

WYONG FAMILY
Founded 1983



'Tree of Life'

HISTORY GROUP INC.

Tree of Life

Official Journal of

Wyong Family History Group Incorporated

ISSN 0815 0729

Website: <http://rootsweb.ancestry.com/-nswwfhg/>



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Member contributions are always welcome

Wyong Family History Group Inc

Patrons: Craig Thomson MP for Dobell
Jill Hall MHR for Shortland
Darren Webber MP for Wyong
David Harris

Our meetings are held at 7.00pm on the 2nd Thursday night of each month between February and November, at 'The Cottage', Wyong Community Cultural Centre, 6 Rankens Court, Wyong. Phone 4351 2211

Resources and research assistance at 'The Cottage' is available on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays between 10.00am and 3.00pm.

Fees: non-members \$5.00 per hour between 10.00am and 12.00 noon and 1.00pm and 3.00pm. Members Free.

Office Bearers 2011 – 2012

President:	Kerrie Metcalfe	02 4351 5430
Secretary:	Esther Dean	02 4359 1263
Vice-President:	Janice Barrett	
Treasurer:	Michele Gane	
Assistant Treasurer:	Frank Gero	
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Bookstall Coordinator:	Trish McDonald
Bookstall Assistant:	Glenise Clery
Branch Editor:	Russell Welham (russellwelham@bigpond.com)

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	Trish McDonald

Research – Local	Janice Barrett
Snippets:	Lynda Smith
	Meg Gibson

Tree of Life Editor:	Helen Johnston-Lord
	0418 228 232 - (heloor6@bigpond.com)

Webmaster:	John Owen
Welfare Officer:	Jan Barrett 02 4392 1353
Volunteer Representative:	Helen Burkett

• *Contact Members through
'The Cottage'. 02 4351 2211*

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Enquiries to: The Secretary, WFHG Inc.

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Email: secwfhg2@westnet.com.au

from the President

Kerrie Metcalfe (80) LM, President WFHG Inc.



The first part of the year has gone by in a flash, and for the group it has been hectic, proactive and successful. We held a successful Volunteer training day on the 3rd February followed by lunch and more information shared. We will endeavor to have another one in the coming three months. Some of us, including myself, attended the Official Opening of the Local Studies Room at

Tuggerah Library this was opened by Christine Yeates from NSW State Records and our Mayor Bob Graham. Trish had a bookstall at the library on the day and it was good PR.

At our first General Meeting we had Karen McLean Wyong, Town Coordinator from the Wyong Chamber of Commerce speak to us. They are very supportive of our group and enlightened us on the coming events we can take part in. Our workshops, interest groups and other regular events have all begun with enthusiasm and dedicated people to run them. We held a well attended social BBQ on the 12th February. These are great days when we can talk family history and someone listens.



We had a display table in the town park on 10th March at the country markets day as well as a bus trip to State Records at Kingwood on the same day.

A seminar was held at the RSL this was also well attended and the speakers Keith Whelan and Brad Argent met our expectations Keith delivered a great talk about Ireland and Brad told us all about ancestry.com. Marilyn Cridland and I went off to the 2012 Congress in Adelaide and I have written about that on page 17

A very successful Bunning's BBQ was held on 30th March and a busy day it was for those who worked, might I say while I was enjoying Adelaide.

But our big news is we bought the latest form of technology to read and print from microfilms and microfiche, ScanPro2000 costing \$15,000 I hope you will all come in and look at those pre 1856 church records or order your LDS films and try it out! This magic machine was purchased from funds raised from our 2009 Conference which had been invested, however, we are pleased to say we are still quite healthy in the treasury department.

ScanPro 2000



Our last General Meeting 12 April we had Councillor Bob Graham Wyong Shire Mayor speak to us. This was informative and gave us a chance to get to know him and him to know us. We continue to support Tuggerah library by having a couple of

our experienced volunteers available there on the third Saturday of the month.

Our five-week beginners course began on the 27th April.

So the above is what we have achieved in the past three months and all that is left to say is **THANK YOU** to the people who have helped in so many ways, for us to be able to achieve so much

Seminar

The Seminar held on the 24th March was well attended and the speakers held our attention as they spoke about their chosen topic

First Keith Whelan who gave a wonderful talk about Ireland, its history, places and people he showed some stunning visions of the landscape from a DVD he brought along.

