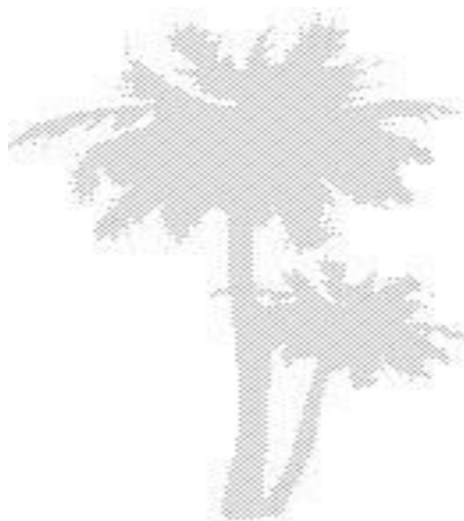


Mackay Genie Gossip

February 2009 No.125. Since April 1988.



Mackay Family
History
Society Inc.

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**Mackay Family History Society Inc.
PO Box 882, Mackay, QLD 4740**

Phone: (07)4952 2762 **Email:** mfhs@easynet.net.au

Address of Research Reference Library:

17B Keith Hamilton Street, Mackay West.

The Mackay Family History Society Inc. is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to family history and genealogy. All office bearers and helpers are volunteers.

Executive Committee

President	Carolan Hill
Vice President	Jeannette Howard
Treasurer	Yvonne Peberdy
Secretary	Jean Turvey

Editor Des Dunn

Library Team

Carolan Hill
Yvonne Peberdy
Jean Turvey
Jeannette Howard
Suzanne Newton

Maintenance Team

Peter Nicholson
Gerry Woodruff
Jim Paton

Project Officers

Jean Turvey, Judy Wallace

Volunteer Helpers are needed for various Projects: This may include library roster duty, indexing, maintenance, fund raising, computer knowledge, etc. – the choice is yours. Please offer your services and expertise a few hours a month. In the first instance contact Yvonne Peberdy at our library to discuss details.

Annual Membership Fees: Single \$35.00 & Family \$45.00 are due on the anniversary month of the member joining.

Society Meetings: The first Saturday of February, May, August (AGM), and November at 1.00 p.m. in the society library. Other meetings and activities will be advised. All Members and Visitors are always Welcome.

Research Library: Details are on the outside back cover.

News from our Research Library

Welcome to New Members. We gladly welcome Christina Brady, Annette Breckell, Glenda Darlington, Deborah McArthur, Joann McGrath and Evelyn Plath to our ranks. We wish you good success in your research and hope that you will become actively involved in the affairs of society.

December Raffle Results: 1st Prize \$500: Ticket No. 640 Thelma Mooney; 2nd Prize \$300 fuel voucher: Ticket No. 365 Jasmine Sandes

Beginner's Classes in 2009 at our premises Tuesdays 12.30pm. to 3 pm. from:-3 February to 3 March. 9 June to 7 July. 10 Nov to 8 Dec. The cost is \$5 per session. Classes are one of our best sources of new members. Invite your friends.

Computer Genealogy for Members who require assistance with computer research. This is one on one. By appointment only. Tuesdays 12.30 to 2.30 p.m. \$5.00 per session.

What's New at our Library??

- Phillip Jones, *Search for the Taipan: the story of Ram Chandra*
- Genealogical Society of Qld, *Queensland Cemetery Records Series No 33*
- Bombala & District Historical Society Inc., *Births, Death & Marriage Notices. Bombala Times 1921-25(Book 3) / News & Notes Bombala Times 1921-25*
- Colleen Davis, Ed., *Captain Tom: the story of G.T.McLean*
- George A Mayes, *Behold Nebo, a history of the Nebo shire*
- Alan Shannon, *Twentieth Century Profiles*
- Vicki & Andrew Herbert, *The Maguire & South Fermanagh: Their people and their places. From Lisnake & Knockninny to Brookborough & Tempo*

- Betty Clark & Mackay Historical Society & Museum, *A Short History of Mackay and District*
- Pat Russell, *Mackay Croquet Club Celebrating 100 yrs*
- Ossie Muller, *Ossie's Story: My Life So Far*
- Photos of headstones in Proserpine Cemetery, Columbarium & Garden. These are on 5 CDs

What's Old at our Library??

Searching for Ships Deserters? Try these. However, remember that many deserters changed their names:-

- Microfische: E08/042/01 South Australian Ships' Deserters 1852-1890
- Microfische: A07/004/02 Deserters- Military & Naval; Australia & New Zealand.
- Books: A08/051/03 Jim Melton, *Ships' Deserters 1852-1900; including Stragglers, Strays, & Absentees from H.M. Ships*. Contains the names of 10,000 notified deserters that have been extracted from *NSW Government Gazette 1852-1862* and then the *NSW Police Gazette* which took over the role of reporting deserters. This incomplete list is a very valuable research tool. It is indexed by Ships' Name as well as by Personal Names. There is a very brief description of each person. Up to 1864 only NSW desertions are listed.

Government Gazettes & Police Gazettes for each Australian State are worthwhile searching for other items of interest as well. Also, old newspapers often included personal information on individual deserters.

Searching for Hotels & Publicans?

Fische: H03/042/01 Qld Hotels & Publication Index

If you did not find what you are looking for try:

1. For Pre-1950. Qld State Archives, PO Box 1397,

Sunnybank Hills, 4109. Phone: 3131 7777:

2. For Post-1950.< <http://www.qld.gov.au/liquorsearch> >

Digitisation of Australian Historic Newspapers 1803-1954.

