

# THE Cedar Log

**39th Year of Publication**

**Journal of the Richmond-Tweed Family History Society Inc.  
Ballina NSW Australia**



*Photo of the flood in Lismore, March 2022, courtesy of the **Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service**. View towards the south west with the old railway line curving round in the foreground and South Lismore centre-back.*

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**We acknowledge the Bundjalung people as the Traditional Custodians of the land and rivers where this journal is produced and pay respect to their elders past, present and emerging.**

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(Incorporated in New South Wales)

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## Editorial

By Carmel Crosby

As we head into winter, we cannot easily forget the floods that have occurred right across our Richmond-Tweed area in the past few months. Thousands of people have been displaced and many homes and businesses either partially or completely destroyed. Recovery is proving much slower than in the past due to the extraordinary height of the first flood, which was 2 metres higher than the many previous floods that Lismore has endured and record heights in all other towns. A second flood coming 4 weeks later did not help, though as one person stated, 'I did not have anything left to lose'.

Some of our members have been affected and our monthly meeting was cancelled in March. We were very fortunate that the Marie Hart Library did not go underwater when low lying areas of Ballina flooded. Hopefully, the rest of the year will run smoothly.

In this issue we have 2 articles by Jill **McCann**. How lucky she is to have 'A **Small Album**' from 1917 with many interesting photos from the local area and activities at that time, though there remains the unanswered question of who made this great source of material for a family historian. In '**At The Cemetery**' Jill shows what unexpected treasures can be found by visiting a cemetery and what excellent sources of investigation they can be.

Tanya **Binning** has written about her journey of discovering the **Nepean/Hutchison** families in India, England and Australia and also about her journey as a writer

We have a new section in The Cedar Log called '**What's on the Web?**' We are hoping members will send in any interesting websites they have found and write a short description of the website.

Later this year, the committee will have a **planning day** for topics for 2023 for Saturday meetings and our annual seminar. If you have any suggestions of what you

would like for talks, workshops or the seminar, please let a committee member know or email the president, secretary or editor.

Kerrie **Alexander** has taken on the role of Library Officer and is weaving her magic bringing the catalogue up-to-date, before moving onto other tasks. Carol **Brown** and Carol **Donaghey** will be assisting Kerrie in the library.

**AGM nomination forms** will be included with this Cedar Log for members who do not have an email address. Everyone else will be emailed the AGM notice closer to the AGM date of 6 August 2022. There will also be paper copies in the Marie Hart Library. Please consider volunteering for one of the vacant positions, including being a *committee member*, which involves attending committee meetings approximately once a month.

As **Father's Day** will be about when the September issue of The Cedar Log will be published, this might give us inspiration to write about our fathers and/or grandfathers. Short and sweet or longer articles most welcome.

Stay warm and well!  
*Carmel*, Editor



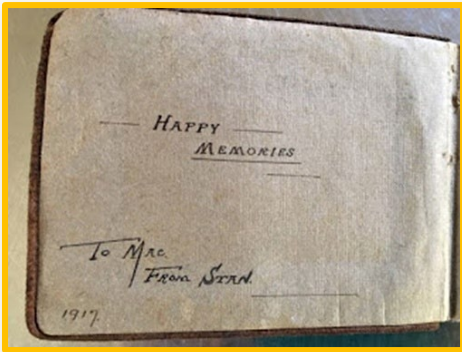
**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**Our Annual Seminar will take place on**  
**Saturday 1 October 2022 - 9.30 am to 4.30pm**  
**at The Players Theatre, 24 Swift St, Ballina, NSW**

A range of topics on  
**Scottish Family History Research**  
will be presented by  
**Australian and International Speakers**  
**Registration \$35 (including lunch)**  
**Enquiries:** Richard Goss - 0418 356 527  
or [presidentrtfhs1@yahoo.com](mailto:presidentrtfhs1@yahoo.com)  
More details in future journals and newsletters

## A Small Album

By Jill McCann – Member 1010

This small album came to us recently from my husband's cousin. It belonged to her father, Charles Leslie (Les) **McCann (1900-1972)**, also known as 'Mac', who was the second child and first son born to Charles and Alma McCann of Lismore. The album measures 3 inches x 5 inches (7.5 x 12.5 cms). This is the inside cover (below).

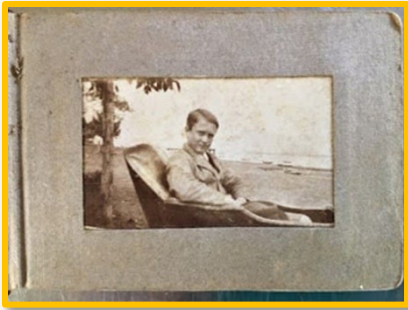


So, it's a gift from Stan to Les (Mac), in 1917, when Les was 17. Who was Stan?

There are 24 small photos in the album. It consists mostly of photos of boys and men with bikes – mostly motorbikes of the period, although there is one of a pushbike and another of a very early touring car fording a flooded causeway.

All the McCanns were keen on wheels. Here is Charlie McCann, Les' father, driving a very fancy motorbike with a sidecar (right). Charlie seems to be wearing a "duster" coat of the kind popular at the time for such outings as they were designed to keep the dust and dirt off the clothes underneath.





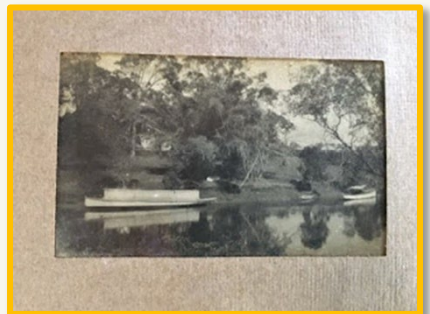
The first photo in the album is of Les sitting in the same sidecar with a beach behind him (left). There's one of Les leaning nonchalantly against the bike and another photo of the same bike disappearing down a dusty road.

Two photos are of a large group of men and women with an array of bikes – it looks like the beginning of a race or a rally (right).



