

Mackay Genie Gossip



GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF QLD
MACKAY BRANCH
P O BOX 882, MACKAY 4740

Newsletter No. 61 April 1994

President:	Denise Neville	59 3149
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THIS TREE CAN SAVE YOUR LIFE

An article in March 1944 Readers Digest urges us to trace our family's health history. Doctors once thought hereditary diseases were limited to rare disorders. But the latest research indicates there is some genetic component in nearly all ailments. Hundreds of disease-causing genes have now been identified. On-going research will identify hundreds more which predispose people to particular health problems. So we should all gather details of what our ancestors and relatives died of, what ailments they suffered from, at what age they became affected, and to what extent, how, and where they were affected. Stories from relatives should be backed up with written evidence in death certificates and medical records. When the family's health history reveals an ailment recurring, we too may be predisposed to this ailment. This can be discussed with our doctor. Often it is possible to follow a programme of safeguards and check-ups and overcome or avoid the development of the ailment in ourselves. We should share our findings with other family members for their benefit. The University of Newcastle's Department of Medicine conducts a Family History Study. The principal investigator, Dr Jonathan Silverberg, states, "The Family Tree is set to become the basic tool in preventive medicine. It's the cheapest screening test I know."

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN ADDRESSES OUR MEETING


Mary Bevis, Librarian in charge of Central Queensland University Mackay Campus library addressed our March Meeting. This library exists mainly for the benefit of tertiary students on campus and those studying externally elsewhere. But any other person is welcome to research in the library, although to take the books out on loan he must become a Community Borrower by paying \$50 for 6 months. The library has on line the catalogue of every other university library in Australia, so via the computer the whereabouts of books or information can be found, enabling inter-library loan through a local council library. The UCQ Library is interested in acquiring historical material relating to Mackay. There seems to be some confusion here as this has been done for many years by the Mackay City Library. It has been tentatively suggested that UCQ Library would collect economic history, Mackay City Library social history, and North Mackay Library family history. In reality, however, these areas overlap a great deal. Mary informed us that UCQ Press is active and interested in preserving and publishing local history. Anyone wanting a publisher for a book of family history could consider UCQ Press.



EJJEW NILTAQGHU

For the Mackay Maltese Festival the mood is - Let's get together! or Ejjew Niltaqghu in Maltese. Enthusiasm and excitement are mounting since the full and varied programme has been announced for the 9 crowded days of the Maltese Festival, 28 April to 7 May. Full programmes are available in libraries and shops. There will be 27 different activities including a mass, a boat trip, a bus tour of historic sites, a Maltese movie, sports events & dinners. Non-Maltese people will be attracted especially to the Display in City Library, the history seminar by Barry York in UCQ theatre, the colourful procession down River street, and the Cultural Day showing traditional arts of making lace, cheese, salted tuna, Maltese sausages, etc. Next to Sydney, Mackay has the largest "Maltese" population in Australia. But the Festival is not only for the locals. An influx of visitors is expected from other states and from Malta itself. Proudly celebrating their Maltese culture and the achievements of Maltese as Australians will be thousands from families such as Agius, Azzopardi, Bezzina, Borg, Camilleri, Caruana, Fenech, Formosa, Galea, Sciberras, Vella and Zammit. Enquiries to Festival Co-ordinator, Viki Baldwin, P.O. Box 5856 MMC 4741 or phone (079) 522665.

Research Notes



1. Information from Commonwealth files can be accessed for genealogy or any other reason because of the 1992 Freedom of Information Act. However, the privacy Act which followed made access to personal information open only for records about yourself - that is the person applying. This means that if you can get an elderly person's written permission for information about him, you can gain access.

But if he is dead, you cannot gain access. A pamphlet about FOI is available in libraries and court houses. Glen Hall, who works in the Commonwealth Government Offices in Mackay, gave a short talk at our last meeting and has promised to investigate further and report to members.

2. Finding a lost living person has a good chance of success through the Post Office Box facility of the Department of Social Security - if the person is still alive, and in Australia, and has not changed his name. Glen Hall stated in his talk that 10 million of the 16 million Australians are on the Commonwealth books. Write a letter to the person you wish to contact, put in an envelope with his name on it, stamp it but leave it unsealed. Put this in another envelope and address to The Regional Manager, Department of Social Service in the town in your area with a covering letter requesting him to look up the records and add his last known address to your enclosed envelope. (Your letter is scanned to make sure it is not abusive or vindictive.) If the name is a common one, it may be difficult to decide which individual is the one you want. So in your covering letter add some details such as date of birth or approximate age, to help to identify him.

3. World War II servicemen and women from Mackay. Towards the end of World War II, the Mackay Daily Mercury published an HONOUR ALBUM. This, reprinted in 1945 at the end on the war all the entries which had been printed periodically in the paper since March 1941. People had been asked to forward a photo of anyone enlisting in the armed forces, and these had been printed from time to time. The honour album printed all 522 of these men and women with name and the local area they came from. This may provide a researcher with a photo not otherwise obtainable. Rube Stevens has supplied a copy to our library.

4. To find a World War One Soldier,

(a) Look up the NOMINAL ROLL OF AIF 1914-18. This is on microfiche in our Library and many large libraries. This gives in one list A - Z all soldiers who left Australia, with their number, rank, unit, embarkation date, & fate.

(b) Send to Australian Archives, Sandford St Mitchell, ACT 2911 requesting the personal record of this soldier. These records are now open to anyone enquiring.

(c) If the soldier is known to have been killed, the Office of Australian War Graves, P.O.Box 21, Woden, ACT 2606 will be able to find him if you give further family details even if it is not clear from the nominal roll which is the one. This information is available to anyone enquiring. War Graves deals with all wars and with navy and airforce as well as army.

(d) If the name is a common one and there are too many on the nominal roll, Australian Archives may find him if you can give further family details. If not, lists published in the Courier Mail around the last Remembrance Day of all soldiers enlisting from Queensland may help to eliminate some names on the Nominal Roll. The New South Wales list was similarly published by the Daily Telegraph. We have both these lots of newspapers in our library, donated by Shirley Jones.

(e) If research is possible at the Australian war memorial look up the UNIT EMBARKATION ROLLS for each possibility in the Nominal Roll, starting with the Unit and date of leaving Australia given on the Nominal Roll. For each soldier ten pieces of information are given and one or more of these should match something else already known about him, such as his age, trade or calling, address at date of enlistment, or next of kin. Look up each possible soldier until the required one is found.

BOWEN BASIN MINES REUNION

For all construction workers of the Blackwater, Goonyella, Peak Downs and Saraji mine sites and draglines, a reunion will be held at Mackay Harbour on the long weekend in June 1994. Further notices will be advertised in local papers and in the mining townships. Please spread the news to any persons you know who were at those sites. Contact: Alf and Val Harradine (079 540158) or Jack and Judy Sutcliffe (079 597317).

OLD STATE SCHOOLS ADMISSION REGISTERS

Many school admission registers have not survived. Some were destroyed by fire, cyclone or flood, or lost through carelessness or souvenired when the school closed. Older registers especially are missing, but even many up to the middle of the twentieth century have not survived. For many years now, the Education Department has ordered schools to deposit all filled registers more than 40 years old. These are not kept by the Education Department, but put in the Qld State Archives. Some schools have still not obeyed. Many sent in their old registers very reluctantly, and of these some copied the books to keep locally. (Mackay City Library will assist local schools in copying registers.) Others kept their registers until their anniversary celebrations and published a school history with a summary of all enrolments. Some small schools are still using their original admission register. Mr. Charlton School has had the one book for 100 years and it is still not full.

School Admission Registers can be useful in researching families to fill out details of individuals. Registers a little later than the extract below give the date of birth, the name of one parent, and also often full address. They are especially useful to follow a family which moved around. As long as it is known what area the family lived in, if the school can be found the time of residence can be defined. Schools opened when and where the population needed them, so as people moved they often closed after a short time. To find what schools were open at a particular time can be done at Q.S.A. For the local area, our society has a card index of all schools ever opened with years of opening and details of their surviving records; and Mackay City Library has copies of some registers and some school histories.

If the school still exists, enquire if they still have the registers you want and if there is a school history available. If they do not still have the Registers, these will be in Q.S.A. even if the school tells you they are some other place. Then enquire at Q.S.A. about these and about registers of schools now closed. A phone enquiry whether they have a particular register for that period can be answered by staff via computer in a minute or so. Further research, however, must be done by a visit to Q.S.A. To read a Qld State School Register:

REGISTER OF <u>Gladstone State</u> SCHOOL. 1902																		
NO.	DATE OF ADMISSION.	PUPIL'S NAME.	AGE.		RESIDENCY.	OCCUPATION OF PARENT.	RELIGIOUS DENOMINATION.	CLASSES.						DATE OF LEAVING SCHOOL.	DATE OF RETURN TO SCHOOL.			
			Yrs.	Mths.				I	II	III	IV	V	VI					
1653	10-1-02	<u>Conroy Percy</u>	9	2	Gladstone	Farmer	E.C.	<u>L</u>	<u>7</u>									
1654	"	<u>Young Norman</u>	8	0	"	Saddler	"	<u>L</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>03</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>05</u>					
1655	"	<u>Prineman Edith</u>	5	0	"	Agent	"	<u>L</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>05</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>06</u>	<u>07</u>					
1656	"	<u>Roberts Dorothy</u>	5	0	"	Butmaker	P	<u>L</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>03</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>08</u>						
1657	"	<u>Ward James</u>	11	4	"	Agent	E.C.	<u>L</u>	<u>02</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>02</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>04</u>					
1658	21-1-02	<u>Laws Richard</u>	6	7	"	Carpenter	"	<u>L</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>03</u>								
1659	"	<u>Laws Lionel</u>	8	4	"	"	"	<u>L</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>03</u>								

First note that boys are underlined and girls are not. Study No. 1659 Lionel Laws on the bottom line. He enrolled in class II in January 1902 or 1/02. He left next month in February 1902 or 2/02 in second last column. About a year later he came back in March 1903 or 3/03 in last column. He was then still in class II because he was promoted to Class III in July 1903. He left in August 1904, a year later, still in class III. Lionel's younger brother is recorded in the line above this. His two younger sisters enrolled at different dates during the second period of his attendance, so their entries are on other pages. They too have 8/04 in the Date of Leaving School Column. So it is safe to say the family left Gladstone in August 1904.

Most school registers are neatly and clearly written. Teachers were well trained (in handwriting anyway) and meticulous books were the order of the day. The books do often show signs of deterioration, but these surviving school admission registers are a good resource for genealogists.

MEET A MEMBER

JEAN TURVEY



I was born Jean HEFFERNAN in the western Queensland town of Miles. I am a trained Dental Nurse. My employer was a member of the local historical society and this is where my interest in history and families began, as the surgery was the drop off point for the museum.

HISTORY OF FINCH HATTON

Finch Hatton is situated in the Pioneer Valley on Cattle Creek. The township was named after two brothers, Henry and Harold Finch Hatton, who arrived there in the late 1870's. The first family to settle there were the Zahmels followed by the Peoples. The township was originally called Hatton but was changed to Pelion in 1906 to avoid confusion with a town near Toowoomba called Hattonville. The uproar amongst the residents forced the change to Finch Hatton as we know it today. Ironically, most residents now refer to Finch Hatton as "Hatton".

By 1910, the township was thriving and included a sugar mill, two hotels, five stores, one butcher, two bakers, two saddlers, two blacksmiths, two sawmills, an aerated water factory, three fruit shops, two barber shops, a railway station and a cabinet maker's shop.

FINCH HATTON STATE SCHOOL

Finch Hatton State School was opened on 5 July 1909 by Theodore B.J. Wenck, the first head teacher. It was built to accommodate 77 pupils, however, by September 1909, 103 pupils were attending. In 1918, a cyclone swept through Mackay knocking Finch Hatton State School off its stumps, so classes were conducted in the Cedar Hall while repairs took place. Extensions were made to accommodate more than 100 people, however, at one stage enrolment reached nearly 150.

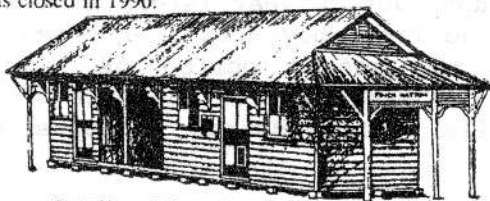
RAILWAY LINE

The railway line to Finch Hatton came into operation on July 1st 1910. Before this, produce had to be taken on horseback to Pinnacle which was opened in 1902. This was inconvenient as only two dray loads of cane could be taken to Pinnacle Station in one day with some spillages along the way.

The railway was very versatile as it was also used as a post office and telephone exchange. As well as this, every fourth Saturday the railway ran a special train to Mackay leaving Finch Hatton at 3pm and returning at midnight. The stores in Mackay stayed open late to cater for this. The train was called the "pay day train" as it was also the day that people received their salaries. The railway station was listed by the National Trust in 1990.

CATTLE CREEK MILL

The first crushing at Cattle Creek Mill commenced on the 18 September 1906. The first crushing ended on the 19th January 1907 marking Finch Hatton on the map. The mill was closed in 1990.



Finch Hatton Railway Station

From "A Heritage Drive - the Pioneer Trail", a project of students of Mirani High School

I moved to Mackay in 1979 with my husband, Malcolm. I worked as a Dept. Manager at K Mart and a Manageress of Katies. I am now a full time mother with two children, Rebecca (7) and Warwick(5).

I began my research into my family tree after a holiday to Norfolk Island where I came across a grave for a Private Peter HEFFERNAN and wondered if maybe we were related. On returning home my father urged me on as he wanted to know if the stories Pop Heffernan told were true. He had claimed that his grandfather came from Ireland with his seven sons to mine for gold at Ballarat. John HEFFERNAN, his wife and daughter came from Tipperary in 1857 and went to Ballarat where he was a baker.

I have come to a halt in my Irish research around 1790. There has been a book written about the Heffernan's which gives the history of the clans to the early 1700's. My goal is to fill in those years and determine from which clan I am descended. One interesting piece in my Irish line is that I have a STEFFEE who was a hairdresser.

My mother's family involves English and German ancestry. I have just discovered a soldier of the LAMBLEY line which will give me a challenge for the coming year to find his regiment.

My German line is being traced by a distant cousin in Brisbane. We discovered each other after several years of complicated research as our ORTHLIEB'S changed their name to Ford and Smith.

The TURVEY family got all excited about my research and wanted to know, 'What did happen to grandfather Turvey?'. I have been led a merry chase by this fellow ever since, but I will find him.

I am currently researching several lines of this family in England. All the men were Agricultural Labourers and the wives and the children were involved in the cottage industry of straw plaiting. The straw was plaited into long lengths and then used to make hats. The Turvey family came to Queensland in 1854 and settled around the Ipswich area where many still live.

My family all enjoy my research and now help gather bits and pieces to add to my family stories and they all enjoy a good read when I see them.

PRAYER OF DEGUARA FAMILY REUNION.

Lord, Bless us all here today
As many of us have come from far away.
Grant us all our health, we pray,
That we may all meet again soon some day.
Lord, we thank you for the lives of our departed
May they share eternal life with You, relatives.
And may we learn from the example of their lives.
They lived for those they loved
And those they loved, remember.

STATE ARCHIVES

Each government department keeps its own records until these are no longer needed for frequent reference or until storage space is insufficient. Then the department will consign this older section of their records to the State Archives. Not all such records have survived to live this second life. Many have been destroyed by tidy public servants and many have been lost through natural disasters. The Queensland State Archives holds all such surviving records of Queensland Government Departments from Brisbane and from every town in Queensland, big and small. Q.S.A. holds no records of a non-government nature. These private individuals', Church, and private business records are housed in the John Oxley Library.

27 Brief Guides have been printed to Q.S.A. to assist research in different sections of the records held. These include the records about Railways, Shipwrecks, Land, Maps published by the Government and Local History, Companies and Firms, State Electoral Rolls, Government Buildings, Inquests, Mining, Hotels, Naturalization, Immigration, Bankruptcy and Liquidations, State Schools, Wills and Intestacies, Deed Polls, The Boer War, Court Records, Qld Government Cabinet Minutes, Dunwich Asylum, and Tracing the history of your house. A set of these 27 current Brief Guides has been donated to our library and located in Section A Queensland Records. These guides are available in Q.S.A. for researchers while researching, but they are well worth studying before a proposed visit. They are well worth studying anyway to discover what records are stored in Q.S.A. There are records held of other areas besides the ones dealt with in the Brief Guides, and to research these it is necessary to ask for personal help from an attendant at Q.S.A.

Our North Mackay Library holds some Q.S.A. records - all records and indexes as issued in the Archives Kits 1, 2, & 3. These cover Queensland Naturalizations to 1903, Qld Electoral Rolls to 1900, and Qld Immigration to 1914.

Requests for information from Q.S.A. If you want to know if Q.S.A. holds a particular record for a particular time, and the Brief Guides do not supply the answer, a request by phone to (07) 875 8755 will answer this question, but no details from the record itself can be provided. Neither does Q.S.A. do research for requests by post (unlike John Oxley Library which will research their holdings). It is possible, however to obtain a printout or photocopy of a record if the exact archive reference is supplied e.g. IMM/116 page 243, the immigration of John Brown and family. Postal address : Queensland State Archives, P.O.Box 1397, Sunnybank Hills, Qld 4397.

Qld Certificates of Birth Marriage and Death up to the end of 1889 must be obtained from Q.S.A. at the above postal address. Each certificate costs \$17 and is a photocopy of the original register entry, which will show any subsequent alterations to the file. All original pre 1890 hand written registers, from every place in Queensland and the duplicated entries which were in the Brisbane Office are now held in Q.S.A. These registers are not available for researchers to view at Q.S.A. Only the indexes are available, as held in other libraries.

To get to the Archives is difficult without a car. The Archives is housed in a splendid purpose-designed new building at 435 Compton Road, Runcorn, but it is far from the city and half way to Beenleigh. From Queen Street Platypus Bus Station, the Stretton Bus Service No. 251 departs at 7.45, 8.15 and 9.15 am, arriving at Compton Rd half an hour later. The nearest bus stop is still a distance from the Archives, requiring a 5 to 10 minute uphill walk. The bus stops at Altandi Railway Station and can be boarded there if that is more convenient. After these hours a Bus Service runs from Mt Gravatt. A taxi from Mt Gravatt costs \$8, and from the city costs \$20+. The bus timetables and a map of the surrounding area have been placed in our library. Also a card in our Information Card Index.

Helpful Hints: Q.S.A. is open only on weekdays 9am to 4.30pm. There is no computer catalogue available to researchers, and all research must be done via the Brief Guides. But do ask for help if needed. Staff are very helpful. Take a jacket because you will freeze after an hour or so. Take a snack because there are no shops nearby. A Lunch room is provided with hot water, tea, coffee, milk and sugar. Change is readily available for copying machines. To get information about buses and trains of the Brisbane area, ring (07) 131230 if in S.E. Queensland. If outside S.E. Queensland, or that number doesn't work, ring (07) 225 4444 until March next year when the other number will apply all over Queensland.

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ST. CATHERINE'S INDEXES TO STAY 2½ MONTHS IN ROCKHAMPTON

The indexes to Births, Marriages and Deaths for England and Wales 1837 - 1910 are known as the St. Catherine's Indexes or the GRO indexes. A set of these on microfilm travels around Queensland L.D.S. Libraries and will be at the Rockhampton L.D.S. Family History Centre from 1 June to 15 August 1994. This centre is open Wednesday 9 to 3, Thursday 9 to 1 and 7 to 9.30pm, and Saturday 9 to 1. As well, a group can arrange a visit on Friday 9 to 3 if one week's notice is given. A limit of 2 hours per person applies and a charge of \$1.00 per film for the first 5 films and after that free. Anyone unable to visit can request research by staff on forms available at the Mackay centre (see last page.) Intending researchers new to these indexes should study some explanation of them such as in Pedersen's "Searching Overseas".

Enquiries: Mrs Joan Walker, Family History Centre, P.O. Box 5800, Rockhampton Mail Centre, or Mackay Family History Centre.

NEWS OF BUSY MEMBERS

Gerry Woodruff's brothers and sisters are scattered all over Australia but they held a family get-together in Victoria at Easter when Gerry enlisted a sister to chase up their O'Briens on her forthcoming trip to Ireland, and a brother now retired in Canberra to do further research in the extensive records held in that city.

John and Norma Anderson, also originating from Victoria, are busy planning a large reunion of their Anderson families to be held in Melbourne next Easter, and they have organized a network of contacts for the different family branches.

Sue Hill is in Brisbane for extended medical treatment and hopes to do some genie research as well in between times. (Sue is staying at 6 Owens Court, Wellington Point Qld 4160). Shirley Jones reports fruitful research at Qld State Archives amongst the schools records where she found the correspondence files even more informative than the admission registers. New Member Margaret Jones (no relation) is busy with the project of conserving her family's documents and photos and has obtained the latest advice in this field.

A one hundredth birthday is coming up for Mrs Polly Shuttlewood at the end of the year and daughter-in-law Joyce Shuttlewood is busy planning things official and unofficial for this great event in the family.

Nita Drury, now overseas for two months, will research her families in Kent, Cumbria, and Wiltshire, and in Tipperary where she will stay with a distant cousin discovered through her researches. Ann Whitmore leaves this month for England and will visit Leicestershire where the Whitmores came from and the Leicestershire Family History Society where she is a member.

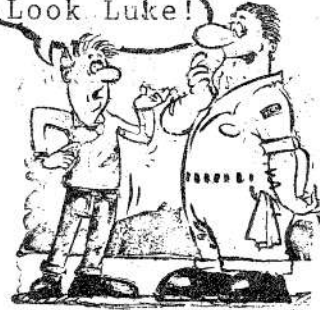
Bev Stevenson and Denise Neville will attend the 7th Australasian Congress on Genealogy and Family History in Brisbane in July, and we look forward to hearing their first-hand reports.

THE 1994 GRD IS NOW OUT

The Genealogical Research Directory for 1994 has just been received by people who entered their research interests. Be sure to look up all your families to find a person researching the same family as you. Libraries will have the new GRD shortly.

RESEARCH NOTES

Look Luke!



1. Germany Research is not easy, but Owen Mutzelbutg's "How to Trace your German Ancestors" is a new book with up-to-date information and clear explanations. This book can now be borrowed from the local Library and is recommended by Ann Matthews. Researchers should also refer to the German Newsletter which we receive regularly from the German Group in Brisbane. These and other resources for German research including maps are in the Germany Box in Section B.

2. Leicestershire and Rutland F.H.S. Newsletters are donated to our library by Ann Whitmore (See Section J.). Newsletter No. 73 published Ann's article about Thomas Whitmore who came to Australia and settled in the Gympie area. What happened to a Leicestershire man who emigrated over a hundred years ago, proved of great interest to people of that area. These newsletters will assist others researching in Leicestershire, through articles, research interest lists, and lists of records for sale. Many local records are available on 1 or 2 microfiche covering a small area. The society will do a search of their Leicestershire Burial Records for a basic charge of 3 pounds 50.

3. Staffordshire Probate Lists: Tony Bowers, 272 Walsall Road, Perry Bar, Birmingham B42 1UB England, holds and will search lists of the Staffordshire Probates and Administrations pre 1858 held by the Lichfield Record Office. (SSAE or SAE and 2 IRC's)

4. Cambridgeshire Burial Index 1801 - 1837 is now complete, giving name, age, abode, and condition. The search fee is 3 pounds per surname and will provide up to 60 entries, with an estimate given if more than 60 are found. Write to Mrs V. Uffindell, 21 Gaveston Drive Birkhamstead, Herts HP4.1JF, U.K. with SSAE or SAE & 2 IRC's. Cheques are to be made payable to Cambridge Family History Society.

5. British Military Researcher, Captain (Retd.) Erik Gray, has changed his address and is now at 7 Meade Court, Walton-on-the-Hill, Surrey KT20 7RN, England.

6. Tasmania BDM Certificates have increased in cost to \$25 for post-1900 and if medical death details are wanted there is an additional charge of \$15. Pre-1900 certificates are available still for the cost of photocopying from the Archives Office.