<<http://ndpbeta.nla.gov.au>> is the website of the National Library of Australian Historic Newspapers 1803-1954; and covers 24 newspapers all from capital cities for that period. However, it is far from complete at present.

A specific edition can be found by Title, State, Date, Category or Tag. The latter is akin to a subject. The best thing is that they are searchable by word/s; that is information can be found within the text by inserting a word in the search box. This makes it a valuable and easy to use resource. Happy hunting.

Writing Your Family History

No one has submitted a story for this edition on “How I Got Started”; so here are a few thoughts on writing:

May be it is your intention to write your family history one day. However, the thought scares you stiff because all you have written since leaving school is the grocery order, Christmas cards, a few letters and perhaps some emails.

Here are some alternative approaches to writing.

Biographical Outlines

1. Chronological order
2. Personal traits of character – incidents relating to character
3. Octopus outline – the effects of other people on this person
4. Spreading – tell more about what the person did, but also about the person himself.

5. Hit-and-miss Anecdotes – family album. That is a collection of stories and anecdotes of the person.

Short Story

1. Maps, plans, time charts may be important
2. Pictures may help to write about characters
3. Development of outline; that is “because of.....” so one decision leads to another

Homework practice

Write a:- Story outline

Letter to the editor.

Write something every day, even if it is half to one page. Become a word smith; that is, play with the words by altering them until they accurately describe what you want to convey. Computers make this process much easier.

Your writing will continue to improve as you continue to write. Above all write for enjoyment.

To see one’s own writing in print gives a sense of achievement. So, how about submitting your story to *Genie Gossip*?

GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH IN IRELAND Part 5 (Final)

*[Parts 1,2,3 & 4 appeared in the four previous issues
(i.e. Feb.; May, Aug. & Nov.2008)._Ed.]*

AGENCIES PROVIDING IMMIGRATION RECORDS

Information on Passengers emigrating from Ireland can be obtained at the following reference centres:

AUSTRALIA

NSW State Archives Repository,

O’Connell Street, St. Marys, NSW 2760.

Archives Office of NSW, 2 Globe Street, The Rocks,

Sydney, NSW 2000.

The Library and Information Service of Western Australia,
Alexander Library Building, Perth Cultural Centre,
Western Australia 6000.
National Library, Canberra, ACT.

Transportation records Ireland to Australia from 1788 - 1868 are held in State Libraries in most Capital Cities.

The Society of Australian Genealogists, Richmond Villa, 120 Kent Street, Sydney, NSW

Also

P.O. Box 268, Oakleigh, Victoria 3166.

This office will service enquiries relative to most aspects of research in Australian genealogical sources.

Australian Genealogical Education Centre, P.O. Box 75, Kiama, NSW 2533

NEW ZEALAND

New Zealand National Archives, P.O. Box 6162, Aro, Wellington, New Zealand.

SHIPS & SHIPPING RECORDS

The following addresses may be useful in seeking information on the ships and shipping records:

- National Maritime Museum of Ireland, The Mariners' Church, Haigh Terrace, Dun Laoghaire, Ireland.
- Merseyside Maritime Museum, Albert Dock, Liverpool, L34AA, England.
- Maritime Information Centre, The National Maritime Museum, Park Row, Greenwich, London SE10 9NF.
- The National. Library of Ireland, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.
- The John F Kennedy Trust, New Ross, Co Wexford, Ireland

AGENCIES PROVIDING IMMIGRATION RECORDS

Information on Passengers emigrating from Ireland can be obtained at the following reference centres:

ENGLAND

Public Records Office, Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DU

Tel: (0044) 181 8763444

Fax: (0044) 181 8788905

Reference Code BT27: Passenger lists of people leaving the U.K. by sea, including the age, occupation, U.K. address and the date of entry to the host country. These lists are arranged by name of ports of departure.

IRELAND

National Library of Ireland, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

Tel: (01) 661 8811 Fax: (01) 676 6690

Printed sources held

- “The Famine Emigrants”: Lists of Irish Immigrants arriving at the port of New York 1846 - 1851. Editor: Ira A. Glazier. Associate Editor: Michael Tepper. Published by Baltimore Genealogical Publishing Company, including 8 volumes to date.
- “Passenger and immigration lists index”. A guide to published arrival records of about 500,000 passengers who came to the United States and Canada in the seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Edited by P. William Filby and Mary K. Meyer. Published in Detroit, Michigan 48 226. By Gale Research Company (first edition 1981).

NORTHERN IRELAND,

Public Record Office, (N.L) 66 Balmoral Avenue, Belfast BT9 6NY. Tel: (0801) 232 661621.

Fax: (0801) 232 665 718 718

Printed sources held:

- Passenger lists for emigrants leaving Ireland for America (mainly Northern Ireland especially Londonderry).
- Indexes to male convicts transported to Western Australia. Public Record Office of Northern Ireland/Queen's University, Belfast joint publication. *Northern Ireland and Canada - A guide to Northern Ireland sources for study of Canadian History -c. 1705 – 1992.*

CENSUS RECORDS

The 1901 census returns record the following – Name; Relationship to the head of the household Religion; Literacy; Occupation; Age; Marital Status; County of Birth; Ability to speak Irish or English.

Members of the family not present when the census was taken, are not given. The same information was collected in 1911, with one important addition – married women were required to state the number of years they had been married, the number of children born alive, and the number of children still, living. Widows were not required to give this information, although a good many did. Only the initials of policemen and mental hospital patients were recorded.