There are several beach photos. As we live in this area, we have tried to match them up with the beaches we know, but so much has changed since 1917 that it's all guesswork. There are more buildings now, and there has been coastal erosion so it's difficult to be sure

There are also photos of the river – we assume it's either the Richmond or Wilson River at Lismore where the family lived. One shows a cream boat, a sight not seen now since at least the end of WWII (right). Its job was to deliver empty cans and collect full



cans of cream from the dairy farms on the river for conveyance to the Norco Factory in Lismore. The cream boats also carried other goods and occasional passengers. Improvements in roads and road transport put an end to this leisurely passage up the river by the cream boats.



There is no one alive now who can truly identify these photos. We can speculate, but we will never know the full story behind the pictures, or the friendship between Les and the mysterious **Stan**.

Maybe this is him?



### Cambridge Community Archive Network (CCAN)

For anyone interested in Cambridgeshire here is an interesting web site.

Founded in 2006, CCAN is made up of over 30 groups from towns and villages across Cambridgeshire. CCAN records the local history of Cambridgeshire, with over 50,000 photos, written text, audio and video recordings of everyday life with the help of past and present residents, who upload their items to be included in the archive for all to view. Follow the links.

CCAN - Cambridgeshire Community Archives Network Or <https://www.ccan.co.uk/>



## **Location of Electoral Rolls and Phone Books in the Local Area**

**By Carmel Crosby - Member 762**

Recently, whilst looking into the burial of a person who lived in Alstonville in the 1990s (for a relative of his in the UK) I looked into where to find local electoral rolls and phone books. We often look up records that are centuries old, but occasionally we need to look at more recent information. Below is a list of some of the local resources which I saw in the locations mentioned.

The catalogue of the Richmond Tweed Regional Library (RTRL) can also be searched under 'electoral roll' and a range of records can be found in other local libraries. Note that the town of Ballina has changed over the years from being in the Federal Division of *Richmond* to *Page* and back again several times!

Present day electoral rolls can be viewed at the Australian Electoral Commission offices in Grafton and Tweed Heads on their computer. Contact the relevant office before attending to check if it is available.

### **PHONE BOOKS and LOCAL DIRECTORIES**

#### **RTRL – Ballina**

2001-2003, 2007-8, 2013-18: Northern Rivers Phone Books

2013 -2015: Northern Rivers Local Directories

### **ELECTORAL ROLLS**

#### **Marie Hart Library (N section)**

1951 – Ballina State Government electorate (book)

1984 – all Australian Federal Government electorates (books)

1985 – mainly South Australian Federal Government electorates (books)

1994 – Ballina State Government electorate (book)

There is also a range of microfiche in the microfiche chest of drawers in the Marie

Hart Library, with various Australian electoral rolls, census and directories (SAND'S)

### **RTRL – Ballina**

1971, 1972-1974, 1984 – Richmond Federal Electorate (books)

1988, 1995 - Ballina *Local Government Area* (LGA) rolls (book)

1991, 1995 - Ballina State Government electorate (book)

### **RTRL – Support Services, 6 Centenary Drive, Goonellabah.**

1972, 1973 - Richmond Federal Government electorate; includes Subdivision of Ballina and State Electoral District of Lismore. (books)

1977, 1978, 1984 (includes Lismore) - Richmond Federal Government electorate (books)

1977 – Lismore LGA Roll of Electors and Ratepayers (some ratepayers were investors and lived outside the LGA. Their address is listed) (book)

1984 – Page Federal Government electorate (includes Ballina) (book)

1984 – Richmond Federal Government electorate (includes Lismore) (book)

1990, 1991 – Byron Shire LGA roll (books)

1993 – Page and Richmond (includes Ballina) Federal Government electorates (microfiche)

1996 – Page and Richmond Federal Government electorates (microfiche)

1998 – Page Federal Government electorate (microfiche)

1998 – Richmond Federal Government electorate (book)

1999 – Tweed State Electoral District (book)

1999 – Richmond Federal Government electorate (microfiche)

### **Some older records that are in the RTRL – Support Services, Goonellabah.**

1828 – NSW Census includes names (book)

1901 – NSW Census Collectors' books (on microfiche). They are in handwriting and listed under the town, street name (no house number), one person's name and then the number of persons in that household. This would take a lot of searching even if the town was known.

1903, 1906, 1908, 1909, 1913, 1915, 1916, 1917, 1921 – NSW electoral roll, Richmond Division. These are in subdivision sections e.g. Lismore, Murwillumbah then names are listed alphabetically (on microfiche).

## What's on the Web?

### Compiled by Carmel Crosby, Editor

We are commencing a regular segment on useful, interesting websites for the family historian. Here are just a few that I stumbled across in the past few months, but I would be very happy if members would send some in to be included in each issue of *The Cedar Log*. Send a short description along with the link, if possible, to the editor's email address [editorcedarlog@gmail.com](mailto:editorcedarlog@gmail.com). If you don't have access to the internet, drop into the *Marie Hart Library* during opening hours and the duty officer can assist you to look up these websites or any others that might be useful for your research. In the September issue, we will highlight Irish websites and in December Scottish ones. Others will be included, however, so send them in!

<https://myancestors.com.au/> This site describes itself as 'the completely free ultimate link library for Australian genealogy and ancestry records. Thousands of links and useful information to help you trace your family tree'. In general, the links are to free sites.

<https://ogindex.org/> The *Online Genealogical Index* will suggest the best sites to search for records of your ancestor in England, Wales or the Isle of Mann, by simply entering the town, county and year range you are interested in.

[https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Main\\_Page](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Main_Page) The *FamilySearch Research Wiki* site lists resources available in many countries in the world and gives tips on how to do family research in that country. Like *Wikipedia*, anyone can add to the site.

<https://elephind.com/> on this website it is possible to search 4,345 newspaper titles, from Australia, New Zealand and the United States of America. As the Australian ones come via Trove, the ones from NZ and the USA are of more interest.

<https://libraries.tas.gov.au/family-history/Pages/default.aspx> has many resources for the family historian, freely available online. Search the *Tasmanian Names Index* [https://librarianstas.ent.sirsidynix.net.au/client/en\\_AU/names/](https://librarianstas.ent.sirsidynix.net.au/client/en_AU/names/) and BDMs and other records of your ancestor can be located easily.