Brad Argent stepped us through what is available on ancestry® and how to use it as well as what is coming up in the future, he answered

questions and as always was welcomed by all.

What's Coming Up?

Check the website <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nswwfhg/> for coming events; they will also be in the *Branch* which comes out monthly. Just to mention a couple of things another State Records trip to Kingswood is planned for 14th July, we have another Bunning's BBQ and will be asking for help on the 11th June and we hope to have another social day at the cottage as well as the regular workshops, Interest Groups and meeting you can get all the details from our website.



Kerrie Metcalf, Brad Argent and Esther Dean



Fifteen Years Membership and Support

Our Honorary Secretary Esther Dean was presented her 15 year certificate of membership to the group, by the Wyong Shire Mayor Bob Graham on 12 March 2012 at our General Meeting, along with her husband Denis who collected his at the end of the meeting, as he wasn't present earlier....TOL

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from the Editor

Helen Johnston-Lord Member 505

Welcome to the May 2012 edition of the 'Tree of Life'. Thank you for the feedback.

I have received a lot of good stories for this issue some are quite long and will be continued next issue. Helen Hord's story on closure is time appropriate. The cricket story set my imagination running especially as it mentions Alison. The story "True Blue" was very interesting to me. I first started documenting my family's story in the early 80's for medical reasons and I was hooked. Not a lot of medical information has come to light at this stage.



On 27 April, I attended the first session of the Family History Course for Beginners. Trish presented well and I was reminded of a few points I had forgotten. One of the participants mentioned she had just obtained a MacBook® computer. I have been using an Apple Mac® computer for close to 25 years and although I also use PC's, I am very much a Mac® user. If you would like to know more about using a Mac® for your family history recording or my experiences, please let me know.

It is pleasing to see 29 new members have been added since our last Tree of Life.

A follow up on the photo of my grandfather in last issue; I found the original photo which has a note "Mr. McKenzie and Pa", so I now know who the chap was but who was he? I do a lot of craft things and I was looking at a picture frame sorely in need of restoration. It contained a wedding photo of Elsie

Smith and Robert Robinson, my grandmother's brother. I removed the photo to find this photo behind. I do not know who he is. I think we need to take care when disposing of old pictures and their frames.

Remember the next deadline is 27 July 2012.....TOL

Bits and Pieces

Explore Australia's convict history at the World Heritage Listed Hyde Park Barracks Museum. Learn about the forced transportation of convicts, their daily lives and how they built the colony. Wander the streets of 1820s Sydney on their giant map; try on a set of leg-irons; lie in a convict hammock; look for your relatives on the convict database and discover the intriguing stories of some of the 50,000 convicts who passed through the barracks doors between 1819 and 1848. Bring your kids for dress-ups and the convicts' Kids Trail. The exhibition is ongoing until 31 May 2013. Visit

http://www.hht.net.au/whats_on/exhibitions/exhibitions/convict_sydney.

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Story of Closure for the Family

Submitted by Helen Hord member #552

This is about my Great Uncle Cecil Percy Hockey who joined the military forces in WW1.

Pte Cecil Percy Hockey No. 681 4th Pioneers Battalion A.I.F. Born 4 June 1889, enlisted 28 August 1914, died 6 August 1916

Private Cecil Percy, on the battlefield of France was shot by artillery fire and died in the trenches. He was 28 years old.

He was buried somewhere west of the village of Pozieres but his grave was never found. His name is inscribed on the Wall of the Missing at Villiers Bretonneux War Cemetery.

Some time back now, the family received a letter from the proprietor of a war museum cum pub in Pozieres. Inside was our Great Uncles dog tags unearthed by a schoolboy digging a vegetable plot north of the village.

The chain of events leading to the tags being returned to the family is extraordinary.

A policy researcher with the department of Defence in Canberra, Derry Decini, was in Pozieres

researching the last days of his grandfather. He went to the pub "Le Tommy" and introduced himself to the owner Dominique Zanaardi. On discovering Mr Decini was Australian, he showed him the dog tag and asked if he could help. Mr Decini researched War Memorial documents and uncovered a letter from Cecil Hockey's sister Mrs Sharp of the Hurstville area. He wrote a letter to "The Leader" seeking anyone who knew her. Of course our grandmother had passed away and sadly, also our mother had just passed

away.

Fortunately a family member saw the article and contacted the family. They were able to provide documentation to Mr Zanaardi in France. He in turn forwarded Cecil Hockey's dog tags to the family with a letter that said, "France will Always Remember".

