 and 20 mile stages to friendly fire of Witt's hotel at Limeburner's, known as the Half Way House, was a most welcome respite to the stiff and chilled passenger. The 'Cottage of Content' at Stroud, too, was always welcome, as the early dawn was first announcing itself as the coaches rolled in and breakfast was an enjoyable and heartily approached interlude to the first 36 miles of the long journey.

Among the earliest coach proprietors was the firm of C. McIntyre & Co. and they were in the service for many years, but their run was from Hexham to Gloucester and another firm went from there on. They were in the business about 1880. Other later proprietors were Tuck and Co., H.J. McCullough and August Reichert. The latter finished the coach service in 1912, as the North Coast railway opened and carried the mails on for Stroud and northwards.

Among the early drivers were Jos. Kay, Jack Shanagan, Dick Oldfield, James Welsh, Fred Waldron, now of Nabiac Hotel, Jack Mitchell, and Herb and Chas. McCullough. All were artists in handling the 'ribbons', and this is verified by the fact that few accidents occurred during, the many years they were on the road in the coaching days. The art of driving a four or six-horse team has gone with the advent of motors, but the drivers' names will go down among the pioneers who served a useful period in the development of the State.

Raymond Terrace has seen some quaint and some humorous characters during the 70 years, and one referred to by Mr. Brown was a gentleman (and a gentleman he was in every way) nicknamed 'Martin Mousehole' at Raymond Terrace, but known as 'Bags' at Limeburner's Creek. A sketch of him was given in the 'Sydney Mail' some years ago by a person in 1932, who signed himself 'Backblock' in which the writer stated: 'It is just 41 years since I met old 'Bags'. I was pushing the bike along the road from Hexham via Raymond Terrace to the Halfway House on the Stroud road when I came upon him. As I rode along my attention was drawn to most peculiar tracks upon the dust that the roadside. At first I thought it must be the tracks of an escaped elephant from some country circus. No Australian animal could possibly leave such footprints. By and by I noticed, still well ahead of me, something moving along, and gradually overtook the strange old man. It was 'Bags'. He was dressed just as the portrait shows him. He had another suit fastened on to his shoulders and was carrying a large broom made from ti-tree and in one hand a tomahawk. He asked me many questions about my bicycle and then looking afield, said: 'See over there? -pointing to a thick clump of tall saplings-'see them; all masts of ships.' He appeared excited, so I hopped on to my machine and went for my life.

I met the old chap many times after, and we became quite friendly. He would wander along the road helping the old roadmen, who in those days broke all the metal by hand. If 'Bags' saw a breaker with a small heap he would work with him and all he would take would be a small piece of meat. He would not use butter and would take only back tea, no milk and no sugar. Sometimes he would ask you for tobacco, but would only take a pipeful. 'That's all I want', he would say. 'God will look after me'.

The first night after meeting the old fellow I had occasion to stay the evening at the Halfway House. After tea I was chatting with the hostess and happened to mention the strange old man. 'Oh', she said, 'That's old 'Bags'. How far back did you see him?'. I told her 'He'll be here tomorrow'. She said 'and very likely he will stay quite a time with us. He sleeps at the stables, and for a little food he receives will clean up the yards, stables, harness etc. He is never idle'. She told me of the food he would take and it agreed with the yarn given to me by the roadmen. He made all his clothes from chaff bags given him by the mail contractor. These he sewed together with swamp rushes, covering all with a thin coating of clay.

'Bags' had what he called his purging days. On these days he would go to the creek near his hut, take off his rough suit, replace it with the one he was always carrying, and take No.1 to pieces, wash, re-sew and again recover with clay. His boots were made in the same way with bags fastened around the end of a kerosene case protected inside with bags. Regarding the old chap's end, I cannot say. I was told that, he was an old sea captain and that losing his wife and daughter in a wreck, he had taken to the bush. I tried many time to photograph him, but would never stand

for me. The person referred to was called Spencer, and when in Raymond Terrace, made his home with Mr Jas. Holdstock, then a baker, where he cut wood and other jobs that wanted doing around the bakery. I believe he died there. By the way, the bakery then existed where Mr. Morgans' house now stands near the river at the foot of Glenelg street.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN WINES FOR EXPORT

Dungog Chronicle: Durham and Gloucester Advertiser, Friday 7 Feb 1941

Raymond Terrace district will go down in history as the first area in Australia to produce wines for export. The amount was, of course, not great, but it was early in the life of the colony-1834. The wine was grown at Irrawang by the late Jas. King. There were vineyards in other parts of the colony-those established by John McCarthur and Gregory Blaxland (Great grandfather of Mr Percy Blaxland, at one time an accountant in the Commercial Bank at Raymond Terrace). But it is not reported that they exported any wine. In giving a description of the Irrawang locality about 1840 the Mitchell Library says: 'The climates are dray and ward and none in the world can be more congenial to the growth of the vine. The soil is a various as that of Europe, from the most barren to the most productive. The fertile soil resulting from the decomposition of volcanic trap, extensive tracks of lime, unmeasured extents of drift land proceeding from the decomposition of sandstone, equally extensive portions of country consisting chiefly of alumina, and rich alluvial recent deposits which to a greater extent influence the quality of the wine more than is generally supposed. We may (the report continues) expect to produce wines of equally various qualities.'

The vineyard was planted with vines imported from France, and from the most esteemed wine quality varieties. The late James King came from Scotland in 1827, and bought land at Raymond Terrace, the northern part of the town being part of the area purchased. — His intention then was to establish a pottery, but the soil was not found so suitable as Irrawang, and the pottery was established there. There are still in existence, in a few homes, the old Irrawang earthenware jars and jugs made there about 1832. The pottery continued till about 1860, when it was discontinued.

For many years after the works closed down the moulds of all kinds of ware were still stored at Irrawang, and it is only within the last thirty years that they were removed. In addition to the pottery, Mr King devoted a lot of time to the cultivation of wine, and practically a laboratory in association with it, and was so successful in producing wine of quality, that his exhibit in the Paris exhibition of 1855 was awarded a medal, while his wines were among the select few to appear on the tables of Emperor Napoleon III.

His name is commemorated by a travelling scholarship which was bequeathed to the Sydney University in his honour and is known as the James King, or Irrawang, scholarship.