7. Toowoomba and Warwick Burial Registers are not available for sale, but may be perused at the office of the local councils. Also, postal enquiries about a particular person will be answered. This is similar to some other councils eg. Rockhampton and Maryborough. All the Hansens in the Maryborough Cemetery were printed out and sent to one of our researchers who kindly placed them in our library (see Section K.) Also see this section for full burial registers and MI's which we have been able to acquire from many places in Qld. The places are marked on a map on the back wall.

8. South Australia State Records (Archives). Research and Access Services (formerly Reference Services Branch) no longer offers its free enquiry service. But research will be done in the archive records at a charge of \$35 per hour, which includes five free photocopies. Minimum charge is \$15 per half hour's research or part thereof.

9. Women in Business. Jacqueline Dewar, 27 Alexandria St, North Ward, Qld 4810, is interested to hear from anyone who is researching or who has on their family tree Women in Business in Qld from 1865 to the present time. (Phone: home 077 726792, Wk 077 815524)

Mackay and District Fallen Servicemen Biographical Register

Glen Hall addressed the March meeting about a proposal to collate biographical details of the fallen servicemen and servicewomen from the Mackay region from all wars/conflicts that Australian servicemen/servicewomen have been involved in since Federation. It came about due to the interest by members in researching their ancestors who served in conflicts. There was also a need to preserve details for future generations as a tribute to those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for their country to protect our lifestyle and ideals we all cherish.

It is proposed that a biographical register be collated and if funding allows, for it to be published and preserved for research purposes for Mackay G.S.Q. members as well as local groups, historians etc.

Details to be included in Register:

- Biographical details as per attached form
- Photograph of Serviceman/woman
- Monuments located within Mackay District
- Map showing Mackay district

Mackay and District will refer to the following area:

- North to and including Bloomsbury
- South to and including Flaggy Rock
- Westwards to Nebo and Dalrymple Heights

Any body who had a relative or ancestor who died in wartime while on service and who normally lived in the Mackay district or who enlisted in Mackay is asked to lodge details for the servicemen/woman for inclusion in the register. Entries will be asked from family of fallen servicemen and a three page form that will be used to obtain the biographical details has been made for this use. Obviously there will be servicemen who have no direct descendents or family in the Mackay area. Correspondence will be sent to other Genealogical organisations in Australia to seek submissions as well as advertising locally through the local media, RSL etc.

Glen passed a submission to the Mackay sub-branch of the R.S.L. who will seek interest from their members as well. It is hoped that we can request funding from Government and local Councils so the register can be published.

A committee to help Glen in this endeavour is required so if anybody is able and willing to help please contact him on phone 592 572.

Copies of the form to be used in submissions to the Register will be stored in a specially marked box in the North Mackay Library with a master copy. If there are no copies left in the box please photocopy what you will require from the master copy.

Any submissions can be left in the box or posted to GSQ Mackay's postal address

The Co-ordinator
Fallen Servicemen Biographical Register
G.S.Q. Mackay
Po Box 882
MACKAY 4740

WHERE TO WRITE TO OBTAIN FULL PERSONAL DOSSIERS
FOR ALL SERVICEPERSONS DIED OR SURVIVED

NAVY [all years]
The Secretary
Dept of Defence (Navy Office)
PO Box E33
Queen Victoria Terrace
ACT 2600

ARMY 1914-1918
Australian Archives
Sandford Street
Mitchell
ACT 2911

MERCHANT NAVY [all years]
Australian Maritime Safety Authority
Assistant Manager Marine Crews
PO Box 1108
Belconnen
ACT 2516

ARMY post 1918
Soldier Career Management Agency
GPO Box 393D
Melbourne
VIC 3001

AIRFORCE [all years]
Discharged Personal Records
Dept of Defence (Air Office)
PO Box E33
Queen Victoria Terrace
ACT 2600

Plus ALL SERVICES DEAD [all wars]
Office of Australian War Graves
PO Box 21
Woden *For Details of Burial.*
ACT 2606

- For enquiries about Medals write to these same addresses, but note that WWI army medal information is still at the army Melbourne address.
- There is no charge for information provided at any of these addresses, except a photocopying charge in some cases.
- WWI information is now available to anyone. Later information will probably be restricted to relatives, so state relationship and reason for request.

ADOPTED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

WE CAN SEARCH FOR YOUR BIRTH PARENTS

WE ALSO SEARCH FOR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS
AND HELP BRING PEOPLE TOGETHER

FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH UNDERTAKEN
BIRTH-MARRIAGE-DEATH CERTIFICATES SUPPLIED

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(WE ACCEPT UK CHEQUES AND MANY OVERSEAS CHEQUES)
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ENGLAND



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PHONE: 081 550 0333 FAX: 081 550 7766

Adoption legal only from 1 Jan 1927
Before that there was fostering
only, which is most difficult
to trace,



HUNGAROGENS

GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH BUREAU

DR A. HARMATH
(Historian and Expert Genealogist)

Research undertaken in the National Archives and
Parish Registers
of Austria, Hungary, Slovakia, Transylvania
and Serbia

H - 1085 Budapest VIII, József krt. 50, Hungary

GOULBOURN, N.S.W. KENMORE HOSPITAL CEMETERY

People were buried here 1895-1942
But all Burial Records are lost.

Anyone with a relative buried in
this cemetery can provide details

TO RECONSTRUCT the BURIAL REGISTER

Please notify Mrs Anne Ransie,
6 Lindrum Cr
HOLT ACT 2615

or phone 06 254 2028

From the will of a
Philadelphia industrialist
who died in 1947 ...

"To my wife I leave her
lover, and the knowledge
that I wasn't the fool
she thought I was.

To my son I leave the
pleasure of earning a living.
For twenty-five years he
thought the pleasure was mine
He was mistaken

19 BAPTISMS IN ENGLAND:

Public, Private, and Done Twice.

(As sent to Peg Strickland by an English Researcher)

In answer to your question about the difference between 'public' and 'private' baptisms, a public baptism was one which was held in church in the presence of a congregation (very often during the Sunday afternoon service) and a private baptism was one which was held in a private house, or at some quiet moment in the church or the vestry, but without the presence of the congregation. If you look at the baptism service in the Book of Common Prayer, you will see that provision is made for both forms of baptism.

At the beginning of the nineteenth century, private baptism was very common. On the whole, parents were very keen to have their children baptised as swiftly as possible. This was because of the very high levels of infant mortality, which led to a desire to ensure that the child was baptised in case it should die. Once baptised, the child would qualify for a Christian burial, and would have a 'name', and thus an identity, in the community. Private baptism was quick and cheap; it avoided the fuss and expense of having to treat sponsors (godparents) who usually expected to be entertained at some sort of party afterwards. At the beginning of the century, the clergy were usually willing to acquiesce in the wishes of the people, and would baptise their children in the vestry, in the parsonage or in the parents' own home. As time went on, however, clergy with a higher, more sacramental view of baptism began to make their feeling known. They believed that unless there was a serious risk of death, baptism should always take place in the church in the presence of the congregation, because the rite was one of admission into the Christian Church, and it was important for the congregation to be there to welcome the new member. As the century progressed, public baptism became increasingly usual. Today, private baptism is restricted to emergency situations in hospitals, and to the babies of the royal family, who tend to be baptised by the Archbishop of Canterbury at Buckingham Palace.

In answer to your second question, it seems likely that by 1840, a clergyman had arrived in the parish to which you refer who held a high, sacramental view of baptism, and who persuaded some of his parishioners who had had their children privately baptised to bring them to the church for the public ceremony. The prayer book provides a form of words to be used on such occasions. It is possible that the children you describe had originally been baptised by non-Anglicans, but not very likely. Most Methodists brought their children to be baptised in the Anglican church in any case. In the event of conversion from say, Congregationalism or Unitarianism, re-baptism would not have been necessary, as the Anglicans regard lay baptism as valid, if not ideal. For a baptism to be theologically valid, all that is required is that water be used, and the Trinitarian formula (I baptise thee in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost...) It doesn't matter whether the person doing the baptising is ordained or not, or an Anglican or not.

The charge varied from parish to parish, but would probably not be more than a shilling or so. The charge was for the certificate, not for the sacrament itself.

I hope this is helpful. If you want to know more, you could look at Peter Jagger, *Clouded Witness: Initiation in the Church of England in the Mid-Victorian Period, 1850-1875* (1982) pp.88-101.

To my daughter I leave
\$100,000. She will need it.
The only piece of business
her husband ever did was to
marry her.

To my valet I leave the
clothes he has been stealing
from me for ten years. Also
the fur coat he wore last
winter while I was in Palm
Beach.

To my chauffeur, I leave my
cars. He almost ruined them,
and I want him to have the
satisfaction of finishing
the job.

To my partner, I leave the
suggestion that he take some
clever man in with him at
once if he expects to do
any business."



At our April meeting, Mr James Anderson, regional manager for the Public Trustee of Queensland, gave an interesting and informative talk on his agency. He assured us that public servants are there to help us and are reasonable people, even with their charges. Mr Anderson provided a set of booklets about the Public Trust Office and its work and these have been placed in our library in Section A Queensland.

HISTORY. In 1979, the "Public Curator" became the "Public Trustee" working from the Public Trust Office. This fully funded government agency is part of the Qld Department of Justice. It continues the work of the Public Curators office which was established in Qld in 1916. But its origins go back to 1828 when a civil system of law was set up in the colony, providing officers to look after and administer the property of deceased persons whose estates were not being administered. These officers were given additional duties as time went on.

WORK NOW. The Public Trustee nowadays looks after the affairs of people who die without a will (intestate), and of people still living who are unable to manage their own estates through age, illness, disability, imprisonment, or being a minor. The Trustee also takes care of money and property until the owner comes forward or is located. Other "solicitor" services are available if requested, such as administrating estates and trusts, and free advice on legal matters including making wills, whether the Public Trustee is to be the executor or not.

WILLS. (a) The administration of 80% of all Qld wills has nothing to do with the Public Trustee. An executor appointed in the will or an administrator appointed after the death has to obtain a document, called Probate, which is granted by the Supreme Court to give him the authority to carry out the provisions of the will. The official papers connected with these probated wills are the Ecclesiastical Files held in the Queensland State Archives.

(b) In the other 20% of wills, the Public Trustee acts as executor upon request, and is granted a simpler and less costly equivalent of probate, called an Order to Administer. The official papers connected with these are also held in Q.S.A. and form the series known as the Orders and Elections (Public Curator) Files Q.S.A. Brief Guide No.19 (in our library) makes it clear that, except for a few years now lost, both types of wills are held in the archives on open access, and they are in two separate series, both of which should be searched.

The Public Trust Office has its own archives in a large building at West End, Brisbane. If an ancestor was involved in any way with the Public Curator or the Public Trustee after 1916, then there will be information about him in these archives. Note that Wills can be easily accessed as in (b) above. But there will be in the Public Trustee Office Archives other information not in Q.S.A, which would be helpful to genealogists. This would have been gathered in connection with administering an estate or trust, operating a power of attorney, or searching to find persons mentioned in a will, or possible beneficiaries when the deceased died intestate. Sometimes the Public Trustee has gone to great lengths to find family connections.

Access to information thus held is not open to all, because of the Privacy Act. Sometimes it may be possible to find out a little to assist difficult research and to suggest further fruitful sources. In the Public Trust Office, records have been kept on computer for the last 10 years or more. So any regional office could quickly answer if the Public Trustee Office has within that time a record of that person, and in which region. However, any person before that time can be enquired about also. Approach the local office for advice. Their aim is to be helpful while maintaining their duty of confidentiality.

Mackay Genie Gossip



GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF QLD
MACKAY BRANCH
P O BOX 882, MACKAY 4740

NEWSLETTER No.63 JUNE 1994

President:	Denise Neville	59 3149
Secretary:	Jean Turvey	57 7764
Treasurer:	Yvonne Peberdy	57 8916
Sales:	Carmel Welch	57 5244
Research:	Denise Neville	59 3149

VIDEO RESURRECTS OLD COLOUR SLIDES

Photographs taken on colour slides in the '60s and '70s seemed wonderful at the time, but now usually lie stored away safely and looked at very rarely. It is possible to have the slides, or some of them, processed to colour prints. There is, however, a simpler, less expensive, and more attractive way to make them more accessible to more people. Make a video from slide pictures projected on the screen and add a spoken commentary. The stills can be made more alive by moving the camera and by zooming in, but even without this, the result is worthwhile. Prints can be treated in the same way or mixed with the slides.

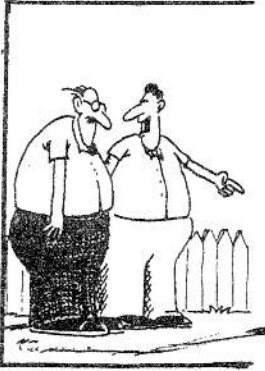
NEW ADVICE ON IRCs

Up until now, genies were always instructed that the polite and reasonable thing to do was to include International Reply Coupons with a first enquiry overseas. An IRC can be purchased at your Post Office and can be exchanged by the overseas recipient at their Post Office for a stamp to cover return postage - except in some countries such as New Zealand. Now, the 1994 *Genealogical Research Directory* advises people replying to researchers' interests NOT to include IRCs. They say a researcher advertising their interests is really begging for replies and will answer without the added incentive of its not costing them a stamp. People replying often send back the IRCs anyway, so some IRCs travel the world! Everyone knows, also, that IRCs cost more than the return postage, and the Post Office is the only real winner. *Family Tree Magazine* has given the same advice, declaring useful information deserves a reply and will get a reply. Of course, still send IRCs to institutions, and keepers of indexes, parish registers, etc., but not with applications to purchase certificates. If a SAE or SSAE is stipulated, send a stamped (self) addressed envelope and, if a stamp is not possible, then IRCs should be included. If you must send IRCs, make sure the Post Office date stamps them at the time of purchase or they cannot be redeemed at the other end. The date stamp dictates the value (which applied at that given date) when redeeming. Our Sales Officer sells English stamps.

EARLY DATE AFFECTS LIBRARY DISPLAY?

The initial response to our display in the City Library on Saturday 14 May was disappointing but, thanks to some hard-working members, most of the gaps were filled up within a day or two. Perhaps the reason for the lack of material was the earlier date this year, or the fact that we had an excellent display last year ... and they can't all be great! The display, however, still generated lots of interest from the public. An interesting addition this year was a board headed "Members", where eight members wrote about their research. Also of interest was "Maltese Research", a board organised by Laraine Schembri of local Maltese families especially researched for the Maltese Festival. We were pleased to welcome the Valley Interest Group (Pioneer Valley) who contributed two boards of well organised material. Thanks to all members who contributed and helped to organise the display in Judy's absence, and a special thanks to Carol Watson, a past member, who drew up some extra headings for the boards. Next year the display will be held from August 19 to August 31 - maybe the date will suit better and will give members more time to plan.

RESEARCH NOTES



1. England, Wales and Scotland Census was taken every ten years and all have survived. This is a marvellous resource, a complete listing of every living person in the land, each recorded in the group living in one dwelling unit. From 1851 onward birth place is included and the 1891 census in addition indicates whether employed or unemployed and comes on fiche. The census was taken on the evenings of 07 JUN 1841, 30 MAR 1851, 08 APR 1861, 02 APR 1871, 04 APR 1881 and 05 APR 1891. The problem is knowing where an individual or family was at that time. The census returns have all been microfilmed and may be ordered into LDS libraries. The correct film can be determined from the census index or the locality catalogue by looking up the place. There are indexes of the people for England and Scotland which makes it easier to find a person if the place of residence is not known. Many of these are published in books or on microfiche, and GSQ Brisbane has many of these. All the Somerset indexes of people on the 1881 Census have been acquired recently. Watch *Generation* from "Recent Accessions". The complete 1891 census for England and Wales can be viewed at the Rockhampton LDS library later this year. Any census for a particular area is available in Mackay at any time by ordering it through the Mackay LDS library.

2. Donegal, Ireland research might be helped by a database of people's names - 200,000 names from all Donegal parishes plus all the names on the 1901 census. (There was a census in Ireland in the same years as England, but virtually all before 1901 have been destroyed.) Write to Donegal Families, c/- Kate Hynd, Muntertinney, Raphoe, Co. Donegal, Ireland.

3. The Information File in our library now contains well over 1,000 cards to help researchers. For, example, the previous item in this newsletter is recorded on a card labelled "Donegal Research". Useful articles in magazines (including Janet Reakes' notes) are indexed here, as with people, one-name societies, places, boats, occupations, record offices, researchers - so anything can be found. Addresses are now included in this file, but the old address file has been retained separately and can also be consulted. Remember, all items actually in our library are listed on the library computer and this should be used too. Members are invited to contribute useful information, especially addresses, to the Information File.

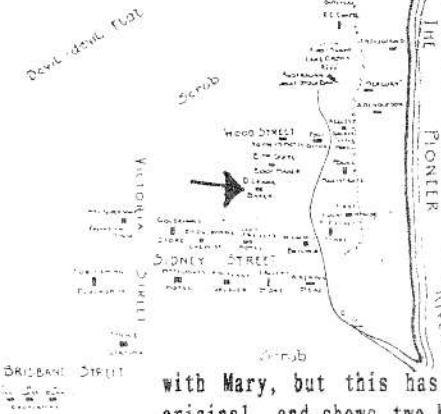
4. Mackay phonebooks for every year from 1986 are in the Mackay City Library. Current phonebooks for all Australia are in all libraries.

5. A Victorian B, D or M certificate is supplied as a photocopy of a whole page of the register which gives five or more other extraneous registrations which were recorded at the same time but are not connected to the requested entry. These extraneous certificates are collected and indexed by Dawn Cowley, Takamuna, 27 Shanahan Pde, Newborough Vic 3825. She requests researchers to forward her the unwanted parts of the page. For a fee of \$1 per name (from within Australia) she will check her collection and, if found, copy out the information (no photocopies are allowed of the original).

6. Notations on BDM Indexes often go unnoticed by genies, but may give further information which could be important. On Queensland indexes, a 'B' in the reference number indicates that the event took place in the Brisbane district (which could be as far north as Bundaberg). More rarely encountered, an 'M' or 'MAR' against the number indicates a marine birth or death on a ship at sea.

DANIEL & MARY CRAINE

SKETCH PLAN OF THE TOWNSHIP
OF
MACKAY - QUEENSLAND
ABOUT THE YEAR OF
1866



Daniel Ratcliffe Craine was Mackay's first baker. Born the son of bootmaker William Craine and Jane Caley, in Ohio, USA, in 1832, it is believed Daniel arrived in Melbourne around 1860. He made his way north, delaying briefly in Mackay in 1862 on his way to Nebo. It took only a few months at Nebo, however, to satisfy Daniel that this was not the place he wanted to be, and he once more made his way to Mackay - this time to settle. Being a baker by trade, he opened a bakery on what was then described as Nebo Road, but this map of Mackay in 1866 gives a better indication of its location. On the 21 November 1864, Daniel and Mary McBride were married "according to law" in the Police Office at Mackay. He was 32 and she was 24 years old at the time.

Mary was born in 1840 at Dooish, Ballybofey, Co. Donegal, Ireland, to farmer John McBride and Ellen (Nellie) Harron. Mary's brother, James, remained at Dooish, but sisters Catherine (Kate) (b.1849) and Bridget (b.1850) also emigrated to Australia, Mary arriving at Keppel Bay on the *Rockhampton* on 13 October 1863. Story has it that another sister, Margaret, also emigrated with Mary, but this has not been proved. The passenger list for the *Rockhampton* is reconstructed from the damaged original, and shows two Mary McBrides - could one of these be Margaret? Daniel and Mary settled down to married life and the bakery was expanded to include a general store. Their family soon increased with the arrival of Ellen Ada (12.01.1866), James Charles (16.12.1867), Blanche Katharine (10.06.1871) and Mary Josephine (30.12.1874).

It was to be a short married life for, on 05 October 1888, after about six-months illness, Daniel Craine died of stomach cancer. He was buried in the Church of England section of the Mackay Cemetery. His death was registered by his wife Mary and, as often seen on death certificates, she had problems 'getting the facts straight'; Daniel's father becomes a farmer, his mother becomes Ellen Quale, had married Mary when aged 39 - and she was a few years shy on his age at death as well! Mary continued to live in Mackay, firstly in Carlisle Street, and later for an extended period, in Wellington Street.

James Charles became known as Charles James. In the latter part of 1895, Charles became station master and postmaster at Mirani, a position he held until 1904/05. Charles then became a farmer in the Mirani area but his life on the land was to be short lived and he died at his mother's home in Wellington Street on 18 July 1907 - he was not yet 40. In keeping with strict Irish Catholicism of the time, Charles was buried in the Roman Catholic section of the Mackay Cemetery. He had never married.

Blanche and Ellen Craine were more mobile than the rest of the family and moved from Mackay, but Mary Josephine stayed at home with her mother for most of her life. Known to her family as 'Lola', she appears to have remained in Mackay till close to 1914, when she moved to the Brisbane suburb of Teneriffe. She and her sister Blanche both resided at Kent Street, Teneriffe, but as no residence is listed in either name at that address, it is assumed they resided with someone else - possibly at a boarding house. She had been employed as a domestic help until the time of her death from Brights Disease on the 06 September 1916. She died at the Kent Street address and was returned to Mackay for burial with her brother, and the inscription on the headstone remembers her by her family name of Lola. She had never married.

It would appear that, after Lola left home, Mary decided to dispose of her home and move into Fays Hotel sometime around 1914. Whether plagued by ill health or whether looking after the house simply became too much for her is unclear, but her stay at the Hotel seems to have been an interim measure of short duration before moving to Sydney to be with her daughters now living in that city. Mary (McBride) Craine died at the Lewisham Hospital, Sydney, on 11 July 1917. Her body was returned to Mackay for burial in the same grave as her son and daughter who had predeceased her.

Probably shortly after Lola's death, Blanche Craine moved to Sydney where she lived out the remainder of her life. Blanche lived in The Rocks area of Sydney around 1937, and later at no.7 Agar Steps, Darling Harbour (next door to SAG's Richmond Villa) until about 1944.

Ellen Ada Craine became known as Ada, was educated at All Hallows Mercy College in Brisbane and, in 1888 was presented by the Bowen Hospital Committee with a certificate of appreciation for her work with their fund raising Cinderella Nights. Ada had been taught music and was a music teacher in Mackay in the mid-1890s. Sometime after 1896 she made her way to Western Australia where, on 25 July 1898 in a North Fremantle Registry Office, she married David W McKinnon, a goldminer. They had three children - William David (1902), Ada Delores (Lola) (1904), and Gordon (1905) who died before the war. David, Ada and family had moved to Sydney before Mary's death in 1917. Ada died a widow, aged 88, in a convalescent home in Kensington NSW on 25 July 1954. Her son William died in 1963 in NSW.

[Footnote: The above has resulted from research, begun about Easter '93, for Irish nun Sr Maire MacNiallais, who spent 6 months (May - November 1993) at the Pacific Mission Institute in NSW and wanted her Australian 'relatives'. The evening before her departure from Australia, Sr Maire had a brief meeting with Tom McKinnon, great grandson of Daniel and Mary. Anyone who can add to the above story, please contact me - Denise Neville]

SOME NOTES ON WAR MEDALS



Bruce Lees spoke at our May meeting, again giving us the benefit of his wide knowledge of the Australian Army, answering our questions, and refreshing us with his enthusiasm.

He showed his grandfather's war medals in miniature. Miniature medals with ribbons can be bought at medal shops and are much less clumsy to wear. (War heroine Nancy Wake, who recently sold her original medals, said she only ever wore her miniatures anywhere.) All medals ever issued are available in miniature, even the VC. Next of kin are entitled to wear the originals or the miniatures, but on the right breast instead of the left. New ribbons can be purchased and mounted on old medals for about \$8 per ribbon. There is also a commercial service available, but it is quite expensive, which will mount a soldier's photo and medals and frame the whole thing.