The most useful piece of information given is age, though this is often inaccurate, particularly in the 1901 census.

CIVIL RECORDS

The most comprehensive source of genealogical data is the civil birth, death and marriage records. State registration began in 1845 when all non-Catholic marriages were required to be registered with the civil authorities. However, registration

of births, deaths and Catholic marriages did not begin until 1864.

Civil records contain the following information –

Birth records – Date and place of birth, Name, Sex, Name/Surname and Address of Father, Name and Maiden Name of Mother, Father's Occupation, Signature and Residence of Informant, Date of Registration, Registrar.

Marriage Records – Date of Marriage, Name and Surname of Bride and Groom, Ages, Marital Status, Occupations, Residences, Father's Names and Occupations, Clergyman, Witnesses, Church.

Death Records – Date and Place of Death, Name, Sex, Marital Status, Age, Occupation, Cause of Death, Duration of Illness/Confinement, Informant, Date of Registration.

CHURCH RECORDS

Church Records are central to any genealogical research in Ireland due to the lack of State Records. As a general rule the church records for the west of Ireland are not as extensive as those for the east and those for urban areas are superior to those for rural parishes. In many cases, the records for Protestant churches stretch back earlier than those of many Catholic parishes.

For any ancestor born before 1864 the only record of birth will be a baptism record and the likelihood of locating a record is wholly dependant on which parish he/she came from.

LAND RECORDS

There are two sets of land records which are central to 19th Century research, namely –Griffith's Primary Valuation 1848-1854 and The Tithe Applotment 1823-1837. The importance of Griffith's Primary Valuation is due to the lack of any comprehensive census for mid 19th Century Ireland. The Valuation was a survey of all property occupied in the country

and was taken between 1848 and 1864. Each holding was required to be valued in order to calculate the rate payable by those owing or renting property. Though by no means a complete record of householders, the Valuation does include the vast bulk of households and details, the following information –

- Townland/ Street name, OS Map number, Read of household, Name of Landlord, Description of Property, Area of Property, Rateable Annual Value of Property and Buildings, Total valuation.

Tithes were taxes payable for the upkeep of the Protestant Church in Ireland. Though the majority of the population were Catholic, tithes were payable by all and were deeply resented by; all non-Protestants. This resentment led to the tithe war during the 1830's which was finally resolved in 1838 with a 25% reduction and the appointment of 2 commissioners to each parish to determine the tithe payable based on the average price in the parish of wheat and oats during the previous 7 years.

These commissioners drew up lists of those liable to tithes which have survived are a valuable source of data from the 1820's and 1830's. Most Tithe Applotment books include –

- Tenant's name/Townland/Area of Property/Valuation of Property/Tithe Payable.

WILLS AND ADMINISTRATION

Wills and administrations contain valuable information on the relationship between family members, residences, occupations and circumstances. Unfortunately, the bulk of pre-1858 Will Documents perished in 1922 though in many cases the indexes survive.

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF IRELAND

< <http://nationalarchives.ie/search01.html> >

Records of Births Marriages & Deaths

All births, marriages and deaths occurring since 1864 (and all non-Roman Catholic marriages occurring since 1 April 1845) should be on record in the General Register Office, 8-11 Lombard Street, East, Dublin 2. For the period before 1864; parish registers provide the only record of most births, marriages and deaths. Catholic parish registers are normally still held by the parish priest, but there are microfilms of most of them for the period up to 1880 in The National Library, Kildare Street, Dublin 2. In some cases, the written permission of the parish priest must be obtained before the microfilms can be seen. The National Archives has a copy of the National Library's list of the registers.

Church of Ireland parish registers for the period up to 1870 are public records. Registers are available for about one third of the parishes. Most are still held by the local clergy, although some are in the National Archives and others are in the RCB Library, Braemor Park, Dublin 14, as well as the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland in Belfast. There are microfilms or other copies in the National Archives of some of the registers held by the clergy. A list of all surviving registers is available in the National Archives. The names and addresses of the clergy are given in the Church of Ireland Directory. A list and a card index of registers in the national archives can also be consulted.

Records of marriage licences provide information concerning some Church of Ireland marriages before 1845. Persons wishing to obtain a licence to marry without having banns called were required to enter into a bond with the Bishop of the diocese. The licences and bonds do not survive, but the indexes to the bonds lodged in each Diocesan Court and the Prerogative Court are available in the National Archives. Some of the Indexes have been published.

The National Archives also hold Transportation Records to Australia from 1791 to 1868. These records can be searched on line.

Sources & Citations Simplified - Part 3

[Here is the third of a short series on this topic. This material has been adapted from – Elizabeth Shown Mills, “Sources & Citations Simplified”, pages 430 – 433._Ed.]

Basic Terms

CITATION:

A statement in which we supply details to identify our SOURCE.

SOURCE:

A document, register, publication, artifact, or person that offers INFORMATION. Sources are either *original* or *derivative*. Examples: (1) A manuscript church register is usually an original; a set of published abstracts made from the register is a derivative. (2) A DNA lab report (a document) is an original; an article written about DNA test results would be derivative.

INFORMATION:

The data that a SOURCE provides. Information may be either *primary* or *secondary* (i.e. firsthand or secondhand). Any given source can contain both types of information.

EVIDENCE:

The INFORMATION we choose as relevant to the question we need to answer. Evidence is either *direct* or *indirect*.

PROOF:

The EVIDENCE and reasoning that support our conclusion.

