



## HAWKESBURY FAMILY HISTORY GROUP

The Hawkesbury Family History Group is available to people who have an interest in family history of the Hawkesbury area or live in the Hawkesbury and are researching their family history. There are no joining or membership fees. The group meets every 2nd Wednesday of the month (except January) at Windsor Central Library, Dight Street, Windsor commencing at 10am. The *HAWKESBURY CRIER* is the quarterly newsletter of the group & is available on application from the address below. The cost is \$16 per annum. **Articles, notices & enquiries are always welcome for the Hawkesbury Crier. Preferably typed although clear legible handwritten items are also acceptable.** Additional information regarding the group or the Local Studies Collection of Hawkesbury City Council Library Service is available from the Local Studies Librarian, Michelle Nichols, c/- Hawkesbury City Council Library Service, Dight Street Windsor 2756 NSW Tel (02) 4560-4466 / Fax (02)4560-4472 or by email [mnichols@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mnichols@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au)

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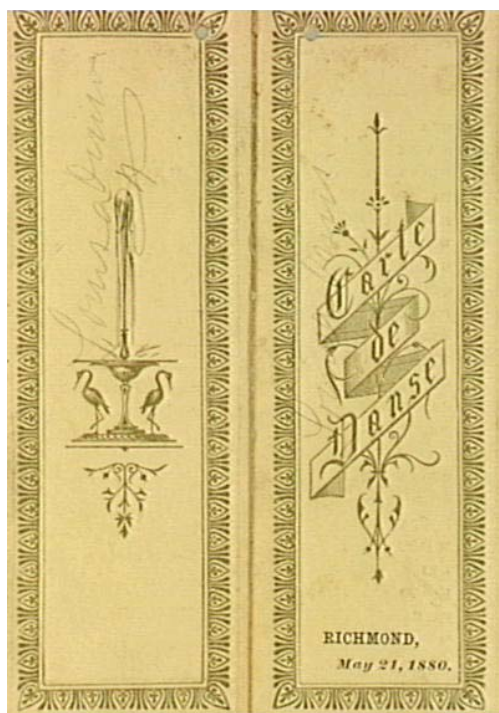
*THE HAWKESBURY FAMILY HISTORY GROUP TAKES NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ACCURACY OR THE AUTHENTICITY OF ARTICLES, OR ANY STATEMENTS EXPRESSED IN THIS NEWSLETTER.*

# *May I have this dance.....Dance Cards*

Compiled by Michelle Nichols

Dance cards were very popular in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. They were often small cards made of paper or card and depending upon the event could be plain or very elaborate. Often given only to the females, could also be presented to the gentlemen. Often a small pencil was attached by ribbon and could be attached to a belt or the wrist. The cover normally gave the details of the dance/event and other details.

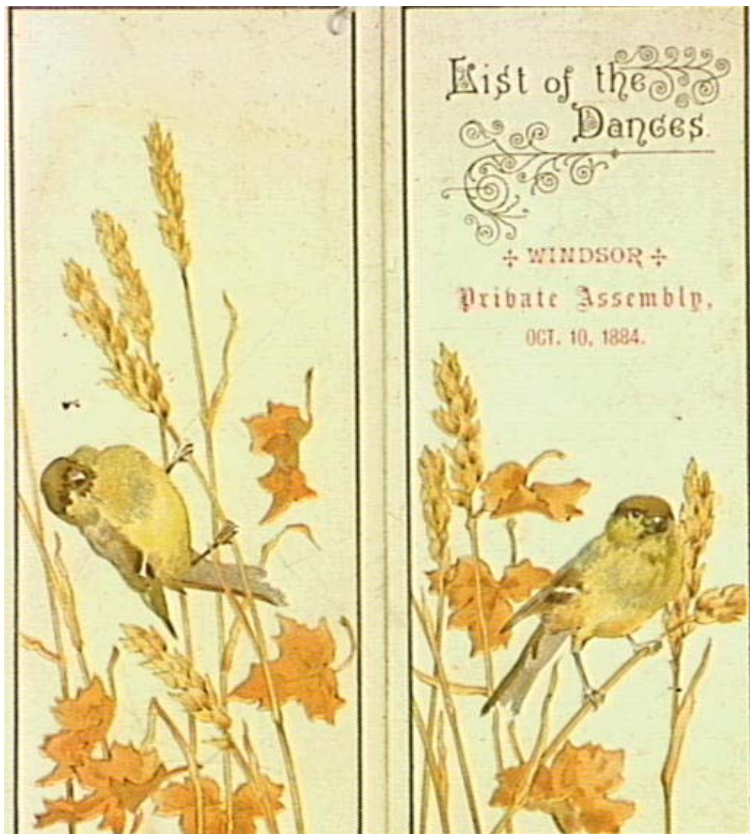
If there was a dance committee, sometimes they were listed. The committee oversaw that order and decorum were kept during the dance and the evening. They had to make sure only the invited were allowed into the event and to ensure that the sets were properly filled. Also that everyone was on their best behaviour and that the correct etiquette was maintained.



Dance cards were popular at balls and assemblies in the 19<sup>th</sup> century in many countries all over the world, including Australia. With formal dances and balls in the 18<sup>th</sup> century dances were completed by social rank with often only one couple dancing at a time. The man would retire and then the lady would dance with the next ranking person in attendance, until each had danced. The second half of the night were country dances, often done in rows or sets.

During the 19<sup>th</sup> century different dances were introduced and or revived. Some dances were danced in sets, whilst others were classed as "round" dances (dancing around and around, with a single partner, such as the polka or waltz. The Dance cards allowed the woman to keep a list of which partners she had promised dances throughout the evening. The cards were often then kept as keepsake or memento of the occasion.

A number of years ago the owner at the time of the "Sunnyside" property at North Richmond brought to the library some of Pitt family archives. This material was then microfilmed and forms the Pitt Family archives. John Thomas Matcham Pitt (1860-1924) was the son of George Matcham Pitt & Elizabeth nee Town. John married in 1886 to Emma Louisa Onus (1864-1908) who was known as Lou, the daughter of Joseph Onus, Mayor of Richmond & Georgiana nee Hunt. John & Emma had 2 surviving children, John "Jack" Matcham born 1886 & Dorothy born 1893. John was a Surveyor, well known in the district & also built his home, the historic Sunnyside at North Richmond. For more details see the Pitt family archives microfilm held by Hawkesbury Library.



Part of these archives include a collection of dance cards & programs. John & Emma liked to attend dances and social activities around the time of their courtship and early married life. The dance cards, usually a small pencil or ribbon were attached and were filled in by the gentleman requesting a dance. Usually the last dance was reserved for someone favourite. These are an example of the dances that were popular at the time. Most of the events had about 20 dances starting with a Quadrille and including several Polkas, Lancers, Valnes & Waltzes. Also included were a "Highland Schottische" and "Sir Roger de Coverley" the last dance was usually a Galop or Waltz.

**Windsor Private Assembly ~ 10th October 1884**

*Source : Hawkesbury City Council Library 004015*

The dances that were performed in the 18th and 19th century are very interesting. The Sir Roger de is an English Folk dance and was in use by the late 1600s. It was revived in the mid 1840s and was a popular ballroom dance and often used to finish a night of dance. In America it was called the Virginia Reel. It is danced by sets of six or eight couples, in two lines. The ladies on one side, the gentleman opposite. The lady at the top meets the gentlemen at the bottom of the line, then they go forward and back. They dance a figure and then the other couples follow.