<https://www.familysearch.org/rootstech/home> The Rootstech conference is over for another year but there are many webinars still available to view on their website.



## Hello and greetings from Sweden!



RTFHS has been contacted by a Swedish professional genealogist, Monica **Fogelqvist**, who would like to advise those of us with Scandinavian ancestors of the service she provides. Monica has had a lot of Australian and New Zealand clients searching for their Scandinavian (including Finnish) ancestors, and is happy to help break down their brick walls or look into Scandinavian emigrants. She is a member of the *Association of Professional Genealogists* and has provided a testimonial from a family historian in Perth, Australia, as to the competent, helpful and courteous nature of her assistance.

Monica says: ‘There were many Scandinavians that left their countries in the 19th century and settled down in various parts of the world and I know it can sometimes be difficult to find them in their original countries being on the other side of the world without local knowledge.

’Visit her website for more information about her services (Tip: 450 Swedish Krona (SEK) is AUD\$68 at present). <https://www.ourswedishroots.com/>

Or visit her Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ourswedishroots>

## A Research Journey

### William George Frederick Nepean Hutchison (WGFNH)

*Born 18 August 1855, Bellary, Madras, India - died January 1928,  
Sydney, Australia*

**By Tanya Binning -Member 680**

*Becoming a family history researcher can give you a key to a fascinating and interesting world. Some stories seem to be locked away until new information becomes available. This story on William is one of those.*

*It was only by researching that his story was found on the **Hutchison** line. William, born in Madras, India, in 1855, was our daughter's 4x great-grandfather on her paternal side.*

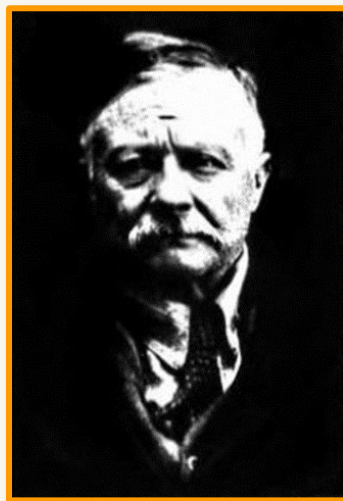
***A story:** In the early 1970s a lot of change was happening in the world and there were many free-spirited people. I knew a beautiful woman (both in her nature and looks). She was tall, dark haired and moved with the grace of an elegant African animal, never to be forgotten.*

*She went to India to give birth to their first child. Years later I had heard that she died in childbirth. The news left a lingering sadness of the loss of such a special person. Pioneering people living in the outback isolation of Australia also lost family members. Was WGFNH faced with deaths that left a lingering sadness that he needed to move away from?*

*When starting the search, I had assistance from experienced members of our Society, who took up the challenge in my research. Our Society researcher, Janine Thomson,*

*and Don Howell, our ex-President, showed commitment, expertise and knowledge in our research field.*

*My 'Struck Gold' moment was when I found a 1913 prison photo found online for the Bathurst Gaol description in the entrance books 1818-1930 (see photo on right of WGFNH). It showed a family resemblance, prompting a new search. The details were that WGFNH was born in India and arrived in Australia in 1872. He had advised at this time (1913) that he was a Veterinary Surgeon. He looked well dressed in a suit, tie and was tall for his older years.*



*In 2002, I had applied for a marriage certificate and it showed WGFNH's daughter's name, Elsie Hutchison, as the mother of the bride. She was born in Queensland (QLD), Australia. I then found a possible person, who matched Elsie, on a Microfiche for QLD school records, in our research room.*

## **ENGLAND AND INDIA BEFORE WGFNH WAS BORN**

### **HIS PARENTS**

**1853** — In India, WGFNH's father, **William George Fredrick Andrew Ferguson Hutchison**, (1826-1868) married WGFNH's mother as a widower. He had had two previous marriages. His teenage wives left no surviving children and died before they turned 20 years of age. William Snr married his third wife, **Anna Adeline Nepean**, on 14 May 1853, in Bombay, India. Her father's death in Bombay can be found in the Families in British India Society (FIBIS) records. He died on 14 May 1853 at the age of 54. The marriage and death occurred on the same day.

William and Anna were married in St Thomas Cathedral, Bombay, by licence. Anna was a minor at 16 years of age and William was 27. He was a Lieutenant with the 28<sup>th</sup> regiment of the Madras Army, which belonged to the East India Company until 1858. WGFNH was their only child. He was born in 1855 in Madras. Fathers noted

on the wedding certificate were, **George Ferguson Hutchison** and **Charles Wedekind Nepean**.

## HIS MOTHER AND HER FAMILY LINE

**Anna Adeline Nepean** was born in Devon, England, in 1836, the seventh of eight children. Her father was **Lieutenant Colonel Charles Wedekind Nepean** (1799-1853) and her mother was **Ann Becher** (1803-1884) born in Kent, England. The other children and their birth years were: Anne Emma Maria (1819); Flora Frances (1828); Henry Mack (1829); Charles Frederick (1831); Evan (1832); Emma Catherine Sophia B (1835); Anna Adeline (1836) and a son Thomas (1838) died as an infant.

I found in **FIBIS** – Anna’s parents’ marriage was announced in the Indian Gentlemen’s Magazine which reported that C.W. Nepean Esq. the third son of **Lieutenant General Nepean**, brother of **Sir Evan Nepean**, 1st Baronet, Governor of Bombay, to Ann, daughter of **Captain Becher** RN (Royal Navy). The Nepean River, west of Sydney, New South Wales (NSW), was named after this Sir Evan Nepean. He was the Under Secretary of State at the Home Office in England at the time and a close personal friend of Captain Arthur Phillip, the Governor of the new colony, which was later named New South Wales.

WGFNH’s father, William George Frederick Andrew Ferguson Hutchison was born on 13 July 1826 in Bangalore, India. He was the son of Captain George Ferguson Hutchison of the 31<sup>st</sup> regiment Light Infantry of the British East India Company Army (detailed on his baptismal record).