PROOF ARGUMENT:

The written explanation in which we detail the EVIDENCE and reasoning that support our conclusion.

RECORD:

Recorded information. A single SOURCE can contain many records or only one. The source of a record can be of any type - e.g., an original document, a published book, a taped interview, a tombstone, etc. - and it may or may not be reliable.

VERIFICATION:

A situation in which a statement or allegation is supported by direct and *credible* EVIDENCE found in an independently created SOURCE. A mere repetition of a claim, in an equally weak source, does not constitute verification. Rather, the term “verification” implies that the supporting evidence is of sufficient quality to credibly stand alone.

To be continued

LDS (Mormon) Church Genealogical Library in McGinn Street, Mackay West is open to the public on Wednesdays 10am. to 12.30pm. Phone: 4952-1974

A Genealogical Conundrum: The oldest Roman Catholic Church in Australia which is at Richmond, Tasmania has a grave in the churchyard with the following Epitaph:
In/ Historic Memory of/ Henry Emmet Fitzgerald/ infant son of/ Thomas Francis Irish exile to V.D.I [Van Dieman's Island] / and Catherine O'Meagher/ Died June 8th 1852/ Aged 4 months./ Suffer the little children to come/ unto me For such is the/ kingdom of heaven. Matt. XIV:14.

What are the relationships of the three people mentioned in this epitaph?. See page 30 for the answer.

Government and Police Gazettes Unlocking a major untapped resource

[Compiled by Alan Phillips with acknowledgment also to contributions by Graham Jaunay, Heather Garnsey and Penny Stanley.]

www.archivecdbooks.com.au

Background

Every Australian colony published regular gazettes to communicate legislation, regulations and information to the public service in particular and the community in general. Some departments such as education and police grew in size, and began their own versions.

Indeed government gazettes are published by governments worldwide as a means of communication to officials and the general public. Such gazettes are useful not only to monitor the actions of the government, but also as far as family historians are concerned, they are primary source documents that have been largely overlooked by many researchers.

The indexing projects by some family history societies and the gazette digitising project by Archive CD Books Australia are now making the early gazettes known and accessible to researchers.

Parallel to the work by Archive CD Books Australia is the growing trend by governments to place their gazettes online. The best example can be found at: < www.gazettes-online.co.uk > which is the site for the British Government's gazettes, The London Gazette having archived its issues for the war periods of 1914–1920 and 1939–1948.

The University of Michigan's School of Information maintains a site listing all online government gazettes worldwide at: < www.lib.umich.edu/govdocs/gazettes > However, most of these sites list only current and very recent editions.

Gazettes as a research tool

There is little doubt that government gazettes are a largely untapped resource and that a clear understanding of the scope of their content still hampers research. The remainder of this article will focus on Australian and New Zealand government and police gazettes and their value to researchers.

- Your ancestors farmed and may have needed to brand their stock. Brands were registered and the public advised accordingly via the government gazette.
- The letter carrier is unable to locate the addressee for mail and returned the letter to the post office—dead letters were listed in the government gazette.
- Your ancestor may be a victim of a crime, or an offender, and the police are involved. All crimes were listed in reports by the police commissioner, naming victims, the offence details, the officers involved and the suspects if known.
- An ancestor may have escaped custody or deserted ship or H.M. service – or his wife! The descriptions of such are often very detailed: age, height, “native of ...”, sometimes accent, appearance, marks (scars, tattoos), peculiarities, even photographs in some later police gazettes. See example illustrations.
- Local schools charging fees predated government schools with compulsory education, but many poor people could not afford fees and so early colonial governments provided subsidies to recognised teachers and named them in the gazette. Many other professions, such as doctors, marriage celebrants, publicans, auctioneers, hawkers, magistrates and other legal officers, sundry food handlers and the like were registered and reported.
- Your ancestor fails to pay their council rates on time. They may be named in the gazette.

- Young colonies attracted entrepreneurs and some business ventures failed forcing the proprietor into bankruptcy—the gazette names the bankrupt and their circumstances.
- Although the colony was protected by British garrisoned troops there was a need to supplement this force from time to time with volunteers. Some records and especially promotions are published in the gazette.
- Those that died needed to have their estates wound up. The executor needed to pay debts and distribute assets and a notice in the gazette was deemed to comply with the legal requirement of employing best endeavours to contact all that may have an interest.

Letter to *Australian Family Tree Connections Magazine*

Government and Police Gazette commencement dates & Government Gazette and Police Gazette police restriction

New South Wales 1832 D, I 1862 D 70 years

Queensland 1859 D, I 1864 D, I 65 years

South Australia 1839 D 1862 D 60 years

Tasmania 1825 D 1861 75 years

Victoria (Pt Phillip) 1843 D 1851 D 30 years

Western Australia 1836 D 1876 50 years

New Zealand 1856 D 1877 100 years

D = Digitising commenced by Archive CD Books Australia

I = Indexes published - and available from Gould Genealogy

Police restriction - period from the present unavailable for public use

- Memorials and petitions prepared by citizens such as those to create a new local government region are published together with the names of the signatories.
- Deaths in government institutions such as hospitals, gaols and asylums are reported.
- The Hobart Town Gazette published extensive local government assessments.

- Early New South Wales and Tasmanian gazettes dealt with convict matters – licences, ticket of leave, absconders etc.
- Some Victorian gazettes published substantial Land Tax Registers listing thousands of landowners.