The continuation of the vineyard and wine producing proved, however, after some years to be less profitable than other enterprises and the industry closed. The labels, used on the wine bottles were printed, from a heavy brass engraving, which was picked up at Irrawang about 10 or 12 years ago, and was quite a work of engraver's art. We believe it is now in the Mitchell Library along with an engraving of the old Irrawang homestead showing the house, wine cellars, pottery and other outhouses. But all excepting portion of the old homestead has disappeared.

Ex-Convict's Strange Request

Stated to be suffering from an incurable disease, an old convict made a pathetic appeal to the Recorder at Hull Quarter Sessions to increase a sentence of three years' penal servitude to four. He made this unusual request in order that he might receive different hospital treatment than would befall him with a shorter sentence, and out of a sentimental wish to die in prison in preference to a workhouse. The Recorder, Mr. C. Paley Scott, acceded to the man's request, and passed sentence of four years' penal servitude.

CLEARING OUT SALES 1895-1930

Raymond Terrace & Lower Hunter

Continued from Bruce, J.

Compiled by Moira Sanderson

Name:

Location:

Time:

BUNT, J	Miller's Forest L/S – F/E	April 1921
BUNT, J.J Retiring	Berry Park, Morpeth Dairy herd – L/S – F/E	Jun 1923
BUNT, William	“Brisbanefield”	Jun 1912
BURGESS, John Estate of	Raymond Terrace 7 Building blocks	Jul 1906
BURTON, Mrs Retiring	Glen Oak L/S – F/E – H/H effects	Feb 1926
BUTTER FACTORY	Raymond Terrace Land-Building-Machinery-Storage Rooms etc.	Mar 1926
CALLAGHAN, F	Karuah 5 room timber cottage	Oct 1926
CALMAN Mrs Retiring from farming	Eagleton Dairy Farm	Apr 1915
CAMERON, H.	Wallsend	Apr 1916
CAMPBELL, Archibald Retiring after 30 years	Clarencetown Dairy Herd – F/E	Dec 1918
CAMPBELL, James Estate of	Nelsons Plains Dairy farm – semi-detached brick building, Port Stephens St. 1,270 acres Stroud Rd.	Mar 1926
CAMPBELL, R.J Retiring	“Portree” near Eagleton punt Dairy herd – L/S – F/E	Aug 1921
CAMPBELL, Robert	Glen Martin Rd	Oct 1919
CAMPBELL, Robert Estate of	Clarencetown	Nov 1919
CAMPBELL, William Sold milk run	Ash Island L/S – F/E	Mar 1920
CAMERON, Herbert Family Bereavement	Adjoining Jesmond/Wallsend Dairy herd – L/S – Cottage-H/H Effects	Apr 1916
CANN, J.F. Estate of	“Elms Hall”, Vacy L/S – F/E	Nov 1919
CANNON, H Retiring	Tomago Dairy Herd-L/S – F/E	Dec 1919
CARMAN, Mr School Transfer	Seaham Public School H/H Effects	Mar 1919
CARMODY, D.	Osterley Nelsons Plains L/S – F/E	Jun 1919
CARMODY, Regis Lease Expires	Juniton Tarro & M/Forest Road, Millers Forest	Dec 1916
CARPENTER, E Leaving district	Millers Forest L/S-F/E-H/H effects	Jun 1919
CASEY, Mrs M Death of husband	Scotch Creek, Millers Forest	Aug 1904
CASEY, Mrs M Retiring	Millers Forest Dairy Herd – L/S	Jun 1911

choice home sites.
E. WINDEYER—
 Friday.—At 1.30, at Tomago, Mr. H.
 Cannon's dairy herd, farming imple-
 ments, etc.
JOHN HOGAN AND CO.—
 Friday.—At 11, at Royal Court, poultry.
WALTER ROSE AND CO.—

H. Cannon Sale

NMH, 17 Dec 1919

E. Carpenter Sale

NMH, 26 Apr 1919

FOR SALE BY TENDER.

A FARM, situated at Miller's Forest, with river frontage, containing about Twenty-five (25) acres, with a six (6) roomed two-storied house, large galvanised iron shed, also stables. Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted. Tenders close Wednesday, May 14th. Possession given not later than 1st July next. Tenders addressed to

EDWD. CARPENTER,
 Miller's Forest.

3305

CASEY, Miss	Limeburner's Creek L/S -H/H effects	Apr 1920
CAVANAGH, S.J. Moving to Cundle	Scotch Creek Millers Forest Dairy herd -L/S -F/E	Dec 1924
CHAPMAN, Mrs S	William St, Raymond Terrace H/H Effects – F/E	Jun 1918
CHILDS, W	Market Garden Raymond Terrace	Jan 1926
CLARK, D.	Nelsons Plains L/S	Apr 1895
CONSIDINE, J.P Retiring	Eagleton Dairy Herd – L/S – F/E	Nov 1918
CONSIDINE Bros.	Nelsons Plains L/S -F/E	Feb 1923
COOK, J.J. Returning to South Coast	Nelsons Plains Dairy Herd -L/S – F/E	Jan 1928
COOMBS. E Leaving for Richmond Rvr	Glenelg St, Raymond Terrace H/H Effects	Dec 1917
COOTE, George Leaving District	Millers Forest Dairy Herd – L/S – F/E	Oct 1925
COOTE, W Farm leased by H. Corbett – Known as Alf King's	Scotch Creek Rd, Millers Forest	Jan 1915
COOTE, W	Scotch Creek Rd, Millers Forest L/S -F/E	Dec 1910
CORBETT, Mrs J Leasing House	Scotch Creek Rd, Millers Forest Dairy Herd F/E	Sep 1921
CORBETT, W Failing Health	Raymond Terrace L/S	May 1907
CORDELL, R.	Portree William Rv Dairy – L/S	Dec 1918
COX, Mrs S	Fullerton Cove L/S – F/E	Jan 1924
CRAWLEY, W.J. Leaving District	'Doris Vale' Euwylong	Oct 1912
CROESE, A	Moscheto Island L/S	Apr 1916



Working at Birdsville police station is Australia's oldest black-tracker, Tom Copel. Tome has been tracking for nearly 50 years, and in that time has tracked down scores of horse and cattle thieves.