Even though Mum had just passed on, we cannot help wondering if she had a little hand in the closure our family has now....TOL

♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦



*Medals:
Star Medal 1914-15,
British War Medal, Victory Medal*

Profile #23 Esther Dean

Life Member.



Esther joined WFHG Inc. On the 11 April 1997 and became a life member on the 13 September 2007.

She currently serves the Group in the following capacities

- Secretary - Re-elected in September 2011 having previously held the position from 2000 - 2006; & in a temporary position from May 2011 - September 2011;
- Committee Member since September 1998;
- Organiser of Rotary Raffle since approx. 2003;
- Fundraising Coordinator since October 2005;
- Has been an active participant in the Convicts Interest Group since July 2006.
- Public Officer since June 2007;
- Course & Workshop Coordinator Assistant since 2009;
- Monthly roster duty at the *Cottage*; and
- Organiser of and helper at Bunnings' BBQs.

Her previous contributions include -

- Research helper at Tuggerah Library on 2nd Saturday of month for a number of years;
- Has helped with transcribing on numerous projects;
- Has helped with typing on numerous projects;
- Field Trips Coordinator October 2005 - September 2011;
- Vice President November 2010 - September 2011; and
- Innumerable less significant activities.

Esther is the "fairy godmother" of the Group and it is rare to see her without her customary smile. She has helped many members break down brick walls and enjoys every bit of the chase. She is a very diligent Officer and contributes 100% of herself to any task she undertakes, making us exceedingly fortunate to have Esther as a member of our group!

Esther has an alias and is sometimes referred to as **John Fibbons**, a felonious convict no doubt!... TOL

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more Bits and Pieces

This year is the 70th Anniversary of the sinking of **HMAS Kuttabul**. In brief, three Japanese midget submarines attacked vessels in Sydney Harbour on 31 May 1942. As a result the converted ferry HMAS Kuttabul was struck by a torpedo and 21 men were killed. Findmypast is looking for the descendants of the men who perished on this vessel. On 31 May 2012 it is planned that a commemoration ceremony will take place to remember the 21 men who lost their lives on this day. Findmypast would like to connect the descendants with the organisers so that they can be involved in this special event. If you are a descendant of these men or have any information please email Findmypast at ekelly@brightsolid.com

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William Rayner

Beryl Whatson member No 46

William Rayner was born into a Quaker family in Long Ally, London being baptized on 14 February 1797.

His father, also William, had him apprenticed as a baker to William Selfe, also a Quaker. During his teenage years, William found the restrictive life of the Quakers very hard to accept, so he sought the company of William Davis, a Scottish lad of similar age, who was apprenticed to an enameller.



Highway Robbery

When the 2nd Fleet arrived, there was a shortage of food in Sydney, as the land was found poor for growing the seeds that had been brought to feed the colony. A lot of the convicts on the 2nd Fleet were then sent to Norfolk Island and this where the two Williams parted company. William

The two Williams were arrested whilst harassing Thomas Rutt and his wife in the streets of London. For a full account see the trial in the Old Bailey Site. They were sentenced to be hanged but because of their youth, being barely 19 years old, they were transported on the "Scarborough" on it's 2nd voyage arriving at Port Jackson on 28 June 1790, after languishing on a hulk, probably on the Thames River.



Convicts on Norfolk Island

Davis had suffered much on the voyage and there is evidence that he never regained his health and died many years before William Rayner.

Whilst on Norfolk Island, William married Elizabeth Goldsmith who had arrived on the "Lady Juliana" in 1790. They were given a plot of land on Mt. Pitt, where they grew crops for their own use and for the stores to feed the population.

Elizabeth gave birth to two sons, William and George and soon after ran away to Sydney with the gaol warden, Robert Jones to whom she had 2 or 3 daughters.

After the death of Robert Jones, she went to Tasmania where she remained till her death.

William Rayner eventually was brought back to Sydney and became a Constable in Newcastle, where he married bigamously, Susannah Chapman "Glatton" 1803. Whilst living in Newcastle, Susannah gave birth to Isabella and Sarah, it may be supposed that William then took over the rearing of William and George, because that family moved to Tasmania, where William became a baker and had several land grants. These were tended by his sons, William Jnr. And George.

Several more children were born in Hobart and William again became involved with the Quaker church, he held meeting in his house in Barrack Street and also gave the land in Mellifont Street for a Quaker burial ground, where he is buried. William died in his house in Barrack Street on 14 December 1850.