The waltz contributed a great deal to the art of dance. Possibly the most important contribution was that couples were in a 'closed position' as opposed to the open dance (not embracing). For a period it was considered very scandalous, especially for women, to dance the waltz. The waltz

goes back to the 13th century however the Volta from the 1550s seems to be the first waltz danced in the closed position. Apparently Walzen means strolchen (tramping), and can suggest Schleifen (sliding or gliding.) Waltz is basically interpreted as "to turn forward from one place or to advance by turning."

The waltz was known in Europe and became popular as of 1788 and was introduced into Britain in the late 1790s early 1800s. The waltz was thought to be outrageous as dancers "held each other so close that their bodies and even faces touched while they danced." Eventually the waltz was accepted by society, and many dances that followed were variations. The Polka was another closed position dance, danced by couples and challenged the waltz. Waltzes were known by various names in different countries such as the Volta and Viennese. Valse is another word for waltz.

John & Emma also noted a few other particulars on their dance cards such as the where & why for of the event. Several noted the time they arrived home and coming home in the early hours of the following day was not unusual for late 19<sup>th</sup> century entertainment. One listed there were 150 people attending. They attended "socials" at places such as Kirribilli, Randwick and Manly as well as locally in Windsor & Richmond. They are a wonderful collection of ephemera and a reminder of a different era.

A selection of the dance cards have been reproduced with permission of the Hawkesbury City Council Library, however the whole collection of approximately 30 dance cards can be viewed on the **Hawkesbury Images database** from 003979 to 004036 on the Online Public Catalogues (OPACs) at Windsor Central Library, Dight Street, Windsor.



Another Dance card from the collection was a birthday dance held at "The Cottage" in Windsor on 14<sup>th</sup> December 1885.

*Source : Hawkesbury City Council Library 004031)*



Dance card for a dance at Fairfield (probably "Fairfield House" in Windsor on 10<sup>th</sup> July 1879  
(reverse of card below)

Source : Hawkesbury City Council Library 004017 and 0044017A)

Programme.	Engagements.
1—QUADRILLE ..	1..... <i>Miss Jones</i>
2—WALTZ ..	2..... <i>Miss Smith</i>
3—GALOP ..	3..... <i>Miss White</i>
4—POLKA ..	4..... <i>Miss Green</i>
5—LANCERS ..	5..... <i>Miss Black</i>
6—WALTZ ..	6..... <i>Miss Brown</i>
7—HIGHLAND SCHOTTISCHE ..	7..... <i>Miss Taylor</i>
8—GALOP ..	8..... <i>Miss Wilson</i>
9—QUADRILLE ..	9..... <i>Miss Moore</i>
10—WALTZ ..	10..... <i>Miss Lewis</i>
11—POLKA MAZURKA ..	11..... <i>Miss Clark</i>
12—GALOP ..	12..... <i>Miss Evans</i>
13—LANCERS ..	13..... <i>Miss King</i>
14—SCHOTTISCHE ..	14..... <i>Miss Hill</i>
15—WALTZ ..	15..... <i>Miss Young</i>
16—POLKA ..	16..... <i>Miss Adams</i>
17—HIGHLAND SCHOTTISCHE ..	17..... <i>Miss Baker</i>
18—QUADRILLE ..	18..... <i>Miss Green</i>
19—WALTZ ..	19..... <i>Miss White</i>
20—GALOP ..	20..... <i>Miss Black</i>
21—LANCERS ..	21..... <i>Miss Brown</i>
22—POLKA MAZURKA ..	22..... <i>Miss Taylor</i>
23—WALTZ & GALOP ..	23..... <i>Miss Wilson</i>
24—SIR ROGER DE COVERLY ..	24..... <i>Miss Moore</i>

**Bibliography**

Streetsweet.com Dance History Archives <http://www.streetswing.com/histmain/d5index.htm>

MIXED PICKLES' Vintage Dance Cards <http://www.angelfire.com/pa/vintagedance/dancecards.html>

## **Laurence (LAURIE) Vincent HESSION 1924-2004**

Laurie Hession died Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2004. His death came as a shock to his many friends, particularly members of the Hawkesbury Family History Group. Laurence Hession was born in 1923 at his parents home in Nelson. He learnt to read and write at Rouse Hill Public School. He married Daphne Vaughan, a farmer's daughter from Pitt Town and we had two sons and two daughters and they all are married and he is blessed with 14 grandchildren. His great grandparents arrived in Sydney from Tuam, County Galway Ireland in 1841. They lived for some years at Pitt Town before settling down at Nelson in the mid 1850s.

Laurie wrote once *"I caught the virus (family history bug) way back in 1972, this affected me and night for some years, but of late, the attacks are mostly at night and do not occur as often as they used to..."* He was a retired poultry farmer, but still helped out on his son's farm. He helped Arthur Brown with the publication *"A Battle against the odds : stories of our pioneering families on Norfolk Island, the Hawkesbury River, Mulgrave Place, Green Hills, Box Hill and Nelson"* which was published in 1990, which had information Ryan, Smith, Mason & Hession families.

He also had his own wonderful private museum and collected many local history artifacts over the years. He kept himself busy writing local history and generally was occupied with several projects. Community-wise he was very involved with the local bushfire brigade. Very recently he assisted with the writing of the history of St. John's Catholic Church, Riverstone, where he has attended for many years. His family connections were Campbell, Horan, Hynds, Lynn, Norris, Mason, Smith, White & Hession.



**Laurence (LAURIE) Vincent HESSION 1924-2004**

**The following is the Eulogy compiled by Laurie's son, Michael Hession, and read at his funeral at St. John's Catholic Church at Riverstone on the 22nd July 2004.**

"Shocked", "unbelievable", "so sudden", "didn't think he was so ill", these are just some of the comments I have had over the last few days as I rang to inform people about Dad's death. Personally, I am also still struggling to understand how it has happened so suddenly. He has always been so fit and healthy.

It was only on the 7th of May this year, 10 weeks ago that Dad was diagnosed with an inoperable . cancer, with a tumour located where the oesophagus joins to the stomach, with secondaries spreading into his lymphatic system. He was told by the doctors that he had months or a few years if chemotherapy was successful.

He had been noticing since February an empty feeling in his stomach and some slight pain, but he was still fairly fit and active. He only started to deteriorate after having a course of chemotherapy, which didn't agree with his body, that was only about 7 weeks ago. Five weeks ago he drove himself to the doctor. He spent 2 weeks in Windsor Hospital at the end of June, came home for a few days and was then admitted to Mt Druitt Palliative Care Hospital on Tuesday the 6th of July to have his medication monitored. I was away on holiday in South Australia at the time. We all thought he was going to be fine for some time to come, but that was not to be the case. He passed away at 6.40am last Saturday the 1 in July in Mt Druitt Palliative Care Unit.

Laurence Vincent Hession was born on the 2nd December 1923, in the front bedroom of his parents home in Nelson, where dad has lived all his life. When he married he built his own home next to his parents. And today on that same parcel of land there are 5 houses, still standing, representing each Hession generation. He was the eldest of three children Francis, who pre-deceased him in 1997, and his brother Norman.