His longest chase was along the Diamantina after a horse-thief. It took him three weeks to get his man. Asked about his present tracking, Tom replied, 'No horse pinchers now-everyone gone goody goody since the war'

Northern Star, 3 Feb 1951

The Australian "crawl" stroke was first swum by a 12-year-old lad. Alick Wickham, in a 56 2/3rd yards handicap at Bronte Baths, Sydney. He completed the distance in the then remarkable time for a youngster of 44 seconds. So astonished was George Farmer that he shouted: "Look at that kid crawling!" and the famous swimming coach's remark was responsible for the stroke being dubbed 'the crawl'

Northern Star, 3 Feb 1951



The first private practice in medicine in Australia was established by an ex-convict doctor, William Bland, in 1815. Bland was transported for seven years for killing an opponent in a duel. He was put in charge of the colony's lunatic asylum, and, when he received his pardon, was offered a government position as a surgeon. However, he preferred to become Australian's first private doctor.

Your Family Tree

With the publication "Your Family Tree", a fascinating genealogical study by Mr David Starr Jordan of Leland Stanford University, and Miss Sarah Kimball, many Americans woke up to find themselves not only unexpectedly skin, but also kinsmen of the most illustrious decent (writes an American correspondent to the London 'Spectator'). Authors who are authorities on their subject trace, for instance, the ancestry of both Calvin Conlidge and William Shakespeare to the same progenitor, Sir John de Hampton, sheriff, of Buckinghamshire who in turn was descended from Charlemague himself, a descendent of Mark Antony. Indeed, it is said that the blood of William the Conqueror, Alfred the Great, and Charlemague runs in the veins of nearly all Americans of Anglo-Saxon stock. J.P. Morgan, Ray Lyman Wilbur, Admiral Dewey, John Adams, John Quincy Adams, Jefferson Taft, Hamilton Patrick Henry, and Emerson are said, among others, to have a common ancestor in David I, King of Scotland. In a direct line of descent from Henry I, King of France, are many Americans including Grover Cleveland, Abraham Lincoln, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and John D. Rockerfeller. English people Miss Kimball remarks, are "the inbred descendants of Charlemague", while both authors endorse the statement of Dr Dest. Of McGill University, that "all Anglo-Saxons are at least thirtieth cousins to one another."

NMH, 14 Sep 29

The War Dog.

In the course of a chat about "Training the Army War Dog," which is recorded in "Chums," Major Richardson says: "Such dogs must be tame and tractable. A savage, biting dog, indeed, is of no use here, for this is the work to be done: The dog's duty is to act as spy on ahead of a moving patrol; to guard detached posts, and sniff out the enemy while he is yet hundreds of yards away; to find missing and wounded men, and do ambulance work; to carry ammunition, and, as shown, act as a dispatch runner. For such duties your dog must be most carefully chosen. Some breeds of dogs are too small, and some too large. Some dogs fire too soon, others have sight not strong enough, cannot scent well, lack intelligence, or are given to hunting any chance rabbit or any other animal or bird that they come across. And when one wants to find a wounded man it will never do for our dogs to be worrying about a wasel. The breed that I find best for training as a 'war dog' is, what do you think? Why, our old friend the Scotch collie; and, though in such connection it may sound strange to say so, for preference one that comes from a stock which has had plenty of work at the prosaic occupation of minding sheep or cattle. The collie, you see, is one of the smartest of dogs, has a good nose, splendid vision, a coat that keeps him warm and dry, and he is not of a disposition that prompts him to make friends with anybody. 'Hail fellow, well met,' is not the motto for a military dog. If the collie has been brought up to hard work—and dogs I take in hand all have come from that stock—he will be hardy and alert, and on his guard. We have then only to train him in order to develop these qualities. Mind you, the dog must like the tasks set him. Often, as you will perceive, he will be working quite alone, and then, of course, a dog on an uncongenial job will be inclined, as one may say, to stick his paws in his pockets, and simply loaf. Once, however, a good, well-trained dog understands what is required of him, he will take to his duties positively with zest, and thoroughly enjoy the hunts he is sent upon."

...War Doggy Tales..

EXTRAORDINARY Dog.—At Aldershot camp there is a large spaniel belonging to a serjeant in the Royal Artillery, who has been taught by his master, during tedious days of camp life, to perform tricks that are almost marvellous. The dog is perfect in his drill, marching slow, quick and at the double, in obedience to the word of command. After he had been put through his paces, his master called him up and asked his opinion of the various regiments on the ground. Were the Plungers the best corps? No signs. Were the 42nd Foot?—silence on the part of the dog. After going over half a dozen names, the master asked, exactly in the same tone as which he had put his previous questions, the dog's opinion of the Royal Artillery. He instantly burst out into joyous barking, jumping about and rolling. The serjeant then called for three cheers for the King of Prussia—no sounds; three cheers for the King of Naples—a low growl; three cheers for the Emperor of Austria—silence again; three cheers for the Queen of England—such a volley of resounding barks that echoed again.—*Weekly Dispatch* August 25,

↑ NMH, 12 Jun 1943

↑ Aust. Town & Country Journal, 7 Dec 1901

Farla Valley, New Guinea - WWII

DOG "DESERTER" BACK

(From Axel Olsen, "Herald" War Correspondent.)

SOMEWHERE IN NEW GUINEA, Friday.—Australian soldiers in the Mubo area recently recovered from the Japanese their dog mascot, "Smokey."

With short black hair and a doubtful pedigree, "Smokey" had followed the Australians in many jungle adventures, but eventually deserted his protectors and moved into a hut occupied by the Japanese.

During mopping up near Mubo the Australians attacked with hand grenades the native hut where "Smokey" had been living. As the smoke drifted away from the wreckage the dog came bounding out to greet his one-time masters. Since then he has stayed close at the heels of the Australians.



War Dog's Birthday

Jack, of Putney, a dog who saw war service in Flanders and was wounded three times, has just celebrated his 20th birthday. He had a birthday party, with a cake surmounted by 20 candles. He sat at the head of the table and, with his mistress holding his right paw, cut the cake himself with a silver knife. There were seven guests, six human beings and one dog, Moo, a Pekingese. Jack had three slices of cake, and afterwards presented each of his guests with a silk handkerchief. He went out to Mons with his former master, a major in the 12th Lancers, in 1914, and served three years at Mons and Ypres, where he killed over 1000 rats in the British trenches. His master was killed at Mons in 1917.