War medals are of two kinds. Service medals are awarded to all who served in a campaign or in an area. Meritorious awards are given for bravery or special achievements and always have a citation which tells in detail of the serviceperson's actions to receive the medal. Citations of all Australian awards are in the War Memorial, and these were also printed in the *London Times* at the time of the award. The medals issued to and the medals won by a serviceperson are listed in their personal dossier.

A great many original medals have become unwanted and are available for sale at coin and medal dealers. A local dealer, Alan Leigh (phone 421 087) has many original service medals on display at his stand at Walkers Market. He states that any desired medal could be located for anyone wishing to buy; however, many prefer the miniatures.

IRISH CONVICTS ...



Two new projects on Irish convicts are presently in progress.

Ms Joan Kavanagh, Project Researcher for the County Wicklow Heritage Society, is currently researching convicts transported between 1796 and 1853 from Wicklow Gaol to NSW and Tasmania. She is looking for assistance from Australians who may be descended from these convicts and who are able to supply biographical details about their subsequent lives in Australia. Such information would be incorporated into displays within the Gaol. Anyone with information for Ms Kavanagh can write to her at the Courthouse, Wicklow, Ireland.

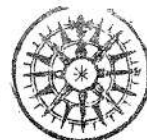
A database of convicts who came from, or who were tried in County Down is being prepared by Mrs Noelene Williams, 47 Railway Terrace, Lewisham NSW 2049. The details collected will be sent to the County Down Museum which is trying to build up its collection of material relating to convicts transported from Co. Down to Australia.

... AND OTHER MATTERS

There is a new family history group in South Roscommon, Ireland. The Old Taughmaconnell Society and Family History Group has been established to research families from Roscommon. There will be a quarterly journal in which they intend to publish details of families from the area. Details can be obtained from Ms Maureen Rendell, Eskerbeg, Bealnamullia, Athlone, Co. Roscommon, Ireland.

TO FIND THE PLACE OF YOUR ANCESTORS

- Some Considerations and Suggestions



Settlements well established a generation or two ago, even large and thriving towns, may now have disappeared from the earth - and from present day maps. To find a place like this, a researcher has to refer to an old map or gazetteer published around the particular period. A gazetteer is a dictionary of place names with a description of each place, always including its position. Post Office and commercial directories of the period may also be of assistance.

The place might be there still, but may have changed its name or the spelling of its name. Thoroldtown is now Woolloowin. A great number of place names of German origin were changed as a result of anti-German feeling associated with World War I. Friezland, near Cloncurry, became Kuridala. Again, refer to old publications or enquire in that local area if the general location is known.

The place may be too small to be on any map available then or now. It might be a cattle station, a manor house, a very small village or country area. In this case, perhaps an associated larger place can be found, or enquiries made in the area if it is known.

▲ If the place still exists, search the following sources using the index if there is one:

1. Master Names Gazetteer which lists over 225,000 Australian place names on microfiche.
2. The Readers Digest Atlas of Australia, or a similar atlas which uses a large scale.
3. A Touring Atlas or Motoring Guide to Australia.
4. Detailed maps of small areas such as the ones issued by RACQ.
5. Topographic maps, which never have an index of places.
6. Enquire of a local history organisation or library in a known area.

▲ If the place no longer exists, it might still be found through past years commercial or Post Office Directories which often contain a Country Directory. Our library has directories for Queensland and for Victoria, and directories for other states do exist. Queensland in 1876 is covered very thoroughly in Balliere's Qld Gazetteer and Road Guide "containing the most recent and accurate information as to every place in the colony". In one alphabetical list appear not only all the villages, towns and suburbs, but also all the stations and runs, capes and bays, and mountains and rivers. This Gazetteer is in most Queensland libraries. We also have on microfiche Place Names of Victoria which gives the position of any place even if not extant now. This list can also be used to decipher the abbreviations in the "place" column in the indexes to Victorian BDMs, where places such as "P'ran" and "B'yong" would otherwise remain a mystery. Another book in our library which may be consulted is County and Parish Maps of NSW. This contains indexes of thousands of names of land divisions, even discontinued ones, and helps locate any land from its description. These names also may have been used as locality names.

If the area is not known and/or all else fails enquire of the State Library in the capital city of the particular state, either directly or through the Inter Library service available through your local library.

RESEARCH ENQUIRIES

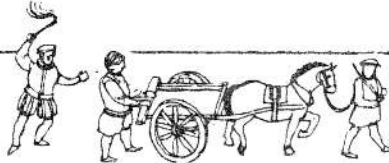
Recent outside research enquiries received include Costello, Ryan, O'Neill, Crawford and Robertson, Harvey and Reid families of Mackay.

CALLING ALL ROBSONS



A reunion is planned for descendants of William ROBSON (c1785 -1852) who married Christian McKAY at Sutherland Scotland on 05 AUG 1824, having previously married, on 01 APR 1814 at Cathness, Scotland, Janet ARMSTRONG who died in 1823. They arrived in Australia on the *Lady McNaughton* (1839) and the *Bourneuf* (1852). Children were Adam, James, Isabella (Gordon), Mary (Armstrong), Jean (McLennan), George, Janet, John, Walter, Robert, Katharine (Young), William, Isabella (Reid), and Mary (Ryan). All descendants are invited to attend a reunion to be held on Saturday 05 NOV 1994 at Nemingha Hall, via Tamworth NSW. Contact Margaret Robson, 27 Darcy Street, Cardiff NSW 2285 (049 548002) or Daphne Duckett, 3 Yimbala St, Killarney Vale NSW 2261 (043 891802).

Local News & Notes



whipping vagabond at the cart's tail

Photos of Queensland soldiers which appeared in *The Queenslander* during World War I are indexed by card in the John Oxley Library. Noela Duncan reports finding her grandfather's photo in this collection and, after further enquiry, discovering that John Oxley Library can supply a proper photo from their those held in their collection. This is all the more important to Noela as no other photo of him has been found.

Members intending to ask Rockhampton LDS Family History Centre to search for deaths in St Catherine's Index should remember to give either a birth date, or a likely age at the period of time being searched, for each person. Having some idea of the age helps the researcher narrow down the list of possible deaths where several of the same name are found in the nominated period.

The 1891 census of England is available on fiche through the local Family History Centre. These can be order in the same as microfilm for the earlier census BUT ... once the fiche are ordered in, they stay in Mackay thereby adding to the local centre's permanent holdings. There are usually about three fiche per piece and the three fiche would cost \$2 to order, and then can be read at leisure on the fiche readers.

For those who haven't been to the LDS Family History Centre lately, there are now three film readers operating so the waiting time to read films has been greatly reduced and the opportunity to read interesting films order in by others now exists. The computer is available on Wednesday nights only at this stage (bookings essential) and it can be used to determine if a copy of a particular film is in Australia or has to be obtained from Salt Lake.

REMEMBER:



MONTHLY MEETINGS: 1st Wednesday each month at Milton Street High School Room D10
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER } both appear at meetings and then in
QUARTERLY MAGAZINE } the library.
DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER: 2 weeks before next meeting. Please contribute or ring 422539.
GENEALOGICAL LIBRARY: within North Mackay Library, Ungerer St. is open to all
9.30-5.30 daily + to 8.00p.m. Thursday & 9.00-1.00 Saturday.
RESEARCH ASSISTANCE: in this library 12.30-3.30 Monday to Wednesday, 10.00-12.00 2nd & 4th Wednesdays
and 2nd Saturday or ring 422539
MORMON LIBRARY: Mackay LDS Family History Centre is within the church at cnr McGinn and Field Sts -
open to all 9.30am - 3.00pm Tuesday, 10.00am - 3.00pm and 6.30pm - 9.30pm Wednesday.
Closed School Holidays.

Mackay Genie Gossip



GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF QLD
MACKAY BRANCH
P O BOX 882, MACKAY 4740

NEWSLETTER No.64 JULY 1994

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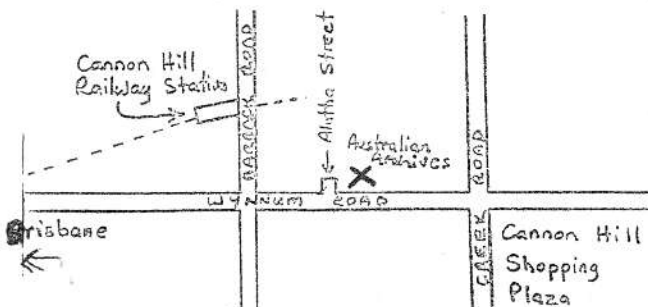
NEW CLIPPING FILER BEGINS WORK

For many years, Ellen Jackson has kept a clipping file, with index, of *Daily Mercury* articles about local people, buildings and happenings. As Ellen is now the busy grandmother of triplets, she has handed over this important job to Patricia Evetts. We welcome Patricia to the job, and thank Ellen for her sterling work over the years. Section D in our library contains eight clipping files compiled from 1983 to 1993 by Ellen and her predecessors, Lois Kruger and Carol Watson. These indexed files are a good resource for local area research from its first settlement, as articles refer not only to current happenings, but also to Mackay and its people in past years.

WARNING! ... WWI SOLDIERS MAY BECOME EXPENSIVE

As set out in Newsletter no.62, anyone can now obtain the personal record of an Australian World War I soldier from the Mitchell, ACT, repository of the Australian Archives, with no charge except photocopying in some cases. The Archives recently informed us: there is no charge if it is a short file of less than 15 pages; there is a set charge of \$15 per file for 15 pages or more; most files do contain 15 pages or more! Researchers should be aware of the likelihood of being billed for this amount for each soldier being researched. If 4 soldiers' files are requested, a bill for \$60 can be expected; but, if more than 4 are requested, the Archives does call the researcher to advise of the charges likely to be incurred and to inquire if they still wish to proceed with the whole request. A leaflet explaining the details is to be issued shortly and will be placed in our Armed Forces box in Section A. (Thanks to Val Pollitt for this alert.)

BRISBANE OFFICE OF AUSTRALIAN ARCHIVES MOVES OUT OF CITY



The Australian Archives' Brisbane office is now located at Cannon Hill, in Wynnnum Road between Barrack and Creek Roads. Nearby is Cannon Hill railway station in Barrack Road and Cannon Hill Shopping Plaza in Creek Road, so it is between these two places. Postal address is now PO Box 552, Cannon Hill Q 4170. Phone number is (07) 233 7859. Thanks for this information to Shirley Jones.

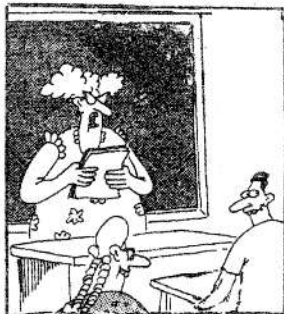
IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN ...

The end of our year is upon us once again, which means our Annual General Meeting is fast approaching. There have been mutterings of resignations! ... that wasn't intended to frighten people away from the meeting, but rather as a plea for all members to assess what spare time they might be able to find, and to give some thought to what they might do to assist with the management of our Branch. It can be interesting and fun and it doesn't have to be an onerous undertaking.

MACKAY CONNECTIONS SOUGHT

Recent outside research inquiries have included the surnames Neilsen, Cowen and Armstrong any connections? Please contact Denise.

RESEARCH NOTES



1. **Mackay history.** There is no complete history of the Mackay District. *Pioneer Pageant* by John Kerr covers some aspects very well, while *The Discovery and Settlement of Port Mackay* by H Ling Roth, written in 1908, gives colourful detail of the earlier days. Jubilee editions of the *Daily Mercury* are a good source. These, and much other material on Mackay's history can be consulted at the Mackay City Library's Local History Room. Another extensive collection of Mackay's history is housed at Greenmount Homestead where the library is currently being

catalogued. Experts with local history on the tip of the tongue are Bernice Wright who is at the Mackay City Library on Thursday mornings and Betty Clarke who is at Greenmount on Tuesday mornings. Mirani Museum also holds a good deal of historical material of the Pioneer Valley. Mrs Lesley Kane is in charge there, and she will be giving a talk at our September meeting.

2. **Immigrants to Queensland from Europe up to 1900** are indexed in printed lists in books fondly known as the "Yellow Immigration Books". There is a chronological list in the front of each book giving the ships and their date and place of arrival during the period covered by each particular book. The 1880-1900 books often show boats arriving at Cooktown on certain dates, and some researchers then discount the person of the correct name found on the corresponding passenger list as their ancestor was known to have "arrived" at some other port. Cooktown is simply the first port of call, and the boat would then have continued on down the coast with passengers disembarking at the various ports along the way. Reference to the ship's passenger list on microfilm will show that passenger's intended port of destination and often will give much other information as well including whether he could read and write and where he came from.

3. **Middle Ages research in the British Isles** might not be as difficult as it used to be. FONS (Family Origin Name Survey) is a non-profit organisation aimed at making accessible computerised medieval record archives of the British Isles. The database will ultimately contain all surviving record material from the period before 1600, with the exception of parish register baptisms and marriages for 1538-1600. The material includes direct transcripts from the manuscripts, printed material and record calendars. They also have access to Will abstracts, Will lists, and other lists include poll books, land tax assessments, muster rolls, etc., for 1600-1858. This could prove to be a boon to those fortunate enough to have traced back this far. There is a small fee for membership and information. Write to FONS, The Strines, Leek ST13 8UL, England.

4. **Warwickshire 1851 Census Project** is progressing well with volume 14 now available. The project has amassed a total of 122 parishes and lists in excess of 50 000 individuals. Those looking for elusive ancestors in Warwickshire around this time, for information on this project, contact T M Welsh, Relative Reflections, 54 Westbourne Road, Solihull, West Midlands B92 8AU, England.

5. **St Marys Catholic Church (Gympie) parish records** are becoming delicate and the only access is now by way of requests to the Ipswich Parish Office staff. Requests for searches through the records for family history information will now cost \$20.

BEGINNERS CLASS

A small group attended the recent beginners' class run by our Branch at the North Mackay Library. "Beginners" is really a misnomer as these classes, while certainly intended to cater for those just starting out in family history, are designed to cater for those who have done some work but are not quite sure where to go next. They also provide an opportunity to learn what resources are available at the library. Similar classes can be held in the future if there is sufficient interest, and similar arrangements can be made for small groups wanting to learn more about the LDS Family History Centre, its resources and how to use them. Thanks to Jean and Helen for their assistance

Albert & Mary Ann
BROWNSEY

Albert Brownsey, then 24 years old, his wife Mary Ann, 23, and young son James Albert, 3, left England on the ship *Almora* on 15 January 1882 bound for Australia. The ship made its way via the Torres Strait to arrive at its first Australian port of call, Cooktown, on 15 March 1882, then continued on down the eastern coast dropping off passengers at the various ports. 'Free' passengers, the Brownseys, disembarked at Mackay. Albert's young brother, Arthur, aged 17 at the time, would follow them across 18 months later on the *Nowshera* which, following the same route, arrived at Cooktown on 14 September 1883.

Albert Brownsey was born at Westport, Somerset, on 09 May 1857, one of a large family. (The Brownsey family had owned the Westport Tavern for over 300 years but it has now passed from the family.) The surname was originally 'Brownsea' and was taken from the name of a place in England.

Mary Ann Male was born on 07 January 1858 at Bury Ridell. She was employed in a clothing factory sewing buttonholes. Mary Ann and Albert Brownsey were married at Bristol, Gloucestershire, on 06 June 1878. Their first child, James Albert, was born the following year.

Mary Ann had been in delicate health when she left England, having suffered a serious chest complaint for some time. The ship's doctor, on examining her, could not understand how her doctor had passed her fit for the voyage. He did not think she would survive the voyage to see Australia, but believed that, if she did make it, the climate there would probably be good for her. He was right; she did survive, her chest complaint disappeared, and she never suffered a sick day for most of her life thereafter.

When they first arrived in Australia, Albert worked on the construction of the railway line from Mackay to Mirani and they lived near what was then the Mackay Town Common. Their second child, Friedrich George (Fred), was born here on 16 May 1884.

Albert later became a ploughman on the Homebush Mill sugar cane plantation, before taking up a selection and moving to Langdon in 1888. He named his property "Westport" after his birthplace. For the first few years after acquiring Westport, Albert worked at Marian Mill, only returning home at weekends, and leaving Mary Ann and the children on the property to fend for themselves during the week. Mary Ann milked the few cows they had, made butter and sold it to augment Albert's meagre wages. Albert eventually returned to the property full time and began growing sugar cane, gradually phasing out the cows. There was no tramway to haul the cane to the mill in those days and the cane was taken by horse and dray more than seven miles to Mirani West, where it was eventually picked up and taken to the mill. Albert's brother, Arthur, acquired the adjoining property.

Albert and Mary Ann's other three sons were born on the Langdon property - Arthur Henry born 16 January 1889, Oliver Ernest on 15 February 1894, and Herbert William born 12 July 1898. There were no schools in the area when the Brownseys arrived at Langdon. The small Dows Creek School opened in 1895, and a school had opened at Mirani not much before this. By this time James was nearly 16, but the younger children all spent at least some time at the Dows Creek School.

The nearest town was Mirani, quite a distance away by horse and dray, and there wasn't the good bridge on the track as there is now. Supplies were ordered and brought out in bulk on wagons from Mackay once a month.

In 1911 Albert and Mary Ann made a return trip to England, but were not much impressed with the way that country had developed and could not wait to get back to Australia.

Oliver and Herbert both joined the Army during World War I. Oliver saw active service, but Herbert, not old enough to enlist until the latter stages of the war, did not.

(continued on page 6)

TO FIND THE PLACE OF YOUR ANCESTORS

- Some considerations & suggestions for countries other than Australia



The possibilities discussed in Newsletter No.63 for Australian places also apply to overseas places: the place may have disappeared over the years; it may be too small to be on any map then or now; it may have changed its name - very common in some parts of Europe. As well, there are added difficulties. Boundaries have changed dramatically in some areas, so the place may now be in a different state. Some knowledge of the history of that area may help. There may be too many places of that name. In Germany there can be two, three, four or five places of exactly the same name in different areas, so the area would also have to be known. In Dorset there are 10 Winterbournes, each with a second name to distinguish it, such as Winterbourne Houghton. The most difficult situation occurs when an Australian certificate records the phonetically, or gives the clerk's 'best guess' at spelling the foreign-sounding placename; in such cases this clue to the ancestor's place of origin can be practically no clue at all, or can even lay a false trail.

RECENT INFORMATION

A large Atlas of the world (such as Times, New Oxford, Macquarie or Britannica) has all places on all maps indexed. It is easy to look up a place name - except that the spelling might be different, or the foreign place may be given its proper name, e.g. Kobenhavn and not the anglicised Copenhagen. It must be remembered too that these are present-day maps. *Place Name Changes since 1900 - a World Gazetteer* published in 1980 gives the new name and the old name. The booklet *German Places Names pre 1945 and their Present Polish Equivalent*s will be invaluable to people researching that area. *The Columbia Lippincott's Gazetteer of the World* was published in 1952, with a supplement added in 1961 detailing territory changes. It includes an estimated 125 000 places with a brief description of location, population, industries, and history including name changes.

Present day maps of one area will show more (and smaller) places than a world atlas. The Ordnance Survey Motoring Atlas of Great Britain has maps scaled down to as much as 3 miles = 1 inch, and also has street maps of large towns and an index of all places. The Mackay LDS Family History Centre has a similar atlas for all Europe. Similar too is the AA Atlas of Ireland, all indexed, and using a scale of 5½ miles = 1 inch. On a larger scale still, and showing contours etc, are present day ordnance maps of Great Britain and Ireland. These can be purchased and many members own one or two maps of their areas of interest. The catalogue of all ordnance maps is printed in the Graphics Gallery booklet which is in our Booksellers Box. These maps can be purchased from this firm at Moonee Ponds, Victoria.

OLD MAPS and OLD INFORMATION

■ For England and Wales, *The Phillimore Atlas and Index of Parish Registers* shows two maps for each county as at 1834. There is one map showing parish boundaries and the other shows towns, villages, rivers and roads. There is no overall index of place names, but each county has an alphabetical list of parishes.

■ *A Genealogical Atlas of Scotland* by Gardner, Harland & Smith, shows one map of each of the 33 counties as at 1855. All places on the maps are contained in one index and the old parishes are marked on the maps.

■ *Handbook on Irish Genealogy* by Heraldic Artists has similar maps of each county of Ireland showing places, but not parishes, and is not indexed. Civil parishes and other boundaries may then be worked out from Janet Reakes' *How to Trace Your Irish Ancestors* or Ryan's *Irish Records*. Places recorded on Irish certificates last century were very often Townland names. As a Townland was the smallest official division of land, and there were and are 70 000 of them in Ireland, there can be no map showing all the Townlands. They may be found listed, however, in *The General Alphabetical Index to the Townlands, Towns, Parishes and Baronies of Ireland*, which is based on the 1851 census of Ireland. Originally published in 1861, it is still a valuable reference listing for each place, its county, Barony, parish and Poor Law Union.

[continued next page]


▪ Victorian ordnance maps of England and Wales may be purchased, showing in large scale details of each area. These are reprints of the first series of ordnance maps published originally in the 19th century. See catalogue of Booksellers.

▪ 1832 maps of Germany are held in the genealogical library on a film strip and on printouts. These are not easy to search and there is no index, but they are genuine German maps of that time, on a large scale, and they have enabled several researchers to find the place of their ancestors.

▪ Denmark is no problem. Write to Danes Worldwide Archive, Box 1731, DK 9100, Aalborg, Denmark, giving known details of an ancestor. The reply will advise what area that place is in and the address of the Localhistoriske Arkiv. Further information can then be requested from there. The book *The Danish Genealogical Helper* will show county boundaries.

▪ Gazetteers were published in all countries every few years during the 19th century. Some have been reprinted in recent years, e.g. *Lewis' Topographical Dictionary of Ireland 1837*. Some can be found in large central libraries. Many have been filmed by the LDS History Department. The Mackay LDS Family History Centre is known to hold on microfiche a gazetteer for each of England, Scotland and Ireland. These dictionaries of place names will give the location of the place and much other detailed information.

▪ The LDS Locality Catalogue can also be useful in locating a place when only a country is known. The first few fiche for each country contain a list of small places and information on how to find them in the locality catalogue and, in so doing, will give such information as county (or state) and parish. There are an estimated 40 000 place names on the first five fiche for Germany. Locations given here are pre-1870, and are the ones used in the IGI.

 There are other avenues of inquiry. Some people inquire by way of inter-library loan on the large resources of the State Library. Some inquire of the particular country's embassy in Australia - although some embassies now do not oblige. Some write overseas, while others enlist the help of an exchange student. All resources listed in this article, unless otherwise stated, are available in Mackay, and these should be checked first.

OBTAINING ADOPTION INFORMATION IN Qld



Mr Charlie Howe from the Department of Family Services spoke to our June meeting about adoptions. Queensland still operates a closed adoption policy as opposed to the 'open' policy which applies in some states like Victoria. The closed policy means that once a child is relinquished, there is no further contact between the birth parents and the child. In the case of the open system, some contact is retained between the child and the birth parents.

In Queensland, no records can be accessed until the child is 18 although, in some cases which are considered to be medical emergencies, limited access has been granted to these files. Once the child turns 18, the child may decide whether or not to contact the birth parents, or the birth parents may wish to contact the child. A block can be put on the information by either party, i.e. the birth mother or the child, if they do not wish to make contact and the information then will never be released.

A child would be told the birth parent(s) (if the father is known), their age, birth date, birth name, address at time of consent to the adoption, other siblings names and places of birth. The father's information will only be given if he also has signed the papers. An authority is also given for the child to get their original birth certificate.



The birth mother is given the name of the adopting parents and their address at the time of the adoption order, and the name given to the child after adoption. The Department does not stay in contact with the adopting parents so they have no current information on the adopting family unless there has been a need to stay in contact. Current information is given only if known and upon consent.

NOTE: If the birth parent or the adopted child is deceased, a relative may obtain information about the adoption. As this may be of particular interest to some family historians, the special form for this type of request has been placed in our information file, with extra forms available which may be taken.