The above is just a small taste of some examples that may lead to the naming of your ancestor in a gazette. According to the nature of the entry you may receive the bonus of some vital statistic about the person previously unknown to you or unavailable via more conventional methods. For example it is known that many deaths went unregistered in South Australia for a number of reasons. If the death involved the police, then you can expect that a report was prepared and a summary of that usually found its way into the gazette. Such an entry may lead you to search police records for even more details ...

POLICE - MORTUARY RETURNS

Abdul ADCOOT; 20 years, a native of Chittongong India 5ft 5in, black skin and hair, clean shaven, thin build, had two tribe marks on left forearm.

Fell down the hold of *SS Naddea* lying at Ocean Steamers Wharf at 2 am October 15th 1919. Deceased was a fireman on *SS Naddea* and was called for duty at 2 am on the morning of October 15th 1919. The hold of the vessel was being fumigated with sulphur and dense volumes of smoke were issuing from the hold and deceased not knowing the hold was open accidentally stepped into space and fell a distance of forty feet. An inquest was held by Mr HD Gell SM at Port Town Hall on October 16th 1919 and a verdict recorded that death was caused by accidentally falling down the hold of *SS Naddea*.

SA Government Gazette 5 Feb 1920 p393

The above example mentions a number of pointers that can lead the researcher on to other material. The State Archives may hold the inquest papers, the National Archives of Australia may have material related to the shipping including the crew, and the daily newspaper may have reported the incident.

Nineteenth century newspapers would certainly have reported the inquest in detail if inquest papers have not survived. The following incident highlights a different set of records that may be worth calling up.

Some of the information to be found in government gazettes *this may vary in some measure from state to state and from one period to another*

- Convict notices
- Licence of departures (notice of licence—permission—for inter colony movement)
- Records of convicts & ex-convicts moving to other colonies inc. NZ
- Records of ticket of leave being confiscated & circumstances behind it e.g. drunkenness, adultery etc.
- Notice of convict absconders: details of ship, details of convict i.e. name, alias, physical description, escape details, convict history (useful if convicted under several names)
- Government appointments • Land transactions • Crown land sales • Lease Applications • Legal notices
- Insolvencies • Memorials and petitions • Government information • Notice of Acts • Electoral Registrars
- Ecclesiastical notices • Land ownership • Next of kin notices • Insolvency notices • Bankrupt notices
- Impoundments • Private notices • Patent applications • Unclaimed letters • Brands registration
- Deserters and missing people • Shipping and emigration notices • Partnerships—formed, dissolved, and seceded from
- Local Council assessments • Road openings and closures
- Straying cattle notices—branding details and name of pound keeper • Tenders for government projects (most useful for local history) • Defence—Notice of deserters: physical features, clothes, details of desertion, post
- Professional—lists of legally qualified medical practitioners etc. • Lists of licences: publicans, mining, timber, marriage

celebrants, brewers, auctioneers, depasturing, storekeepers, pawnbrokers, etc. • Lists of road toll stations auctioned out: how much they were worth, who bought the tolling rights

- Postal services contracted out: who won the contract, which area they covered, how often they did postal runs, wages
- Impounded letters: insufficient postage • Requests for information
- Searches for people (e.g. English sister looking for ex-convict brother)
- Government institutions and positions • Notice of activities and events
- Deaths in government institutions
- Statistics • Lists of rations for government institutions: prisons, asylums etc. Including items, amount for different people: e.g. men, women, children
- Rates of passengers (families of convicts from England)
- Health: no. of births, deaths, cause of death, epidemics

Later specialised gazettes were published, replacing the *Government Gazette* as the official publication for the department concerned. These are the *Police Gazette* and the *Education Gazette*—and more recently the *Industrial Gazette*.

POLICE - MORTUARY RETURNS

Louis CALVITZ; date of death or when reported, September 4th; about 40 years of age, height 5ft. 9in., stout build, auburn hair, brown moustache, slight scar over right eye. Deceased was run over and killed by the Adelaide and Dry Creek mail coach at Enfield. Inquest held by the city coroner. Verdict—‘Accidental death.’ Death registered by the Government undertaker. Deceased was in the colony about ten years; had no relations here; was buried by Government. His clothes were the only property he possessed, which were handed over to the public trustee.

SA Government Gazette 25 Feb 1886 p376

A whole range of licences helped the government’s revenue stream and regulated certain activities. Hawkers were required to hold a licence. Indeed auctioneers through to

medical practitioners required a licence to conduct their profession. In Queensland, a licence was needed to cut timber and make bricks. In most jurisdictions, ministers could only perform marriages if they were licenced by the government and incidentally this is why of all vital records, marriage certificates are likely to not only have survived, but also be correct. The minister performed the civil part of the marriage as a licenced agent of the government.

Some of the material in government gazettes are general reports about conditions and current issues of the day. The family historian trying to develop an understanding of the circumstances under which ancestors lived can gain great insights from reading some of this material and attempting to understand how this may have impacted on their lives. For example early gazettes often feature reports resulting from a bevy of complaints about a particular emigrant voyage that forced an official enquiry. Maybe the ancestor of interest traveled on the particular vessel and although they are not named in the report, at least the researcher can gain a greater understanding of the conditions endured by their forefathers. A few key gazettes offer special reports and material of particular significance to researchers. In the case of South Australia one such useful record is the Return of deaths and burials occurring on board emigrant ships from 1849 to June 1865 (Govt Gazette 25 Jan 1866 pp.75–96) covering deaths of emigrants en route to South Australia. Another issue of similar significance is the issue of 20 Apr 1865 that details persons found dead in public places for a number of preceding years.