When Susannah died, she was smoking her pipe in front of the fireplace and died from her burns. Some of the children married in Hobart including Sarah who married Thomas Kerr from Coldstream in Scotland.

They moved to Firefly Creek and were the ancestors of my husband, George Whatson..... TOL

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What Price Grief?

Part 1 (Continued next issue)

Life member 2: Lynda Smith.

The sad tale of infant mortality and the impact on nineteenth century families.

Samuel Charles **Smallhorn**, christened in 1795 at St Paul's Covent Garden, came from a long line of Samuel **Smallhorns**, so it was no surprise that a son was given this same name. Samuel senior married Elizabeth [maiden name probably **Lovell**] on 19 March 1815 in the parish of St Mary, Newington Buttes, Southwark, Surrey. Samuel signed the registry but Elizabeth made her X. Their first recorded son found to date, Samuel Charles junior, was christened on April 24 1818 at St Giles in the Field and 3 more children quickly followed. These last 3 babes all died by 1826 and then poor Elizabeth herself passed away on July 10 1828. She was buried in the cemetery at St Giles in the field. Young Samuel would have been about 10 at this time. How devastating for all concerned! His father would have had

to work to support them, so who cared for Samuel after 1828? Were there relatives about? Did he get to go to school? Did he have to work as well? Did he run wild in the streets and get into mischief? We will probably never know the answer to these questions.

Samuel senior did what most widowed parents did in the days before welfare assistance, he looked for a new partner. Samuel married Mary [maiden name **Bevan**, or **Beavan**] on January 17 1829 in Bristol, which is some distance from London. How and why he travelled there is also still a mystery.

Did Samuel junior go with him to Bristol? Did he get on with his new stepmother? Again, more unanswered questions! Samuel senior and Mary soon started a new family, having Susannah in October 1829 in Bristol, William Shannon in Dec. 1830 in Bristol and Mary McDowall in March 1833 in



Liverpool. Samuel senior then sailed from Liverpool for Tasmania per the **Cabotia**, arriving in Hobart Town on 28 August 1833. Sadly, both Susannah and William had also died by this time. Samuel did not seem to have much luck with healthy babies! Mary **Smallhorn** and young daughter Mary later sailed from Liverpool on the **Gulnare**, arriving in Hobart Town in October 1836. I wonder how Mary supported herself and her child while Samuel was in Tasmania? Presumably, Samuel went ahead to establish himself in this new colony, and find work, a home etc. before sending for his family. I hope he also provided for Mary while he was away! My ancestor, Alfred Thomas was this couple's first Australian born child, being born in October 1837.

What had happened to Samuel Charles junior? I initially thought that he too had perished in the slums of either London, Bristol or Liverpool sometime before Sam senior emigrated. At the time, Ancestry.com did not exist and I did not have the funds for extensive searches in the UK. I put him out of my mind and concentrated on the Tasmanian family. It would be many years before a chance entry in a database led me to believe that Sam junior had also ended up in Australia, but in Western Australia, listed as an **orphan**. In 1996 I was using something called 'Genealogy Echo' [an early online sharing network] and some kind soul [Peter Dunn] sent me some information on the **Smallhorn** name. He had come across an entry for an organisation called "*The Children's Friend Society*", and an Australian book about the activities of this Society had been published in 1993. Samuel **Smallhorn**, born 1818 was listed in this book. It appears that this Society was one of many philanthropic/religious groups trying to find better lives for the thousands of neglected children in the nineteenth century. The general belief was that 'the colonies' would provide this chance. The plan was to establish training schools in Australia, South Africa and Canada where these children would learn appropriate skills and then find employment with fine upstanding members of the community.