He was known as Laurie to those he met, Dad, Poppy, Pop to the family, at school his nickname was "Bing" and in the army he was known as "Baggs". To some friends he was known as "Blankey" Hession, as that was the strongest swear word he was known to use. Growing up just prior to and during the Great Depression there were not too many toys and as there weren't too many other families in the district, there weren't too many others to play with. Mostly dad's friends were his cousins in particular Frank Hession, Mary, Helen and Edna Mason.

Dad made his own toys such as trucks from a few boards and boot polish tins for the wheels, aeroplanes, an army set which I remember playing with as a kid. He used to make mud pies and play shop using seeds and berries growing around his home, playing chasings, hide and seek, loved to hide in uncle Mick's crop of oats/hay stack, and made his own billy cart. He attended Rouse Hill Public School from the age of 7 walking each day to school some 4.5km each way. He never went to High School and in December 1937 just after turning 14 he commenced working on his father's poultry farm, working for his board. He never received a wage until he returned from the war in 1943 at the age of 20 earning \$7.00 per week.

He got his first and only pushbike at the age of thirteen and it is on display in his museum. He used to ride all round the district even attending the pictures in Windsor, riding with his cousins.



He joined the Army at the age of 18 years, that was in 1941. Before leaving home he chopped a stack of firewood that lasted for over 10 months. This firewood would have been used daily for running the combustion stove in the kitchen. Six months after joining the Army, he spent Christmas on a ship sailing for Papua New Guinea where he spent time in Port Moresby. Here, they were regularly bombed by the Japanese and Dad became very ill with sunburn and dysentery, spending time in hospital.

As well as working on his father's farm he did casual work for Ted Terry, a neighbour, working on his farm, fencing, cutting and blocking firewood, he helped build a hay shed and Ted's Stone House, quarrying and laying in place sandstone blocks up to 2.5 Metres in length. He used to go with his cousin Frank and brother Norman to the speedway at the old Sydney Showgrounds, travelling by train to Central and then walking to the Showgrounds. Later on this was made easier when they got cars and I can still recall as a small boy going along and being terrified by the noise as the bikes sped around.

He met Mum in early 1945 at his Uncle Pat's house in Pitt Town and they courted at the pictures, dances, tennis and the Catholic Younger set. They courted for 5 years while dad built his own house. They needed somewhere to live! He made all 11,000 bricks needed for his house over an 18 month period. He also worked as a labourer on the site helping the tradesmen, one of whom was a young Bill McNamara. He and Mum were engaged for 12 months and married in October 1950. They had 4 children and now 14 grandchildren. He started his own Poultry Farm in 1959, while still working for his father and some weeks worked over 70 hours. He retired from farming in 1972.

When we were kids Dad tried to learn to swim for two seasons, but in the end decided that it was best left for the fish and not for him. I can remember the great difficulty, most probably fear that he had putting his head under water but he tried and persisted, and can still clearly remember this.

Dad's Interests and Achievements are many and varied and I am sure to forget some, but include:

- Weather Records. He kept weather records for the district since January 1938. That is over 66 years.
- He wrote poetry. When he was in the army letters home to his mother were often in the form of a poem. One tradition he started was that he would write a poem for each grandchild, about them, when they reached 21.
- He kept scrapbooks of his time in the Army, General History, news and events relevant to Riverstone, Rouse Hill, Nelson, and Hawkesbury Districts.
- Collected Stamps
- Collected Coins
- Built his Museum to hold his collection of bottles and historical artefacts. He has had busloads of people come to see his collection and then to have Dad show them around.
- He has written the History of the Extended Hession Family. Corresponding with a number of people here and overseas. Wrote to all the Hessions in the telephone book about family history.
- Has written The History of St. John's Catholic Church of Riverstone, which is soon to be published.
- Written The History of the Rouse Hill, Box Hill, Nelson District. . Written the history of The First Fifty Years of The Box Hill-Nelson Fire Brigade.
- Numerous smaller stories of local history.

- Wrote his own Life Story and Memories.
- He was A Founding Member of The Box Hill-Nelson Bush Fire Brigade and still a member after 64 years. He was Captain for 15 years, President for 29 years.
- A Founding Member of the Box Hill-Nelson Progress Association and still involved 60 years later. Has served as President and Vice President for some time. Only a few months ago at their 60th anniversary, he gave a speech reading from his notes without the need for glasses.
- A Founding Member of St John's Conference of The St Vincent de Paul Society, being Treasurer and Secretary for many years, being an active member for over 46 years. Visiting families in need & offering assistance, working on bottle drives, etc.
- For many years kept the financial records for this church.
- Helped build the Box Hill Nelson Progress Hall and only last year help with the installation of a new kitchen.
- Helped build the first classroom at St Johns Primary School here, worked on numerous working bees around the school and church.
- Member of The Riverstone and District Historical Society and written a number of articles for them. Member of the Hawkesbury Family History Group.
- Contributed to "The Across The Paddocks", our Local District Newsletter. Has appeared on TV in a "Country Practice". Was honoured on Sydney Radio by Ray Hadley for his 80th Birthday. Ray had been out to visit Dad and his Museum and to see the Old House a couple of years ago and remembered his visit fondly.
- Has travelled extensively through out Australia both with a tent and caravan. He became an accomplished camper and 4 wheel driver.
- Kept Diaries of most of his trips with over 41 written up.
- At the tender age of 76 got involved with computers and taught himself how to type. So prolific, he managed to wear out his keyboard and had to buy another one.
- He never had time for television as he had so much to do. I would often visit after work at 8, 9 o'clock at night, he would be in his study working at his computer. One wall of his study has a bookcase full of his work.
- He has Been awarded The National Medal with three clasps for community work Certificates and Long Service Badges for 25, 35 and 50 years service from the Department of Bush Fire Services. In 1986 he was awarded The Community Service Award by Baulkham Hills Shire Council.
- In 1988 was presented with a Medal from Blacktown Bicentennial Committee as a descendant of a pioneer family of the area. In the year 2000 he received the Australia Day Community Service Award from Baulkham Hills Shire Council.
- And in 2003 he was recognised and honoured by having his portrait painted, one of only five portraits to hang in the Baulkham Hills Council Chambers
- And I am told that he is to be sent a letter at the end of this month offering him an OAM, Order of Australia Medal.

Some of my own personal recollections are :

- One of my first memories was when I was 4/5 I had an eye operation and was in Parramatta Hospital for 10 days. Dad used to visit and bring me an ice-cream in a smaller container and feed it to me with a paddle pop type stick. Those days the only visitors allowed were your parents.
- I, as a small boy, used to have nightmares, and most times it was dad who came to look after me. Dad was a real Softie.
- Dad ran what he called Pop's Hardware as we all would visit his workshop to fix things, borrow nails/screws, tools, etc.