Many government gazettes contain information relevant to family historians simply because citizens have to deal with their government. If you are looking for names of people appointed to public office or employed by the government; details of land grants, transfers and leases; details of convictions and pardons or law breakers; licences for publicans,

auctioneers and others; doctors; ship-owners; the list is almost endless, then you will need to consider a search of government gazettes!

The character of the gazettes changed over time and varies in measure between states. The 20th Century government gazettes are less useful to family historians than those from the 19th century. Police gazettes however continue to be useful well into the 20th century.

Police gazettes

Police gazettes differ from government gazettes in that they are not open to the public for some time after creation. See table for restriction periods on page 5.

They were compiled generally weekly in each Australian state starting from around the 1850s and 60s, as a confidential record of police activities, reports and information – for police use only. They often contain details that would not be found in the more publicly accessible government gazettes.

Information on crimes committed. One of the chief purposes of the gazette was to communicate information on crimes. Including what was committed, where it was committed, details of the victim of the crime, the details of the crime, any information or evidence gathered that may lead to the arrest of the criminal, details of the suspect or appearance of the criminal and who to contact with further information. These accounts often included names and detailed descriptions.

Information regarding criminals. This includes lists of warrants issued, arrests made, convicted people, people discharged from prison and people released on good behaviour bonds. These lists often included details of the crime, the name of the criminal, any alias's, sex and their race, the location, sentence and terms of release. More detailed information including the appearance of the criminal including height, hair colour, eye colour, any distinguishing features, clothing, place, (including names of ships or prisons or any other relevant

place) and the crime they were included in, as well as any dates and sometimes photographs.

Notice of missing persons. These are often recorded as missing family or friends, but also anyone who someone wanted to find. Information such as the missing person's

Police gazettes

Information varies but may include the following

• Theft • Arson • Wife or child desertion • Pick-pocketing • Murder • Drunkenness • Supplying liquor to an Aboriginal • Wanted people – often with details such as

- age - height - “native of ...” - sometimes accent - appearance - marks (scars, tattoos),

- peculiarities - sometimes photos

(later gazettes) • Escaped prisoners • Military

absconders • Ship deserters • Suspected criminals

• Licences (some states) - tobacco sellers - liquor

sellers - wine sellers - auctioneers - billiards - hawkers

- poisons - timber cutting - chemists and druggists

- medical practitioners • Police appointments • Justices

of the Peace • Victims of crime description and appearance is given, the nature of their disappearance, the time of their disappearance, their supposed destination, details of their last known or supposed whereabouts is reported when relevant.

Official police department information. Personnel change within the force. Lists of promotions, dismissals, resignations and appointments are given with information on position, place, and name. Also appointments such as Justice of the Peace and inspectors.

Other related government department information. The police gazettes also include information on vacancies, appointments, promotions and resignations in other government departments. These include lists of Justices and court clerks etc.

Notice of amendments and introductions of new acts of parliament are also given. Court lists and sessions are included.

Notice of licences (some states). Licences of various types and lists of those holding them are given in the police gazettes. These include the name, date, location for the licences.

Information from other state police gazettes. Often it was necessary for communication between states and even New Zealand regarding particular criminals, crimes, or missing persons. These are also recorded in the police gazettes, mainly regarding serious crimes or wanted people.

Government and police gazettes offer great information and detail, opening up a window to our past that cannot be found anywhere else. Fascinating to browse and a vast resource of useful information!

To see for yourself what the gazettes are like download the free samplers which are available for most digitised gazettes. These include the comprehensive police gazette indexes in full. The Archive CD Books Australia digitised government and police gazettes are all fully searchable on all text.

More gazette articles

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for current indexes to gazettes search for “index gazette”

A THOUGHT: If ignorance is bliss, why are some people unhappy?

MINUTES OF WINGHAM PETTY SESSIONS, WINGHAM, KENT

[Wingham is a picturesque rural village a few kilometres east of Canterbury, England. The Dog Inn and the Red Lion are local Public Houses. The latter still operates today. The following minutes give a glimpse into the administration of the English Poor Laws that were finally abolished in 1834. This article is copied from "Hambrook Herald" which is the quarterly journal of the Hambrook Family History Society. _Ed.]

JANE HAMBROOK of LITTLE MONGEHAM

Monthly meeting held on Tuesday, 5 January 1819 at the Dog Inn, Wingham, Kent. (Ref: PS/W4) "Upon the complaint of the parish officers of Little Mongeham that Jane Hambrook had been delivered of a bastard male child which was chargeable on the parish committed the said Jane Hambrook to hard labour for 12 months in the House of Correction at St Augustines."

Monthly meeting held on 10 August 1819 at the Red Lion, Wingham, Kent.

"Granted a liberate of Jane Hambrook committed to the House of Correction on 5 January last for having been delivered of a Bastard Child in Little Mongeham."

Monthly meeting held on 5 October 1819 at Wingham, Kent.

"On the complaint of the parish officers of Little Mongeham and on the oath of Jane Hambrook granted a warrant to bring her to Mr Penningtons next Saturday to be further examined touching a Male Bastard Child born in the said parish on the 24 November last and give him notice thereof"

Monthly meeting held on 1 May 1821 at the Dog, Wingham, Kent

"On the complaint of the parish officers of Little Mongeham and the oath of Jane Hambrook that she was delivered of a Male Bastard child at her father's house on 6 March last and

that John Bird of the said parish Servant was the father thereof. Granted Warrant to bring her to the next monthly meeting and to give him notice thereof.”