I then discovered that young Samuel was one of many children sent per **James Pattison** in 1834 as part of the Children's Friend Society's plan. This was their first venture. The "*Dictionary of Western Australians 1829-1914, Vol. 1 Early Settlers 1829-1850*", compiled by Pamela Statham [found at Tuggerah Library in 1996] lists Samuel as an orphan who disembarked at Albany [WA] and he was also mentioned in the 1836 census for the Albany area as a labourer, aged 18. I could find no trace of Samuel marrying, having children or dying in WA, so I left my research there. At the time, WA BDMs were not online as they are now. I often wondered whether Samuel went back to the UK, or whether he moved interstate, but other parts of my research then took over. Samuel remained a question mark. *To be continued TOL*

Resources:

IGI 1984 & 1994 editions
Historic indexes online: Victorian BDMs, WA BDMs, Tas BDMs, Australian Federal electoral rolls 1903-54 via Ancestry.com.au, TROVE digitised newspapers, Battye Library of WA
Research by B Jansen [2011] & Peter Dunn [1996],

Books:

"The Children's Friend Society - Juvenile emigrants to Western Australia, South Africa and Canada 1834-1842" by Geoff Blackburn, published 1993 by Access press WA,
"Dictionary of Western Australians 1829-1914. Vol.1 Early Settlers 1829-1850," compiled by Pamela Statham.

Photo Gallery



*Jean Macleay
member 359*

This is a photo I know to be of my grandmother Annie Philippa **Cross** (nee Walters) and her siblings. It was taken at the Botanical Gardens about 1939. My grandmother is the person on the right hand

side, my mother Edith Melville **Small** is with my sister Anne and I. I believe all the ladies in the photo to have been Misses **Walters** and given their married name they could be the following: Ellen H **Doyle**, Emily C **Elliott**, Edith M **Chapman**, Ada A **Scaysbrook**, Florence M **Ridley**, Millie P **Reedy**, Hilda **Walters**. The men could be either the Walters brothers or grandma's brothers-in-law. Any help in identification would be appreciated.... TOL



Barbecue at The Cottage - 12 February 2012



First Session of Family History Workshop – 27 April, 2012



Opening of the Local Studies Room at Tuggerah Library

More Bits and Pieces

*Mrs. Helen Hord,
Member No. 552*

I am in need of help from anyone having any information about Claude Harry Trollope, born 1893 in Kiama NSW. He married Eunice Olive Mortimer in 1915. They had a daughter in 1919. Tragically she died in 1946.

I have the information for him up until 1937, after

that he seems to have disappeared. His mother was Ada and his father was Henry. I haven't found a death notice for him anywhere. If anyone has this information, or anything that would send me on the right path, I would appreciate being contacted through the WFHG Inc member No 52, Mrs Helen Hord or email holly5@aapt.net.au





NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies Inc

Conference 2012

14-16 September

Hosted by **Botany Bay Family History Society Inc**

www.conference2012.org.au/

True Blue: My Claim to Blue Blood

Copyright Dawn Montgomery 2002

My Dad came home from his sister's funeral in 1973 and told us,

"Your cousin George is doing the family history. He says we are descended from an aboriginal who had a ferry business; he used to row people across Sydney Harbour early last century."

I was incredulous. "What cousin George? I didn't know I had a cousin George? And I can't imagine an aboriginal running a business like that, early last century – I'm sure we would have learned about it at school."

"He's one of Ettie's sons," said Dad tersely. Ettie was his youngest sister and the black sheep of the family from having two boys out of wedlock and then handing them over to one of her older sisters to bring up.

I had never really been interested in my family history, as I was convinced the reason I looked like no-one else among the family I knew, on either Mum's or Dad's side, was because I was adopted. This did nothing to dispel my adoption theory, but nevertheless I was curious.

A week or so later I was having my hair cut, and chatting to the hairdresser I told her about Dad's astounding claim.

"I can well believe that," she said.

"Well, thanks," I rejoined, laughing. "I know I have a big broad nose, but I never thought I had any aboriginal in me. Besides, I'm sure I'm adopted, 'cause I look like no-one else in the family. Anyhow, what makes you say that?"

"You don't have caucasian, European-type hair," was her strange reply. I asked her to explain, and she continued, "Your hair is thick and strong but very soft. And it grows at twice the rate of other people's. I wish all my clients had to come to me for a haircut as often as you do – I'd be rich."

Well, I thought, how odd. I fell silent. My mind harked back to when I was 16 and in hospital. The admitting doctor had looked at my thick, red, raised appendix scar and said, "Hmm! Do you have black blood in you?"

At that time it was not fashionable to admit to any aboriginal connections and at age 16 it was unthinkable! "Of course not!" I hotly denied. He had raised his eyebrows in obvious disbelief.

Amongst the things I later learned, when training to be a nurse, was that keloid scars – which is what my appendix scar was, plus all my other scars acquired over time – are a sign of negro blood, but also found in young girls. I just knew I didn't have any negro blood – there weren't any negroes in Australia, were there? So I just figured I was unlucky to scar that way, and dismissed the matter.