- Dad often spoke of the various businesses he ran: a baby sitting business, ably assisted by Mum, to look after the growing number of grandchildren and then later on a taxi service picking up and dropping off grandchildren. He even ran a breakdown towing service, rescuing usually me when the car broke down. Unfortunately he didn't make a big profit out any of them.
- Mum and Dad would say their prayers and a decade of the Rosary in bed every night before going off to sleep.
- Dad and Mum went to Mass every Sunday, Holy Days and special anniversaries.
- Dad was a regular visitor of his friends and relations, the sick and attended many funerals over the years, just to offer his support. .
- We have had some great times away and shared many a night around the campfire. And many's the time Poppy would have one or two grandchildren sitting on his knees.
- Dad was always available and ready to help, not only his family but also many others and over the years we have all benefited from his help, advice, labour and most of all his presence, he was always there. Thus the comment on the front of the booklet "Still Looking After Us".
- I am sure he is sitting up there now saying, "Don't lay it on too thick". When Ray Hadley mentioned him on the Radio he was a little embarrassed by, as he put it "the great wrap up", when he was asked to sit for his portrait and then have a special dinner with Council and have his picture hung in the Council Chambers, I think he was proud but a little overawed by all the fuss and recognition.

He saw himself an ordinary bloke doing his job, no different to most people. Only last week, we learnt that St Laurence is the Patron Saint of Service and this typifies Dad's life. His Commitment and Service to Others. If he was to write his own epitaph I am sure he would like to be remembered as a "Good Man".

He was the quintessential "Quiet Achiever".

Dad, Laurie Hession, has done a lot, contributed a lot. By doing the extra things that most others don't, an ordinary life has become extraordinary and the example that Dad has shown by his Involvement with the community, church and family is one to be proud of and held up as an example. His granddaughter Mary-Jane commented, "*He was a role model for us all*" He walked with his Family. He walked with his Community, and He walked with God. God Bless.



### **More on Betty Stacey's Bible**

Please note the following correction to the article regarding Betty Stacey's prayer book which originally appeared in the *Hawkesbury Crier* - December 2003 p. 20. The children of Thomas Curl & Elizabeth nee Stacey included Sophia / Kezia. Sophia / Kezia Curl married twice, her first husband was Matthew Wright Waller. Her second husband was Robert Smith (not William Pearson Thompson)

Thank you to Mr Ray Thompson for bring this to my attention and if anyone wants to follow up this family further please check out the extensive research titled "Matthew Wright Waller aka William Thompson & his descendants" compiled by Ray Thompson & Pamela Hoad held at the Library at RL929.20994 THO that has additional details about this interesting family, or contact Ray Thompson, 17 Greenvale Grove Hornsby 2077 or email Pamela Hoad [pamandyves@tac.com.au](mailto:pamandyves@tac.com.au)

# CONVICT FAMILIES

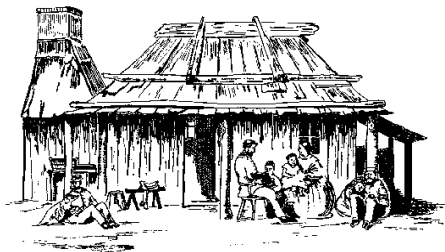
*The following information is taken from the State Records 'Archives in Brief' no. 34 which can be located on State Records website at [www.records.nsw.gov.au](http://www.records.nsw.gov.au)*

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

"Wives and families of convicts sometimes accompanied their convict relations or came out later. Children were placed on board the convict transports with their parent(s) often with no official record of their transportation or arrival being recorded. The children were supported and fed at government expense and orphan homes were established to accommodate those deserted or separated from their parents. Young children were permitted to stay with their mothers in the Female Factory until they reached the age of four when they were sent to the Orphan Schools and returned to their mother when she left the Factory.

Convicts could apply to have their families brought out at the expense of the Crown. Applications had to show that a convict would be able to support his family upon their arrival and not incur any further expense to the Government. In general, families were not permitted to reunite in Australia unless the convict applying had a Ticket of Leave. This indulgence allowed a convict to work for himself, thereby providing a means for supporting his family.

After a convict had applied to have his family brought out to the Colony, the application was assessed by the Government. On arrival the spouse often applied to have the convict assigned to them. This allowed the convict to serve out his sentence while living with his family.



# ***The Boyd family and the Irish connection***

The ***Windsor & Richmond Gazette*** - 2 October 1914, recorded the following information. It shows that the unlikeliest sources can supply some surprising information.

"We take the following from "*The Fermanagh Times*" of August 6 in Enniskillen, Ireland :-

The death took place on Thursday, in Londonderry, to the regret of all who knew her, of Mrs Elizabeth Hall, widow of the late Mr Thomas Hall, formerly of Drumclay, Enniskillen. The deceased lady, who had reached the advanced age of 78 years, had been ailing for sometime, and the end was therefore not expected. The funeral took place at Saturday, the remains being conveyed from Derry to Enniskillen for interment in the family burying ground in the churchyard. A large number of friends assembled at the railway station and accompanied the remains to their last resting place. Rev. M. Lyons, Methodist minister, Londonderry officiated at the graveside and delivered a brief address. The chief mourners were:- Messrs. William Boyd (brother), E. Wilson (brother-in-law) Thomas Fullerton (son-in-law) James Dundas (cousin) George, Charles & Victor Boyd (nephews) The late Mrs Hall was the eldest sister of Mr George Boyd, of "Belvue" (sic) Bridge Street, Windsor, to whom we extend our sympathy."

George Boyd's (sister of the above) lived at "Bellevue" in Bridge Street, Windsor. He passed away on the 3<sup>rd</sup> August 1923, aged 83 years and his obituary appeared in the Windsor & Richmond Gazette on the 10-8-1923. He was an ex-senior Sergeant of the Police. His obituary has some good information and is well worth a read. Facts such as he was born on the 11<sup>th</sup> October 1839. He was from Enniskillen (Ireland) and very proud of the fact. He arrived Australia when he was about 18 years old (1857-1858) and joined the police force in 1863. He became a first class constable in 1872, a senior constable in 1873 and a Sergeant in 1879. He was promoted to Senior Sergeant for his "*long and meritorious service*" in 1894. He retired at Windsor in 1906-1907 after 43 years of service. He purchased land adjoining the School of Arts in Windsor just prior to his retirement and built a cottage which he called "Bellevue".

George Boyd was buried at St. Matthew's Anglican Cemetery in Windsor. His wife, Sarah Ann Boyd died 30<sup>th</sup> November 1910 aged 56 and their daughters, Mary Ivy d. 20<sup>th</sup> December 1957 & Annie F. d. 4<sup>th</sup> June 1938 are buried with their parents. Another daughter married a Mr Slee and 2 sons, Harmey & Elton lived in country NSW Towns.



# THE MACQUARIE ARMS IN MACQUARIE STREET, WINDSOR

*Compiled by Ray Thompson*

The Macquarie Arms, is not to be confused with the current day Macquarie Arms, in Thompson Square which was originally called the Macquarie Arms but then known as the "Royal Hotel" between 1874 until 1961. It then became the Macquarie Arms again. The Macquarie Arms mentioned below was situated on the corner of Macquarie Street and Suffolk Street, according to the late Doug Bowd, local historian.

William Thompson was Publican of the Macquarie Arms Inn, Windsor 1843 - 1846 which was located on the corner of Macquarie Street and Suffolk Street. The three dwellings adjacent to the site were up for auction on the 30th April, 1845. Chandler's Funeral Home maintains this site today. The following is an article from the *Hawkesbury Courier* in 1845 outlining the building and its contents.