Monthly meeting held on 3 July 1821 at the Dog, Wingham, Kent.

“On the complaint of the parish officers of Little Mongeham and the oath of Jane Hambrook single woman, that she was delivered etc.and that John Bird was the father and he appearing and sheaving no cause to the contrary made an order of filiation on him. £3.12s.6d. 2/6??? and order 10/6”.

[These figures probably refer to payments for Jane’s lying-in, weekly maintenance for the child, and costs. It is not clear from the Petty Session Minutes why Jane was sent to the House of Correction. Was it because she was a minor or because she would not initially divulge the name of her child’s father, or some other reason? A House of Correction was a type of county gaol originally set up in the sixteenth century for rogues, vagrants, unmarried mothers and parents who left their children chargeable to the parish. By an Act of Parliament passed 1609-10 any mother of a bastard who became chargeable to the parish might be sent to the county House of Correction for one year. This law still seems to have been in force in 1819! It is not known what became of Jane or of her other son, John.]

RICHARD HAMBROOK

Monthly meeting held on Tuesday 6 February 1821 at The Red Lion, Wingham

“On the complaint on oath of Robert Wilmott a Peace officer against Richard Hambrook for that on the 26th of last month he having a warrant to execute on John Adams charged Richard Knott to assist that they both collared Adams and whilst complainant was taking out his staff Hambrook pushed his assistant away in consequence whereof Adams escaped. Richard Knott on oath stated that Wilmott charged him to assist in apprehending Adams that when they had done so and Wilmott was taking out his staff Hambrook attempted to push him (Knott) away but did not touch him when Adams got away

Richard Hambrook in defence stated he did not touch Knott and was some distance from Adams. He was required to give surety himself in £20 and two others in £10 each for his appearance at the next Quarter Sessions and in default thereof was committed to the House of Correction for assaulting R.D.Knott and obstructing him in his duty whilst charged to assist and assisting Robert Wilmott a Peace Officer in executing a warrant till he find such sureties.”

[It is not known how the following story ended. Perhaps the Quarter Session records will help solve the problem. These records are also worth while researching for the trials of convicts who were sent to Australia.]

JOHN HAMBROOK of BRABOURNE in a SETTLEMENT DISPUTE

Monthly meeting held on Tuesday 7 January 1707 at the Sign of the Lyon, Wingham.

Memd^m. that a Warrant of distraint was this day ordered to be issued at the next meeting against John Hambrook Churchwarden of the parish of Brabone for that he refused to receive William Pollard of the said parish upon his being lawfully removed from the parish of Ash and delivered by Andrew Joad overseer of the poor of the said parish of Ash unto him the sd Hambrook and for the sume of five pounds the penalty he hath incurred by such his offence.

Ordered that Andrew Joad Overseer of the poor of the parish of Ash do appear at a special meeting of her Majesty's Justices of the peace to be holden at Wingham upon Friday 10th day of January instant to prove that John Hambrook Churchwarden of Brabone hath and did refuse to receive William Pollard of Brabone aforesd upon his being by warrant Lawfully removed and delivered by him the said Joad unto the said John Hambrook at Brabone aforesaid and that the sd Joad do then and there have the said Pollard farther to prove his being delivered to John Hambrook in manner aforesaid.

That Missing Immigrant

-Des Dunn

Do you know of someone who emigrated from England to the Colony of New South Wales - never to be heard of again? Frustrating isn't it?

Take, for example, the case of Hester Hambrook:-

In the 1980s she had been styled in early editions of the *Hambrook Herald*, the journal of the Hambrook Family History Society (HFHS), as one of the earliest Hambrooks to arrive in Australia, because she is listed as a passenger aboard the *David Scott* which arrived in Sydney, New South Wales on 30 October 1834. All Australian research has been unsuccessful.

The surname of Hambrook is very rare; it is indigenous to East Kent in England, and most Hambrooks in the world live there even today. What is more, the HFHS extended family tree contains nearly 4,000 names and there is only one "Hester" listed. However, no other reference to her has been found anywhere in Australia.

Then several years later Liz Rushden, who was conducting research towards her Ph.D., advertised in the Queensland Genealogical Society's journal *Descent* for information on women in the Colony of New South Wales. I responded by explaining the dilemma of not being able to find any trace of Hester, and gave the couple of references I had found; namely:

- "Hester Hambrook 1834 Emigrant to New South Wales per ship *David Scott* 1834 July 6 (Despatches) A1271 p.605" see the Card Index of Unpublished Material, Mitchell Library, Sydney, NSW. ("Despatches" are the Colonial Secretary's and/or Governor's Despatches to England.)
- "Hester Hambrook aged 27", this is found in a list of females on the ship *David Scott* which arrived in Sydney on

30 Oct 1834, and who were eligible for the Government's Assistance. See Archives Office of NSW, Sydney; References COD 394; Reels 346 & 1286.

Liz replied,

"1. AONSW Reel 1286: 'List of Females embarked by the ship *David Scott* for Sydney eligible for the Government's assistance.'

This list was generated in England. -Hester Hambrook, aged 27, is listed.

"2. Reel 1286: attached to the above list is a very-difficult-to-read listing of the employment of the women in Sydney - as far as I can ascertain, Hester is not listed.

"3. COD 394: 'List of Passengers by the *David Scott*', Hester is not listed. This list was generated in Sydney.