Then there were those West Indian seamen at the Seamen's Mission in Sydney who asked did I have any West Indian blood because, they claimed, I danced 'differently to the other girls.' I thought it was just a line, and laughingly dismissed that, too. And now this!

But I was adopted, wasn't I? Even though my mother vehemently denied it, any time I broached the subject, and said she had me at home to make sure she kept the correct baby, trotting out my birth certificate to verify this fact. I told her I knew that birth certificates could be falsified by giving the wrong information, and was not convinced.

Six years after Dad's revelation, we celebrated my parents' Golden Wedding by a big party in Sydney, for that is where all our relatives still lived. The next day, bored with the chatter at my brother's house, I decided to ring up my mysterious

cousin George and find out some more about our 'aboriginal ancestor' for, though I still could not imagine an aboriginal in the early 1800s having the business nous to run a ferry service, the story intrigued me. So I rang George and introduced myself and asked him about this supposed black ancestor of ours.

"Just a minute," said George, "I'll get my research notes out." I waited.

"Yes," he said. "He was transported here in 1801 for seven years for stealing twenty pounds of sugar from a ship he was unloading."

"Hey, wait a minute!" said I. "How could he be transported if he was an aboriginal?"

"Oh, he wasn't aboriginal, but he was black," said George matter-of-factly, and went on to tell me some of the details. "His name was William Blue but everyone called him Billy Blue. Governor Macquarie took a shine to him and granted him 80 acres of land on Sydney's North Shore and that is now the suburb of Blue's Point, and some of the streets are named after his family."

"Wow, Blue's Point once belonged in our family? But tell me, if he was black, how come he was in England?"

"Don't know. Though a lady named Meg Swords has done some research and written a little book about him."

"Is she a relative too?"

"No, just someone interested. I spoke to her one time and she told me that she thought it time someone other than Alexander Berry of Berry's Bay got some recognition, so she decided to research and write about Billy Blue."

"How can I find out more about all this?"

"There's loads of stuff in at the Mitchell Library, including one of the Blue family bibles. I haven't seen it yet but I know it's there. Only thing is, it's almost impossible to get a reader's ticket for the Mitchell unless you are a professional researcher. But they make special arrangements for people coming from interstate. You could get a ticket and come down again to have a look."

I decided I had to know more.

"OK, I'll see what I can do," I told George, and went off to tell the family what I had learned. It was all so amazing.

When we returned home, I wrote to the Mitchell Library telling them of my plans to come and research my ancestor, so please could I have a reader's ticket. They replied, "*There were thousands of people in Sydney early last century. It is most unlikely we'd have anything about your ancestor.*"

To which I replied, "My ancestor is Billy Blue, and I still want a ticket please".

Imagine my surprise when they wrote back,

"If your ancestor was Billy Blue, you are welcome any time. We have drawers full of information on him. Bring this letter with you and we will issue you a one week ticket when you arrive."

So who was this Billy Blue? They had drawers full of information on him! And didn't these drawers full of information, coupled with Meg Swords' book which George bought and sent to me, unfold a story. Subsequent reading and research



With thanks to the Dixon Library, State Library (DL Pe4) for permission to reproduce 'Billy Blue' "The Cold Commodore" by C. Rodius

and purchase of certificates confirmed that Billy Blue was my father's great-great-grandfather. My keloid scars and my non-European hair must have come from him. So Mum was right – I wasn't adopted after all. I have true Blue blood.

Billy Blue is my favourite ancestor because he was such an individual, an eccentric scallywag by all accounts. He was afraid of no one and kowtowed to no-one.

Because of his ferry business, Governor Macquarie – who had dubbed him "the Old Commodore" – made him Sydney's first water policeman but he lost that position when he was caught smuggling rum. According to his burial certificate, he was 99 years old when he died in 1834, having fathered seven children since his cohabitation and subsequent marriage in 1805 to Elizabeth Williams, reputedly 'a very fair Englishwoman' and also a transported convict.

How did he get to England? Who knows? For various reasons uncovered by our research, we believe he came from Jamaica, or at least his forebears did. He claimed to have fought with General Wolfe at Quebec and to have been in King George III's 'crownation' Marine Guard of Honour. Neither of these claims can be proved or disproved, but if he was 99 when he died (some dispute that, but it is the official record on his burial certificate), he would have been the right age to be at both those events.