## **THE MACQUARIE ARMS, AND THREE DWELLING HOUSES ADJOINING**

*Situate in Macquarie Street , Windsor*

**"Macquarie Arms:** A verandah brick built house, containing underground cellar; and on the ground floor, large room, used as a billiard room, a parlour, entrance hall and bar; on the floor above, large dining room and bed room; third floor, three bedrooms; with a good detached kitchen, coach house, stable, granary, and out offices, rented to Mr. William Thompson at the low rent of forty pounds per annum.

The "Macquarie Arms" has been established about two years and under the judicious superintendence of the present tenant, Mr. William Thompson, has established a respectable business, and acquired celebrity as a Family Hotel, having spacious rooms, and other extensive accommodation. A Billiard Table (The only one in Windsor) is kept here, for the social benefit of the inhabitants; also is held a Branch Lodge of the Manchester Unity of Odd Fellow.

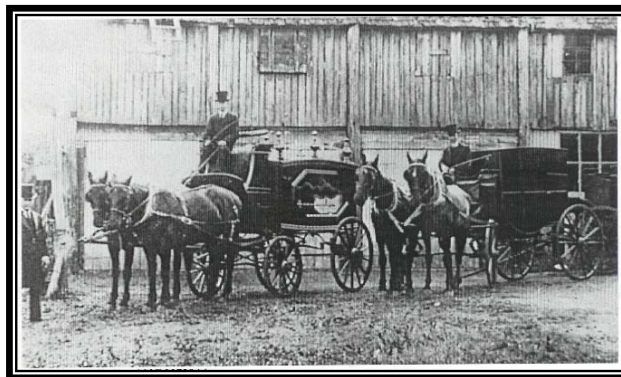
The three Dwelling Houses adjoining have all spacious rooms, and extensive accommodations, adapted for Families of the first respectability, being in an airy and pleasant situation, and within a few minutes walk of the Episcopalian Church, and Presbyterian Chapels.

*Prepared by Ray Thompson, 17 Greenvale Grove Hornsby 2077.*

Chandler's Funeral Business, Macquarie Street, Windsor - circa 1880 - 1890

Site of the Macquarie Arms Inn

Photo : Courtesy of Hawkesbury City Council Library



# Index to Insolvency records

## Hawkesbury insolvents 1842-1887

This index is available to search on the State Records website at [www.records.nsw.gov.au](http://www.records.nsw.gov.au) The records to date (August 2004) cover the Insolvency Records 1842-1887. It was compiled from the Records at CGS 13654, Insolvency files [2/8650-10411] A-H of this index was compiled by Heather Garnsey and Martyn Killion of the Society of Australian Genealogists. This list has been compiled on selected records of the Hawkesbury district, courtesy of State Records NSW index.

From the State Records website sit states "Insolvency is the inability to pay your debts or meet your expenses. Under early colonial law insolvency was treated as a different concept to bankruptcy. Bankruptcy involved an insolvents assets being administered and distributed to creditors. The jurisdiction of insolvency was recognised in New South Wales in 1823 with the Act to Provide for the better Administration of Justice in New South Wales. The Act allowed the Supreme Court to examine the affairs of those unable to pay creditors. The Act did not stop people continuing to be imprisoned for debt. In 1830 the two concepts of insolvency and bankruptcy were combined in the Act for the Relief of Debtors and for an Equal Distribution of their Estates and Effects amongst Creditors.

In 1887 the Bankruptcy jurisdiction of the Supreme Court was established under the Act to amend and consolidate the law relating to insolvency and bankruptcy. This Act provided clear guidelines on the process from insolvency to bankruptcy. That is, from the inability to meet creditors to the distribution of assets. From 1888 insolvency records were combined with bankruptcy records. For further details on insolvency records see the **Archives in Brief No. 58.**"

*Note : Sequestration Order means the order which was made by the court and it gave the trustee control of the debtor's property. The sequestration date is the official date when the debtor is declared bankrupt.*

Surname	First name	Business	Street Address	Locality	Occupation	Sequestration	FileNo	Date certificate issued
ABRAHAM	William	-	-	Windsor	Chemist	28/10/1858	4325	18/03/1859
ADAMS	John	-	-	Windsor	Painter	16/08/1859	4563	-
ARMSTRONG	John	-	-	Richmond	Laborer	12/07/1887	22229	-
ARNOLD	George	-	-	Windsor	Laborer	30/01/1882	16968	-
ATKINSON	James	-	-	Windsor	Builder	9/08/1866	7809	-
AULL	Robert	-	-	Upper Richmond	Farmer	22/12/1842	589	-
BELL	James Thomas	-	-	Richmond, near Windsor	Grazier & Farmer	18/02/1845	1370	-
BELL	John	-	-	Windsor	Stonemason	27/05/1878	14076	-
BELL	William	-	-	Windsor	Surgeon	10/11/1845	1481	-
BENNETT	William	-	-	Windsor	Coachman	1/03/1843	657	-
BOUGHTON	Samuel	-	-	North Richmond	Laborer	22/03/1866	7685	5/03/1867
BOWMAN	Sophia	-	-	Windsor	Widow	-	16592	ONS 4/08/1881
BRADDOCK	George	-	-	Windsor	Storekeeper	6/11/1877	13742	5/02/1892
BROOKS	Joseph	-	-	Richmond	Laborer	4/08/1854	3195	-
BROUGHTON	Samuel	-	-	North Richmond	Laborer	22/03/1866	7686	5/03/1867

BURGIS	William Grinsell	-	George St	Windsor	Storekeeper	10/12/1846	1589	-
BURNS	Lawrence	-	-	Windsor	Laborer	9/05/1851	3063	-
BYRAM	James Robertson	-	-	Windsor	Chemist	14/04/1871	10479	-
BYRNE	William Patrick	-	-	Windsor	Dealer	22/02/1875	12624	-
CADDAN	John Dunstan Gow	-	George St	Windsor	Grocer & Ironmonger	2/03/1871	10395	4/07/1871
CARNEY	John	-	-	McGraths Hill, near Windsor	Publican	8/03/1864	6524	-
CARROLL	Morgan	-	-	Windsor	Publican	27/01/1844	1167	-
CASEY	Patrick	-	-	Richmond	Laborer	20/02/1877	13298	-
CAVANOUGH	Henry	-	-	Windsor	Carrier	16/11/1867	8692	-
CLARKE	Matthew	-	-	Evan, near Richmond	Yeoman	21/10/1842	504	-
COBCROFT	David	-	-	Wilberforce, near Windsor	Farmer	19/07/1869	9575	14/12/1869
COBCROFT	George Alexander	-	-	Wilberforce	Ex Publican	19/02/1878	13893	-
COFFEY	Edward	-	-	Windsor	Innkeeper	28/07/1849	1934	ER ?
CROSS	David	-	-	Windsor	Farmer	21/05/1849	1910	12/06/1850
CROSS	David	-	-	Wisemans Ferry	Butcher	6/09/1845	1460	-
CROSS	Thomas	-	-	Wilberforce	Farmer	8/12/1865	7452	-
CULLEN	James	-	-	Windsor	Butcher	18/10/1843	993	15/05/1844
CUNNINGHAM	James	-	-	Windsor	Farmer	9/04/1859	9445	-
DALEY	Charles	-	-	Windsor	Builder	17/09/1842	447	24/04/1844
DAVIES	George	-	-	Windsor	Printer	29/06/1874	11995	24/12/1875
DAVIES	George Louis Asher	-	-	Windsor	Printer	2/08/1883	18133	-
DAVIES	George Louis Asher	-	-	Windsor	-	5/11/1883	18346	12/01/1885
DONNE	William	-	-	Windsor	Carpenter	29/01/1858	4016	-
DORSET	James	-	Macquarie St	Windsor	Labourer	20/11/1846	1585	-
DOUGLAS	James William	-	-	Richmond	Labourer	29/04/1887	21980	-
DOUGLASS	George	-	-	Wisemans Ferry	Storekeeper	2/11/1866	7990	-
DOUGLASS	Rachael	-	-	Richmond	Widow	15/09/1856	3661	-