The Brownseys (contd from page 3)

It was a sad day in the family's history when eldest son, James Albert, died on 19 August 1922, aged just 43 years. He was buried in the Mirani Cemetery. He had never married. The remaining sons all married and produced a good crop of Brownsey grandchildren. Fred married Nell Scoanes; Arthur (known as Sunny) married Agnes Fudge; Oliver married Alice Page (nee Miller); Herbert married Isabell Davies in January 1928.

Albert Brownsey died aged 73 and was buried on 29 December 1938 with his son in the Mirani Cemetery. Mary Ann stayed on at the property with her son Oliver until well into her old age when her health was starting to deteriorate. She then moved to Shakespeare Street in Mackay to live with her son Fred. In spite of suffering a couple of heart attacks she remained active until her death at 87 years. She was buried on 16 February 1945 with her husband and son in Mirani Cemetery.

Son Oliver Ernest died on 05 November 1949, aged 55 years. His daughter Thora had married a Dows Creek schoolteacher, eventually moving away from the area to live in Brisbane. Herb and Isabell Brownsey moved to Carmila, south of Sarina, where they bought a property and also ran the telephone exchange. Most of their children married people from the Carmila area and still live either there or at Sarina, but all live within the wider Mackay area.

Arthur and Aggie Brownsey took up a property in the Mt Charlton area and spent most of their lives there. Arthur was a correspondent for a north Queensland newspaper, writing articles about life and events in his home District. In his old age, with decreased mobility, he became more involved with his writing, keeping a collection of his articles which he left to his daughter Mabel.

Fred and Nell's daughter, Alice, married Ernie Johnson from Gracemere near Rockhampton. Another daughter, Edie (Mary Edith) married Henry Weight who was well known around Mackay for his cake decorating skills.



Time to clean out your cupboards. Trash & Treasure will soon be upon us again.

REMEMBER:



- MONTHLY MEETINGS: 1st Wednesday each month at Milton Street High School Room D10
- MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | both appear at meetings and then in
- QUARTERLY MAGAZINE | the library.
- DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER: 2 weeks before next meeting. Please contribute or ring 422539.
- GENEALOGICAL LIBRARY: within North Mackay Library, Ungerer St. is open to all
9.30-5.30 daily + to 8.00p.m. Thursday & 9.00-1.00 Saturday.
- RESEARCH ASSISTANCE: in this library 12.30-3.30 Monday to Wednesday, 10.00-12.00 2nd & 4th
Wednesdays and 2nd Saturday or ring 422539
- MORMON LIBRARY: Mackay LDS Family History Centre is within the church at cnr McGinn and Field Sts -
open to all 9.30am - 3.00pm Tuesday, 10.00am - 3.00pm and 6.30pm - 9.30pm Wednesday.
Closed School Holidays.

Mackay Genie Gossip



GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF QLD
MACKAY BRANCH
P O BOX 882, MACKAY 4740

NEWSLETTER No.65 AUG 1994

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GATHERING OLD HISTORY IN THE BRITISH ISLES

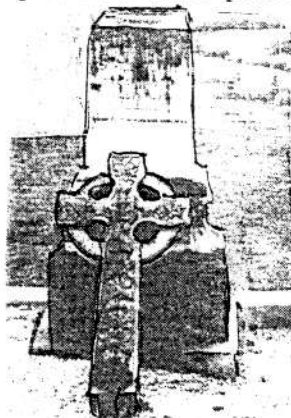
Representatives of the Queensland State Library visited Great Britain and Eire during May and June to locate letters, diaries, photos and items of Queensland historical interest. Many immigrants to Qld wrote home telling of their experiences and many sent photos and souvenirs. This year's *Irish Roots* No.2 reported the approaching expedition. It will be interesting to hear from our end a report on its success.

TRAGIC FAMILY INHERITANCE

Paul Collins is seeking descendants of his grandmother Jane Beckett Hosie (nee Stewart) who came to Victoria in 1858 from Paisley, Renfrewshire. Her maternal grandparents were John Stewart and Janetta Kennett. She married John Freeman (NSW), then Edwin (Harry) Wood (VIC) and then Frederick Wright Marshall (Qld). She had 3 sons and 8 daughters, with 476 descendants traced so far. The reason for the search is the uncommon condition known as Leber's Hereditary Optic Neuropathy which is carried by females and passed on mainly to sons. Hannah King (nee Grice) of Sandgate and Violet Delaney of Charleville have had seven of their families lose their sight. Blood tests carried out by Royal Brisbane Hospital enable young women to be told their risk of having a child who could go blind. Experiments carried out in the USA could lead to treatment of the ailment in its early stages. Anyone with information can contact Paul Collins at PO Box 105, Jamison Centre ACT 2614.

HAWKESBURY CELEBRATES 1994 BICENTENNIAL

The Hawkesbury district was first settled in 1794, and this year's bicentennial celebrations will culminate with a special Community and Pioneers Day on Sunday 02 October. During the year it is planned to plant trees in parks and reserves to commemorate pioneers. People can participate by sponsoring, for \$50, a tree with a plaque showing the names of the contributor and the pioneer being remembered. Send for a form to Mrs J Barkley, 573 George Street, South Windsor NSW 2756. It is planned that planting will begin as soon as possible.



HAVE YOU CHECKED YOUR GRAVES LATELY?

A large ornate marble Celtic cross has been stolen from the grave of James and Mary Ready in the Mackay Cemetery. Great grand daughter, Carmel MacDonald, discovered the cross missing when she went to check the grave. She was arranging to have the cross re-erected now she has completed publication of the Ready family history. Carmel says it is really ironic that, in this Year of the Family, the cross is taken from the grave of Mackay's first family. The estimated value of the cross is \$10,000. Other grave stones in this cemetery also have recently been removed or damaged, so all graves should be checked.

CALLING ALL RESEARCHING NEW ZEALAND

The New Zealand indexes are not held by our branch. Purchase of these would be expensive and beyond our means. It has been suggested by one New Zealand researcher that others might be willing to join her in contributing towards the purchase price which would be shared by the branch. Anyone interested in this arrangement, please contact the secretary.

RESEARCH NOTES



1. NSW Pioneer Index 1788-1888 has arrived at last. This includes all births, marriages and deaths in one alphabetical listing and is very easy to use. Some omissions and errors in the old indexes have been corrected, and researchers will obtain further information from the new indexes as the place of the event is now noted. A 'cross reference' entry, if found, can be informative, so be sure to read the handbook. Pre-registration events have a reference number which can be looked up to show name, religion and place of the church where the event happened. As Qld did not separate from NSW until 1859, BDM events up to that time in what became Qld will be in this NSW index. The BDM events 1856-59 also appear in the Qld indexes which, however, do not give the place of the event. On the other hand, even this improved NSW index does not give the mother's maiden name for a birth or a death, but the Qld indexes do. If a name is still not found in the Pioneer Index, read the handbook for possible reasons and further suggestions. Consider also, possible errors by the indexer, such as set out in "A place for every name" later in this newsletter.

2. Chinese in Australia were numerous from 1850 onwards, and it is amazing how many people today have a Chinese ancestor. The Central Queensland *Genie-ologist* magazine for June 1994 features research on Chinese and has informative articles on the Chinese in Australia and Chinese immigration.

3. English family history societies for small areas are common, and it is worth enquiring if there is one in your area of interest. Member Ann Matthews, in writing the history of her Harrison family from Spalding, Lincolnshire, obtained assistance from the Spalding Family History Group which has now widened its field and changed its name to become the South Holland Family and Local History Group, c/- Gerry Lewis, "Taeping", 54 Wygate Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire. The group is willing to help genes research this area by searching its holdings of church registers, monumental inscriptions, 1881 census, and old newspapers. News of the Harrison family reunion at Allora on the Darling Downs, was reported in their daily newspaper, *The Spalding Free Press*. It was noteworthy to people in Spalding that emigrants from there 100 years ago had prospered on the other side of the world.

4. Port Macquarie NSW - Hastings District Historical Society is compiling a **biographical register** of all people who lived in the Port Macquarie district from establishment of the penal colony on 17 April 1821 to 30 December 1900. This is to include soldiers and convicts as well as free settlers and will be published in about three years time. To date the society has limited information on some 16 000 individuals, but hopes to obtain more people and more information from persons whose ancestors resided in the area in the qualifying period. Write with SAE for information sheet to Biographical Register, c/- Hastings District Historical Society, PO Box 82, Port Macquarie NSW 2444.

5. Cornwall Record Office carries out research for family historians by mail. Records searched naturally include parish registers and census returns, but staff can also check property records, poor law records, parochial documents and overseer accounts. Wills proved in the Cornwall Probate Registry 1857-1941 can also be checked and abstracts provided. Wills are indexed to 1870 and, after that a volume can be checked if name and year of death are known. The fee is £10 per hour, and the address is Old County Hall, Truro, Cornwall TR1 3AY.

While on Cornwall, the Cornwall Family History Society has changed its address to 5 Victoria Square, Truro TR1 2RS.

Ian Richards is compiling a database on Cornish miners around the world. It contains over 4 000 entries with the initial entries taken from census returns, mining journals and other publications, and includes names, date and place of birth, ultimate occupation and residence. He would appreciate contributions on any Cornish mining ancestors. Mr Richards will also search the index. Contact him at Cotts Farm, Higher Stanbeer, Henwood, Liskeard, Cornwall, enclosing 2IRCs.

WILLS & SOLICITORS



Our July meeting enjoyed a talk by local solicitor, Mr Jack Kidd, who succeeded in interspersing his serious points with some humorous and engaging anecdotes from his own experiences. He gave practical hints on making a will - it must be in writing and in the correct form, but the involved legal language once common is no longer used. It must be witnessed, and a witness cannot be a beneficiary or related to a beneficiary. Care should be taken to describe exactly items being bequeathed, and to avoid ambiguity in naming a beneficiary. One or more executors must be named to see that the provisions of the will are carried out.

Most people are aware that a later will cancels a previous one, but not all know that a subsequent marriage also cancels a will. Divorce cancels that part of the will referring to the former wife or husband. If a person dies intestate (without a will), his estate is divided according to Queensland law between his wife and children or, if he has none of these, between his brothers and sisters. A will may be contested by a wife or child if it is considered not satisfactory.

When a person dies, the solicitor, when notified, contacts the executors. The assets of the deceased are valued, probate is applied for and granted by the Supreme Court. The solicitor notifies any insurance company involved of the death (with death certificate) and probate. The executors organise the distribution of the estate. Probate is not necessary if it is a simple will and if life insurance is under \$50 000.

Researching Wills

Probated wills are in public-access court files immediately. Older wills are in the Queensland State Archives on open access. A non-probated will is filed away in the solicitor's office. The solicitor will not provide a copy without the executor's permission, for it is not public property as is a probated will (the executors would have a copy also). Solicitors do not keep old wills forever for reasons of space. Eventually, these non-probated wills are destroyed.

[See also Newsletter no.62 for Wills with the Public Trustee.]

BOOKORNER FORGENIES



WANAMURRAGANYA

- The story of Jack McPhee by Sally Morgan

Jack McPhee was Sally Morgan's tribal grandfather, but she did not know of his existence until she went north from Perth in 1983 in search of her family's roots in preparation for her first book *My Place* - so she met him late in his life. Jack McPhee was born in 1905, son of an aboriginal mother and white father, who was brought up and always treated as an aboriginal. Wanamurraganya is his aboriginal name. He became an itinerant station and mine worker in the Pilbara region of West Australia. While his life was far from spectacular, his story is told in plain direct style which holds the reader's interest. As Jack says, "It is the story of many people, and they're all me". The book is also the story of how aboriginal people lived under the law. What happened to Jack McPhee, his family and friends, is an insight into the treatment of aboriginal people. The book was written using the oral history method and, in the introduction, Sally Morgan explains her methods. Her first advice is to begin where the teller wants to begin. Extensive recording is necessary, with the author recording 31 tapes initially before transcribing and photocopying it all and cutting and pasting it into chronological order. This revealed missing pieces and unclear facts. Armed with a list of these, she went back to Jack and recorded his answers. Transcribed, these pieces were fitted into the original text, and the process repeated another five times. Rewriting the story became necessary as new details and perspectives were added, taking three years altogether to write the book. Sally Morgan's books are to be found in local libraries.



James Henry THORNER

The following article appeared in the *Mackay Mercury* dated 29 December 1902, a copy of which was supplied by Mrs Joan Howland whose husband is a grandson on J H Thornber. James Henry Thornber died on 28 December 1902 aged 41 years and is buried in the Mackay Cemetery.

Gun Accident

News reached town this morning to the effect that while on his way to town from Cattle Creek, where he had been during the Christmas holidays, Mr J H Thornber had met with an accident from the discharge of a gun which was in the buggy. The first news reached town in the form of a telegram asking Dr Lloyd to go to Walkerston at once, Mr Thornber being at Pascoe's Hotel. It was not long before a second communication reached town that Mr Thornber has succumbed to the effects of the wound and had died before Dr Lloyd reached Walkerston. From what we have been able to glean, it would appear that the deceased gentleman with some of his boys was driving towards Walkerston and had occasion to lean forward to his horse when, by some inexplicable means, a gun which was in the cart went off lodging a charge of shot in the lower part of Mr Thornber's body. The boys drove on to Walkerston and medical aid was at once telegraphed but, as recorded above, the deceased passed away before the arrival of the Doctor was possible. It is only some six months or so ago, that Mr Thornber received the appointment of Town Clerk, the duties of which office his long acquaintance with Municipal affairs enabled him to discharge with efficiency. Mr Thornber came to Queensland in 1881, landing at Brisbane and engaging in business during the following two years in the firms of Edwards and Chapman, and Grimes and Petty. From there he came to Mackay and entered into partnership with Mr T Pearce. After a couple of years the partnership was dissolved and Mr Thornber was for some time with Mr W Robertson, of the foundry. He subsequently went into partnership with Mr S Lambert, with whom he remained for three years. In 1890 he opened the New Palace Stores on his own account remaining in that business until a few months ago. Mr Thornber was a native of Bolton, in Lancashire, and came to the colonies when about 18 years of age. He married the daughter of Mr M G Hess of this town in 1886 and he leaves his widow and a numerous family, ranging from 5 to 15 years of age, to deplore their bereavement. The deceased gentleman was an energetic businessman and an active participant in public affairs, having been for many years a member of the Municipal Council, during which time he occupied the Mayoral Chair. He was also a member of the Harbour Board, and no movement, having in view the benefit of those among whom he lived, failed to find his name among its most liberal promoters. The sympathy of all will be tendered to his widow and children in their hour of affliction. The body of the deceased gentleman was brought into town at noon today, and the funeral will take place tomorrow morning at 10.30 from the residence of Mr M G Hess.

QUOTABLE
GENIWISE



"I don't know who my grandfather was. I am much more concerned who his grandson will be."

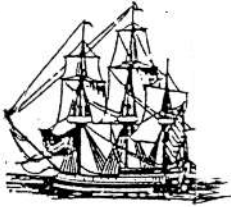
- Abraham Lincoln, early in his life.



How's your TRASH and TREASURE collection going?



THE VOYAGE TO AUSTRALIA



"When at last they had landed, they were by no means the same people who had boarded ship months before"

- *The Long Farewell*.

A migrant's journey from Europe by ship to Australia took anything from six weeks to four months, with the passengers very mixed company living in unaccustomed close contact. It was inevitable that clashes and dramatic events would occur

- apart from the ocean and the weather. How can we find out details of the voyage and what life was like for those on board?

The official immigration records contain some reports on the voyage by the surgeon or the captain. Look for this information before or after the passenger list.

The arrival of a ship in port never ceased to be newsworthy, for here were much needed new people and imported goods. The arrival of a ship was always noted in the newspaper as soon as known, with detail of number of passengers and type and amount of cargo. A subsequent issue would give a fairly detailed account of the voyage, which was often a summary of the captain's daily log of the journey. To read these news items now brings the voyage alive. Request from the John Oxley Library a copy of the Brisbane Courier reports of your ship's arrival in Brisbane. Ships arriving at other ports will be found written up in the newspapers of that place.

Even more detail is sometimes available. The captain's log for the voyage may survive, or someone on board may have written a diary which survives, or there may have been a regular shipboard news sheet produced. Ian Nicholson has compiled an index of such voyage stories which are known to have survived, which is published in two volumes as Log of Logs. It is subtitled "A catalogue of logs, journals, shipboard diaries, letters and all forms of voyage narratives 1788-1988 for Australia, New Zealand and surrounding waters" (so, it includes other than migrant ships). Each entry consisting of a few lines gives a brief description of that record and its present location. *Log of Logs* is now in North Mackay library.

Even if nothing can be found to tell of a particular voyage, a general picture of what it was like can be obtained from Don Charlwood's book The Long Farewell. This is written about convict and migrant ships from Britain to Australia up to the 1880s, and is based on shipboard diaries with many actual quotations. The last section of the book prints in full three shipboard diaries written 1854, 1858 and 1878. The book contains hundreds of factual references to people and ships but, even if no direct reference is found, the general picture emerges as vividly as on video. *The Long Farewell* will be found in most libraries. Other similar books include: *Migrant Ships to South Australia* by Parsons, and *The Colonial Clippers* by Lubbock.

NSW CERTIFICATES

Most people are aware that NSW certificates cost only \$15 if the registration number is quoted. The Registry, in the past, made every attempt to get a 'correct match' for researchers - even rang them up to check the number where the reference number did not tally with a certificate that met the other information provided, and would then refund if they still could not get a satisfactory match. They cannot continue to double check for people any longer. If a first attempt at matching the information to a certificate fails, they will make a second attempt ... but the certificate will now be issued after this second attempt regardless. so, it pays to give them as much information as possible, even if it is not asked for on the form, as some other little clue could ensure that your money gets the right results. Cost of an extended search depends on the length of time. A 5 year search (you can nominate the period) costs \$20. Beyond that, it costs \$20 for each 10 year block - 15 years = \$40, 25 = \$60 etc. HOWEVER, these charge apply only when the years requested in one search. If your first 5 years fails, and you come back next week for a 10 year search, the second search would cost \$20 for the first 5 years and \$20 for the remaining 5 years as it is a separate search.

? A PLACE FOR EVERY NAME, AND EVERY NAME IN ITS PLACE ?

Indexers are God's gift to researchers ... but being human, can and do make mistakes. Consider the following examples to see what type of errors possibly could occur.

1. The given name is listed as surname. The immigration to Queensland of Dakin Peberdy had not been found by several researchers. Yvonne Peberdy has finally found the record, indexed with surname 'Dakin'. In our own index to monumental inscriptions in Mackay Cemetery, 'Flora Louisa McLeod, wife of Captain William Goodall', was found to be indexed under 'McLeod'.

2. Most researchers are aware of variations in spelling of names and look under all possibilities in an index, e.g. Frewen, Frewin, Frewing, Fruen, Fruin, Fuen. The IGI, which lists all the variations under one main spelling, may provide further possible variations to the ones already known. Mc and Mac names usually give difficulty, and the researcher must first work out the system being used by the indexer.

3. Untidy or old style handwriting is misread by the indexer. Researchers in our library have found 'Louth' on the IGI indexed as 'South', and 'Zink' in the Qld births indexed as 'Tink'. The booklet *How to Read Old Handwriting* gives 10 or so ways of writing the letter 'L', which can be compared with other letters written in a similar way, and includes an 'L' written very much like an old 'S'.

4. Perhaps the keyboard operator miss-keyed the letter, so consider a letter near to the correct letter, e.g. Devine might be entered as Sevine, and Ridgewell might be typed as Tidgewell.

5. The occupation may have been written as the surname. A child 'Bushell' was indexed under 'Council' because his father was " John Bushell council labourer". "Richard Watson(,) tanner" was indexed under 'Tanner'.

6. A child might be indexed under his father's given name, especially if there are several given names, and if they do not fit on the one line in the appropriate column. A child with father Thomas Eric Oswald Joseph PERRETT cannot be found under 'Perrett', so check under Oswald and Joseph.

7. Indexes for a particular year can include events from many years before. An 1889 index was found to include events as far back as 1867.

Tips 5, 6 and 7 above are given in Lithgow's May newsletter as mistakes frequently found by auditors checking input into the Victorian Pioneer Index, and which are likely to occur in any indexing. Perhaps some of these examples might help a researcher deduce another place to look ... if the name cannot be found in the correct or normal place, perhaps it can be found in the wrong place!

REMEMBER:

- MONTHLY MEETINGS: 1st Wednesday each month at Milton Street High School Room D10
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER) both appear at meetings and then in
QUARTERLY MAGAZINE) the library.
DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER: 2 weeks before next meeting. Please contribute or ring 422539.
GENEALOGICAL LIBRARY: within North Mackay Library, Ungerer St. is open to all
9.30-5.30 daily + to 8.00p.m. Thursday & 9.00-1.00 Saturday.
RESEARCH ASSISTANCE: in this library 12.30-3.30 Monday to Wednesday, 10.00-12.00 2nd & 4th
Wednesdays and 2nd Saturday or ring 422539
MORMON LIBRARY: Mackay LDS Family History Centre is within the church at cnr McGinn and Field Sts -
open to all 9.30am - 3.00pm Tuesday, 10.00am - 3.00pm and 6.30pm - 9.30pm Wednesday.
Closed School Holidays.



Mackay Genie Gossip

NEWSLETTER No.66 SEP 1994



GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF QLD
MACKAY BRANCH
P O BOX 882, MACKAY 4740

President:	Denise Neville	59 3149
Secretary:	Jean Turvey	57 7764
Treasurer:	Yvonne Peberdy	57 8916
Sales:	Carmel Welch	57 5244
Research:	Denise Neville	59 3149

RECENT ACQUISITIONS TO OUR LIBRARY

Emigrants from Hamburg to Australia 1850-52

McKirdy Indexes of deaths in Scotland:

- a) Bute deaths 1855-75
- b) Lanark deaths 1855 (which contains all names on all death certificates for that year and so is a partial census)

Mackay Presbyterian, Methodist and Uniting Church records of baptisms and marriages for West Mackay, Pioneer & Dalrymple parishes (on microfilm and not yet indexed)

Townsville Orphanage Index - children admitted 1878-1911, and persons (orphans and others) mentioned in minutes 1917-24

Townsville West End Cemetery burial register index 1873-1989

Mt Thompson Crematorium (Brisbane) cremations index.



Ipswich and District Pioneer Register pre-1914 Vol.1 (Vol.2 is projected and entries are called for).

Narrabri (NSW) Shire Cemeteries burials registers index

Roll Call - guide to researching military forces of and in Australia

Arrivals and departures/ Gazetteers of Shipping for Sydney 1788-1840, Tasmania 1803-42, Victoria 1798-1845 (no passengers)

Histories:

Winton One Hundred Years 1875-1975

Shamrocks among the Gumtrees, the Ready family of Mackay

Plane Creek West State School 1900-1960



Maps: many large scale maps have been added to the hanging map file including, London, Germany, Pommern, Canada, USA, Alaska, West Indies, Spain and Portugal, Greece, and Queensland (in sections) including an old 2 mile:1 inch map of the Mackay area.

Queensland cemetery records: Mareeba, Hughenden, Chillagoe, Kuranda, Irvinebank, Mt Molloy, Dimbulah, Mt Carbine, Biloela, Killarney, Swan Creek, Yangan, Gayndah, Southport, Wondai, Proston, Beenleigh, Jambin, Cracow, Boralaba, Wowan, Moura, Theodore, Blackwater, Duaringa. We are acquiring all books published by GSQ in the Qld Cemetery Records Series, as well as any other records of deaths or burials which become available. There is a map of Queensland in our library showing those place for which records are held.



We thank Carmel McDonald, Warren Pitt, Yvonne Peberdy, Les Perrin, Daphne Muraro and Jean Turvey for their donations to our library.

RESEARCH NOTES



1. **Tasmanian BDMs 1803-1899** are indexed in the Tasmanian Pioneer Index on fiche in our library. With the reference number from these fiche, a copy of the entry in the original register can be obtained from the Archives Office of Tasmania, 77 Murray Street, Hobart TAS 7000. This is the official certificate. The charge is \$5 for the first certificate, and \$1 for each further certificate requested at the same time. Researchers are asked to send no money with their order, as an invoice will be forwarded with the certificates and payment should be made then by cheque or money order (no stamps or bankcard). A certificate usually gives some extra information not included on the index. A death certificate will show occupation and place of birth, but not parents' names or children's names. GSQ Brisbane (and other

large libraries) have the Tasmanian registers on microfilm, so the full entry can be read there and hand-copied, but printouts are not allowed.