↑ Newcastle Chronicle & Hunter River, 23 June 1943

Canberra Times, Friday 13 January 1928

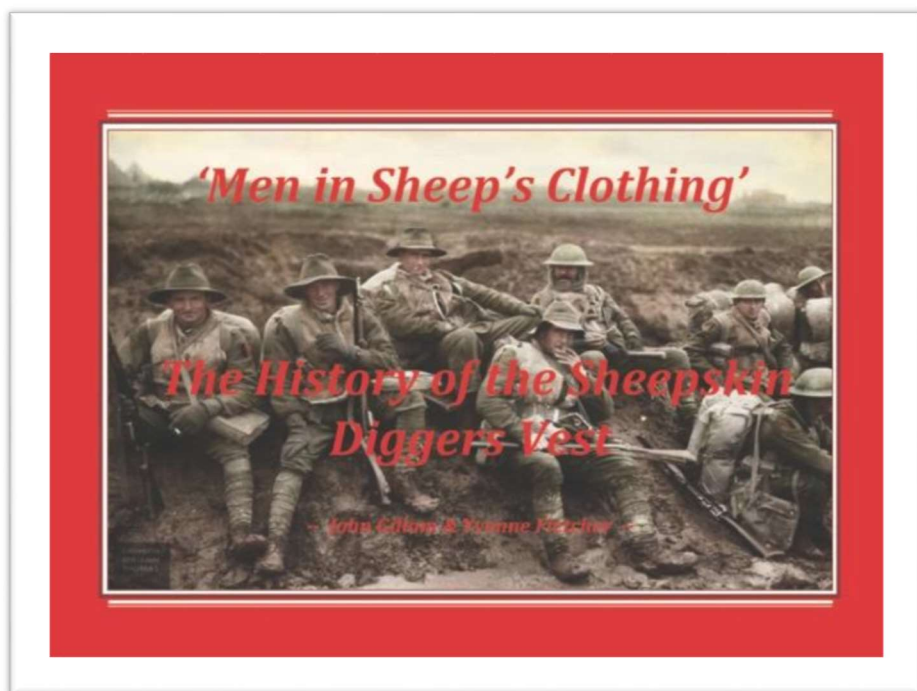
New!

New!

New!

New!

Exciting new book written by two of Raymond Terrace Historical Society' members



'Men in Sheep's Clothing'

The History of the Sheepskin Digger's Vest

John Gillam and Yvonne Fletcher's coffee style book documents a great, but forgotten Australian story of innovative design and mass manufacturing. Photographs and newspaper articles tell the story of the extraordinary generosity of the Australian people in making and gifting the first Australian made sheepskin product to their WWII soldiers.

Men in Sheep's Clothing provides a glimpse of the Australian community against the backdrop of World War I with imagery and headline commentary, or for the more enquiring reader significant detail not only of the project and success of the development of the vest, but of the activities that contributed to the success of the project. Men in Sheep's Clothing adds to the rich tapestry that is our heritage.

Bob Treloar, AO. Air Vice-Marshal (Ret'd), Ambassador, NSW ANZAC Advisory Council.

This, at times, poignant account of community support is diligently researched and enhanced with wonderful photographs. The authors have used the media of the day and letters as their medium to bring to us a story of communities struggling with war.

The story is a tribute to those communities who did what they could to support our troops. Men in Sheep's Clothing is a very important addition to the history of World War I.

Mrs Lesley Gent, 77 SQN Association Historian-Archivist

This book can be ordered at the Ray/Tce Historical Society. Or <https://www.facebook.com/Diggers-Vest-512331358822539/>

Both have researched, written and published *Their Story: Service Sacrifice and Community Support Part One 1914-15* and now *Men in Sheep's Clothing: The History of the Digger's Vest* as well as recreating the original 1914 sheepskin vest. They deliver public speaking presentations and school incursions and have been involved with productions for ABC radio, Landline and SBS. They are advisors to the Hunter and Districts Centenary of ANZAC Commemorations Committee. In 2016 Yvonne and John were recognised for their contribution to Australian veterans and their families with Australia Day Achievement Awards.

SHEEPSKIN VEST and ELEANOR McKINNON

Eleanor MacKinnon had an extraordinary life devoted to community service. Described as an eloquent and forceful platform speaker, her many accomplishments during war and peace included becoming the secretary of the NSW branch of the Red Cross Society and remaining a delegate to the central council until her death in 1936.

She founded the world's first Junior Red Cross division which by 1918 was established in 52 countries. She was a member of the State council for Voluntary Aid Detachments; director of the Red Cross Produce Depot; honorary publicity officer and a house committee-member of Graythwaite Convalescent Home, North Sydney. By December 1914 as well as founding the Tanned Sheepskin Clothing Committee, she founded and edited for 21 years the Red Cross Record and the Junior Red Cross Record also compiling the Red Cross Knitting and Cookery books.

President of 17th Battalion Comforts Fund and founder and co-editor of the War Workers' Gazette, she worked for the Citizens' War Chest. In 1916, she became a vice-president and executive member of the National Association of New South Wales, the National Council and the National Women's Club (later holding similar positions in the United Australia Party). During the influenza epidemic she helped organise emergency hospitals and as honorary director oversaw the whole nursing service. Anxious about servicemen's children, particularly those suffering from tuberculosis, Mrs MacKinnon obtained two houses for their use,

Mrs MacKinnon was appointed O.B.E. in 1918 and awarded King George V's Silver Jubilee Medal in 1935.

The Tanned Sheepskin Clothing Committee and the Australian Solution to a European Winter

This idea of the tanned sheepskin vest was originated by Mrs. Mackinnon, a Red Cross executive and doctor's wife from New England. She was one of the first to realise that cloth alone would never keep men warm in the winter conditions of Flanders. Prior to her initiative, sheepskins were discarded by farms and abattoirs when animals were killed for meat. What had been farm waste would become a lifesaving garment. She designed a sheepskin vest (often termed waistcoat) that was high in the collar to seal in warmth, low at the back to protect the kidneys and strapped together with horse bridles to hold fast in windy conditions and to allow for men of differing sizes.

Her specimen vest had no difficulty finding support. As early as November 1914 the Tanned Sheepskin Clothing Committee formed to begin fund raising. The Tanned Sheepskin Clothing Committee consisted of Messrs. J. Mackay, R. Blaxland, A. Bailey, A. Bruce, F. Bell, J. Birdsall, J. Neill Barclay, G. Archer, J. Cramsie, D. Maclaurin, E. Harris, W. H. Fletcher and Mrs E. Mackinnon. The committee asked that Australian sheep-owners gift skins or money. As time was short, their motto was *he gives twice who gives quickly*. A donation of 6 shillings (approx. one day's pay) would provide comfort for a soldier and be instrumental in saving his life.