DOVER	Cyrus	-	-	Richmond	Labourer	5/04/1882	17128	-
DREW	Robert	-	-	Windsor	Labourer	22/09/1866	7896	-
DUCHER	John	-		Richmond	General Storekeepers	25/01/1856	3512	ER 16/02/1856
DUNCOMB	David	-	-	Pitt Town	Farmer	23/02/1842	95	-
DUNN	James	-	-	Richmond	Farmer	13/10/1885	20124	-
DUNN	Nicodemus	-	-	Windsor	Licensed Victualler	10/11/1858	4341	-
DUNSTAN	Robert	-	-	Windsor	-	1/08/1865	7250	-
EATHER	Charles	-	-	Richmond	Grazier	15/04/1871	10481	-
EATHER	Thomas	-	-	Windsor	Wheelwright	29/07/1861	5527	7/10/1862
EDWARDS	Jane	-	George St	Windsor	Ex Licensed Victualler	23/08/1869	9637	-
ELLIOTT	Joseph	-	-	Windsor	Laborer	13/12/1880	16187	6/03/1882
ELLIOTT	Simon	-	-	Windsor	Laborer	20/01/1847	1605	7/07/1847
EVANS	Eliza Jane	-	-	Richmond	Teacher	23/10/1882	17545	18/06/1883
EVANS	Henry	-	-	Windsor	Surveyor	4/09/1886	21125	ER 11/11/1886
EVERINGHAM	James	-	-	Windsor	Commission Agent	3/04/1860	4841	-
EVERINGHAM	Joseph	-	-	Windsor	Master Baker	12/07/1878	14159	-
EVERINGHAM	Matthew	-	-	Clarendon, near Windsor	Farmer	28/05/1872	11089	-
EVERINGHAM	William	-	-	Richmond	Farmer	4/12/1866	8044	-
FARLOW	James	-	-	Upper Richmond Windsor	Drover	19/11/1863	6392	ER 9/08/1866
FARROW	William Hastings	-	-	Windsor	Veterinary Surgeon	10/01/1860	4745	-
FIRTH	William	-	-	Happy Flat Pitt Town	Miner	26/11/1859	4689	-
FISHER	Thomas Noakes	-	-	St Windsor	Innkeeper & Brewer	5/01/1844	1145	26/06/1844
FITZWATER	William George	-	-	Richmond	Publican	3/05/1842	243	1/11/1843
FORSTER	Brooks	-	-	Richmond	Gentleman	5/02/1868	8811	-
GARDINER	Charles	-	-	Windsor	Draper	11/11/1862	5986	24/03/1863
GATES	Bernard	-	-	Windsor	Grocer	30/06/1871	10591	ER 19/03/1889
GAUDRY	Charles	-	George St	Windsor	Publican	29/12/1842	594	-
GILLARD	Edward	-	-	Windsor	Plasterer	27/05/1862	5846	-
GLEESON	John	-	-	near Windsor	-	3/03/1865	7019	-

GLEESON	Michael	-	-	near Windsor	-	3/03/1865	7019	-
GOW	John	-	-	Windsor	Farmer	13/06/1857	3837	7/11/1857
GOW	Richard	-	-	North Richmond	Farmer	22/06/1849	1925	-
GRAHAM	Thomas	-	-	Wilberforce	Labourer	16/05/1865	7126	-
GREIG	Alfred Howden	-	-	Windsor	Publican	14/11/1882	17595	-
GRONO	Thomas	-	-	Pitt Town	Farmer	12/03/1842	142	-
GRONO	Thomas Junior	-	-	Windsor	Laborer	9/10/1869	9739	-
GROVER	David William	-	-	Richmond	Hotelkeeper	14/02/1884	18535	27/02/1888
HALL	Henry	-	-	Wilberforce	Settler	11/07/1843	804	19/06/1844
HARDIE	Thomas	-	-	Richmond	Farmer & Blacksmith	24/02/1862	5748	2/02/1864
HARPER	George	-	-	Windsor	-	1/05/1860	4888	-
HARPUR	Patrick	-	-	Glebe Farm Windsor	Settler	31/10/1842	518	-
HARRIS	Charles	-	-	Windsor	Licensed Victualler	13/06/1873	11548	-
HART	Thomas Henry	-	-	Pitt Town Windsor	Farmer	3/06/1871	10544	7/12/1875
ISLAUB	John George	-	-	Pitt Town, Windsor	Dealer	12/08/1870	10132	-
JAMES	John	-	-	Richmond	Sawyer	20/12/1859	4719	8/06/1860
JARVIS	Jonathan	-	-	Windsor	Bootmaker	7/05/1883	17956	-
JEFFREY	Edward	-	-	Richmond	Overseer	22/10/1842	508	-
KEARNS	Thomas	-	-	Richmond	Dealer	4/03/1865	7021	6/06/1865
KROCHNERT	Rudolph	-	-	Upper Richmond	Licensed Hawker	21/12/1864	6935	3/09/1874
LANE	James	-	-	Pitt Town	Farmer	9/12/1862	6003	-
LAVERACK	John Boulton	-	-	Windsor	Auctioneer	22/11/1867	8705	-
LEVY	Solomon Hyam	-	George St	Windsor	Grocer	28/10/1869-	9766	-
LINDSAY	Hugh	-	-	Pitt Town	Laborer	27/02/1844	1205	-
LOCKHART	William Spence	-	-	Windsor	Contractor	5/09/1887	22448	-
LYNN	William	-	-	Rosehill, near Windsor	Farmer	17/06/1861	5470	-
MAISEY	George Benjamin	-	-	Windsor	Farmer	14/01/1880	15397	-
MANGHAN	George	-	-	Windsor	Master Mariner	9/09/1842	435	28 Sec 1842
MARSDEN	John Henry	-	-	Windsor	Farmer	5/01/1861	5250	-
MARTIN	Charles	-	-	Wilberforce	Sawyer	3/05/1845	1422	13/08/1845