2. **Hervey Bay Latter Day Saints** have an extensive genealogical library. We now have a list of items held there and this shows many overseas church and other records. As in all LDS libraries, researchers are welcomed free of charge. Some of our members recently visiting the Maryborough area have researched in this library. If unable to visit, write to Janet Reakes.

3. **The England and Wales 1881 Census** is being indexed progressively county by county. Many have been completed already. GSQ Brisbane has a standing order for these indexes and, when the new ones arrive, they are listed in the next *Generation* in the section "Recent Acquisitions". Searching these indexes is a simple matter even if the place of residence is not known. The county is indexed in one A-Z list for surnames, then for birth places, and then for census place - three separate sets of fiche. Another set gives the census as enumerated. Members can obtain printouts from Brisbane at 50¢ each. Otherwise, a search for a particular name can be requested. (Remember, country members of GSQ have 10 free requests per year.) Look up past *Generations* to see counties available or ring and enquire. Of course, the 1881 census is on microfilm and can be ordered into LDS libraries at \$6 per reel. These give the census only as enumerated, so to ensure the correct film is ordered, a small area or a street in a large place must be known. It would be possible to combine the two resources by getting a reference for the name from the fiche index in Brisbane and, if you want to study the whole area, ordering in the film locally.

4. **Newsletters and Journals of genealogical societies** are always a good read for genies. We have over 30 of these arriving regularly in our library. Any journal from your area of interest should be perused for helpful material and for people researching the same family. It should be realised, however, that any genealogical magazine might be helpful. Browsing might bring results. At one of our meetings, Member Shirley Jones found her long-lost Allison Kerr who disappeared from Queensland early this century. Shirley found a reference to this lady while browsing the Swan Hill Society newsletter, from Victoria, which was among the new items being passed around the meeting. She was able to contact the Swan Hill member who had the whole story of how Allison Kerr had gone to Western Australia.

5. **Local histories** give good background and perspective to family history, even if your ancestors are not mentioned. These can be found in libraries. Often they are still available for purchase many years after publication. The 1976 Boullia Centenary of Settlement is still available from the Boullia Council, Herbert Street, Boullia (cost \$10 + \$2 p&p). Unfortunately, *Pioneer Pageant*, about the old Pioneer Shire area, is no longer available.

6. **Reading German letters and documents** can be a problem. Researchers will find a helpful chapter on translating German in Owen Mutzleburg's *How to Trace Your German Ancestors*. This includes a log list of common German words, and special words used in documents and registers.

Judy Wallace



I was born Judy Patterson in Sydney, although my parents both came from Victoria. My mother was born in New Zealand, as were her parents. In 1967, I married a local and have been in Mackay ever since.

My interest in genealogy began in 1979 when I received many old photos of my mother's family, and my curiosity got the better of me. In 1981, I became secretary of the newly formed Mackay branch of the Genealogical Society of Qld, and I found myself engrossed in an all-consuming hobby. The most exciting part of the day was the arrival of the postman!

I research all branches of my family, and my husband's. Working back, my ancestors have come from Victoria, South Australia, New Zealand, England, Scotland, Ireland and Sweden. My husband's have come from Queensland, Victoria, England, Scotland and Ireland. Apparently there are also some Huguenots from France, but I haven't managed to find them yet.

For two years I concentrated entirely on the WALLACE family as we held a Wallace reunion in Mackay in 1985, and I wanted to find out as much as possible as I wanted to publish a book. Most of my research involved letters to and from Ireland, mainly Dublin and Co. Wexford, which was frustrating as records in Ireland are so fragmented. The Wallaces were a very interesting family, and I discovered that the male line was actually JAMES, and an ancestor had taken the maternal name of WALLACE to inherit land - some present descendants still call themselves JAMES-WALLACE.

In 1986, we held a DUNN reunion in Mackay to commemorate 100 years since the marriage of Samuel DUNN and Susan HOWARD from Norfolk, England. I printed a small booklet and a circular family tree. In 1991, I attended a SEFTON reunion in Melbourne - 150 years since the family had arrived from Northern Ireland.

I have discovered many fascinating things along the way - how my Swedish great-grandfather, Frans Adolph PERSSON, ran away to sea at the age of 16, arrived in Australia two years later, and jumped ship to try his luck at the goldfields. He anglicised his name to Francis Adolphus PATTERSON. My husband's ancestor, Robert NEWMAN, from Devon in England, also changed his name on arrival in Australia. He was a remittance man - sent to the colonies by his family as he was a disgrace to them. He became Henry MYDDLETON. Several ancestors were involved in smuggling, chiefly Samuel DUNN, on the Norfolk coast. One ancestor, Thomas JAMES, married Eliza GILBERT - later known as Lola Montez.

One of my great finds was the SMYTHIES family who, for generations, were Anglican ministers and all educated at Cambridge. Records there provided wonderful information. The line I have traced furthest back (to the 1100s) is the NEWMAN family from Devon - also a very interesting family involved in shipping, privateering, fishing in Newfoundland, and the port wine trade in Portugal. Lately, I have been contacting relations in New Zealand for inclusion in a book on the STEPHENS family from Cornwall.

I purchased the computer program "Brothers Keeper" and have spent hours feeding data into it, but it is worth it when I want to send charts to people. I am also compiling photo albums for my three sons with photos of their ancestors. I am not quite as addicted as I once was, but I will always be interested, as genealogy is a hobby with no end.

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BIRTHS

When having a search done for a birth, do not put "place unknown" but instead "somewhere in WA". The Registry staff are then obliged to go through the records held in a special search room until the answer is found. This might apply in other states as well. It is advisable to request marriage particulars when ordering birth certificates. [from *Western Connections* no.36]

HINTS FROM JANET REAKES FOR YOUR FAMILY HISTORY

Two years ago, Janet Reakes held a seminar in Mackay. Here are some of the suggestions she offered that might help to make our family histories fuller, more meaningful, and more interesting. Who has remembered to do them?

1. The newspaper published on the day you were born gives a picture of the world as it was then. Find a copy and read it. Also keep a copy of the paper from the day on which your child or grandchild is born.
2. Find your ancestor's signature and include it.
3. Enquire whether a street, or anything else, has been named after an ancestor, if he was in any way prominent, or if the family lived in the place for a long time. Include this in your story. If there is not already something so named, request the Council to use the surname when naming something in the future.
4. Make two time lines, side by side, one for family happenings and the other for events in the world at the corresponding time.
5. Take photos of the churches and the schools associated with your family.
6. List the addresses at which the family lived. Get photos of the houses if possible. Draw floor plans.
7. Start writing your own life story now, bit by bit - you wished grandma had done it! You, at least, will be a good ancestor to future generations if you write yours now. An extra incentive is that, when you write it your own story for posterity, you have editorial control.
8. Keep a family 50-year diary. Write some current affairs in brief at the top of the page, and then record briefly the main events in the family for that year. One page per year.
9. Give slices of family history as Christmas and birthday presents.
10. Read up all you can on your ancestor's occupation. If there is no photo of him working at his occupation, find a picture of a typical worker in that occupation at that time and use this to illustrate your ancestor's story.

Lastly, Janet says there is never a full stop to family history - but always "What will that lead me to?"

WHAT'S IN A NAME



So, you wanted some unusual names. Well, I took a look through my family and came up with these -

Men: Greydon, Mugleston, Hargen, Emile, Ludwig, Ewald.

Women: Aelsab, Rhelme, Oelgard, Seraphine, Appolonia.

As if that was not enough, when my grandparents KAHN married, they became very patriotic to their new land. The girls were given the usual family names, but the boys' second names were Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, and one was given the first name of Burnett, as the home town of Gayndah was on the Burnett River. But it did not end there. Why did my mother decided that my second name should be Adelaide? And what about poor Perth and Hobart - what happened to them?

Rube Stevens

McKIRDY INDEXES

We have recently purchased the McKirdy indexes for the Scottish counties of Bute and Lanark (see page 1). The index for Sutherland is now available on fiche at a cost of NZ\$20. If there is enough interest, we will purchase this index also. If you are interested in having this added to our library, please advise Jean Turvey.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT for 1993/94



(Following is an extract from the president's report to the Annual General in August 1994).

Based on the Treasurer's figures, the past year has been a successful one - and it certainly has been a busy one.

Probably the outstanding feature of the year is our rise to what must be the Trash & Treasure kings of Mackay. Income from trash and treasure sales this year was up more than \$600 on the previous year, and this sort of effort allows for some very useful acquisitions for our library.

We have gained several new members in the last year, and it is, perhaps, to these newer members that we look for suggestions on how we might better serve the needs of members.

Our fundraising officers, Mavis and Adelaide, have had a successful year with income from raffles up on the previous year. Thank you to these two ladies for their efforts and to those who donated raffle prizes over the year.

Donations more than doubled over the previous year. Much of this accompanies outside research enquiries, and also reflects the increase in the volume of these enquiries being handled by the branch. My thanks to those who have assisted in any way in providing answers to these requests.

Acquisitions to our library totalled just over \$1600 for the year, up almost \$200 on the previous year. The crammed space in the genealogy room in the North Mackay Library bears testimony to our continuing efforts to improve our holdings. My thoughts are that we are at the stage when we must become much more structured in our approach to acquiring material, with more forward thought and planning going into such purchases. A 'wish list' would be a healthy start to a planned acquisition program. In mentioning our library, it would be remiss at this point not to express our gratitude to North Mackay Librarian, Peter Cramm, for allowing us room to operate out of his library. His co-operation and tolerance are noted and greatly appreciated.

Our indexers worked hard all year, again with Peg Strickland at the helm, and all of us who didn't get involved owe them a great debt of gratitude. Likewise, filming of records, after a few initial setbacks, progressed well to capture more Mackay records for posterity. The filming of the old Mackay City Council rate books will greatly add to this store of records. Thanks to Christine for her efforts and perseverance.

Again this year thanks go to our stalwarts; Helen for her work in keeping our library in order and ensuring we get a regular newsletter, and to Judy for her work on our displays. A new position created at the last AGM has contributed to the fellowship of our meetings. Thanks to Gary for making this possible. Carmel has capably handled the sales officer's position over the last year, and she probably learned a valuable lesson about turning up to AGMs as well ... at least if you are present, you can decline a nomination!

A special thanks to Jean for her assistance during the year, and I'm sure I express the gratitude of all members in thanking our hard working secretary for the way in which she not only carried out the duties of her position but somehow managed to deal with all those other things which seem to fall her way. Thanks also to our treasurer, Yvonne, who, at any given time over the last twelve months, has been able to tell us exactly how much - or how little - we have had to spend.

To all those not mentioned directly but who, in some way assisted and contributed to our successfully surviving another year, thank you - nothing happens of its own accord, it is people that make it happen.

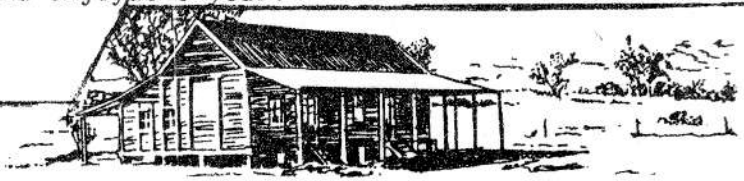
In closing, I would just like to give a thought to the forthcoming year. While many
(continues next page)

of our activities carry on from one year to the next in a general way, such as indexing, displays, etc., I believe an extra special effort is required in the coming year to lift our public profile, i.e. to bring ourselves more to the public's attention so that they become more aware of our presence and what we are about.

Thanks to those who have helped me in any way throughout the year, and I wish the incoming management committee a successful and enjoyable year.

- Denise Neville.

MANAGEMENT TEAM FOR THE COMING YEAR



The Annual General Meeting of the Branch held on 03 August 1994 saw very few changes from the previous year in the management team that will take up the reins for the coming year. They are as follows:

President	Denise Neville
Vice President	Betty McGowan
Secretary	Jean Turvey
Treasurer	Yvonne Peberdy
Sales Officer	Carmel Welch
Research Officer	Denise Neville
Publicity Officer	Joan Hope
Fundraising	Mavis Sheedy & Adelaide Grendon
Annual Display	Judy Wallace
Newsletter	Helen Butler
Librarian	Helen Butler
Machines Maintenance	Gerry Woodruff
Catering Officer	Gary O'Shea
Loan Books Officer	Lenore Moore
Project Co-ordinator	Jean Turvey

Two new positions, those of loan books officer and project co-ordinator, have been added to the list this year. Lenore, as the loan books officer, will take on looking after that box of books in the library that are available on loan to members. Members may borrow these books at any time, but please follow the procedures so we know who has what - and you can expect to hear from Lenore if any item is too long in being returned.

The old adage about 'if you want something done, ask a busy person to do it' seems to hold true our new project co-ordinator's position. Jean has undertaken to co-ordinate the various 'projects' that might occur, whether they be simple housekeeping tasks or major indexing projects. This does not mean Jean is going to do them herself. It means she is going to schedule the various things that need to be done and organise the people to carry them out. So, if you have some spare time, or wouldn't mind doing the odd job now and then, please contact Jean and let her know exactly what you might be interested in doing.

REMEMBER:



- MONTHLY MEETINGS: 1st Wednesday each month at Milton Street High School Room D10
- MONTHLY NEWSLETTER) both appear at meetings and then in
- QUARTERLY MAGAZINE) the library.
- DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER: 2 weeks before next meeting. Please contribute or ring 422539.
- GENEALOGICAL LIBRARY: within North Mackay Library, Ungerer St. is open to all
9.30-5.30 daily + to 8.00p.m. Thursday & 9.00-1.00 Saturday.
- RESEARCH ASSISTANCE: in this library 12.30-3.30 Monday to Wednesday, 10.00-12.00 2nd & 4th
Wednesdays and 2nd Saturday or ring 422539
- MORMON LIBRARY: Mackay LDS Family History Centre is within the church at cnr McGinn and Field Sts -
open to all 9.30am - 3.00pm Tuesday, 10.00am - 3.00pm and 6.00pm - 9.00pm Wednesday.
Closed School Holidays.

MEMBERS OF MACKAY BRANCH

NAME	ADDRESS1	ADDRESS2	ADDRESS3	PHONE
John Edward George ANDERSON	18 Stott Street	BUCASIA QLD 4750		548407
Norma ANDERSON	18 Stott Street	BUCASIA QLD 4750		
James Arthur BARBAT	P.O. Box 8081	MT PLEASANT QLD 4740		552698
Pam BARRATT	7 Herrigan Street	Glenella	MACKAY QLD 4740	
Pamela Joy BARRIE	34 Holack Street	MACKAY QLD 4740		422174
Lorraine Mary BOYD	4 Cheribon Avenue	MT PLEASANT QLD 4740		421764
Heleen Mary BUTLER	5 Pollock Street	MACKAY QLD 4740		422539
Brian Ross CALDWELL	24 English Street	MACKAY QLD 4740		575261
Susan Maree CAPPELLO	P.O. Box 9	GARBETT QLD 4741		585242
Margaret Rose CLARK	3 Dalrymple Street	MACKAY QLD 4740		
Gregory James COLWELL	2 Casuarina Street	SLADE POINT QLD 4740		553880
Roseann Letitia CREAM	85 Winterer Crescent	DYSART QLD 4745		580141
Christine Gail CRICHTON	10 Ennio Court	MACKAY QLD 4740		522936
Robert Kenneth CRUICKSHANK	10 Grant Street	MACKAY QLD 4740		
Merryl Diane DANCER	4 Honeysuckle Street	ANDERGROVE QLD 4740		554920
Kerri Michelle DAVIDSON	40 Lee Street	Coppabella	via MACKAY QLD 4740	580171
Enid Mabel DAVIS	43 Hume Street	MACKAY QLD 4740		578485
Nita Barbara DRURY	34 Jarrah Street	NORTH MACKAY QLD 4740		421294
Margaret Williamson EDWARDS	64 Juliet Street	MACKAY QLD 4740		575427
Margaret Vivian EDWARDS	64 Juliet Street	MACKAY QLD 4740		575427
Samuel James EVANS	Poste Restante	CALEN QLD 4798		588213
Iona Lesley FETTEL	11 Gardenia Court	MACKAY QLD 4740		421864
Helen FOSTER	44 Paulette Street	MACKAY QLD 4740		574580
Joan Ellen FURLONG	6 Hillend Road	Glenella	MACKAY QLD 4741	421455
John Charles FURLONG	6 Hillend Road	Glenella	MACKAY QLD 4741	421455
Louise Margaret GOODWIN	109 Phillip Street	NORTH MACKAY QLD 4740		421531
Lucy Margaret GREEN	24 Andergrove Road	MACKAY QLD 4740		551981
Adelaide Julia BRENDON	40 Marlborough Street	Planlands	MACKAY QLD 4740	564295
Barbara Beatrice GRIMM	58 Bedford Road	Andergrove	MACKAY QLD 4740	553356
Glen Desmond HALL	c/- Post Office	PLEYSTOWE QLD 4741		592572
June Margaret HARRIS	43 Goldston Street	COPPABELLA QLD 4741		
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Sandra Grace HAZELDENE	6 Tully Court	ANDERGROVE QLD 4740		552303
Meryl Elizabeth HENDERSON	Box 5128 Mail Centre	MACKAY QLD 4740		575418
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Avis HILDRETH	14 Peatey Street	MACKAY QLD 4740		552215
Carolan Denise HILL	M.S. 60	Homebush Road	MACKAY QLD 4740	
Susanne Marie HILL	27 High Street	NORTH MACKAY QLD 4740		421487
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Joyce Mary JENSEN	Post Office	FARLEIGH QLD 4741		598119
Anita Robyn JOHNSTON	Eungella Road	FINCH HATTON QLD 4756		583171
Heather Margaret JONES	North Eton	via MACKAY QLD 4741		
Shirley Gay JONES	26 Dickens Avenue	MACKAY QLD 4740		523124
Heather Margaret LEIGH	P.O. Box 1019	MACKAY QLD 4740		421887
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Ross LOCKE	c/-Commonwealth Bank	MACKAY QLD 4740		422450
Hilda Erica MAC LEAN	317 Hunter Street	WEST MACKAY QLD 4740		514387
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Gail Patricia MAGUIRE	30 Petersen Street	SARINA QLD 4737		561351
Ann Lee MATTHEWS	59 Bedford Road	Andergrove	MACKAY QLD 4740	554735
Carmel Mary MC DONALD	1 Volute Street	SHOAL POINT QLD 4750		548800
Betty Mavis MC GOWAN	1 Tait Street	MACKAY QLD 4740		575485



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Joann M. MC GRATH	M.S. 283	MACKAY QLD 4741		564126
Lenore Elva MOORE	M.S. 2042 Eungella Road	WALKERSTON QLD 4751		545375
Daphne Ruth MURARO	32 Thorning Street	WEST MACKAY QLD 4740		523998
Sherree Donna MURCHIE	58 Thallon Street	COPPABELLA QLD 4741		
Michelle NEILL	14 Norris Road	NORTH MACKAY QLD 4740		422805
Denise NEVILLE	Pleystowe Mill	c/- P.O. Box 99	PLEYSTOWE QLD 4741	593149
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Philip NEWTON	31 Cahill Crescent	M.S. 352	MACKAY QLD 4740	546186
Joyce Belle NICHOLSON	10 Scanlan Street	MACKAY QLD 4740		575676
Peter Carlton NICHOLSON	10 Scanlan Street	MACKAY QLD 4740		575676
Barry Michael James O'SHEA	Lot 20 Pyms Court	YAKAPARI QLD 4741		540879
Brian O'SULLIVAN	77 Bannister Street	MACKAY QLD 4740		575338
Robyn May PACE	1 Rosella Street	Slade Point	MACKAY QLD 4741	551478
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Helen Yvonne PEBERDY	224 Goldsmith Street	MACKAY QLD 4740		578916
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Carmel Therese WELCH	12 Chataway Street	MACKAY QLD 4740		575244
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Mackay Genie Gossip



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NEWSLETTER No.67 OCT 1994

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Mackay Daily Mercury for Easy Reference

Recently placed in our library, Clippings File no.9 contains items of genealogical and historical interest from *The Daily Mercury* papers from January to June 1994. Thanks to Patricia Evetts for all her work in compiling this file and the index to it.

Trash & Treasure Makes Money

Takings on the day from our recent Trash & Treasure stall amounted to \$347 but, since then, Mavis has been busily disposing of the leftovers. Her efforts have cleared another \$108. Thanks to all those who cleaned out their cupboards.

Strange Names - but for a good reason

Recent news articles revealed that the late Vic Rail was christened Victory Robert Rail, because he was born on Victory Day, or V-J Day, 15 August 1945 - the day the war against Japan ended.

Several babies were born in Mackay during the days in 1918 when the cyclone and tidal surge devastated this town. Three of these were given names to commemorate the dramatic circumstances of their birth. At the Technical College, where many went for safety, one baby was called College Zillfleisch, which was conveniently shortened to 'Col' in later years. Another baby born there was called Tidal McCulloch, and he was actually referred to as 'Tidal' all his life. John Hall Hunter seems not unusual for a name at first glance, but his middle name was chosen because he was born in the Town Hall - on the office table of the Town Clerk, his uncle Arthur Fadden.

Some strange names resulted when babies were born at sea on immigrant boats. It was the custom, and some captains insisted on it, to include the name of the boat in the child's name. Annie Brigadia Francis was born on the ship *The Light Brigade*. Compta Weatherley was born on the ship *Compta*, and Julia Light-of-the-Age Sheridan was born on the ship *Light of the Age*.

In Scottish research, if a person's Christian name does not 'fit' with regular family names, they could have been named after the Minister who baptised them, particularly if the child was the first to be baptised by the new minister in the parish - regardless of whether the child was a boy or a girl! A baptism entry in Dumfries for a child baptised on 02 August 1806 reads "Scot, lawful daughter of Alexander Grier" and there is an attached note to the effect that the parents had originally intended to call the child Jenny but agreed to call her 'Scot' because she was the first child baptised by Rev. Alexander Scot after his arrival at St Michael's "and this appropriation of a name is an honour generally shown for ministers". This custom could often extend to the doctor or the midwife.

Does anyone have further examples of unusual given names?

FROM SMALL BEGINNINGS

Lesley Kane, co-ordinator of the Mirani Museum, gave an informal talk at our September meeting. It was interesting to learn how the museum started and how it had progressed in a few short years.

The museum really began in 1986 when Mirani Shire Council, with great foresight, purchased the Jack Williams collection. Jack Williams was a geologist and a foundation member of Channel 6 television. His collection includes valuable fossils, aboriginal tools and weapons, military medals, photographs, mining equipment belonging to his parents, and more. Before 1986 the collection had known several "homes" and it was only in 1988 that Mirani Shire, with the help of a bi-centennial grant, was able to build a permanent resting place for its acquisition.

That 1986 purchase cost \$14 000. Today, Mirani Museum has an estimated value of \$2 million for its building and contents. In its first year 1000 visitors passed through the new museum. Now, visitors average 100 per week, with school groups of 50 coming along regularly as part of an educational programme the museum has implemented.

The museum is open six days a week thanks to the 40 Friends of the Museum. These local people don't just turn up for their roster once a month, they keep coming in regularly. Displays are rotated so that avid museum goers will keep returning. A couple of collections plus a few items are held in storage as there is just not enough room for everything.

At present the museum is entirely funded by Mirani Shire Council, with the possibility of a government grant for airconditioning. People may look at things not on display but it is best to make an appointment before hand. To borrow or to photocopy, a person must first apply in writing to the Council. Finally, Lesley told us that people are starting to bring in family histories - Fordyce, Flor, T H Fitzgerald, Barfield, Ready, Larsen, to name a few.