Contractors began turning out 5 000 to 6 000 vests per week. The ladies of the Red Cross Society reported equipping the Army's Medical Corps with sheepskin garments.¹ Eighteen thousand vests and ten thousand pairs of insoles were sent to the British Army who asked for many more. Fifty were also sent to the French Red Cross Society in London.

Two supply streams for the vests developed. Either family and friends could purchase them commercially and send the vest directly to their soldier or donations were made to the Tanned Sheepskin Clothing Committee which resulted in the mass production of the vests and their eventual supply to the AIF. By January 1916, 75 395 waistcoats and 50 400 pairs of insoles were given to Australian soldiers by the Committee. A further 14 510 had been given to soldiers leaving for the Front by their friends. By June of 1916 the Army decided to adopt the British style leather jerkin and to take over responsibility for its manufacture in Australia. This decision spelled the end of the need for the civilian funded Sheepskin Vest and the work of the Tanned Sheepskin Clothing Committee. However, as many of the original sheepskin vests were still in storage, their use was sanctioned until stocks were exhausted. It was a fortuitous decision that would save many lives during the winter of 1916-1917. AWM 13 6519/5/2

The Design of the Australian Sheepskin Vest

The European winters of the Great War were reported to be the worst for over 60 years. Men died of pneumonia or froze to death in the flooded, muddy trenches, unable to move and restore circulation lest they invited sniper or shellfire. To fight the cold, the British Army initially chose a goat skin jacket. Pulled over the head and tied with rope, a belt or toggle, they were poorly tanned and known by those who wore them as 'Woolly Bears', 'Teddy Bears' or 'Stinkers' (due to the smell given off by the jacket when wet).

The Australian vest featured straps to fit different sizes and to hold fast in cold winds. With the fleece side in, it was high in the collar to protect the neck and low across the back to prevent back chills. It was made from easy to hand sheepskins and secured with buckles from horse bridles. It saved tens of thousands of Digger's lives during the winter campaigns. In July 1915 the British War Office ordered that the vests be made with the wool outside. Why this was thought necessary is unknown, but all military clothing had to be made to an approved plan.

Early versions of the vest suffered from poor tanning processes and along with the khaki uniform of the day, were susceptible to getting wet and vermin infestation while the men were forced to shelter in sodden trenches. Nevertheless, the overwhelming commentary from those who wore them was positive and grateful to the people who had provided them. By the winter of 1917-18 the fleecy sheepskin vest was replaced by a tanned leather button up Jerkin that was harder wearing and easier to keep clean.

Today the style is described as 'Retro' or 'Steampunk'. 'Steampunk' is a fashion sub-genre of science fiction featuring fashion of the British Victorian era or American Wild West. It is doubtful that as they chatted and hand sewed the sheepskin vests, the ladies of the Red Cross considered that they were making a 21st Century fashion item, they were simply 'doing their bit, for their boys'. Nor could they know that this simple garment would save tens of thousands of lives and bridge the divide between community and army, city and bush and provide a reason for the young states of Australia to work together as never before.

Fund raising for the Sheepskin Vest

The average day's pay at this time was 6-7shillings. The cost of a sheepskin vest was between 6-21 shillings or one to three days' pay. Imagine 'Father' arriving home declaring that the next three days' pay will be used to buy a sheepskin vest for a soldier on the other side of the world who they don't even know. But this and greater, are the sacrifices that the 'Good Citizens' of Australia would make to support their soldiers at war.

Patriotic Committees, Battalion Committees, families and even school children collected money and made the vests for loved ones and strangers alike to ensure that each soldier was provided a vest at his send-off, with any extras sent to the Front for distribution by the Army when the vests needed replacing. Old silver thimbles, broken and worn silver or gold trinkets, bracelets, brooches, cigarette cases, coins, etc. along with donations such as a truck of fat sheep, £100 from the Skin and Hide Tanners Association and even two race-horses were raffled to provide money for the Sheepskin Vest Fund. It was said that *Every pelt lost to our soldiers is a bruise given by an enemy.*

To add a personal touch to the donation, families and children were encouraged to write short notes to the anonymous soldier who received the vest and the Army encouraged the soldiers to write a note back thanking their benefactors. Thus a cold, lonely soldier got a reminder from home of how much he was thought of and a family received notice that their efforts at fundraising were appreciated and had really made a difference to the war effort.

On January 21 1916 a more public display was made when members of the Coo-ees route march attended Her Majesty's Theatre to watch a performance of 'So Long, Letty' and be presented sheepskin vests. During the performance, 45 of the lady members of the company wore the sheepskin vests and at the close of the evening wrote messages and monograms on the garments to the soldier receiving their vest.

The Production Process

Prior to World War One no processing method existed for the tanning of sheepskin hides. The Australian Aborigines had used black wattle bark as a tanning solution and this had been used in making shoe leather by tanneries Australia wide. Woodcutters stripped the bark from 7 to 10-year-old trees during the September to February period when the sap flowed freely. The dried bark was then crushed and added to water in tanning pits which enabled various styles of tannin liquor to be brewed.

The production process for sheepskins began once 'green' skins were received. They were trimmed with a knife and passed through a machine for removing all flesh particles. The cuttings were scoured and the wool taken off to be sold for the fund. Next, the skins were placed in a vat of water to soften. When cured, a tanner fished the skins out on an iron hook and passed them through large rollers to have liquor squeezed out and burrs removed.

Scouring was done by passing the skins through a solution of soap and soda in a machine until emerging practically dry. The skins were then soaked for about 4 weeks in wattle bark tanning solution pits. The skins were then transferred to a washing machine (an encased water wheel). The wheel revolved the chocolate coloured woolly skins while the paddles and washing solution beat

out the tan colour. After passing through enormous rollers the skins were hung in large airy sheds to dry. Softening was done by a machine using flat iron teeth to grind the pelt. The skins were then soft, white and well preserved.

Fifty garments a day were cut from patterns made of cardboard. The cut outs were then taken to have straps attached. An ingenious design made it possible for the vest to be worn either wool side out or in. The pieces were then sewn together, each worker turning out 150 vests per day before each vest was trimmed and sprinkled with naphthalene. It was now that letters were slid into the vest so the soldier receiving it would know who had donated this vest to him. Twenty-five to thirty vests were then pressed and encased in hessian, labelled and despatched.

The World War One vests were made using this process by a combination of Red Cross workers and commercial manufacturers. During World War Two the vests were made by the ladies of the Country Women's Association using very similar processes.