When WGFNH’s father died in Kent, England, in 1868, his sister **Laura Augusta Acton** was present at the death. On the death certificate, it states that he was a retired Major in the 28<sup>th</sup> Madras Native Infantry. Cause of death was Chronic Dysentery and Diseased Liver. He was 42 years old and WGFNH was aged only 13.

On the 1871 English census, WGFNH is 16 years old and a pupil at a boarding school in Kensington, London. Within a year he would set sail for **Australia**, halfway the world.

*Why did he come to Australia? Had the cost of his sea voyage been paid for by a relative? Would he have had an inheritance, giving him the courage at a tender age*

*to leave England and start a new life? Many questions can be asked, and we may never know.*

In 1875, his mother, Anna Adaline Hutchison nee Nepean (1836-1912), remarried **Henry Edmund Lavallin Puxley** (1834-1909) on 9 December 1875 in St James Church, Westminster, London, three years after William had set sail for a faraway land. Their gravestone in Hove, Sussex, England is impressive (see photo on right)



## HIS LIFE IN AUSTRALIA

### FIRST MARRIAGE

In 1879, in Brisbane, Australia, WGFNH married **Elinor Emilie Croker** (1857-1887) who was born in Port Macquarie, NSW. Their children born in QLD were Ruby Adeline Nepean (1879) in Brisbane; Ivy Kathleen Nepean (1881) in Ipswich; Ellinor Lottie (Elsie) Nepean Hutchison (1884) and Eva Estelle Nepean Hutchison (1885), both born in Cunnamulla. The area of Cunnamulla, 800 kilometres inland from Brisbane and near the QLD and NSW border, was popular as a sheep raising area.

*For many years, the name **Nepean** remained an interest in my search for the family. Some people included a river or mountain name in a birth name during early settlement years, endearing their children to the beauty of their birthplace. But in my case it turned out that the river was named after a person in my daughter's family tree.*

**1885** – I found in **TROVE** newspapers online an article that WGFNH, while living in Cunnamulla was granted the position of **Deputy Inspector of Sheep** for the district and relocated to the sheep station of **Wooroorooka**, on the main route for stock entering QLD from NSW.

**1887** – In this year, their daughter **Agnes N N Hutchison** was born and adopted out to **Gustav Carl Nungesser** and his wife. The baby died in 1888 aged 9 months, in



Barrington, near Bourke, NSW. Ellinor Emily **Hutchison** nee **Croker** also died in Barrington in 1887. WGFNH was left to care for his surviving children.

## SECOND MARRIAGE

**1888** - WGFNH then married **Ruth Eva Kinnear** in Maclean on the Clarence River. She had been born there in 1866. Their first child, **William George Frederick Nepean Hutchison** (1889-1928), was born in Maclean. **Donald W.** was born in 1891 in Kogarah, NSW and died in QLD in 1912; **Watkin W. N.** was born in 1892 in Liverpool, NSW and died the same year.

**1898** - A Police report in the **Victoria Police Gazette**, stated that WGFNH was being sought by the QLD police for deserting his wife and seven children in QLD. He was last heard of in Perth, WA, and heading for Melbourne, accompanied by a woman.

**1901** - **TROVE** a newspaper article in the Gympie Times reported that WGFNH had invented a **wire strainer and splicer** (to cut wire), which was adopted by State Government railways and other departments. **1902** - **TROVE** – once again there was a story about him appearing before the Police Court (in Adelaide) for the desertion of his wife, Ruth, and seven children in QLD and a disagreement about the amount he would pay to support them. He was ordered into the custody of a police officer from QLD.

**1913** - **WGFNH's** was in Bathurst Gaol for 9 months for larceny at Narrandera earlier that year. **WGFNH's death – January 1928.** William died in Liverpool, Sydney, NSW, 'late of Eastern Sydney and Queensland' as reported by the Sydney Morning Herald and seen on the Ryerson Index. Through his surviving children there are many of his descendants in Australia.

WGFNH's daughter, Ellinor Lottie (Elsie) Nepean Hutchison (1884-1964), born in Cunnamulla, QLD, married a man who had also been born in QLD. They lived and died in Sydney NSW.

*Years have passed since Elsie's name was found on a marriage certificate and then a school record found on Microfiche for QLD schools. In research when you knock on the door and it does not open, you wait! In time you take another look or ask for help.*

*Records searched were in TROVE newspapers, NSWBDM, FIBIS, Indian Gentleman's Magazine, Find my Past, Ancestry, the Ryerson Index as well as other research-related sites.*

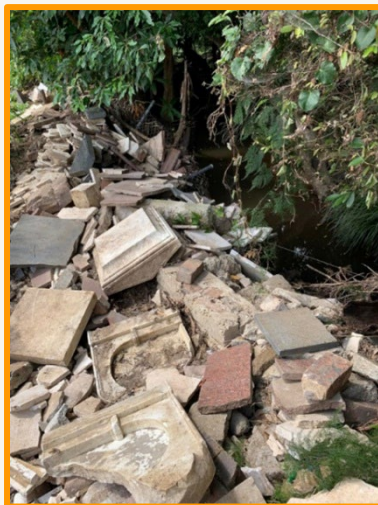
*A fresh look at your families in research can bring some interesting surprises.*



## What a Great Find!

**By Carmel Crosby - Editor**

Headstones from Toowong and South Brisbane Cemeteries were discovered recently when topsoil was washed away from the banks of Albany Creek, after the heavy rain and floods in Brisbane in late February and early March 2022. It was quite a find being so kilometres away from the cemeteries. It seems in the 1970s, when Brisbane City Council decided to 'beautify' the cemeteries, many headstones were removed and reused as structural fill, as was done on the banks of Albany Creek. Perhaps local Friends of the Cemeteries will now go on the hunt for more of these lost headstones. See the following link to *Chris Dawson's History Blog* for the full story and photos on the discovery.