One of the things I like most about him is the reaction I get when I tell people my g-g-g-grandfather was a negro, 'as black as the ace of spades.' They look at my blond hair and fair skin and shake their heads in disbelief.

I don't need to imagine what he looked like. There are numerous illustrations of him from newspaper articles. On my wall hangs a photographic reproduction of a painting in the Mitchell Library, which shows him in full living colour. He even looks eccentric!

And I have a fair idea of the way he thought, at least during his life in Australia, for many details of his life are already well documented for me as he was often 'in the news' with his eccentric behaviour, his friendship with Governor Macquarie, and his ongoing business feud with Berry and Wollstonecraft over many years...TOL

Note: This was first published in Queensland Family Historian May 2002, and has since appeared in The 1788-1820 Pioneer Gazette (July 2002) and The Mail (Descendants of Convicts Group; May 2008)

Permission given to Wyong FHG to reprint in their newsletter

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Louis Frederick Pittard

Part 3 (Continued next issue)

Beryl Watson, Member 48 - 12th grandchild of Fred and Maud Pittard

1940 the house at Cumberland Road was sold, and the corner block separately soon after. Maud suffered bronchitis and had been advised by her doctor, Dr. Furnival, to move to the coast. This seemed to cure the bronchitis but she developed arthritis.

Maud, Fred and Beryl moved to the holiday home at Narrabeen in March 1940. Clarence at this time was married to Sylvia and lived at Bondi. Amy boarded with Mr. and Mrs. Jackson at Kingsland Road, Berala, coming home at weekends. Fred set about building the new home on the other block in Albermarle Street. His son Jack was able to get good quality timber for the frames and Clarence came at weekends to help with the heavy work. At this time Fred was aged seventy-three, so it must have been heavy going for his age.

When the back rooms of the house were completed but before the gas was connected for cooking, we moved in. We borrowed a kerosene stove from our neighbours Mr. and Mrs. Gibling and this was used until the front rooms were finished. By moving into the partially completed home, Fred and Maud were able to hire out the holiday cottage and raise finance for living needs. The Second World War commenced and we went back to raising our own vegetables and eggs but the days of chickens, ducks, bouquets and flowers had ceased.

Fred and Maud had six children:

Frederick Charles William, born 23 December 1893, married Olive Pillon; Amelia Maud Miriam, born 3 August 1895, married George Lamb; Albert Arthur, born 1898, married Violet Brown; John Valentine, born 14 February 1900, married Vera Grace, Armandine Gladys, born 9 February 1901, did not marry; Clarence Edward Goulette, born 6 January 1912, married: 1. Sylvia Callico, divorced; 2. Josephine Durbin, divorced; 3. Gwenneth Sims, deceased; 4. Audrey Brown

Just before the end of World War Two, Fred suffered a massive stroke and was sent to Manly District Hospital. After a few weeks he came home and died on 31 August 1945. He was buried in the Church of England section at Frenchs Forest Cemetery.

After Clarence's divorce, he came home to live with Maud, Amy and Beryl. Amy developed breast cancer and died 12 August 1951.

Clarence married Josephine Durbin, who had convinced him that she had been a nurse, wrongly it turned out but he needed someone to look after Maud who was becoming senile. Maud died on 28 September 1955 and was buried with Fred in Frenchs Forest Cemetery. A few years after this, the family home was sold.

It was at this time that a lot of our family photographs were destroyed by Josephine and all the furniture that Fred had built was disposed of too. Most of Maud's jewellery disappeared as well. To be concluded ...TOL

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The Female Convicts Research Centre

*Dr Trudy Cowley Female Convicts Research Centre Inc.
Convict Women's Press Inc.*

The Female Convicts Research Centre (FCRC) conducts research into female convicts who lived in Van Diemen's Land/Tasmania. Visit our website at www.femaleconvicts.org.au.

The Centre is a not-for-profit organisation and membership is free. Anyone can register as a member via their website. Registered members have access to their Female Convicts in Van Diemen's Land database (see <http://www.femaleconvicts.org.au/index.php/research/database>).

The Centre's publishing arm, the Convict Women's Press (CWP), publishes books on female convicts with contributions from many members. See <http://www.femaleconvicts.org.au/index.php/convict-womens-press>.

Their most recent publication is 'Convict Lives at the Ross Female Factory' (see <http://www.femaleconvicts.org.au/index.php/convict-womens-press/convict-lives-ross>).