The Effectiveness of the Sheepskin Vest

Until the spring of 1917 Australia's European expedition had suffered one military setback after another. Gallipoli, Fromelles and Pozieres preceded the Western Front trench warfare of the winter of 1916-17. It was fought in the worst winter for 60 years, where the bitterly cold conditions and a slowly rising water table flooded the trenches. Men died of pneumonia or froze to death, unable to move and restore circulation lest they invite sniper or shell fire.

The men of Australia living and fighting in those atrocious conditions were supported from afar. Their loved ones provided field kitchens that supplied hot soup or cocoa at night and the sheepskin vests (carrying a message of caring from home) that helped them survive that winter. When winter was over, the men of Australia emerged from their trenches invigorated with a fighting spirit that would carry them forward to victory. German Prisoners of War thought the vests were bullet proof, so fearless were the men wearing them when charging their trenches. The deserts of Sinai and Palestine were also bitterly cold for the men of the Light Horse units, as they fought their thousand miles of battles from the Suez Canal to the borders of southern Turkey. They too enjoyed the comfort provided by the vests and they too would sweep to victory buoyed by a tangible symbol of love and support from home. It was Napoleon who recognised that *Morale is to the physical as three to one and a man does not have himself killed for a half-pence a day or for a petty distinction. You must speak to the soul in order to electrify him.*

One officer, training recruits in Scotland wrote to the donor of his vest, *Your vests must have absorbed all the Australian sunshine. Night after night I lay out on windy knolls and moors on a Macintosh sheet with no covering but the sheepskin and did not feel the cold a bit. My sergeant was nearly frozen. It is indeed the vest of vests.*

From Gallipoli *The weather is very cold and I must say it was very thoughtful of you to send me the sheepskin vest, I feel the benefit of it. Please accept my grateful thanks for the sheepskin vest which arrived in good order last evening. A more opportune gift I can't imagine as all our work here is night outpost duty, and as winter is just setting in we feel the cold very much and are dreading the wet season, which will start any day now.*

by John Gillam and Yvonne Fletcher

JUST ANNOUNCED!!

In 2018, the Society of Australian Genealogists is hosting the 15th Australasian Congress on Genealogy and Heraldry. It is held every 3 years.

Key details:

When: Friday 9-Monday 12 March 2018

Where: International Convention Centre, Sydney (Darling Harbour)

Hosted by: Society of Australian Genealogists under the auspices of AFFHO (Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations)

Follow: on Facebook and Twitter pages. Website is coming soon.



Thomas Gilbert, the second son of John Gilbert and Mary nee Fowler, was born in Sussex, England on the 3rd April, 1818. At the age of 20 years, Thomas married Mary Ann Bull on the 31st January, 1837 at Ashford, Kent in England.

Mary Ann Bull was born at Beckley, England on the 10th October, 1819. Her parents were John Bull, a farm labourer, and Sarah nee Weller. Mary was just 17 years when she married Thomas Gilbert, and their first child, a son Owen was born in England on the 7th January 1838. Thirteen months later, baby Owen was to die at sea on the voyage to Australia on the 12th February, 1839.

It is believed that Thomas and Mary went to New Zealand where they lived in the vicinity of the Rotorua area and near to where the famous pink and white terraces were. These terraces were destroyed on the night of June 10th 1886 when Mt. Tarawera erupted.

Thomas and Mary then went to Tasmania where they were to settle at Oatlands in the Midlands. Governor Macquarie named the town of Oatlands in 1821, it reminded him of his native Scotland and the grain which grew there.

On the 13 September 1844, Thomas and Mary's second son was born. They gave him the names of Arthur John Thomas Langtry Oatlands Gilbert. His name was taken from Port Arthurs, John who was his grandfather, Thomas who was his father, Langtry was their best friend and Oatlands where he was born. Two and a half years later, a daughter was born on the 12th March, 1847 and named Clara Harriet.

A census return was carried out in Tasmania on the 1st January, 1848. From this we learn that Thomas, Mary, Arthur and little Clara Gilbert lived in a finished brick dwelling in Queen Ann Street, Oatlands. They were Wesleyan Methodists. Thomas' occupation was 'ticked' in the column under the heading of 'Land Proprietors, Merchants, Bankers and Professional Persons, Shopkeepers and other Retail Dealers, Mechanics and Artificers'. It is believed that Thomas was a Gaol Warder for a while in Tasmania, but his trade was a watch and clock maker. A gaol for the chain gang, then working on the road between George Town and Hobart, had been constructed in 1832 at Oatlands, and a few years later, a larger building was erected for both male and female convicts.



By May, 1849, the Gilbert family had left Tasmania and were living in Raymond Terrace in NSW. It was there that four more of their children were born. Hiram, 1849; Sarah Ann, 1852; Betsy 1855; Caroline, 1857. Whilst living at Raymond Terrace, Thomas was employed as a postman for a time. From there the family moved to Stroud where two more children were born, David Bran, 1860 and Grace, 1862. This was at Mill Creek.

Thomas eventually moved north to Rosenthal on the Myall River and near to Bulahdelah where he selected land. Here Thomas built a sawmill and had a boat built to carry timber along the coast of NSW. His youngest daughter Grace 'christened' the boat with the appropriate bottle. It was called the S.S. Myall. The Myall eventually foundered in 1883 with no loss of life.

In his later years, Thomas moved to Newcastle where he opened a shop on the corner of Brown and King Streets where he took up his trade of clockmaker. He and Mary stayed in Newcastle till Thomas' death in 1889. He died at Beaumont Street, Hamilton on 30th November and was 71 years. Mary was to live on for another 11 years to the age of 81 years and died December, 1900. She died also at Beaumont St, Hamilton. They are both buried at Sandgate. They had 9 children.

Where Cabbage Tree Road Begins

A wind from the sea, in the slap-happy season of mosquitoes, beat back the insect invasion and Williamstown was at peace with the world

Its Cabbage Tree-road, which goes on to Raymond Terrace, stretched out lazily between farmlands and bush. The road to Medowie curved away silently past the aerodrome, and only occasional traffic breezed along the main highway between Stockton and Nelson's Bay.

OVER the fields, the mass of aerodrome huts and hangars looked like miniatures, the yellow and silver "kites"—lined up on the tarmac—like models in a Christmas toy display. There were no airmen in sight, and one could wonder whether all the Air Force types, with their grandpappy moustaches and picturesque lingo, had gone off and left the aircraft standing there to wait for other pilots in another war.