Lesley brought along the Australasian Pictorial Annual of 1934; a sketch map of the Eungella gold digging 1890; original tenders for bridges over the Pioneer River 1887; report of a visit to the Palmer gold Field 1899 by Robert L Jack, Government Geologist; but it was an album of old photographs that generated great interest. Lesley and the Museum Friends are still trying to put names to many of the people in the photographs. Judy Wallace was sure her husband would be able to name the people in a photograph of real estate personalities. Perhaps others can help too. Next time you visit Mirani Museum take a look at that old album that once belonged to Jack Williams.

Thank you Lesley for an interesting and informative talk.

Lucy M Green

GEMS from the PAST

The Mail Goes Through - a handed down story

For some years around 1920, before the railway was built, our grand father, Otto Hansen, had the Hampden Post Office and Store and the mail contract. On Tuesdays and Fridays he would collect the mail from The Leap and deliver as far north as Blackrock, the other side of Calen. One day he was delivering the mail by sulky and our mother, then a young girl, was with him. They came to Murray Creek which then had no bridge, so they made ready to ford the creek. There had been a storm in the headwaters but they did not expect what they saw when they looked up the creek. A wall of water was fast approaching. The prudent course was to stop there and go back home; however, grandfather cried, "The mail must go through!", and whipped the horse to cross faster. They went up the far bank just as the wall of water passed behind them. Needless to say, mother never forgot that day, and often told the story.





JAMES and MARY READY



In The Year of the Family, I thought it appropriate to write of my great grandparents, James and Mary Ready (nee Hayes), who were the first white family to settle in the Mackay District. I have recently completed their family history *Shamrocks among the Gum Trees*.

James and Mary were both born in Ireland, James in Castle Connell, Limerick, and Mary in Tipperary, 160 years ago in 1834. After seeing troubled times in Ireland, both decided to make a future for themselves in Australia. They arrived 140 years ago in 1854 and worked for some time on Gordanbrook Station in the Clarence River District of New South Wales, where their first child, Charles, was born on 10 May 1860.

They decided to try their luck in the north of the colony and travelled by bullock wagon to Fassifern Station in Queensland. Here they met Richard Spencer who was forming a party to bring a mob of cattle to the headwaters of Denison Creek in the north, to form a property for Messrs Hardie and Broughton. They decided to join the party. James was in charge of the bullock wagons and Mary cooked for the men.

Rockhampton was the last place to obtain supplies on the overland trek as there were only a few properties being formed north of there. After the hectic challenge of getting the cattle and wagons over Connors Range safely, they rested at Connors River. It was here, under a bullock wagon, that Mary gave birth to her second child, Kate, on 28 January 1862, she being the first white child born in the Mackay district. The party founded The Retreat Station (the name later changed to Mt Spencer Station). They arrived before Mackay was even established or named. Mary Ready was the first white woman in the Mackay district and never saw another female of her own race until nearly a year later when Mrs Bolger arrived by sea.

James Ready was the first white man to cross the Eton Range, in his bullock wagon accompanied by a Jamaican lad, Billy Coakley (also known as Spencer's Billy). In those days bullock wagons and teams only covered a distance of 12-13 miles in a day, so it was slow going. The Readys helped form The Retreat Station, and later worked on Greenmount. Their third child, James Jnr, was born 08 September 1863, and was the first white boy born in the Mackay district.

James Ready built The Travellers Rest Hotel at Hazeldean, later to be called the Range Hotel. While living there, their youngest child, Mary, was born on 19 June 1867. It was also while they were there that 'The Leap incident' occurred. A group of Aborigines, after spearing a market gardener named Barnes at Cremorne, were being pursued by the Native Police. Some fled to the mountain they now call The Leap. An Aboriginal woman jumped from the mount holding her baby. She was killed but her baby survived the fall and was rescued by James Ready and a Mr Allen. Nobody wanted responsibility for the child, so James took her home and he and Mary reared her. They had her baptised Johanna (but she was called Judy) on the same day as their daughter Mary, on 22 July 1867. Mary Ready became Mrs Coughlin and was my grandmother.

The Ready's later owned Fort Cooper Station, and properties at Bakers Creek, Racecourse, and Mackay, and the Cosmopolitan Hotel in Sydney Street, which afterwards became Molloy's. This hotel was always a great meeting place of the Irish. James and Mary died in Mackay, Mary in 1902 and James in 1909. Both were buried in the Mackay Cemetery.

- Family . Charles Ready married Mary Breen. They had no family. Charles Ready was Mayor of Mackay in 1903 and 1913.
- Kate Ready married Patrick Hynes. They had 10 children (6 surviving). Patrick was Mayor of Mackay in 1895.
 - James Ready Jnr died a bachelor.
 - Mary Ready married Patrick Coughlin. They had 11 children (9 surviving).
 - Joanna married George Howes. They had 3 children (2 surviving).

THREE MINES OF MACKAY HISTORY OPEN FOR DIGGING

John Kerr's notes for *Pioneer Pageant* are held by the North Mackay Library. Under broad subject headings, 108 pages give research notes, and often full text, from Government Gazettes, private papers, Council Minutes, parliamentary proceedings, archive files, newspapers of Mackay, Rockhampton, Bowen, Townsville and Brisbane, Sugar Journals, company files, and other sources. The footnote references in *Pioneer Pageant* might be found expanded in detail in these notes and containing information not included in *Pioneer Pageant*. Browsing can be rewarding.

Clive Moore is another author who has written about the history of the Mackay area in articles and in his book *Kanaka*. Clive Moore's Index contains his research notes on Mackay history. This index of over 2 000 cards has narrow subject headings making it easy to look up a particular subject or person. The large cards (5x8) often contain much information, and this index can be consulted in the Local History Room at the Mackay City Library.

George Mayes wrote the history of the Nebo Shire in *Behold Nebo*. He gave all his research notes and papers to Mackay City Library where the George Mayes Files are now held in a hanging file in the Local History Room. They contain extensive copies of archival and other official material. For example, his file on the Nebo School contains a copy of the full Queensland Archives file on the school.

BOOKORNER



Two books worth a read for genies are *A Fortunate Life* and *The World of Albert Facey*. While written some years apart by two different people, they make excellent "companion" reading.

A Fortunate Life by Albert Facey is his autobiography written when he was in his eighties. Born the youngest of a large family in 1894 in Victoria, his father and two eldest brothers left for the Western Australian goldfields when he was two years old. When he was four, his mother followed, leaving her children in the care of their maternal grandparents. Discovering she was a widow, she remarried and abandoned her former family. Life the children and their aged grandparents was extremely difficult during the depression of the 1890s, but became even more so following the death of the grandfather. Grandma and the children relocated to Western Australia. Set mainly in the wheat belt of WA, the book traces Albert's life through two depressions and a war. Albert tells his story of being sent away to work when only seven, of no schooling and his embarrassment at not being able to read or write, of teaching himself these skills, of cruel and harsh treatment by employers, and of an understanding of life and the bush way beyond his tender years, of his part in World War I, his injuries, and his subsequent happy marriage. It is written in an easy style but, be warned, in many places it can be quite moving. This book is in North Mackay Library.

The second book, *The World of Albert Facey*, is written by J B Hirst who is a history professor. Hirst basically took Albert Facey's book and researched the story 'behind the story'. He researched the history of both Albert's paternal and maternal grandparents and puts their lives, and those of Albert and his siblings, in the context of society at that time. It is a fascinating book of only about 160 pages which somehow expands the reader's understanding of Albert's story. For anyone writing a family history or autobiography, this book illustrates how inclusion of some 'outside' information could give a much greater dimension to the final product. For those interested in oral history, the book presents many examples of the pitfalls which await those who venture forth with trusty tape recorder in hand. Having read both books, the reader becomes aware of 'omissions' in Albert's story. These may have been due to his having forgotten the incidents, not having considered them significant enough for inclusion - or they might be prime examples of selective memory. When recording oral history on a place or long-gone event, one usually looks for the oldest survivor who is then questioned about events which occurred very early in their childhood - and in some instance before they were born! This book shows how an adult's memory of early childhood events may be far removed from reality. This book is not available in Mackay and is difficult to get hold of, but well worth the read.

Rwanda. In July this year, Cholera was headline news as an epidemic broke out in Zaire among the one million refugees from Rwanda. The death rate was very high (up to 50%) while there was no medical treatment, and the disease spread easily and fast in the primitive conditions of the camps. This was expected once cholera broke out, for now medical science knows all about cholera. The prompt intervention of dozens of medical teams dramatically reduced the death rate to 5%. Preventing the spread of the disease was more difficult, but there has been gradual progress since the authorities facilitated and enforced simple hygiene and a clean water supply.

Past epidemics. Cholera epidemics are nothing new. It is thought first to have existed in India and spread from there to other parts of the world along the trade routes. In Europe, the first major epidemic occurred in 1830, followed by others in 1848, 1854, 1865, 1884 and 1892, and with an outbreak in the Balkans during World War I. Cholera ravaged the whole of the United States three times in the nineteenth century.

The disease. Cholera has sudden onset with diarrhoea so severe that massive dehydration occurs. If not treated immediately, the skin shrivels and darkens, kidneys and heart fail, and death follows in a short time. People feared cholera outbreaks which affected so many so suddenly, especially since they had no understanding of the disease or its prevention. It is now known that cholera is contracted by ingesting the germ, usually in water or food. The germs live in faeces and vomit of a sick person, can continue to live in soil and water, and can be transmitted by hands, flies and vermin. When all of this is understood, individuals can avoid the disease and authorities can effectively curtail its spread.

Water closets, cholera and town slums.

In the years around 1780 rivers were still fairly clean because people did not use a great deal of water. The lavatories did not need water. People used either a privy, which is just a hole in the ground with a seat built over it, or they used a "close-stool", which is a seat over a pot in the bedroom: the contents of the pot were thrown out into the garden.

In 1778 a cabinet-maker, Joseph Bramah (1749-1814), began to make and sell water-closets in London. This meant that instead of being thrown on the ground, or buried, excrement was now washed away with water. More and more dirty water began to flow into ditches, streams and rivers. Yet at the same time drinking water was being taken from these streams and rivers. ^①

In the 19th century there was a great movement of people from the country, where new methods and enclosures required fewer workers, to the towns where new factories required more and more workers. Towns became **very** crowded and **very** unhealthy.

Houses were small and cramped, sanitation was poor and drainage was very bad. Many of your ancestors lived in cellars where sewage seeped through the walls. One small village in Northumberland, called Newburn, lost 10% of its population that year [i.e. 1830 in cholera epidemic]. The twin towns of Gateshead and Newcastle, straddling the Durham-Northumberland border, had 497 deaths from cholera in 1832 and a total of 801 deaths before the epidemic finally subsided. ^②

This picture would be the backdrop for many of those names we so eagerly record from the 1841 and 1851 census.

Clean Water. Water was not laid on to each poor tenement. Contractors set up a community pump in each area and the residents fetched their own household water. Health regulations were non-existent, as were controls over contractors who would pipe water from the nearest convenient well or stream.

A London physician, Dr John Snow (1813-1858), took a special interest in cholera. During the outbreak in 1854 he marked on a map the position of each case that occurred in Soho, London. From this he could see that most of the people who were attacked by cholera at that time lived near a certain water-pump at a well in Broad Street. This and his other investigations convinced Snow that

continues next page

① Read: *The Water We Use.*

② Smith: *The Lives and Times of our English Ancestors*

cholera was caused by "the mixture of the cholera evacuations with the water used for drinking". The Broad Street pump has since become famous in the history of water supply and public health. Dr Snow was able to stop the epidemic of cholera in Soho simply by removing the handle of the pump so that people had to go elsewhere for their water.

Although it was many years before doctors and scientists would agree that dirty water was a cause of disease, many people were disgusted by the filthy state of the rivers. Some water companies tried to clean the water they supplied by letting it run through sand. The first successful sand filter was built by a young water engineer, James Simpson, for the Chelsea Water Company, London, in 1829.^③



But the Chelsea Water Company was the exception rather than the rule as this cartoon 37 years later shows.^④ I also shows that the local authorities were doing nothing yet to fix the problem of dirty water, thus spreading death and disease.

Public health regulation. In the first half of the 19th century, all government control and regulation was kept to a minimum. There was a strong belief that the best solution to most problems would develop if things were left to work themselves out. This Laissez-Faire policy was followed in every sphere from trade and business to working conditions and health. In 1778, Johann Frank in Germany had used statistics to show the importance of public health, but this did not result in regulations to improve it. It took the cholera epidemics to do that. Laissez-Faire thinking began to change, mostly for selfish

reasons, when the efficiency of factories was affected by sickness and deaths resulting from the epidemics. Chadwick was commissioned to report on the health and living conditions of the English workers in 1848. His report shocked the ruling class into some action and the first public health Act was passed that year. Later Acts set standards for sanitation, abolished the tax on windows (1851) and provided for inspection of lodging houses. Regulations were made by the central government, but it was left to the municipalities to enforce them and this did not happen on a large scale for another 20 years. At last the overall death rate fell in the 1870s, largely as a result of sanitation and building reforms, although these seem most inadequate to us now.

[Part 2 concludes next month]

③ Read: *ibid.*

④ Lyons & Petrucelli: *Medicine, an Illustrated History*

GEMS from the PAST

The Priest Carries On - a handed down story

Great grandma's brother in Ireland was Father Meehan. At this time it was forbidden to celebrate the Mass on Irish soil. Fr Meehan worked in the Kelbaha area on the west coast of County Clare and, when the tide went out, he used to hold Mass on the sands below high water mark. The local people would all gather in the intertidal zone at a pre-arranged time for the open-air service. Thus religion was served and the law was not broken. The Gibson family have a small booklet which relates this story.

REMEMBER:

- MONTHLY MEETINGS: 1st Wednesday each month at Milton Street High School Room D10
- MONTHLY NEWSLETTER } both appear at meetings and then in
- QUARTERLY MAGAZINE } the library.
- DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER: 2 weeks before next meeting. Please contribute or ring 422539.
- GENEALOGICAL LIBRARY: within North Mackay Library, Ungerer St. is open to all
9.30-5.30 daily + to 8.00p.m. Thursday & 9.00-1.00 Saturday.
- RESEARCH ASSISTANCE: in this library 12.30-3.30 Monday to Wednesday, 10.00-12.00 2nd & 4th
Wednesdays and 2nd Saturday or ring 422539
- MORMON LIBRARY: Mackay LDS Family History Centre is within the church at cnr McGinn and Field Sts -
open to all 9.30am - 3.00pm Tuesday, 10.00am - 3.00pm and 6.00pm - 9.00pm Wednesday.
Closed School Holidays.



Mackay Genie Gossip



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NEW PROGRAM BEST YET?

FAMILY TREE MAKER is an excellent new genealogy computer program for Windows or DOS. Gary O'Shea obtained the Windows version from the USA and has been using it for some time. He recommends Family Tree Maker as very simple to use (easier than Brothers Keeper), and catering for all unusual possibilities such as second marriages, as well as producing excellent charts and printouts. Ring Gary on 540 879 for further information. The program is now available in Australia from Software Express, 43 A'Beckett Street, Melbourne, and the Windows version costs \$99. Minimum requirements to run the package are 386 IBM or compatible, 4Mb RAM (8Mb recommended), VGA or higher display, Windows 3.1, mouse, and 6Mb free disc space (10Mb recommended).

CHEAPER CERTIFICATES

The Registrar General for West Australia has decreased the price of a full certificate to \$15. What a great way to celebrate to Year of the Family! Genies are urged to agitate for charges to be reduced and for further years to be added to the indexes. Write to your local State Member, and to the Registrar General in Queensland and other states.

MEMBERS' NEWS & ACTIVITIES

Margaret Edwards has found her great grandfather's step-brother after following up information on the Nominal Roll and obtaining his World War I army papers. She followed up an address in West Australia which had been added to his file after a copy of his records had been sent to him there.

Carmel Macdonald has been contacted by a lost branch of the READY family through her recent publication of the family's history in *Shamrocks among the Gum Trees*.

Shirley Jones has been on her annual genealogical expedition, firstly gathering information in Brisbane at libraries and the State Archives and then visiting significant family sites at Cairns, Mareeba, Chillagoe, Charters Towers, Ravenswood and Clermont.

LDS FAMILY HISTORY CENTRE

Due to family commitments and holidays claiming much of their time during the latter part of the year, the two church members, Norma and Muriel, who man the centre on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, have found themselves somewhat overloaded. As a result, the centre closed for the year a little earlier than usual on 30 November. The centre will re-open again after the school holidays on 07 February. Any one who still has outstanding orders for films will be contacted should the films arrive during the closure period and arrangements made for these films to be read. Thanks to Norma and Muriel for the efforts throughout 1994.

RESEARCH NOTES



1. **Lincolnshire Family History Society** is progressively publishing Lincolnshire records and these are for sale from the Society. Our Information File contains a list of the available items. This includes indexes by registration district for the census in 1851, 1871 and 1881, Marriage Indexes and Poor Law Indexes. Many items come on one or two microfiche and are available at a small cost.

2. **West Australian research** may be helped by writing a short letter to the weekly column in *The West Australian Newspaper*, GPO Box D162, Perth WA 6001. This column publishes, free of charge, enquiries to contact lost friends or relatives, and notifications of family reunions. Shirley Jones wrote in April trying to find a lost branch of her Kerr family. After some months she gave up hope of any reply, but there is a long delay in publication due to the volume of letters received, and her letter was not published until September. That Sunday she was most surprised to receive three phone calls from WA, all from different families of the branch for which she had been searching.

3. **The Victorian Registry Office** will help to sort out several registrations of the same name when the index does not clearly indicate which is the one required. The Swan Hill Society newsletter states that up to five different certificate numbers from the index will be searched by staff, and these do not have to be consecutive or within a certain period of years. To enable the officer to decide which is the person you are seeking, write down all the relevant information you know. You will be charged for the one certificate which is sent to you. A similar request can be made to any registry office, but others might not be as helpful as this. The New South Wales office is now able to provide only limited checking for the correct certificate, as was explained in our Newsletter no.65.

4. **Sunmap historical photograph collection** should not be overlooked when seeking photographs to illustrate individual family histories. The photos are only of Queensland and were taken, mostly in the 1890s, by Government survey officers as they travelled around in the course of mapmaking. There are, however, some earlier photos and some from later than this period. They show mainly particular places, scenes, buildings and streets, a few individual persons, and a large variety of activities such as haymaking, ploughing, mining, surfing, shearing, bringing cream to the butter factory and corn to the railway station. At every Sunmap office there is a catalogue of all photos in the collection, listed under town or district. As well, there are albums of some of the actual photos. The Mackay office of Sunmap, at the corner of River and Wood Streets, has many photos of Mackay which are of excellent quality and may be ordered from Sunmap. If a particular sample photo is not available for viewing at the local office, a photocopy of it can be obtained from the Brisbane office, and this might help decide whether a copy is worth buying.

5. **Nick Vine Hall on ABC radio.** Noted Australian genealogist Nick Vine Hall has a regular show on ABC radio. The weekly talkback sessions are broadcast to something like 40+ stations across the country between 11.30am and 12.00noon on the first Wednesday of each month. Family historians who encounter difficulties with the research can write to Nick's radio show c/- Peter Jeppeson, GPO Box 9994, Melbourne VIC 3001. Nick will endeavour to assist with research problems and, with the show going to air nationally, who knows what connections might be made!

Some Talk of PYM

by Rob Pym

When I first came to Mackay just over 40 years ago, there was a "Pym's Newsagency" in Wood Street, and people sometimes asked me if I was related to 'Roly' Pym. I had to reply that I did not know. Nowadays, I can say that 'Roly' or Roland Edward Pym was my fourth cousin once removed. Another question asked of me even earlier was whether I was related to Walter Pym, the radio actor. Once again, I did not know at that time, but can answer now that he also was my fourth cousin once removed - Walter and Roly being first cousins. Another question sometimes asked of me was did my family have anything to do with 'Pimm's No.1 Cup'? I can now answer in the negative. James Pym (or Pimm) who invented this famous cordial was a Kentish Pimm, with no link to my own Devonshire Pymys for at least four centuries.

My paternal grandfather, Robert Daniel Pym, was a mystery man who had vanished when my father was 16 years old, and my father knew nothing of his Pym ancestry except that his grandfather had been on the Victorian goldfields. During my teenage years this mystery intrigued me and, finding a Keith Pym listed in the Directory for the famous Victorian goldfield town of Ballarat, I wrote to him. He confirmed that he was my father's first cousin, and that his own father, my grandfather's brother, was still living, aged 83, and also my grandfather's sister, aged 87. So, aged 19, I rode my faithful B.S.A. to Victoria (no Yamahas or Suzukis in those days) and met my aged great uncle and great aunt. There I was to learn that their father, my great-grandfather, Daniel Pym, had come from Devon, and had married an Irish widow at Bendigo in 1867. This amazing woman had already borne seven children to her first husband but, undaunted, bore another seven to her second husband, including two sets of twins.

Before this, while on National Service in Sydney, I had met the 84 year old Richard Elsworthy Pym, my third cousin twice removed, though neither of us knew it at the time. He did tell me that Elsworthy was a family name, and that his father had been born in Surry. What he did not tell me (and probably did not know) was that his grandfather was born in Topsham, Devon, as was my great-grandfather. The Rev. Richard Elsworthy was the vicar of Topsham in the late 1700s and his daughter, Jane, married Joseph Pym, brother of my 3x great grandfather, Daniel Pym (the grandfather of the Daniel mentioned above, in case you are getting confused!).

Richard Elsworthy Pym I was born of this marriage in 1792, and his son, Richard Elsworthy Pym II, was born in 1820. He in turn begat Richard Elsworthy Pym III, born in Australia in 1869, who in turn begat Richard E Pym IV, born 1921 and whose son R E Pym V was born in 1947, and grandson R E Pym VI in 1981. This 13 year old Richard Elsworthy Pym VI is a sixth cousin of my son, Richard Edward Pym.

Ironically, my mother's mother has proved, in my later research, to be the real mystery, and not my father's father - but that is another story ... !



STOP PRESS: Christine Crichton's family tree needs updating since the arrival of Andrew William on 30 November. Congratulations Don and Christine.

What Ever Happed to JOSEPH SAMS ?

The Diary of Joseph Sams, available in the local library, is a delightful shipboard diary written by a 19 year old lad emigrating alone from London to Melbourne in 1874 on the steam-and-sail ship *Northampton*. It is a lively day-by-day account of the 8 weeks of shipboard life as seen by this spirited intelligent and genial young man. It is well worth reading to see what shipboard life was like at that time.

Ninety years after it was written, the diary was part of a lot offered at auction in Maidstone, Kent. Captain Simon Braydon happened to buy it, and became so fascinated with the story that he spent much time and money to research it. This book was finally published in 1982 after Braydon's death. It includes, besides full text of the diary, chapters on emigration at that time, Melbourne in 1874, the subsequent history of the ship, and the text of a contemporary publication, *Advice to Emigrants*. All of this is interesting to genies, but most interesting is the last chapter detailing research on Joseph Sams. A little was found about his family in London before he left, but nothing at all about Joseph after his arrival in Australia. He stepped off the ship and "entered the great and prosperous city of Melbourne". The diary and the story end there. Whatever happened to Joseph Sams?

BLANKS ON DEATH CERTIFICATES

If the death index shows no names for father and/or mother, these names will not be given on the death certificate. When a death was registered, it often happened that no one was available who could supply information on birthplace, parents, marriage, issue, etc. If any of these details were not recorded at the time, they were not recorded later, with the blanks remaining forever on the certificate, and the death indexes affected accordingly. Perhaps this person died in a place away from his family. Such death registrations were not uncommon in early Queensland. The *Mackay Mercury* for 29 December 1902 recorded two such deaths recently occurring in the district; these appear below. For both, the Qld death index shows no parents' names. For cases like these, further information may possibly be found in an obituary, or a burial register which sometimes lists birthplace, or an inquest, or a will.