MARTIN	Charles	-	-	Wilberforce	Farmer	25/06/1861	5480	-
MASKEY	John	-	-	Windsor	-	15/08/1862	5920	4/08/1863
MASKEY	John	-	-	Wilberforce	Farmer	23/04/1867	8333	3/03/1868
MAYBURY	William	-	-	Windsor	Writing Clerk	19/09/1842	452	-
MCCORMACK	Michael	-	-	Windsor	Carpenter	19/10/1849	1969	-
MCDONELL	Thomas	-	George St	Windsor	Storekeeper	17/02/1846	1502	-
MCDONNELL	John	-	-	North Richmond	School Master	22/11/1862	5995	3/06/1884
MCDONNELL	John	-	-	Pitt Town	School Master	22/11/1862	5995	3/06/1884
MCGUIRE	George	-	-	Windsor	Settler	3/01/1844	1138	-
MCKELLAR	Dougal Junior	-	-	Windsor	Laborer	17/05/1887	22040	-
MCKELLAR	John	-	-	Windsor	Laborer	21/11/1845	1484	-
MELLISH	Edward	-	-	Windsor	Carpenter	13/09/1884	19084	-
MIDDLETON	Gilbert	-	-	Wilberforce	Carpenter	18/02/1862	5741	-
MILLS	Cornelius Matthew	-	-	Richmond	Storekeeper	26/07/1875	12465	14/12/1875
MILLS	Henry	-	-	Cornwallis Windsor	Laborer	11/07/1871	10610	-
MORAN	Michael	-	-	Windsor	Laborer	5/02/1851	3022	-
MORRISON	Alexander	-	-	Pitt Town	Laborer	15/01/1861	5257	4/03/1862
MURREY	John	-	-	Windsor	Draper	16/07/1844	1289	15/01/1845
NICHOLLS	William Junior	-	-	Freeman's Ranch, near Windsor	Laborer	9/08/1872	11189	4/03/1873
NIXON	George	-	-	Windsor	Tailor	4/05/1880	15680	-
NIXON	Thomas	-	Windsor St	Richmond	Tailor	23/08/1858	4232	-
NORRIS	William	-	-	Windsor	-	31/08/1882	17424	-
NOWLAND	William	-	-	Windsor	-	27/03/1850	2056	28/04/1852
O'BRIEN	John	-	-	Windsor	Bootmaker	18/05/1883	17990	-
O'DELL	John	-	-	Windsor	Post Master	18/11/1848	1843	-
PACKER	Daniel	-	-	North Richmond	Laborer	5/04/1860	4848	-
PANTON	Alexander George	-	-	Windsor	Merchant	30/12/1846	1597	-
PARKER	William	-	March St	Richmond	Drill Instructor	8/06/1887	22122	-
PAULL	Ann Charlotte	-	-	Pitt Town	Widow	30/05/1859	4484	-
PHILLIPS	Daniel	-	-	Wilberforce, near Windsor	Farmer	9/02/1859	4410	8/07/1859
POPP	Charles	-	-	Richmond	Laborer	5/07/1887	22193	-
POTTS	Henry	-	-	Richmond	Laborer	30/06/1859	4518	-

PRICE	William Thomas	-	-	Richmond	Farmer & Register of Cattle	12/09/1853	3170	ER 16/08/1883
PRIMROSE	John	-	Johnson St	Windsor	Carpenter	21/02/1887	21686	5/10/1887
PRIMROSE	John George	-	-	Windsor	Out of Business	12/04/1876	12859	-
PRYKE	J T	-	-	Richmond	Saddler	10/09/1875	12545	-
RAFTER	John	-	-	Windsor	Licensed Victualler	3/12/1850	3005	-
RAFTER	Michael	-	-	Windsor	-	12/03/1851	3036	16/07/1851
REYNOLDS	Richard Matthew	-	George St	Windsor	Fruiterer	12/10/1883	18294	-
RIDGE	James Bligh	-	-	Windsor	Farmer & Publican	21/05/1862	5841	ER 10/07/1862
RIDGE	James Bligh	-	-	Windsor	Farmer	30/08/1865	7298	-
RIDGE	John	-	-	Windsor	Farmer	15/10/1870	5142	-
RIDGE	John	-	The Railway Tavern	Windsor	Licensed Victualler	26/09/1865	7340	-
RIDGE	John	-	-	Wilberforce	Settler	6/01/1844	1148	16/07/1845
ROBINSON	James	-	-	Windsor	Dealer	22/11/1842	557	-
ROGERS	George	-	-	Windsor	Storekeeper	20/12/1883	18443	-
ROGERS	John	-	George St	Sydney & Windsor	Draper	26/08/1842	414	2/05/1844
RYDER	Samuel	-	-	Windsor	Baker & Storekeeper	3/08/1866	7796	-
SADDLER	Edmund	-	-	Richmond	Farmer	1/03/1842	114	-
SAUNDERS	George	-	-	near Richmond	Teacher	19/12/1868	9301	-
SCHOFIELD	John	-	-	near Windsor	Farmer	2/11/1843	1026	14/04/1844
SEYMOUR	George	-	-	Windsor	Auctioneer	15/12/1849	2007	-
SHELTON	Thomas George	-	-	Richmond	Storekeeper	17/08/1842	405	24/04/1844
SHEPARD	John	-	-	North Richmond	-	3/07/1860	4985	-
SHERWOOD	James	-	-	Kurrajong	Laborer	23/05/1871	10523	ER 6/04/1911
SHIELDS	Isaac	-	-	Richmond	Storekeeper	15/03/1865	7043	-
SIMPSON	Walter Edwin	-	-	Windsor	Blacksmith	23/04/1863	6114	-
SKYRME	Edward James	-	-	Windsor	Coachmaker	13/05/1872	11079	-
SMITH	John H	-	-	Pitt Town	Storekeeper	29/01/1884	18491	-
SMITH	John Henry	-	-	Richmond	Builder	18/03/1842	156	-

SMITH	Joseph Knight	-	-	Windsor	Hairdresser	10/08/1869	9609	31/05/1870
SMITH	Robert	-	-	Windsor	Publican	3/10/1843	969	-
SMYTHE	Francis Washington	-	-	Windsor	Tailor	31/07/1883	18126	28/02/1884
SPEARS	John	-	-	South Creek, Windsor	Settler	12/01/1844	1155	-
STANLEY	Edward	-	-	North Richmond	Laborer	6/04/1887	21884	-
STEENBOM	Aaron	-	-	Pitt Town, near Windsor	Shopkeeper	21/12/1860	5230	-
STEWART	William Denham	-	-	Windsor	-	17/12/1866	8062	ER 9/04/1868
SWAN	Henry Augustine	-	-	Windsor	Butcher	18/06/1859	4502	-
TEALE	John Henry	-	Windsor Rd	Windsor	Farmer	10/05/1886	20726	-
THOMPSON	Edward	-	-	North Richmond	Carrier & Farmer	17/04/1868	8932	-
TIMBRELL	Edward	-	-	Richmond	Coach Builder	9/02/1883	17746	-
TOMPSON	Charles	-	-	Clydesdale, near Windsor	Grazier	18/06/1849	1922	-
UPTON	John	-	-	Windsor	Farmer	12/10/1877	13713	17/04/1878
UPTON	John	-	-	Windsor	Farmer	16/09/1886	21168	25/04/1887
WADE	William	-	-	North Richmond	Nurseryman & Dealer	11/04/1843	701	15/05/1844
WALDEN	John	-	-	Windsor	Farmer	21/04/1849	1903	25/07/1849
WALKER	William	-	-	Cornwallis, Windsor	Farm Servant; Ex-Farmer	14/08/1861	5554	-
WATERS	Mary	-	-	Windsor	Innkeeper; Widow	3/12/1870	10299	-
WEBB	George Waring	-	-	near Windsor	Schoolmaster	28/02/1874	11837	-
WELLS	James	-	Macquarie St	Windsor	Contractor	16/07/1886	20951	25/10/1887
WEST	Henry Josiah	-	-	Riverstone, near Windsor	Auctioneer	14/12/1886	21486	-
WHITE	Charles	-	-	Windsor	Fruiterer	26/09/1887	22530	-
WHITE	Henry	-	-	Windsor	Surgeon	9/02/1843	636	-
WILLIAMS	James Eather	-	Richmond Rd	Windsor	-	13/07/1868	9078	-
WILLIAMS	John	-	George St	Windsor	Baker	25/03/1847	1619	7/07/1847