<https://www.timetravelclub.com.au/2022/04/headstones.html?m=1>

Thanks to RTFHS member, Jackie **Chalmers**, for bringing this story to my attention and to Chris **Dawson** for allowing use of his photo and who first wrote about the discovery.

This story reminds me of when I went hunting for the grave of my great grandfather's sister, Ada Alice **Loder** nee **Beetham**, who was buried in Murwillumbah. I found that in the 1970s the Council had removed the tombstones from the General Cemetery in Banner Street, as they were difficult to look after, being on a slope. Known relatives were contacted, to ask permission and whether they wanted to retrieve the stone, but of course many had no known contacts, especially if they had been buried decades previously, so many tombstones were lost. There is now only a list of names of those who were buried there, on a plaque in a rotunda in the old cemetery. It is now a memorial park on the corner of Murwillumbah and Banner Streets.



## WHY DID THEY ...?

**Written by the late Muriel Bowler (Member 102) - originally published in The Cedar Log in September 2007**

The question is, why did some of our **Lavender** connections emigrate from Sussex and Kent to the Australian colony? In the 1830s the life of the average English rural worker was extremely harsh, with little income, a poor quality of housing, no access to education and no prospects of improvement for either himself or his children. For many, emigration to either Australia, North America or South Africa, was their only means of bettering their lot in life. There were poor harvests in 1837 and the country experienced a sharp economic downturn in 1837 and 1838.

The Poor Law Act was passed in 1834 and sections of the Act empowered owners of property and rate payers of parishes to raise money on security, and overseers and guardians of parishes and Poor Law Unions to seek advances from the Poor Law Commissioners for the purpose of 'defraying the expenses of the emigration of poor persons having settlement in such parish, and willing to emigrate'. Such loans were not to exceed the value of 'half the yearly rates for the three preceding years' and were 'to be repaid with interest not exceeding 5% per annum, within five years from the time of borrowing'.

In the colony of New South Wales (NSW), Australia, there was a drastic need for workers and, in particular, mechanics, craftsmen and agricultural labourers. The colony was developing rapidly, but progress had been slowed excessively by the shortage of such workers. Emigrants were required 'to supply an abundance of cheap, honest and industrious labour'. As a consequence, the first formal assisted emigration schemes to the colony were established in the mid-1830s. For a brief period, two emigration systems, the 'Government' and the 'Bounty' Schemes, operated concurrently. The 'Government' Scheme was the larger of the two, and was directed and financed by the British Government. The 'Bounty' Scheme (1835-1841) was organised by the Colonial Government of NSW on behalf of the settlers who were dissatisfied with British Government programmes. Prospective settlers were offered bounties of an incentive to emigrate and ships' Captains were offered bounties at the end of the voyage for the safe delivery of settlers to the colony. Both schemes, in fact, provided significant financial assistance to emigrate, as the cost of the passage was prohibitive for the majority of intending settlers. The assistance provided was similar under each scheme. The cost of these schemes was subsidised by the sale of land in NSW.

In 1838 the amount offered to the emigrants was:

- £36 for a man and wife under 40 years of age
- £18 when the husband was over 40
- £18 for each unmarried female 15 to 30 years of age
- £10 for each child 7 to 14
- £5 for each child 1 to 7

So *Assisted Immigrants* were passengers who had all or part of their passage paid for them by an agent, a private individual (often a relative), the Government, or a combination of all three. Agents had the responsibility to find emigrants of 'good moral character and industrious habits' and these prospective emigrants had to

present testimonials of their good character from a clergyman or other notable person from their region of origin. All *Assisted Immigrants* to Australia have been indexed. Many were ready to take the big step of emigrating in the hope of a better life and what is more, they were certain of a job at the end of the voyage.



## **Australian Shipping and Passenger Records, including Assisted Immigrant Lists**

**By Carmel Crosby, Editor**

As the previous article has mentioned, *Assisted Immigrant* lists have been indexed. The following explains a little about where to find your ancestor.

The *National Library of Australia* (NLA) has an excellent research guide which lists where you might find the ship or passenger you are seeking. Before 1924, each Australian State or Colony was responsible for recording the shipping and passenger arrivals. The surviving original records are held in the respective State Archives or Public Records Offices and the NLA either holds copies or provides access to them. The following link lists where the records you are after might be. <https://www.nla.gov.au/research-guides/finding-ship-and-passenger-records>

As examples, **Victorian assisted immigrant records** are at <https://prov.vic.gov.au/explore-collection/explore-topic/passenger-records-and-immigration/assisted-passenger-lists> and **NSW** ones at <https://www.records.nsw.gov.au/archives/collections-and-research/guides-and-indexes/assisted-immigrants-index>

Many records are available online at *Ancestry* (freely available in any local library) and *FindMyPast. Family Search* also has a large section on immigration to Australia. [https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Australia\\_Emigration\\_and\\_Immigration](https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Australia_Emigration_and_Immigration)

## At the Cemetery

By Jill McCann – Member 1010

The picturesque cemetery at Alphadale, a farming area between Alstonville and Lismore, on the north coast of New South Wales (NSW) is the resting place of many generations of the family of my husband, Paul **McCann**. The cemetery is situated opposite the former St Paul's Anglican Church – long deconsecrated and used most recently as a café. Both the church and the cemetery are on land which belonged to the **Roberts** family and was given by them to the church.



William and Agnes Roberts were both convicts, who served their time in Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania), then travelled first to the goldfields of Ballarat and then to the “red gold” (cedar) country of the north coast of NSW. Their children and their partners travelled with them and all of them settled in this part of NSW.

We discovered this cemetery several years ago when we went looking for the graves of Paul's grandparents, Charles and Alma (nee **Barrow**) McCann. We found them in a group of graves, which are all connected to the family, though neither Agnes nor William Roberts is there. We believe that Agnes' grave is on

a nearby private property and think that William might have been buried in the Pioneer Cemetery in Ballina.



The earliest of the ancestors buried here is John **Johnson**, (1838 – 1925) (**photo on left**) who is Paul's 2 x great grandfather. John's first wife was Lavinia Roberts, eldest daughter of William and Agnes, who died in childbirth at the age of 28 and was buried in what is now the Pioneer Cemetery in Ballina, in 1872.