Death by Drowning

On the afternoon of Boxing Day a man named Graham and his son were fishing near the AUSN wharf when they saw the body of a man in the shallow water near the stern of one of the Adelaide Steamship Co's barges. Young Graham promptly pulled the body ashore, where it was soon after identified as that of a man named Timothy Kelly. Kelly, who was a tailor by trade, arrived here last August, and for a time worked for Mr Grace, of Victoria Street. Of late he had been living at the Belmore Arms Hotel, and taking in work on his own account. There are many men in town who knew deceased both in the north and west of Queensland. He at the present time is said to have a brother at Cooktown. Kelly was aboard the steamship Porpoise on Thursday night in order to see a mate of his, who is the cook there. About 2 o'clock on Friday morning the hands all lay down upon the vessels hatch, under the awning, and went to sleep, and Kelly lay down with them. That appears to be the last seen of Kelly alive. In the morning his coat and hat were on board, but this apparently did not cause any alarm, as it was thought he had gone ashore. When the body was found there were no boots upon the feet. The funeral took place on Saturday morning. The men on the porpoise said Kelly was not intoxicated when they saw him on board. There is no explanation of the drowning except perhaps that Kelly got up during the night and accidentally walked overboard.

Obituary

Sub-Inspector Martin kindly favoured us with the following particulars of an old Mackay identity in the person of W A Brankston who was found dead in a scrub on the bank of Duff's Creek on the St Lawrence road about 16 miles from Plane Creek and about 4 from Kelvin Grove. The deceased had been living with a farmer named Daly at Plane Creek for some time past and only left this place about three weeks ago. A man named Place stated he saw Brankston pass his place about the 24th and he was then leading a saddled horse on which rested a small swag. About four days afterwards the horse returned to Place's selection with bell and hobbles on. Place put the horse in his yard thinking that the animal had escaped from Kelvin Grove where Brankston was making for. A traveller named Glegg reported that he had camped in the neighbourhood of the scrub where Brankston was found on the 24th instant and hearing his dog bark he went into the scrub and found Brankston. Glegg then left and sent word to Mr Christian at Kelvin Grove that a sick man was lying on the bank of Duff's Creek. Mr Christian made a search and found the man dead. Brankston was rather eccentric in his habits for some time past. His body was found resting on its right side and by the disturbed appearance of the ground near where he died the unfortunate man evidently suffered great agony. Two letters from his sister who resides in London and 15s 6d were found in his pocket. Mr Henry, JP, accompanied Constable Brett to where the body was found, and after an examination an order for burial was given by Mr Henry, and the deceased was buried near the spot where he was found. It is thought the deceased died from thirst and hunger as no food was found with him and no water was to be obtained in the vicinity.

Christmas Fare

Christmas dinner has long been a special meal. People prepare the best food and drink according to traditional and personal ideas of the best fare, but restricted by what they can afford and what is available. Christmas dinner is special also as a friendly gathering of family and friends enjoying each other's company. Here are some recent readings showing a wide variety of Christmas celebrations over the years.

1482 ROYAL FEASTING: Plantaganet and Tudor kings often chose Eltham Palace to hold their court at Christmas. The book *A Kent Christmas* describes these occasions, including this most spectacular party -

Edward IV's Christmas at Eltham in 1482 reflected the character of the man and the prosperity of the country. In the *Chronicles of Croyland* John Russell, Bishop of Lincoln and Lord Chancellor to Richard III, writes of the food supplied for the 2 000 guests for the 12 days of Christmas:

Sheep	1000	Calves	300	Pigs	800
Swans	2000	Geese	1000	Capons	2000
Bulls	6	Plovers	1200	Quails	2400
Peacocks	400	Cranes	200	Kids	2000
Bitterns	4000	Heronshaws	200	Curlews	1000
Dishes of jelly	4000	Hot custards	2000	Porpoises & seals	12
Cold venison		Hot venison			
pastries	1000	pastries	15000		
Spices, Sugared Delicacies and Wafers - plenty.					

1788 STARVATION IN SYDNEY is described in the magazine *Parade* which is quoted in the book *Bush Christmas*:

There was nothing very merry about Christmas in the five harsh years after Governor Arthur Phillip landed his 1,000 convicts and marines at Sydney Cove.

No holly or mistletoe, no food-laden tables, no snug firesides by the roaring Yuletide log while snow drifted down outside friendly lamplit windows.

The hot December sky mocked their miseries of sickness and hunger. Their Yuletide feast was salt meat and mouldy biscuit washed down by pannikins of rum. Fear and brutality darkened the festivals when Chaplain Richard Johnson conducted his first Christmas service under a gumtree near the Tank Stream in 1788.

1844 BUSH TUCKER CHRISTMAS DINNER: Ludwig Leichhardt recorded a Christmas on the track in his *Journal of an Overland Expedition* -

Dec. 25. We returned to Brown's Lagoons and entered our camp just as our companions were sitting down to their Christmas dinner of suet pudding and stewed cockatoos. The day was cloudy and sultry; we had had a heavy thunderstorm on Christmas Eve.

1851 A VICTORIAN GOLDFIELDS MERRY HOLIDAY: the book *Christmas in the Colonies* quotes Robert Anderson's diary, describing his Christmas feast and the general revelling -

Thursday 25th December, Xmas Day: Little did I think this day last year I would be here today and pass my Xmas in the Australian forest. We had an enormous plum pudding which weighed nearly 50 pounds; as rich as could possibly be made, and each of us had a good sweat in mixing the same. Mr Hood made us a present of six nuggets of different sizes. The whole of us agreed to mix them in the monster pudding - and take our chances as to the gold when dispatching our Xmas dinner.

The whole of our stores and utensils not having arrived from town we were still roughing it. We had not a sufficient supply of crockery, knives, etc. Mr Dennis' plate was the lid of a tea kettle, mine was a broken saw!! We carved with pocket knives and pannikins served for sauce, grog, etc - Xmas was a great day at Forest Creek, not a digger seen at work - the whole country decorated with flags. The sounds of mirth and revelling might be heard far near and to which we amply contributed our share.



1863 EXMOOR STATION KEEPS UP TRADITIONS: Biddulph Henning ran his station in the Mackay hinterland with the help of his two sisters, Annie and Rachael, who fitted into and enjoyed station life while continuing to be English gentlewomen. Rachael's letters contain detailed pictures of their life on the station:



Annie is busy about the Christmas dinner and Mr Hedgeland is helping her. It consists of roast beef, two brace of wild ducks, which Mr Taylor shot yesterday, plum pudding, apple tart and mince pies, with pumpkin and okra for vegetables and watermelons for dessert. Not so bad a bill of fare for the Far North.

Biddulph was busy yesterday distributing fresh beef and currants to the shepherds, also rum in judicious quantities. It is a great blessing that there is no public house near here, so they can only have what is given them.

1890s HOT or COLD DINNER? This debate still continues. Valerie McKenzie in *Some Sentimental Links - Early Australian Times*, shows it was being disputed a hundred years ago:



The famous Australian writer, Henry Lawson (1867-1922) was one of the staunchest advocates of cold fare for Christmas, and even predicted a time when hot roast poultry, and steaming plum puddings would disappear completely from the Australian festive family menus. In fact he even described what he considered to be a sensible Australian Christmas, in view of the fact that it was always in the middle of summer in Australia. "Everything cold except the vegetables, the hose playing on the verandah and vines outside, the men dressed in sensible pyjama-like suits, and the women and girls fresh and cool and jolly, instead of being hot and cross and looking like boiled carrots, and feeling like boiled rags...".

1930s NORTH QLD IMMIGRANTS FROM ITALY BRING NEW FOODS: 'New Australians' from many countries with their own traditional customs and festive foods have, over the years, varied and enriched Australian Christmas celebrations. Peter Dalseno, in his recent book *Sugar, Tears and Eyeties*, remembers how it was as he grew up in Ingham after emigrating as a child in 1923 -



Wistfully the older folk reminisced of Christmas festivals in the snow, the building of snow men, the playful battles with snowballs.

"All in the past," they said philosophically. They thought of home, the reunion of family groups, the love they shared, the customs enjoyed in their younger years, of chestnuts roasted on the fire, the carols sung in the evenings gathered in the Square.

The fables were told and retold. A little expansion here, a little modification there. One had to make some readjustment for snow, for fireplaces, for chimneys. But, the goodwill was never absent. It was the beacon!

The culinary delights sparked an emotive pleasure. There was a fierce pride in Continental kitchens, and only too sadly did they discredit the criticism that Italians 'lived on the smell of an oily rag'. Sandra laughed light-heartedly. "Some oily rag! Find me cheap salami, gorgonzola, olives, prosciutto, and the other continental foods!"

1940 CHRISTMAS WAS THE BEST TIME OF THE YEAR: Bill grew up in the days of the depression. His father has some work, about 2½ days a week, so the family was relatively lucky. In *Bush Christmas* he reminisces about his Christmas in those times -



Breakfast was pretty good, but Christmas dinner was the triumph of the year! Baked chook and potatoes and pumpkin, and rich brown gravy. Boiled pudding and custard, and a slice of the cake. And all over the table little saucers of lollies and dried grapes, and some sugary ginger. The Cratchits would have been envious! My brother and I ate ourselves torpid. The hopbeer blew its corks as the strings were cut, and geysered like Rotorua. It had to be opened on the back steps.

Christmas is the old-world festival Australians have taken most to their hearts. In many ways it has changed since my childhood, yet the spirit is the same, a time for remembering family and friends. I know that as a child it was the best time of the year for us; I'm sure it's still high on the list of happiness for children. Long may it continue.



TO ALL OUR READERS



This is a copy of the first Christmas card, made in 1843. The bookseller, Sir Henry Cole, requested J C Horsley to design a card to convey the season's greetings, and then ordered 1 000. These he had coloured by hand to be sold in his shop. The scene shows a family party with everyone looking out to, and toasting the person the card is being sent to. The side scenes show charity to the poor, and all is entwined by an ivy vine.

[from Stevens: *Merry Christmas, a History of the Holiday.*]



Genie Gossip

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF QLD
MACKAY BRANCH
P O BOX 882, MACKAY 4740

NEWSLETTER No.69

FEB 1995

President:	Denise Neville	59 3149
Secretary:	Jean Turvey	57 7764
Treasurer:	Yvonne Peberdy	57 8916
Sales:	Carmel Welch	57 5244
Research:	Denise Neville	59 3149

Library Wish List

As mentioned in the president's report last August, we are endeavouring to initiate a more structured approach to acquiring resources for our library. In the off-chance that we should find ourselves in the position of having some cash to spend, it would be ideal if we had an on-going list of possible acquisitions which members would like to see added to the library. We are looking to build up such a "wish list". This works best if we have input from members, as opposed to the list being based on the preferences/ intuitions of the management committee. So, if there are some particular records you would like to see added to the library to make your research a little easier, or if you are researching in a particular location or country and would just like to see more records - any records! - from that area purchased, please contact the secretary. Bear in mind, however, that our resources are limited, and that fact that particular records are requested does not necessarily mean they will be purchased. It would be hard to justify purchasing obscure records of little or no use to other members, especially if they are particularly expensive! A wish list would not preclude purchasing new items as they become available (such as additions for our cemeteries collection). Such items would not necessarily be relegated to the bottom of the list, but could be purchased immediately if interest warranted it.

Members' Interests

While on the subject of new initiatives for the coming year, it's a good time to try to drum up some interest in the new regular section proposed for our newsletters. As with journals received from other like groups, it is intended to trial the inclusion of a Members' Interest section in each edition of the newsletter. Again, for this to work, we need input from members. As our newsletter now circulates far and wide, it is a 'no cost' way for members to advertise their interests. The intended format would be similar to that used in *Generation*. Initially, it is not intended to restrict the number of entries that may be submitted by a member, but this might need to be reviewed further down the track. Lists, marked for the newsletter, may be left in the "letterbox" in our library, or forwarded to the secretary who will make sure they reach the right hands. The continuation, or otherwise, of this initiative will very much depend on the support of members.

Projects for the Coming Year

Anyone who occasionally has some spare time and would like to help with any of our projects should contact Jean Turvey who is the Project Co-ordinator. Some of the tasks require two people and, of necessity, need to be done at the library. There are others, however, which only require one person, and many can be done at home.

Deepest Sympathy

Our librarian, Helen Butler, has been absent from Mackay for a brief period as a result of a rush trip to Canada. Sadly, Helen's youngest brother passed away recently in that country. On behalf of all our members, we extend to Helen and her family our deepest sympathy.

RESEARCH NOTES



1. **Townsville & District Pioneers** - pre-1920. The Family History Association of North Queensland has undertaken to produce a second volume of the Townsville and District Pioneer Register. This follows on from volume one which is in our library. Entries eligible for inclusion in volume two are for all persons (husband, wife and children) who arrived, lived or were born in the Townsville district before

1920. The district has been defined as extending from Cardwell in the north to Bowen in the south and west to Prairie. The appropriate form on which to submit entries for the book is to be found in the Forms for Copying folder in the library. As they are hoping, if there is sufficient response, to produce the book by the end of 1995 or early 1996, anyone intending to submit entries should do so fairly soon.

2. **New Zealand BDMs** up to 1920 are held by the Qld Family History Society and they are to acquire those for 1921-40 in the near future (if not already received).

3. The FFHS's **British Isles Genealogical Register (Big R 1994)** is also available at QHFS. This is a copy, on microfiche, of the complete database of researchers' submitted interests to which some of our members also submitted entries.

4. **Addresses** that have changed or might be of interest.

New address for the **Cornwall Family History Society** is 5 Victoria Square, Truro Cornwall TR1 2RS UK.

There is a new **Quaker Family History Society** whose address is c/- Dr Margaret Bennett, 486 Lea Bridge Rd, Leyton, London E10 7DU.

5. **Victorian BDM Certificates** can now be purchased by credit card. The Registry has been given the go-ahead to become a credit card merchant, and it is expected the credit card service will soon be extended to allow phone orders for birth certificates.

6. **Scottish OPRs**. The LDS, in co-operation with the Office of the Register General for Scotland, has released a three microfiche set of additional entries to be used in conjunction with the 1990 edition of indexes to the Old Parochial Registers of Scotland (OPR). This addenda index contains about 31,000 birth and marriage entries which have been gleaned from a variety of sources, and which were not included in the 1990 edition.

7. The 1994 update of the IGI on **CD-ROM** should be available at LDS Family History Centres soon. Unlike previous updates, this will not be a completely new collection of discs. It will be in the form of about six new discs containing the additional entries which 'add to' the existing discs of 1993 version. An updated Locality Catalogue should also be available in the near future.

8. **Australian War Memorial** research can be frustrating if a trip to Canberra is out of the question, however, Peter Buchanan will undertake research assignments at the Australian War Memorial. For details, contact Peter at 5/67 MacGregor Street, Deakin ACT 2600.

9. **Dr Barnardo's Homes** photographic and film archive dating from 1871 is now catalogued and on computer. This now makes a major genealogical research resource available to anyone tracing connections with these homes. Information on this service is available from John Kirkham, Photographic Resource Office, Barnardo's Publicity Services, Tanners Lane, Barkingside, Ilford, Essex IG6 1QG UK.

ARCHIVAL UPDATES

Queensland State Archives for a few months now have had a **Readers Ticket** system in operation for the identification of users of the Public Search Room. The system is designed not only to protect the records but also to monitor what records are being used. People wishing to use the facilities must first obtain a Readers Ticket. There is no charge for the ticket, and they are valid for 12 months. You are required to produce two forms of identification, one with a signature - a drivers licence which has a photo is ideal for one source. Alternatively, a Daily Undertaking is available for 'once only' users or people who are not regular users. This is a slip, as opposed to a ticket, which is valid for the day of issue only, and requires a form to be filled in at the desk.

The bus service between the city and the Archives has changed slightly in that there is now only one bus operating morning and afternoon. The early (or first) morning bus has been cancelled, and the afternoon bus leaves at 5.15pm.

Some points to remember if visiting the Archives are that children under 14 years are not allowed in the Public Search Room at any time, and there is nowhere within reasonable distance where lunch can be obtained. Tea and coffee are available on the honour system, but bring your own food.

For those wishing to research primarily at the Archives while in Brisbane and not wishing to travel back and forth to the city, there are some motels within easy distance. The Calamvale Hotel at the turn-off into Compton Road has a motel section attached and is about 15 minutes walk to the Archives, or go by cab. The Sunnybank Motel and motels at Springwood are reasonably close by but getting to the Archives would require a cab (RACQ can provide more info on these motels).

The Archives Office of New South Wales now has a number of services available for those unable to visit the Search Rooms to do their own research -

1. Convict research fee \$80

This service has been in operation for a while and the \$80 fee buys two hours research on a particular convict, a comprehensive report about the person and up to \$10 worth of copies of major documents located.

2. Deceased Estate research fee \$30

An existing service which searches Deceased Estate Files created by the Stamp Duties Office from 1880 to 1958. Files often contain detailed inventory of the estate, and sometimes a copy of a will and affidavits of birth and death. The fee provides a file search and copies from the file up to \$5. If file search is unsuccessful, they will search other records such as inquests, intestate estates and probate case papers.

3. Bankruptcy research fee \$30

Similar to Deceased Estates. Fee buys search of Bankruptcy and Insolvency records dating from 1824 to 1928, and up to \$15 worth of copies. They will notify if number of copies could exceed \$15.

4. Shipping research fee \$30

The \$30 per person fee buys a comprehensive search of shipping and immigration records and up to \$5 worth of copies of major documents located. The service is confined to NSW, but remember that VIC and QLD were part of NSW till 1851 and 1859 respectively.

5. One-Name Extraction service fee \$50

For those conducting one-name research, the \$50 per surname (one spelling only) fee will provide details of the occurrences of the name in a selection of indexes to their records.

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6. Source Analysis service fee \$40

For research on a particular subject or theme, the \$40 per subject fee buys preliminary research and provision of a list of possible sources.

7. Quotation service fee \$10

Many researchers have enquiries which do not fit any of the above categories. Write to the Archives setting out full details of your particular research enquiry. Staff will then conduct a search and provide you with a no-obligation quotation for obtaining copies of the relevant material unearthed during the search. The \$10 non-refundable administration fee for this service is payable in advance. Return the quotation along with its specified payment if you decide to proceed with the enquiry.

Details of the above are in our Information File. To utilise any of the above services, write to Gail Davis, Senior Archivist - Research, Archives Office of NSW, 2 Globe Street, Sydney NSW 2000.

BOOK REVIEW

Sugar From the Scrub

by

Pat Hamilton

A new book launched on 29 December last, *Sugar from the Scrub*, by local author Pat Hamilton, tells the history of Walkerston. Family history revealed that the Hamilton family had been associated with the Walkerston area for generations, and this provided the catalyst for the book. This book would be of interest to family history researchers with Walkerston (and its surrounds) connections as well as those simply interested in local history. It not only details the history of the present township of Walkerston but also gives brief historical sketches of the sugar mills which were established in the country immediately surround the town, and upon which so many of the inhabitants depended for their livelihood.

For the genealogist, there are lists of bakers, butchers, teamsters and carriers, stores and storekeepers, dairies and police who were a part of Walkerston over the years. It also contains a list of Walkerston settlers and mill workers to 1880, as well as sections dealing with the various ethnic groups that made up a large portion of the area's population at various times. Information on the first pupils, and lists of headteachers and assistant teachers is provided for the Walkerston School as well as the former Pleystowe School. There are also brief articles on the various hotels, stores and other land marks that existed through the years. The histories of the various churches and lists of their incumbents are also included.

A thoughtful inclusion by the author are two maps showing the location of the various businesses and landmarks discussed in the text. This allows the information provided to be easily translated into the present day context.

The publication is a hardcovered, hand illustrated, A4 sized book of about 90 pages, which describes itself as "a pictorial history of Walkerston". It contains comprehensive references to sources for anyone wishing to follow up on any of the information provided. It is the culmination of about three years of hard work ploughing through various records and of hours of interviews with oldtimers. The text is interesting and easy to read. Apart from being of interest to family and local historians, this book would appeal to anyone who simply wanted to add a handsome copy of the "home grown product" to their bookshelves.

Sugar from the Scrub, costing \$25 (+\$5 if posted), can be purchased directly from the author at Pleystowe Mill Estate, Pleystowe Q 4741, or contact Pat by phone on 59 2242. The book is not yet available in our library.

MEMBERS' RESEARCH INTERESTS

Gerry Woodruff

Box 8344

MT PLEASANT Q 4740

ACQUIROFF	St Petersburg	SUN	c1790
AUSTIN	In	USA	1880
BRISBANE	Ayr	SCT	1840
BURKE	Gal	IRL	1840
DOYLE	Dublin	IRL	1790
DUFFY	Glasgow	SCT	1850
HUNTINGTON	Lan	ENG	1870

MARCH		Dev	ENG	1780
McINNES	Coll		SCT	1820
McPHERSON	Coll		SCT	1850
MUIR	Maybole		SCT	1850
MULLANE		Cor	IRL	1840
O'BRIEN	London		CAN	1840
TROUT		Dev	ENG	1770
WALKER		Ayr	SCT	1830
WITHERS		Som	ENG	1830
WRIGHT	Liverpool		ENG	1850

Denise Neville

PO Box 99

PLEYSTOWE Q 4741

BROUGH	Gnosall	Sts	ENG	1795+
CLAYTON	Tamworth	Sts	ENG	1870+
CLAYTON		Lei	ENG	1780+
CLAYTON	Wood Ditton	Cam	ENG	c1790
LAVERY		Arm	NIR	1820+
HOLLAND		Dbv	ENG	c1780
HOLLAND		Cam	ENG	1780+
JACQUES		Arm	NIR	1868
BROWN		Lin	ENG	1790+

LOWTHER		Lin	ENG	1720+
MAGILL		Arm	NIR	1790+
MOODY		Lin	ENG	1720+
NEVILLE		Ess	ENG	1620+
SAINTY		Ess	ENG	1750+
STARKEY		Sts	ENG	c1799
STEVENSON	Cossington	Lei	ENG	1790+
STEVENSON	Hammerwich	Sts	ENG	1859
ENGLAND		Lin	ENG	1760+
SHERRIFF	Armitage	Sts	ENG	1825
HUNTER		Mdx	Eng	1820+
GIBSON	Twyford	Lei	ENG	1790+

Jean Turvey

16 McKinley Street

NORTH MACKAY Q 4740

HEFFERNAN	Clonmel	Tip	IRL	c1789
POWER	Clonmel	Tip	IRL	c1780
STEFFEE	Clonmel	Tip	IRL	c1766
CHURCH	Clonmel	Tip	IRL	c1790
BASTIN	Lewisham	Ken	ENG	c1832
KNIGHT	Lewisham	Ken	ENG	c1832
DOBELI	Aagau	Switzerland		c1834
SCHOANE	Berne	Switzerland		c1834
GALL	New Deer	Abd	SCT	c1806
DAVIDSON	New Deer	Abd	SCT	c1810

REID	Edinburgh		SCT	c1880
HOWARD		Cam	ENG	c1870
BAVISTER	Streatley	Bed	ENG	c1830
RAYNER		Cam	ENG	c1870
BURNETT		Cam	ENG	c1870
TAFFINDER	Stoke	Som	ENG	c1838
HANDLEY	Cheddington	Bkm	ENG	c1829
(Mc)TIGHE	Wednesbury	Wor	ENG	c1854
PAYNE	Foleshill	War	ENG	c1827
MILLERCHIP	Foleshill	War	ENG	c1819
REEVES	Foleshill	War	ENG	c1819
ASHBY	Franc (?)	Ssx	ENG	c1802
ROSE	Mayfield	SSx	ENG	c1783

TURVEY, George Joseph b. 14Nov1876 Pine Mountain Qld, m. 17Jun1896 to Rosanna WILKES who d. 09Sep1912 at Toowoomba. Children Evelyn May (11Dec1896), George Joseph (21Dec1898) and Myrtle (1905). Information sought on George Joseph and his daughter Myrtle after 1912.

Appropriate forms are available at our library for members to submit lists of their research interests for inclusion on this page as space permits ... or simply write out your list on a piece of paper. Simply leave your lists (appropriately marked) in the letterbox at the library or, if out of town, mail to the secretary.

NEXT MEETING ... 01 March 1995

A calendar of speakers is being drawn up so watch for it in the next newsletter.

A SIGN OF THINGS TO COME ..?