The air was heavy with the smell of cattle and warm, fresh milk. Cows mooed around in yards and byres, waiting to be earmarked on the rump and headlocked into the baile.

And the song of the farmlands was orchestrated by noisy windmills, the mechanical panting of the dairy machinery, the clank of milk cans, and the wind in the telegraph wires.

THERE must be cabbage trees somewhere along the road which has stolen their name. They are not apparent in the village, yet—60 or 70 years ago—local people made hats from their fronds.

Every well-dressed young man had a cabbage tree hat in his closet, and because they were cool, though heavy, they were in heavy demand in Queensland. They were a guinea each.

The "drill" was to collect the fronds, dunk them in boiling water, plait the leaves into 20-yard lengths, and sew them into panama shape with strong cotton. Then you carefully set the hat to bleach in a box of burning brimstone. A day or so later, you had a fine new topper.

—Ian Healy

A PRETTY WEDDING.

THE quiet little town of Raymond Terrace was the scene of great excitement yesterday when it was announced that the marriage of Miss Hart, of that town, and Mr. N. B. Creer, of Newcastle, was to be celebrated at St. John's Church. Shortly after half-past one the bride, attired in a dress of cream faille, made with long draperies, and trimmed with cream silk, and a hat to match, carrying a large bouquet of camellias and maidenhair ferns, attended by her two bridesmaids, Miss Bartlett, with a dress of pink and cream, and Miss Creer with cream and blue, each carrying large baskets of flowers, drove to the church. The bridegroom, with his groomsmen, Mr. Giffard, manager of the Bank of New Zealand, and Mr. M. E. T. Creer, brother of the bridegroom, had already arrived at the church, which was tastefully decorated with flowers and ferns. After the ceremony, which was performed by the Rev. Mr. Hyder, the organist (Miss M'Dowall) played "The Wedding March," and the bride, with her guests, left for Irton, the residence of the parents of the bride, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Hart. The breakfast was laid in a large marquee erected on the grounds, and very prettily decorated with flags and ferns. Immediately on entering was noticed the word "Welcome," written in ivy leaves; and the table was tastefully decorated with choice flowers and ferns. About sixty persons were present, amongst whom were Mr. and Mrs. J. Creer, Mr. and Mrs. J. Scholey, Mr. and Mrs. H. Berkeley, Mrs. Cane, Mr. H. and Miss Ash, Misses Bartlett, Moore, Pierce, Deane, Creer, Messrs. F. Langwill, S. Laing, R. R. King, Brierly, Moore, Montegresti, and the Masters Hart. The bridesmaids were the recipients of handsome souvenirs from the bridegroom. The Rev. Mr. Hyder proposed the health of the bride and bridegroom, which was responded to by Mr. N. B. Creer. Mr. N. B. Creer proposed the health of the bridesmaids, responded to by Mr. Giffard. Mr. Moore proposed the health of Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Hart, responded to by Mr. Hart. Mr. King proposed the health of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Creer, responded to by Mr. J. Creer, M.P. Mr. Giffard proposed the health of the ladies, responded to by S. Laing and M. R. T. Creer. The bride and bridegroom left by train for Melbourne via Sydney. The presents received by Mr. and Mrs. N. B. Creer were both varied and costly. The many friends of the happy pair in Newcastle wish them every happiness in their married life.

NMH, 10 October 1889

Records show Nelson Bromley died in 1925 overseas on a holiday in England. He was an auctioneer at the time. Amy Elizabeth died in 1962 in Sydney aged 91.


They had 2 sons. Harry who served in the Australian Field Artillery in France & Errol who unfortunately was killed on the Gallipoli Peninsula.



1886 Wedding Gown

Events coming-up elsewhere...

Members might be interested in other events being held by other historical societies.

- July 16th 2pm Restoring old photos for family research by speaker Mike Stephens.
Community Hall, George St, Marmong Point. Details: 02 49595403
(Lake Macquarie FHG)
- July 23rd 1.30 - A Convict in the Family by speaker Nola Mackey.
Coffs Harbour Uniting Church Hall, Vernon St, Coffs Harbour. coffsgenie@gmail.com
(Coffs Harbour District FHS)
- July 23rd 10.30 – 12.30 Finding elusive ancestors. Seminar with Michelle Patient & Karen Rogers.
Richmond Villa, 120 Kent St, Sydney. Booking 92473953
(Soc. Of Aust. Genealogists)
- AUGUST....FAMILY HISTORY MONTH**
- Aug 2nd 7-9pm FamilySearch Workshop with Allan Murrin.
Bankstown District Sports Club, Greenfield Pde, Bankstown.
(Bankstown FHG)
- Aug 6th 2pm Tracks: Tracking down the Bushrangers by speaker Greg Powell, author & history
Community Hall, George St, Marmong Point.
02 49595403 **(Lake Macquarie FHG)**
- Aug 10th 10.30- 12.30 Researching NSW colonial volunteer forces and militia using the NSW State archives.
Gail Davis presenting at **Tuggerah Library**
- Aug 14th 2pm-4pm Intro to Family History Course
Ever wanted to find out more about your family history? Don't know where to start? Why not come along to a two hour, introductory session on starting your family history to be.
Bookings: Bookings are essential email: stocktonhistsoc@gmail.com or phone Michelle on: 0407 201184 Cost: Free (but donations appreciated)
Held at **Stockton Library**, King Street & conducted by the Stockton Historical Society Inc.!
- Aug 14th 10.00-3pm Probate, divorce and school records: What's not online (on the State Records Website).
 Masonic Centre, 209 Myall St, Tea Gardens **(Tea Gardens Hawks Nest FRG)** RSVP 7 August!
Can be paid at Shop 3 before 7 August 2016 or mailed to; TGHNFRG Inc., PO Box 250, Tea Gardens. 2324 or Direct Debit Account Name: Tea Gardens Hawks Nest Family Research Group. BSB No.: 721 000 Account No.: 67652 Direct Debit Account Name: Tea Gardens eg. SR14Aug Your Surname \$15.00 per person (Tea & Coffee and a light lunch included)
- Sep 3rd 11.00- 12.00 Deciphering handwriting from 19th and 20th centuries workshop.
(Ku-ring-gai Family History Group) Research Centre
- Sept 9th to Sept 11th 10.00am-4.00pm NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies Inc. State Conference
State records will host a stall at the Free Family History Fair on Friday 9th
Camden Civic Centre
- Sept 10th 1.45- 2.45 Children in care in the 19th and early 20th centuries
Gail Davis presenting this talk
(NSW & ACT Assoc. of FHS Inc.) Camden Civic Centre
- Nov 9 10.30-12.30 Sources relating to bushrangers in the State archives.
John Cann is presenting this session at Tuggerah Library. It will focus on State archive relating to famous and little-known bushrangers.
Tuggerah Library.