McCann (Paul's great grandfather) who drowned crossing a flooded stream at Eureka and is buried in the Pioneer Cemetery in North Lismore. Esther was left pregnant with her fifth child at the age of 29.

The family legend is that John Beale McCann, Charles' younger brother, proposed to her on the way home from the funeral. Four months later, after the birth of Ettie, she married him. (**photo of John and Esther's grave on right**)

Esther and John B. McCann had three children together, but the first two babies died and are buried in unmarked graves in the Alphadale cemetery. It is logical to assume that they are near their parents' graves.



Nearby are the **graves of three children of Esther and Charles**. First, the grave we originally came to find, Paul's grandfather, Charles John McCann and his wife Alma Florence (nee Barrow) (**photo below left**). Next is Lavina **Lofts** (nee McCann 1885 -1955). (**photo below right**)



Lastly, Mary Ellen "Nell" Barrow (nee McCann) 1887 – 1962 (**photo below left**)



Catherine, the surviving child of Esther and John's marriage is also there, with her husband, Percy **Boyce**. (**photo below right**)

Catherine Agnes Boyce, (1897 – 1972)





Some of the next generation are also buried in this group of graves. They are Ettie's son, Eric Gordon **Clough** (1914-1960), (**photo below left**) and two of Catherine's children, Eunice (Sally) Crockett (nee Boyce), 1916-1973 (**left hand side of the gravestone in photo below right**) and John Kevin Boyce, 1918 – 1982. (**photo at end**)



Since our first visit we have made many visits to this beautiful and peaceful place, and we have found many other graves of the Roberts family and their descendants.

We have bought two plots amongst the ancestors for ourselves. We hope that by doing this, the connection to these early families may be maintained a little longer into our grandchildren's generation.

## A Writer's Journey

By Tanya Binning - Member 680



It was in the 1960s that I was first published as a teenager, when boys thought women couldn't surf. I co-wrote a chapter in a book called '*Australian Surfrider*'. It included numerous photos and was on how to learn to ride a surfboard.

I had never seen myself as a writer for publication, even though I had many appearances in the media during those years, doing public relations work, mainly as a woman surfer or actress in Australia or overseas.

It wasn't until I joined our *Richmond-Tweed Family History Society* (RTFHS) in 2000 that our founder, Marie **Hart**, encouraged me to write a story for our journal. What followed were writing groups run by our Society. The first group, the *Northern Rivers Family History Writers' Group*, was run by Professor Noeline **Kyle**, who has produced many books, mainly on family history. It lasted several years and we produced an anthology '*Remembering Mothers*' with 10 writers, which was launched at the *Byron Bay Writers' Festival* in 2005.

Next was the *RTFHS Writers' Group*, facilitated by Joan **Fraser**, which continued until 2019. We wrote at least one page and read it out at our monthly meeting. We all enjoyed the social outing with coffee and cake together at the lovely Ramada Hotel overlooking the Richmond River. Confidentiality was needed and bonds grew between members of the group, which remain to this day.

Thank you Marie Hart for your encouragement!

## **Gleanings of Journals in the Marie Hart Library**

**By Janine Thomson**

“London Online” provides links to the most important websites for researching the lives of Londoners.

“Pillow Talk” spills the beans on a little known survey from the 1940s that reveals what our relations got up to between the sheets.

*Who Do You Think You Are - October 2021 - Page 17 & 68*

“The Power of FreeReg”. The FreeReg coordinator for Wales, explains how to access free parish records.

“Prison Records” explains the vast range of sources that can shed light on ancestors who worked at or was held in a British prison.

*Who Do You Think You Are - November 2021 - Page 28 & 63*

“Local Resources for Family History – County Cavan”. This article deals with the specialised resources available for County Cavan. There are also many helpful links to the Military Archives covering the Irish Revolutionary War

*Irish Roots – 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2021 – Page 10 & 22*

“The Story of the Kelly Gang”. Few people know that this Australian film holds the title of the world’s first ever feature length film.

“Rollicking Adventures in Esperance” tells the intrepid story of Australia’s only recorded male pirate – Black Jack. *Traces – Edition 18, 2022 – Page 23 & 37*

“The Rabbit Proof Fence of Carwoola”. How Australia tried to control the rabbit problem in the early days.

*Footsteps – Port Macquarie FHS – February 2022 – Page 13*

“The Bushrangers We Forgot” Not just Ned Kelly - there were also Aboriginal, African American, Chinese and women bandits.

*HISTORY – Royal Aust. Historical Soc. March 2022 - Page 7.*

“Casino Grammar School and “Kelso” Boarding School” - a little local (almost) history. *The Crossing Place – Casino FHS Group – February 2022 - Page 6.*

“Microfiche Are Not Out of Date”. The Gold Coast FHS has a range of microfiche that covers records you might not find online.

*Rootes - Gold Coast FHS – February 2022 – Page 5*



**1954 Flood Lismore:** Molesworth St, looking towards the Post Office clock. Banners and flags, from the recent visit by Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip, can be seen on the right hand side and in the foreground. The flood on 28 February 2022 was 2 metres higher than the 1954 flood, so was over the awnings of the shops.

## Australian eJournals Review

**By Jackie Chalmers**

The following journals are now received as eJournals and may be read on the computers in the Marie Hart Library or on the Dropbox link supplied to members. If they are from the area you are researching you may well find information that will not appear elsewhere, so do check them out.