## ***Wilton Wollongong Devenish Meares - Where Oh Where have you been?***

My Great Grandfather, **Wilton Wollongong Devenish Meares** married Annie Dolan in Charleville on the 25<sup>th</sup> August 1882. He was 55 years of age and his parents were recorded as the Rev Matthew Devenish Meares, a clergyman of the Church of England in NSW and Georgina Augusta.

Wilton and Annie had seven children of which four died within a short period after their birth. Only three children from this marriage lived to adulthood. Agnes Mary Keenan, their first child was born on 30<sup>th</sup> October 1882, My grandmother Catherine Devenish Meares was the 5<sup>th</sup> child and their son William Patrick 6<sup>th</sup> child was born on 20<sup>th</sup> April 1888.

The family lived at King Street in Charleville from 1882 with Wilton working as a Sadler, Electrical fitter, Engine Fitter, Baliff. During this period of time he obtained licences to cut firewood and burn charcoal. On the 17<sup>th</sup> May 1887 Wilton purchased one acre of Crown Land by auction for the sum of twenty five pounds Sterling. The description was Lots 6 & 7 in the County of Orrery parish and town of Charleville. Deed of grant No 68357. By 1889 the family had moved to Brisbane living at Heal Street New Farm where their last child Alfred was born 18<sup>th</sup> December 1889. He died two days later from convulsions. Four days after his sons death Wilton was enrolled on the Queensland State Electoral rolls as living at Q. M. Company Wharf at Vernon Terrace New Farm. That is the last I can find of him.

Was Annie with him? I have no idea? What I do know is that Annie remarried on the 21<sup>st</sup> January 1891, just 13 months after her sons death. Her new husband was Peter Blaine. Annie could not read or write and the information given on the marriage certificate is that she was a widow and her name was Annie McGuire. This marriage lasted for eleven years without any children from the union. On 18<sup>th</sup> August 1902 Annie (now Blanie) married George Cumming. There is no record of Wilton's death in Queensland and I haven't been able to find anything in NSW. Did he go elsewhere? Maybe he sailed on one of the ships back to UK.

There is a lot of information on Rev Matthew and Georgina's family in Burkes's peerage and numerous books of early New South Wales, but Wilton is not listed as one of their children, not even mentioned. Maybe he was fostered, left on the church doorstep. The Rev was a life member of the Hawkesbury Benevolent Society, maybe this is the connection to Wilton.

From the beginning of my research I believed that he had been named after the town of Wilton a short distance from Wollongong, or after Wollongong itself, but have since found that Wollongong wasn't even surveyed in 1828 and from all records available Wilton was born between 1826 and 1827, most likely between August and December 1827. He seemed to be well educated with a very good writing skills, but surely a man 55 years of age would have done something or been recorded somewhere during these 55 years. I've looked at school records, Census, Electoral Rolls, assorted books and checked with numerous family history societies.

I am now wondering if someone from the Hawkesbury Family History Group may be able to help me with this very interesting research on my Great Grandfather Wilton Wollongong Devenish Meares.

*Please contact me if you can assist with any sources or advice.*

Marion Hall, 15 Swadling Ave, Glenlee Qld 4711. Email [feat@big.net.au](mailto:feat@big.net.au)

# Enquiries - Can You Help?

## **SAWYERS GULLY LOCAL AND FAMILY HISTORY**

I am writing the history of the Sawyers Gully area. This will include Keinbah, South Allandale (Lovedale) and Black Waterholes. For those who do not know this area it is between Maitland and Cessnock. The Great North Road traversed it. It was initially a timber area then an early grape growing area. I am interested in hearing from anyone who feels that their research might intersect or overlap with mine. My family tree database for the area contains 1800 names so far, and so I will not mention them all here! Some of the main family names include : Barnard, Lodge, Mears, Edwards, Hawkins, Dederer, Farrell, London, Radnidge & Kelman. Currently I am concentrating on the early timber industry. 1820 to 1860 in this area has been difficult to research. Three sawmills were present from the 1860s onwards. Names associated with them include : William London, Walter Harman, EGM Capp, George Harrison, James Harman & Richard Hewitt/Hewett. Whilst I am well into my research any help would be appreciated (particularly as one small fact can open a whole new area). Contact John Goswell PO Box 94, Maitland, 2320 NSW [johngoswell@iprimus.com.au](mailto:johngoswell@iprimus.com.au)

## News ... Events, books for sale, websites, Reunions

### **JOSEPH WRIGHT & ELEANOR GOTT FAMILY REUNION**

A reunion is to be held for the descendants of Joseph Wright (*Scarborough 1788*) & Ellen Gott (*Neptune 1790*) on the Sunday 28th November 2004 11am - 4pm at Maraylya Community Hall, Boundary Road, at Maraylya. Associated families include: Buckridge, Griggs, Holland, Allen, Maher, Huggins, Hobbs, Carr, Harcourt. Facilities available on site are Electric Barbecues, Children's Playground, Ceiling Fans, Hot Water, Microwave, Refrigerator, Clean Toilets, Tables & Chairs. BYO Food & Drink. For further details, please contact : Brian Hobbs Email [b.hobbs@hunterlink.net.au](mailto:b.hobbs@hunterlink.net.au) Mobile 0411776090 or Robynne Winley Email [robynne.winley@holroyd.nsw.gov.au](mailto:robynne.winley@holroyd.nsw.gov.au) Ph (02) 4572 8567.

### **McCOOEY REUNION**

James & Sarah McCooey Family Reunion at Penrith on the 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> January 2005. James (*Isabella 1822*) & Sarah & family (*Thomas 1826*) Contact Ms Patricia McCooey 11 Sorrell Place, Queanbeyan 2620 (02) 62975265 [ausheritage@ozemail.com.au](mailto:ausheritage@ozemail.com.au)

### **WEBSITES**

St. John's Catholic, Riverstone ~ [http://www.freshstartsydney.com/rivgrp/stjo/Church\\_History.html](http://www.freshstartsydney.com/rivgrp/stjo/Church_History.html)

St. Matthew's Catholic, Windsor [www.ceo.parra.catholic.edu.au/stmatthews/Schinfo/history/church.htm](http://www.ceo.parra.catholic.edu.au/stmatthews/Schinfo/history/church.htm)

St. Stephen's Church, Kurrajong ~ <http://www.kac.asn.au/>

St. John's, Wilberforce ~ <http://www.stjohnswilberforce.com/>

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