DANGERS OF IMPURE BLOOD



IN LIQUID OR TABLET form of all Chemists and Dealers.

The root cause of most diseases is impure blood.

If you suffer from Skin Disease, Ulcers, Sores, Glandular Trouble, Boils, Rashes, Bad Legs, Rheumatism, Painful Joints, etc.—you **MUST** remove the **CAUSE** by purifying the blood. Clarke's Blood Mixture is the foremost and genuine blood purifier, healer and tonic. It will restore your health and vitality.



Two men laid claims to the possession of a 5 pound banknote in Sydney yesterday. Each had a portion of the note, and, later in the day, Detective James arrested one on a charge of false pretences. He had sold his portion of the banknote to the Commonwealth Bank.

Yesterday afternoon a man produced a section of a 5 pound banknote at the bank. One edge was scorched, and the man explained that he had been having tea during the previous night, when, as he was lighting a cigarette, the bank note caught alight. Almost half of the note had been burned before he could extinguish the flame. He made a statutory declaration to this effect and was paid 5 pound for the damaged Treasury note.

He had barely left the bank when another man, presented the other section of the note. As it was only half of a 5 pound bank note he requested the bank to pay him 2pd 10. He stated that he had been in a city hotel when a woman, who tried to snatch the 5 pound banknote out of his hand, tore it in two and decamped with one portion.

The matter was reported to the police and Detective James, who has an excellent knowledge of certain quarters of the city, took a bank official on a motor tour. In Surry Hills the bank official pointed out to the detective a man, and he was arrested.

R/Tee Examiner, 31 Jan 1929

Informal group of five cooks at the 5th Light Horse Brigade's B Squadron cookhouse at Gallipoli. The cookhouse consists of an uncovered wooden structure built into a mound of earth. Hanging from the roof are four animal carcasses. Identified is 390 William Vesey Dawson (later DCM), B Troop, B Squadron, 5th Light Horse, left, holding a knife and sharpening steel. AWM P02023.005



Online help...



- Now has records for five cemetery locations in the Calderdale Council area in West Yorkshire, England.
- The new sites, just added to the UK's only database website dedicated to curial and cremation records are: Rastrick, Luddenden, Elland Cemetery.



New collections include:

- Anglo-Boer War Records 1899-1902
- Britain, directories and almanacs – 90 new volumes of late 19th and early 20th century.
- Britain, School and University Register Books 1264-1930
- Dorset Baptisms – 68000 new records from 86 parish churches
- Dorset Marriages – 42000 new records added
- Dorset Burials – 52000 new records covering 57 burial sites
- Yorkshire Baptisms – 2.2 million new records added. 1538-1990.
- Yorkshire Marriages – 1.4 million records added. 1538-1942
- Yorkshire Burials – 1.5 million records added.
- Scotland Registers and Records – 4600 new records added including Morayshire
- Ireland-Easter Rising & Ireland under Martial Law 1916-1923. Almost complete.
- Irish Newspapers – 525000 brand new fully searchable articles recently added.
- US – 10 million marriage records added.

Useful websites:

- | | |
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| • Australasian Federation of Family History Organisation | www.affho.org |
| • Government Archives | www.archives.act.gov.au |
| • Australian Cemeteries | www.australiancemeteries.com |
| • Australian Cemetery Index | www.austcemindex.com |
| • Convicts to Australia | www.convictcentral.com/index.html |
| • Coraweb: Websites for Genealogists | www.coraweb.com.au |
| • Founders & Survivors, Tasmania | www.foundersandsurvivors.org |
| • Irish Convicts to NSW 1788-1849 | members.pcug.org.au/~ppmay/convicts.htm |
| • QLD State Archives | www.archives.qld.gov.au |
| • Rookwood Cemetery | www.rookwoodcemetery.com.au |
| • Rootsweb.ancestry.com | www.rootsweb.ancestry.com |
| • Society of Australian Genealogists | www.sag.com.au |
| • Tasmania Department of Justice | www.justice.tas.gov.au/bdm/family_history |
| • Aust. Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) | www.aiatsis.gov.au |
| • Australian War Memorial | www.awm.gov.au |
| • Convict Transportation Registers Database 1787-1867 | www.slq.qld.gov.au/resources/family-history/info-guides/convicts |
| • The Ryerson Index | www.ryersonindex.org |
| • Victoria State Archives | www.prov.vic.gov.au |
| • Heraldry and Genealogy Society of Canberra | www.hagsoc.org.au |
| • Genealogical Society of QLD Inc. | www.gsq.org.au |
| • Tasmanian Family History Society Inc. | www.tasfhs.org |
| • Western Australian Genealogist Society Inc. | www.wags.org.au |

More useful sites next newsletter.

Publications we have for Sale....

- They Were Here, Vol. 1 \$35
- They Were Here, Vol. 2 \$40
- (or buy both volumes for \$65)
- War Memorials of the Port Stephens Area \$25
- Raymond Terrace History & Heritage \$20
- Marriages from the Gloucester Examiner and the
Raymond Terrace Examiner 1894 – 1926 \$15
- Clearing Out Sales Raymond Terrace and Lower Hunter
1895 – 1930 \$15
- Soldiers and Memorials of Seaham \$25
- Raymond Terrace Pioneer Register \$30
- Cemetery Master Index \$25
- Landholders and Others \$15
- Raymond Terrace Pioneer Cemetery \$ 5
- Echoes of War by Moira Saunderson \$35
- Bushranger Book \$10
- The Worimi by Boris Sokoloff \$10
- 'Men in Sheep's Clothing': The History of the Sheepskin Diggers Vest \$40 **NEW !!**
- Obituary Books
 - Vol. 1 1893 – 1915
 - Vol. 2 1916 – 1925
 - Vol. 3 1926 – 1930 1951 & 1953

Buy any 2 volumes of Obituaries for \$45 or all 3 publications

For \$65. Purchased individually the books cost \$25

We also have for sale a large number of publications not produced by the Society but covering the local district.

Among them are:

- Seaham School of Arts \$15
 - Short History of Raymond Terrace \$5
- *Price Excludes Postage
for Items**