"Hence, it would appear that Hester Hambrook may not have actually embarked. This is also of course, supported by the fact that the BDM registers contain no one of this name (or similar, e.g. I checked variations for HAMB--, HANB--, AMB--, ANB--, without success). "Have you checked departures from Sydney?"

"My research is showing that both embarkation and disembarkation of the female emigration ships were pretty chaotic and lists are fairly wobbly - an appearance in one list is no guarantee that the woman actually arrived in the colonies."

I did not check the departures from Sydney. More years passed, then a few months ago, I discovered the following English burial "13 Mar 1860 Hester Hambrook aged 53" in

Hambrooks of Kent, England transcribed by Daphne Hambrook, for the Hambrook Family History Society, July 1998. This particular entry comes from the Parish Register Transcripts of St. Margaret's Church, Canterbury, Kent. This booklet is only one of the society's publications which together provide virtually complete coverage of Hambrook Births, Deaths and Marriages in England (particularly in Kent) from the 1500s to the 1900s, along with the source for each entry.

As mentioned Hester is an extremely rare Hambrook name, and there are no entries for her birth, christening nor marriage. As a result I firmly believe that this is the missing Hester. So, in spite of the information at the Archives Office of NSW, the weight of evidence shows that Hester Hambrook never actually came to Australia! The moral is: don't jump to conclusions quickly without proper evidence, and be thorough in your research.

ANSWER to the Genealogical Conundrum on page 13:

Henry was given three Christian names by his parents, Thomas & Catherine O'Meagher.

FAMILY SAYINGS: (*What about sharing some of your family's sayings here?*)

"I wouldn't call the King my uncle"

"Sunday-go-to-meeting clothes" = one's best clothes

"I could eat a horse and chase the rider" = when hungry

"I am full up long bingy" = when have eaten enough

"Mundowee" = one's foot

A Little Bit of History

From Joyce Jensen

Shepherd's Anvil Stores were situated in River Street on the right bank of the Pioneer River. Starting from the Forgan Bridge there was Michelmores, then Shepherds then Paxtons.

INVOICE

SHEPHERD'S ANVIL STORES LIMITED

SUCCESSORS TO DANIEL SHEPHERD & SONS LIMITED

IRONMONGERS, TIMBER MERCHANTS, TINSMITHS, PLUMBERS, GASFITTERS,
PROVISION AND PRODUCE MERCHANTS, &c.

O. Box 52
June 74 and 285
MACKAY

MR. J. D. JENSEN
FARLEIGH.

TERMS CASH
1/10 - Approved
1/10 - this column
1/10 - the balance due

STATEMENT FOR MONTH OF MAY, 1930.

AMOUNT OF LAST MONTH'S ACCOUNT				
1	BOX DETONATORS-NETT	10	5	
	PLUS 2 1/2% ON NETT GOODS			
1	CDIL FUSE	1	0	
6	PKTS SEEDS @ 6D	3	0	
2	LB TINS JAM 18/6 DOZ	2	1	
2	LB TINS JAM 16/6 DOZ	2	1	
2	LB TINS JAM 15/6 DOZ	2	1	
1	MATTOCK HANDLE	1	0	
1	AXE HANDLE	1	0	
2	3/4" GALV TIES 2/5	3	10	
2	3/4" ELBOWS 1/11	2	9	
1	HEX NIPPLE 1/3	1	4	
10	LBS BLUE PEAS @ 4D	10	4	
590	MANDARIN TREES @ 211/-/-	60	10	0
	PER 100 NETT	30	0	0
300	ORANGE TREES @ 210/-/-	1	0	0
	PER 100 NETT	1	0	0
10	LISBON LEMON DO @ 24/- DOZ	1	10	0
	NETT	13	0	0
	CASE & PACKING NETT	3	18	0
	INSURANCE STAMP NETT	2	10	0
	FRT FRM SYDNEY TO MACKAY NETT			
	PLUS 2 1/2% ON NETT GOODS			
				£102 15 10
				74 7 1
				£177 2 11

A/C REND

If any amount was due on the lat of the month, such amount is entered on this account and credit given in the "Payments" Column on the next date it is paid.

Research Reference Library

Library Hours: Monday & Wednesday 9.00am. to 3.00pm. Tuesday 9.00

am to 12 noon. First & third Saturday of the month 10.00am. to 12.30pm.
(From late January to early December).

The public are always most welcome. Research assistance is available.

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Quarterly Journal: *Mackay Genie Gossip* is published in February, May, August & November. It is available at the society library; or by email. The cost per issue is \$3.00. Postage is \$1.00 extra.

Submissions for publication are always welcomed. They can be either emailed to the editor, Des Dunn at <desrd@bigpond.com>, left in the "Letterbox" drawer at the society library; or posted to Yvonne Peberdy, PO Box 882, Mackay, Qld 4740.

For Sale - Various Items including:

<i>Australian Family Tree Collection</i> magazine	\$7.00
Janet Reakes, <i>A – Z of Genealogy</i>	\$2.00
Janet Reakes, <i>Dictionary of Queenslanders</i>	\$2.00
<i>Society Library Catalogue</i>	\$2.00
7 Generation charts	\$7.50
9 Generation charts	\$5.00
Potted Plants	\$1.00
Paperback and Hardcover Books	50c & \$1.00 each
The price of these CDs includes postage & packing:-	
Mackay Cemetery Records on CD	\$25.00
Mackay Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Baptisms and Marriages Index on CD	\$25.00

Available For Hire: Members may hire microfiche and a fiche-reader for \$5.00 over a weekend. Contact Jean Turvey on (07) 49 426266.