An article in the December edition of *Descent* gives food for thought. It would appear that several sections of Rookwood Cemetery (NSW) will be introducing renewable tenure on gravesites from 01 January 1995. This will affect all future burials in the Anglican and General cemeteries at Rookwood.

Rather than buying a gravesite in perpetuity as was the case, from 01 January, the Anglican and General Trusts are introducing a system whereby a gravesite will be purchased for a period of 25 years, after which time a fee can be paid to have the tenure on the site renewed for a further period. If the family do not wish to renew the tenure on the gravesite, it will be reused, with any remains in the grave being buried deeper when the new grave is dug. While no further action has been taken on a government proposal to introduce renewable tenure on all gravesites in NSW, the *Sydney Morning Herald* for 13.09.1994 reported that these Trusts are able to introduce limited tenure as they operate under their own Act. Other cemeteries in NSW come under the Crown Lands Consolidation Act which would need to be changed by Parliament to allow reuse of gravesites.

It will be interesting to see how the Trust intends to notify families of the expiration of the 25 years, and what will be the future of any monument on the grave if its tenure is not renewed.

CENSUS RETURNS

The Society of Australian Genealogists are currently getting together a petition to Parliament to have the Australian census returns preserved and made available to researchers after a recommended 100-year closure period. It appears that Parliament has already decided that the returns from the census to be conducted in 1996 will be destroyed, in line with the practice that has been in place for previous census returns. The next census will then be due to be held in the year 2001. This would seem an appropriate time to change the system, and this is what the petition aims to achieve. Any change made regarding the 2001 census is not likely to benefit any of us but, if you think back to the questions on the last census papers, it could provide a wealth of information to future generations of family history researchers. Anyone wishing to support the petition will find the appropriate forms in our library.

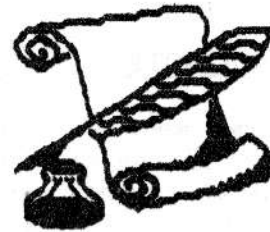
MACKAY LDS FAMILY HISTORY CENTRE

The Mackay LDS Family History Centre is due to re-open after the school holidays on Tuesday 07 February. Opening hours are likely to be only slightly changed from 1994, with the Centre being open on Tuesdays from 9.30am to 2.30pm and on Wednesdays from 10.00am to 2.30pm. If suitable arrangements can again be put in place, the Centre will also open on Wednesday nights from 6.00pm to 9.00pm.

REMEMBER:

MONTHLY MEETINGS: 1st Wednesday each month at Milton Street High School Room C10
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER) both appear at meetings and then in
QUARTERLY MAGAZINE) the library.
DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER: 2 weeks before next meeting. Please contribute or ring 422539.
GENEALOGICAL LIBRARY: within North Mackay Library, Ungerer St. is open to all
9.30-5.30 daily + to 8.00p.m. Thursday & 9.00-1.00 Saturday.
RESEARCH ASSISTANCE: in this library 12.30-3.30 Monday to Wednesday or by arrangement
MORMON LIBRARY: Mackay LDS Family History Centre is within the church at cnr McGinn and Field Sts -
open to all 9.30am - 2.30pm Tuesday, 10.00am - 2.30pm and 6.00pm - 9.00pm Wednesday.
Closed School Holidays.

Mackay Genie Gossip



NEWSLETTER No.70 MAR 1995

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF QLD
MACKAY BRANCH
P O BOX 882
MACKAY Q 4741

President:	Denise Neville	59 3149
Secretary:	Jean Turvey	57 7764
Treasurer:	Yvonne Peberdy	57 8916
Sales:	Carmel Welch	57 5244
Research:	Denise Neville	59 3149

WANTED: NEWSLETTER EDITOR

The most important article in this month's newsletter is this advertisement for a new editor for our monthly newsletter. Helen has retired, resigned, worn out - or simply discovered there are other things that need to be done in life with not enough time to do them all. She has turned in a sterling performance over the last six years in producing something interesting and helpful for us to read every month. Now she has retired, however, and the assistant editor does not want (nor does she have the time) to produce the newsletter single-handedly. So, please can we have a new editor from the ranks of our members ... and quickly! The longer the assistant editor has to fill the breach, the longer you have to suffer editions like this month's! Thanks, Helen, for all your efforts.

CALENDAR FOR 1995

The following is our calendar of monthly meetings and events for the rest of the year.

March 01	Monthly meeting	Joe Caruana: Old photos
April 05	Monthly meeting	Bruce Lees: World Wars I & II
May 03	Monthly meeting	Melrose & Fenwick + Mackay Funerals
June 07	Monthly meeting	Geraldine Moylan: local history collection
July 05	Monthly meeting	Theme night (to be advised)
August 02	Annual General Meeting	
August 19	- Annual Library Display	
September 02		
Sept 06	Monthly Meeting	Yvonne Peberdy: England trip highlights
Sept 09	Annual Trash & Treasure	
October 04	Monthly meeting	Theme night
November 01	Monthly meeting	Theme night
December 06	Monthly meeting	Christmas break-up

If there are any specific themes not covered on the above calendar which members would like to see discussed this year, please let the secretary know so that, if possible, a speaker and/or suitable material for the night can be arranged.

NEW LIBRARY ACQUISITION

Our first edition of the *German Genealogical Digest* which was ordered some months ago has finally arrived. This is a quarterly magazine dealing German research. While, at first glance, the magazine might appear to have a slightly American bias (it does originate from Salt Lake City), on closer reading it offers helpful advice on sources of records and the information they might contain, as well as useful addresses for those researching German ancestors.

RESEARCH NOTES

1. **Army medical records** can sometimes be more informative than their service records. In the case of deceased Queensland soldiers, particularly from World War II, medical records may be available from the Department of Veteran Affairs. Write to: Freedom of Information Section, Department of Veteran Affairs, GPO Box 651, Brisbane Q 4001. You would need to provide all relevant details such as name, rank, regiment, etc. You must also give the date and place of death, and you need to be the next of kin or a close relative and state that the records are only required for family history purposes. If the serviceman is still alive, only that person can request their own records. Enquiries regarding servicemen from other states should be directed to the Dept of Veteran Affairs in that state, but there could be a fee starting from about \$35. These interstate inquiries could also be directed to the Queensland Department who then would obtain the relevant records from interstate.

2. **Snowy Mountains connections** can now be researched by contacting the Snowy Mountains Family History Group which has been formed. Write to the Secretary, Mrs Toni Barry, P O Box 239, Jindabyne NSW 2627.

3. **Church Archives** information. The Uniting Church Archives in NSW can be contacted at 3 Blackwood Place or PO Box 2395, North Parramatta NSW 2151. Advice has been received that the Anglican Church Archives situated in St Andrew's House in George Street, Sydney, will no longer undertake genealogical research, and the original documents are no longer available for inspection at the present time.

4. **Danish research** should not be a problem according to an article in *Relatively Speaking*. For help with Danish research, write to Danes Worldwide Archive, Box 1731, D.K. 9100, Allalearg, Denmark, providing all know details of the ancestor(s). They will advise in what area of Denmark that place is located and provide that address of the Localhistorishe Archiv from which further information can be requested. A useful book for Danish researchers is *The Danisg Genealogical Helper*.

5. **Gipsy research groups** provide helpful advice and connections for those with gipsy or traveller research. The Romani Association of Australia Inc. can be contacted by writing to the President (Ken Lee) PO Box 347, Wallsend NSW 2287. In England, the new Romany and Traveller Family History Society can be contacted by writing to: 6 St James' Walk, South Chailey, East Sussex BN8 4BU. For gipsy research in the USA, write to The Gipsy Lore Society, 5607 Greenleaf Road, Cheverly MD20785 USA.

6. **Tipperary Heritage Unit** is the only centre with authorised access to all Catholic parish registers for the dioceses of Cashel and Emly in Ireland. For further information, write to Annie Moloney, Family Research Centre, Marian Hall, St Michael's Street, Tipperary Town.

7. **Aboriginal and Islander family history sources** have now improved for those Aboriginal or Islander people who are trying to put together their family history or the history of their particular community. A new section, Community & Personal History, has now been formed within the Rights & Culture Branch of the Division of Aboriginal & Islander Affairs. It has been formed to help with this research through the use of Divisional records created by various Queensland Departments over the years, e.g. social history cards, personal files, permits relating to residency, marriage, child endowment, etc. The various records are housed at a number of locations and staff in the Community & Personal Histories Section will assist researchers to locate these records. For information and assistance, write to: Community & Persona Histories, Rights & Culture Branch, Division of Aboriginal & Islander Affairs, Dept of Family Services and Aboriginal & Islander Affairs, GPO Box 896, Brisbane Q 4001. Telephone (07) 224 7948, 224 2594 or 224 2542.

8. **The Main Roads Index**. If your ancestors drove a motor vehicle in the early years of the 20th century, you may find details of their vehicles in this index which was compiled by Barry Alexander and is now available for searching at the Qld Family History Society library in Brisbane.

St JOSEPH'S ORPHANAGE

On 29 July 1885, in reply to a request from M Hume Black, Esq, MLA, Mackay, an Order was made by the Legislative Assembly of Queensland that there be laid upon the Table of the House, "All Correspondence connected with the proposed removal of St Joseph's Orphanage from Mackay, with latest Reports from the Inspector of Orphanages on that Orphanage". The information was tabled on 11 August 1885 and tells an interesting story about the orphanage started in Mackay by Fr Pierre Marie Bucas in what is now the suburb bearing his name, Bucasia.

It would be fair to say that the beginning of the end for St Joseph's Orphanage at Mackay started with a letter dated 02 October 1884 from Dr Cutfield, visiting medical officer to the orphanage, to the Under Secretary for Public Instruction in advising "that the following children at the Mackay orphanage though of sufficient age and size, are physically unfit for service", and lists Philip BOUEL 10, Joe SMITH 9, Napier SMITH 11, Mary Jane SEARON 10. He went on to report that a large number of the children had an unhealthy appearance and suffered a heart condition which he believed stemmed from a malarial disease produced by the situation of the orphanage between the swamp and the sea - "the swamp, in which there is almost always stagnant water, being immediately behind the buildings". He also reported an epidemic of ophthalmia which had spread from a child who was admitted while suffering from it, and proposed that every child should be examined by him before being admitted, and complained that his earlier recommendation that the children be clothed in flannel had not been taken up (... in October, please note!)

Thus began the flood of correspondence that would continue for the next nine months, and included some fine examples of polite tongue-in-cheek.

The Under Secretary replied that Mr Thomas MOWBRAY, the Police Magistrate, had been requested to present all children to Dr Cutfield for examination before admitting them to the orphanage. The Right Rev. Dr Cani at Rockhampton, the Catholic Bishop of North Queensland based at Rockhampton, was advised of proceedings. Dr Cani replied that he would be pleased that Cutfield would be examining all children, and advised that the clothing of the children in flannel would be carried out without delay - by this time it was mid-summer! ...And the first real shots of the ensuing war were fired ... "Measures will be taken, as soon as possible, to have the Orphanage buildings removed to a preferable site nearer to the sea". He went on to comment that nobody except Cutfield had ever considered the present location unsuitable, and to speculate that the unhealthy appearance of the children was probably due to the long drought.

MOWBRAY became involved. His letter of 29 Jan 1885, advises inter alia that Catherine SMYTH who was hired out some months ago was found so weak that she was removed from service and sent to hospital; Martha CRAWFORD, whose services were recently granted to M DILLON of St Lawrence was unable to leave as she was too unfit according to the medical officer, who also stated "there is not a child at present in the Orphanage sufficiently robust to go to service". It appears there was never any question about the way in which the children were looked after, it was the locality of the premises that was the mischief! Cutfield's quarterly report echoes the above comments, and goes on to describe the site:

Now, the Orphanage buildings are situated on a low sandy ridge separated from the sea in front by a strip of forest, and closely surrounded on all other three sides by a large swamp, the surface of which is only a few feet lower than the ground on which the orphanage buildings stand.

It is easy to see, then, that if this swamp be malarious, the inhabitants must be exposed to the malarial poison in an intense form.

I could not find, on inquiry, that any of the Sisters had suffered in a similar manner to the children but it is a well known fact that the malarial poison is most dangerous at night, and that it does not extend far from the surface of the ground in a vertical direction

The Sisters slept high above the dining room while the children slept "at a height about two feet from the ground". It is interesting to note that Dr Cutfield subscribed to the popular theory that malaria (fever of the tropics or "the Vapours") was caused by the foul vapours which rise from swamps, and it would be a few years before research by Dr Edward Koch (born in Germany and later in private practice in Cairns) would identify mosquitoes as the culprits.

In February 1885, Dr Cutfield advised the Minister that two children had died since his last report (probably Ernest MAY 3, and Henry ROLLS 9) ... and yet another in a critical condition *had been removed by his mother*. On 23 February, the inspector of orphanages suggested that, in view of the increasing mortality, the orphanage should be closed and the inmates removed to St Vincent's Orphanage at Nudgee. Dr Cani was advised that this suggestion found favour with the Department, and his comments were sought. He quickly replied that it had been decided to move St Joseph's to a more healthy locality and arrangements were in hand to relocate to a site near Rockhampton - if it met with approval. The high land along the Central Railway, 12 miles from Rockhampton and a short distance from Stanwell, which was purchased from Mr Dempsey, and which already had some good and substantial buildings erected on it, was approved as the new site on 21 April 1885.

Word finally reached Mayor John HARNEY of Mackay who, on 05 May, sent off a telegram demanding information. His Worship the Mayor and the good citizens of Mackay then weighed in with all their communal weight to halt the proposed closure. There were public meetings; the public was prepared to pay removal costs to a better site in Mackay. The people of Mackay considered it "theirs" and did not wish it closed. MLA, M Hume Black, then brought into the fray, claiming that the entire establishment had been built by private contribution, the land (1500 acres) made freehold by private funds, and large donations of stock having been made. Dr Cani denied receiving much assistance over the previous five years, and the battle stepped up. There appears to have been some very 'elastic' acres and an equally elastic herd of cattle involved in the argument - not to mention selective memory! John HARNEY (25 May) claims there are 3000 acres involved plus buildings, yards, improvements and cattle valued at £10,000 (all got up by the people's own exertion), and goes on -

We have chosen a site a mile and a-half from the present orphanage, which is admirably suited in every respect, and buildings would command a good view, combined with the advantages of a sea breeze.

The proposed site was a hill of considerable height with a flatten top which allowed plenty of room for buildings and good site drainage, and the surrounding land was swamp-free.

Several more trees were expended in the paper war before Hume Black weighed in again (13 June) protesting the proposed injustice to the people of Mackay but, by this time, these elastic acres had stretched to 3500 and 100 of the present herd of 500 cattle donated by the public. The Inspector of Orphanages reported (13 July) 58 children on the books (23 boys & 35 girls) of which 5 boys and 9 girls were hired out, 1 boy had absconded, 1 girl had been adopted and 3 girls were boarded out, and included the following interesting paragraph:

The following parents should be looked after by the police as they are able to contribute:—

Name of child.	Age.	Remarks.
Chas. Ferris	8	Illegitimate. Father supposed to be living in Mackay in good circumstances.
Martha Crawford	11	Mother dead; father well off, but absconded and left his two children destitute. Sisters took charge of them, one at Convent, the other in Orphanage. Father supposed to be at Cooktown.
Philip Bouel	11	Father has been in good circumstances, children have property in Cooktown.
Chas. Bouel	15	This might be looked into. The father has left two sealed letters with the Sisters, relating to the property, to be opened after his death.
Mary L. Halligan	10	Mother dead; father lately married again. Is a carrier at Rockhampton, in good circumstances.
Sarah Ann McCavanagh	11	Father has deserted mother. Is a carter by trade; last heard of in employ of Cochrane Bros., Charters Towers: was then comfortably off.

"Orphans" were not necessarily orphans it seems!

He reported the orphanage at Marara as 14 miles from Mackay on flat ground facing the sea, and with a fruit garden between it and the swamp on two sides. Miss WILSON was the teacher employed at £25 p.a. and State children hired to assist the Sisters were Teresa GAFFNEY 13, Charles BOUEL 14, Lucy McNALLY 13, Priscilla McNALLY 12 and James BOUEL 13. There were 200 head of cattle; Mary & Kate GAFFNEY, although over 16 and in situations, were still on the books; Elizabeth MURPHY had been adopted by Mrs Brown and three girls were boarded with their mother Mrs MAHER. Five deaths had occurred in the first six months of the year. Apart from the two mentioned earlier

these were Eva Mary BOLAND 2, Thomas Joseph SIMMONDS 3½, and Walter ROLLS 6.

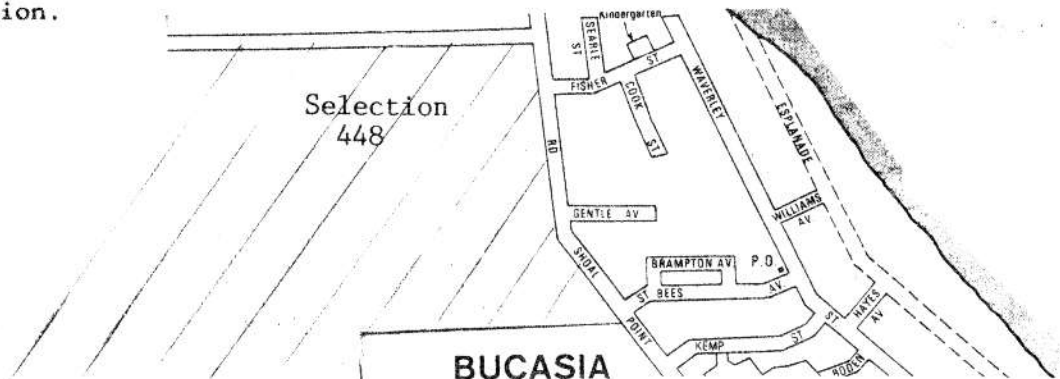
On 04 August, Hume Black was advised that, if the people wished to set up a private orphanage in Mackay with the Sisters of Mercy managing it as before, they could apply for it to be licensed provided the site was suitable ... *but the battle to retain St Joseph's had been lost.* A letter from Fr Bucas to Dr Cani on 29 July 1885 was, no doubt, the fatal blow. It would appear that Bishop Cani, in an attempt to put the matter to bed, had informed Fr Bucas of recent developments and sought historical details from him. Not wishing to impugn the truthfulness or veracity of any of the gentlemen for he feared they had been misinformed, he nevertheless felt it his duty to correct a few statements. Most correspondence is perfectly clear to the writer but subject to interpretation by the reader, and Bucas' reply was not different. He replies as follows:

Intending to set up an aboriginal mission, Fr Bucas took up the land in question on his own account, the rents on the land being paid out of his own means. Some 12 months later it occurred to him that an orphanage might be run side-by-side on the property, and this was set up with the help of the Sisters of St Joseph - but "with every article in connection with the orphanage" provided by Fr Bucas. In 1870 it became apparent that the institution might develop larger proportions and there was an outcry that he was saddling the parish with uncalled for responsibilities and that, until 1880 when he left the district, a pronounced current of opposition had existed among the people against the orphanage. Hence, he had endeavoured to make it self supporting and not appeal to the public. Whenever he had appealed to the public out of necessity, however, assistance had always been forthcoming, and a bazaar in 1879 had raised some £400 for the orphanage. The orphanage had finally become licensed on 14 April 1880.

In reality, Fr Bucas had arrived in Mackay c1869 and set up an institution in Mackay run by the Sisters of St Joseph. By 1870 it was obvious that it had the potential to develop considerably and the parish voiced its concerns at the burden with which it was being saddled. Fr Bucas took up Selection 448 in July 1876 and added Selections 449 and 450 within the next couple of weeks. The Government appears to have been aware of his intent to establish an aboriginal mission and, probably in an attempt to block it, declared an aboriginal reserve at Hillsborough in December 1876. He acquired Selection 489 in December 1877, giving him close to 3000 acres. It is likely the orphanage began on Selection 448 almost immediately so as to become self-sufficient and ease the parish's concerns. It was run by the Sisters of Mercy and, following *The Orphanage Act* of 1879, the orphanage was licensed on 14 April 1880. Part of Selection 448 is now owned by R & D Geisler.

The Hill Lists contained in our library are extractions from the Mackay death register of burials which took place on various lands in the district other than in the five main cemeteries. The list includes 19 burials for children who died and were buried at the orphanage, the first being Charles TURNER (2) on 26 April 1881 and the last Henry Vincent LONG (8) on 16 Nov 1885. It is reasonable to assume that many other deaths occurred at the orphanage. Where were these other children buried? ... was it only possible to establish a burial ground at the orphanage after it was licensed? ... and, if so, did they go for 12 months without a death?

See any names of lines you might be tracing mentioned in these pages? The records for St Joseph's Orphanage were transferred to Rockhampton where they are housed with other Sisters of Mercy documents at Centacare. The records are very sketchy and are not open to public inspection, but Centacare staff will search them for the cost of a donation.



OLD PHOTOGRAPHS

Old photographs are topical at the moment with guest speaker at our March meeting, Mr Joe Caruana, speaking on this subject, so it seemed appropriate to take a look at dating old photos. Most of us in the course of our research have come across an unlabelled photo which, initially at least, defies accurate dating ... and what about the situation of a named photograph with no date, where the name of the ancestor was one that carried down through generations, leaving you uncertain as to just which ancestor this was. Dating photographs is not easy but there are some useful guides. Different types of photographic methods and films have been popular in Australia at different periods since the 1840-50s. e.g. Daguerreotype 1840-60, Calotype 1850-60, Ambrotype mid-1850s-1880, Carte-de-visite 1859-1900, gelatine negative from about 1880. This is likely to be confusing for the novice but a good book on the subject such as *The Mechanical Eye in Australia* will help.

There were often variations in a mode of photography within in period of popularity which can further help define the date. As an example, cartes-de-visite which were introduced to Sydney in 1859 are those photos about the size of a playing card which appear to be printed on cardboard - a bit like a postcard - and have information on the photographer printed on the back. Cartes from the 1860s have square corners and are mounted on thinner cardboard than those after 1870 which also have rounded corners. Many guides suggest studying the clothes worn (when people are included) as a means of dating the photo. This is not always reliable, however, as not everyone slavishly followed fashion dictates at all times. If you were photographed right now, would someone 100 years hence be able to accurately date the photo by your clothes? In previous times, a dress or suit might have to last for many, *many* years so fabric, colour and style were chosen with this in mind. Studying costume books has its pitfalls as these books tend to rely on flat line drawings which often become almost unrecognisable when translated into real garments on real bodies. Hairstyles are also suggested as another clue to the age of a photo ... but some people never changed their hairstyle all their adult life. Some groups also had strict conventions on how hair should be worn, and if it should be seen at all.

Shoes are a real give away if your photo offers any glimpse of these at all. Shoes wore and therefore had to be renewed and, whether chosen for serviceability or fashion, the fashion trend in vogue at the time was apparent.

If your ancestors were wealthy, they were more likely to have been photographed in the earlier days of photography and there are more likely to be photographs of their earlier (painted) portraits as well ... and they were more likely to have conformed to contemporary fashion trends. Things are, however, not always as they appear when dating old photographs, If after having carefully dated a photo by its type and method of production, and that dating doesn't tie up with details of costume or know details of the subject, it is worth remembering that older photos were being copied already by the 1880s. The photo you have could post-date the original photographing by many years. Think of the confusion and frustration for your descendants many years hence which all your unlabelled photos of grandma's wedding photo will cause.

Another good book on this subject which is available at the North Mackay library is *Dating Family Photographs* by Lenore Frost.

REMEMBER:

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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER } both appear at meetings and then in
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9.30-5.30 daily + to 8.00p.m. Thursday & 9.00-1.00 Saturday.
RESEARCH ASSISTANCE: in this library 12.30-3.30 Monday to Wednesday or by arrangement
MORMON LIBRARY: Mackay LDS Family History Centre is within the church at cnr McGinn and Field Sts -
open to all 9.30am - 2.30pm Tuesday, 10.00am - 2.30pm and 6.00pm - 9.00pm Wednesday.