### **Australian L-Y**

William Tong Lee – From a Culture of Inventors by Gail Robertson

*Lake Macquarie FHG, The Chronicle, Nov 21*

The Silhouette Man by Glynda Nolan

*Lake Macquarie FHG, The Chronicle, Feb 22*

Alma Millicent Simon – An Interesting Child of My Grandparents by

Ruth Maxey-Fisher *Lithgow FHG, Lithgow Pioneer Press, Oct 21*

Another Entry – An Interesting Child of My Grandparents by Loma

Fitzpatrick *Lithgow FHG, Lithgow Pioneer Press, Feb 22*

The Diary of William Albert Whitehead courtesy of John Campbell

*Logan River & District FHS Inc., Dugullumba Times, Nov 21*

The Mailboat of the Maroochy River by Diane Schulz

*Logan River & District FHS Inc., Dugullumba Times, Feb 22*

Nurse Alice Sawyer (Nee Gore) 1867-1944 by Barbara Waters

*Manning Wallamba FHS, The Figtree, Nov 21*

Samuel Pentleton Stewart by Barbara Waters

*Manning Wallamba FHS, The Figtree, Feb 22*

- John Knight by Jenni Pioch  
*Maryborough DFHS Inc., Forebears, May 22*
- Pop Hattersly – An Interesting Life by Betty Olivieri  
*Mid-Richmond HS Inc., Newsletter, Feb 22*
- My Cuddly Grandmother by Christine Moss  
*Milton-Ulladulla FHS Inc., Pigeon House Tidings, Dec 21*
- Cased Photographs  
*Moruya & District Historical Society Inc., Journal, Mar 22*
- Byangum: The Town That Never Was by Dr Greg Wightman  
*Murwillumbah Historical Society, Timelines, Jan 22*
- Hec Robertson of Cudgen by Betty Hamill  
*Murwillumbah Historical Society, Timelines, Apr 22*
- Alice @ Merewether Beach by Jude Conway  
*Newcastle Family History Society Inc., Journal, Dec 21*
- The Carrington Dyke by Glenn Mathews  
*Newcastle Family History Society Inc., Journal, Mar 22*
- The Buffalo's Farewell by Nick Byrne  
*GS of Northern Territory, Progenitor, Sep 21*
- The Story of the Three Palmerstons compiled by V T O'Brien  
*GS of Northern Territory, Progenitor, Dec 21*
- Christmas Memories by Rusty Collect  
*FH Assoc. of North Queensland Inc., Relatively Speaking, Dec 21*
- Frustration Corner by Dianne Houlahan  
*FH Assoc. of North Queensland Inc., Relatively Speaking, Jan 22*
- Five Sons to King and Country – was This a Record? by Julie Sykes  
*Orange FHG, Newsletter, Dec 21*
- Forgotten Digger by Sharon Jameson  
*Orange FHG, Newsletter, Apr 22*

- Blackbirders by Martin Burrell  
 Queensland FHS Inc., *Queensland Family Historian*, Nov 21
- The Cinderella of Resources – School Records by Bev Bonning  
 Queensland FHS Inc., *Queensland Family Historian*, Feb 22
- Lt. Colonel James Henry Reynolds by Ted Flack  
 Redcliffe & District FHG Inc., *The First Settlement City Gazette*, Jul 21
- How I Finally Found a Gretna Green Marriage by Sue Marshall  
*FHS of Rockingham & District, Between the Lines*, Dec 21
- Two Ten Pound Poms by Peter Godfrey  
*FHS of Rockingham & District, Between the Lines*, Mar 22
- Port Macquarie Virtual Family History Conference 2021 by Helen Patterson  
*Ryde Family History Group, The Recorder*, Nov 21
- Willandra's Ice Chest by Aleesa Cuthbert  
*Ryde Family History Group, The Recorder*, Mar 22
- Trevor Standen – Promising Student, Notable Sportsman, Soldier &  
 Banker by Alan Clark A.M. *Shoalhaven FHS, Time Traveller*, Dec 21
- Strange Coincidences in Family History by Roslyn Van Der Sandt  
*Shoalhaven FHS, Time Traveller*, Apr 22
- The Irony of Fashionable Fabrics by Ruth Graham  
*Society of Australian Genealogists, Magazine Descent*, Autumn 22
- From the Memoirs of Frederick Wilhelm ZEUSCHNER by Nancy  
 Symons, *South Gippsland GS, Newsletter*, Dec 21
- Know Your Place by Danielle Lautrec  
*South Gippsland GS, Newsletter*, Mar 22
- Edward Reeves Whereat 1840-1894  
*Tenterfield FHG, Tenterfield Generations*, Mar 22
- E T Blacket – A Westbrook Connection by Mary Hollis  
*Toowoomba & Darling Downs FHS, The Gazette*, Nov 21

- Johanna Brennan (née Wilson) by Dorelle Stubbings  
*Toowoomba & Darling Downs FHS, The Gazette, Mar 22*
- Cultivating Your Family History Research Skills by Rod Austin  
*Tweed Gold Coast FH & Heritage Assoc. Inc., Tracks, Mar 22*
- Beware of trees bearing hints by Lois Ross-Soden  
*Whitsunday FHG, Branching Out, Mar 22*
- To An Unknown Soldier's Grave by Herb Murphy  
*Wyalong District FHG, Mallee Stump, Dec 21*
- Flt. -Sgt. Mick Curry – Editor's Report  
*Wyalong District FHG, Mallee Stump, Mar 22*
- The Mystery of Graham Dredge by Lynda Smith  
*Wyong FHG Inc., Tree of Life, Feb 22*
- A Family Bible Story by Kerrie Metcalfe  
*Wyong FHG Inc., Tree of Life, May 22*
- Local Research - Eric Campbell (1893 – 1970)  
*Young & District FHG Inc., The Lambing Flat Leader, Jan 22*
- The Ogilby Muster  
*Young & District FHG Inc., The Lambing Flat Leader, May 22*





## Monthly Speakers

**5 February 2022** - *Which Family History Software Program* to use was the topic and 2 speakers gave very informative talks about their choices and the various strengths and weaknesses they have found. Listed below are some of the features they mentioned, but is not a comprehensive review of these software products. Check their respective internet sites for details.



Alan **Ridgewell** started using *Legacy*, when he needed a Family History Program to enter the large amounts of information he was collecting, which included photos and audio files from elderly relatives. He is now onto *Legacy version 9*. The program is fully integrated with the *FamilySearch* family tree and site (which is provided by the LDS Church). It is easy to input data and to import

and export information. It accesses your ancestor's *Find a Grave* memorial. In the Hints section there is a list of other sites where Legacy tells you they have found information about your ancestor. A DNA chart is available. There is a split screen facility and ample provision to record up to 10 marriages, though there is no provision for same-sex marriages at present. The ancestors and descendants report is good. By paying a subscription, webinars can be viewed that cover American, UK and Australian topics. Legacy can be downloaded for free or the Deluxe Program can be purchased for a reasonable amount.

Leigh **Wilson** spoke about the program he uses, *Family Tree Maker 2019 version*. It was previously owned by *Ancestry* and is now owned by *Mackiev*. The software works on Macs or Windows. Key features include: - synchronisation with *Ancestry.com* and *FamilySearch.org* if this is wanted by the user; hints from Ancestry and Family Search; a good photographic program; access to newspaper articles; Wikipedia links; colour code



your family and each person has their own page; many reports can be published; a wide variety of timelines and interactive maps, though the latter are American only. More expensive than Legacy and most other family history programs.

**5 March 2022** - The meeting was cancelled due to the devastating 1 in 500 year flood that occurred in Lismore, Ballina and the surrounding area on 28 February.

**2 April 2022** - The topic for this meeting was the *1921 Census of England and Wales*. A talk by our research officer, Janine **Thomson**, had also been planned. It was certainly an afternoon when ‘Murphy’s Law’ reigned supreme. Janine was unable to attend, as her road was impassable due to the second flood in a month. The census information was hard to explain as there was a problem with the IT equipment.



**7 May 2022** – Jackie **Chalmers** presented a very comprehensive talk on *Organising Digital and Physical Files* to assist members in finding organization systems and processes that suit the needs and match the research habits of the individual. She gave an overview of the type of files accumulated by family historians including files that relate to physical objects like postcards, jewellery, crockery etc and the methods used to organise files. How to organise your various families into digital or physical folders and how to keep a Research Log were also discussed. A handout was available that had a list of useful websites covering many of the points Jackie mentioned and details of a Research Log created in Excel. Email the Editor if you would like a copy of this.

## **New Member**

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our new member

Member No 1020

Karen Chilcott

Murwillumbah

**The Richmond-Tweed Family History Society Inc.** was established in 1983 to serve the family history needs of researchers initially with a special interest in Northern New South Wales, Australia in the area bounded by the Richmond and Tweed Rivers, often referred to as the Northern Rivers.

**The Marie Hart Library** holds numerous local records including the Local Schools Admission Registers, Cemetery Records, Burial Records, Honour and Memorial Rolls from many locations within the Northern Rivers.

Over the years, the library has expanded and now holds a wealth of information from across Australia including historical and pioneer records, war records, shipping lists, probate records, landholder returns, Colonial Secretary papers and cemetery books. There are family history journals either as hard copies from within Australia or in electronic form from overseas countries, which can be accessed on the computers or from home.

Access is available to microfiche, CDs and computers connected to genealogical websites, to which we subscribe, including *Findmypast* and the *Biographical Database of Australia*. We are also a *FamilySearch* affiliate, which gives access to more than the standard *FamilySearch* site. Ask the member on duty, during normal opening hours, if you need assistance with any of the library's resources.

**Family History Research Requests** can be done by the Society for a fee of \$15 per hour. Please include a 22x11 cm stamped, addressed envelope and research fees where applicable.

# THE Cedar Log

**Journal of the Richmond-Tweed Family History Society Inc.**

Published March, June, September & December

*The Editor, Carmel Crosby, would be pleased to accept articles for inclusion in this journal. Ideally, they should be sent by email to [editorcedarlog@gmail.com](mailto:editorcedarlog@gmail.com) but typed hard copy is also welcomed. The format preferred is Times New Roman font; 12 point; single spacing.*

*Please add your contact details as the Editor may need to discuss with you any editing, abridgement or deferral to a future date of any material submitted for publication. It is your responsibility to ensure that your article does not infringe copyright. Items remain the copyright of the Richmond-Tweed Family History Society and the author.*

*Your input is important and makes for interesting and diverse reading for our members as well as to the other readers of our journal throughout Australia and overseas. We would love to hear about how you broke down those brick walls or any interesting information you have found out about an ancestor, so get those fingers typing.*

*The society does not accept responsibility for opinions and statements published by individual contributors. Original material in this journal may be reproduced with written permission from the society.*



## SOCIETY EVENTS

**Society meetings are at the Players Theatre, 24 Swift Street, Ballina at 2pm on the first Saturday of each month. There is no meeting in January.**

### **DATES TO REMEMBER – 2022**

**Saturday 4 June: Meeting:** Citations, Copyright and Ethics presented by Jackie Chalmers, Carmel Crosby, Richard Goss. Kristine Pryor will also present on Clunes Cemetery.

**Saturday 2 July: Meeting:** Irish Migration 1840-1860. Co-ordinated by Judy Cosgrove.

**Saturday 23 July:** Come and join us to celebrate **Christmas in July**, at Summerland House Farm, Wardell Road, Alstonville. Contact Gwen Clark on 6628 7797 if you would like to attend.

**Saturday 6 August: Meeting:** AGM plus Talks on Shipping Records and Stories. Co-ordinated by Richard Goss.

**Saturday 3 September: Meeting:** Guest Speaker presents Photographic Restoration and Dating.

**Saturday 1 October: All-day Seminar:** Scottish Family History Research. See page 3 of this journal for details.

**DNA Discussion Group Meetings** will be held at the Marie Hart Library on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays, every second month (July, Sept, Nov. 2022) at 10 am conducted by Kerrie Alexander. Please advise Kerrie if you will be attending, as places are limited. [rtfhdna@yahoo.com](mailto:rtfhdna@yahoo.com).

The group conducted by Leonie Oliver meets on the **third Mondays**, commencing at 1 pm, when Leonie is on duty at the library. Please advise Leonie if you would like to attend at [gandloliver@gmail.com](mailto:gandloliver@gmail.com).

Members with any level of experience with DNA are welcome to attend.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

Membership fees for the year 1 January to 31 December 2022 are \$35 Individual or \$45 Joint Membership.

Journals will be sent to financial members only.