Copies of this book can be ordered directly from the centre and the resources of the FCRC may be useful for further research.....TOL

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Brisbane Water Cricket Match Between The Wyong Eleven And The Eleven Of Blue Gum Flat

On Friday last, the 20th instant, in Mr. **William Alison's** grounds, at Wyong Place, a cricket match came off between the Wyong Eleven and the Eleven of Blue Gum Flat, which, both as a match and as a social gathering, was a decided success. At daybreak the weather seemed likely to prove unfavourable and when some of "Nature's dewy tear drops" fell from the grey clouds over-head, a corresponding gloom stole over many expectant faces; but it was only "the pride of the morning," for it turned out a beautiful, if not a sunny day-cool and pleasant, just the day for swift running, although, on the damp turf, the balls were not altogether as lively as could be wished by bowlers and by batsmen. The gay "convincing ground" was a large open meadow of 320 acres, stretching away before Mr. **Alison's** residence, near the Wyong crossing; limited on the north and east by the forest, on the west by the Maitland Road, and on the south by the tree shaded banks of the pretty and picturesque

Wyong, which here winds slowly down from the Big Bridge its entrance into the Tuggerah Beach Lake. On the eastern side of the paddock, where the forest



boundary rises into a well-wooded, cone shaped hill, several clumps of trees extend a grateful shade either to man or beast; and it was here, under the green wattles, that, in true sylvan fashion, a table was spread by Mr. Woodbury, whereat, from time to time, the weary athletes refreshed themselves during the day. The supremum opus-the "dinner"-was laid out at the Wyong Crossing, about a mile away, and became a matter of keen discussion at eventide....TOL



News from NSW State Records

Material moving from Sydney reading room - The Rocks

With the forthcoming closure of the Sydney Reading Room on 30 June 2012 the microform material and facsimile copies of selected records have started to be transferred to other locations. Please ring 9673 1788 and check if the material you want is still at The Rocks.

New Collection Search page

There are several search tools to help you find your way into our collection and they are now all accessible on a new Collection Search page.



Adelaide Congress 2012

Kerrie Metcalfe (80) LM, President WFHG Inc.

As some of you are aware Marilyn Cridland and I attended the 13th Australasian Congress on Genealogy & Heraldry in Adelaide. This being my first Congress I was excited and looking



forward to seeing what Adelaide had to offer in resources I could bring back for our members. This was not to be, very little was available although we did bring back some resources, mainly from Victoria. We were lucky enough to be staying just across the road from the Adelaide Convention Centre where the Congress was being held so this made it easy to be at the venue on time and duck back to the room through the day if need be.

There were a varied number of guest speakers, four speakers at any one time so choosing which one to go to was a challenge. We arrived in Adelaide and booked into our hotel at 5pm Tuesday 27th March than dashed across the road to register and attend the reception. We were presented with a satchel with goodies to explore later. The reception was good for networking and great meeting up with friends and meeting new people. We were served nibbles and juice, so left early to find some dinner and get settled and an early night.

Day 1 Wednesday: The Official Opening was at 9am with an address by John Bannon AO, Chair of the National Archives of Australia Advisory Committee and former Premier of South Australia. The first keynote speaker was Colleen Fitzpatrick, a forensic genealogist, she was by far my favorite speaker, her topic was The Unknown Child on the Titanic who was buried at Halifax and eventually though DNA found to be Stanley Goodwin 19 months old who perished with his family. Colleen took us through the steps of tracking families back and forward as well as exhuming the body to get a positive result. We then took a break for morning tea.

Next Englishman Christopher Watts talked on Apprenticeship records in England dating back to 1563, he explained what apprentice meant e.g. Bound to his employer or Master, usually for seven years and from the age of 14. A Master was a skilled workman, a Journeyman was someone who had just finished his apprenticeship *not someone travelling*. A Journeyman would normally work as what we know today as a contractor on a daily basis.

After Lunch we heard Daniel Horowitz "How to share and preserve memories in a digital era". This was really marketing the software MyHeritage, but nevertheless some interesting ideas that could be used with other software. We then changed rooms to listen to Stephanie James on Irish in South Australia I found it hard to stay focused in this session. This ended the day for us.

Day two Thursday: 8.30am Keynote speaker Jenny Higgins from the National Library of Australia talking about *Did They Do That In Those Days?* Showing why we should put social context into family histories. Then we had John Kitzmiller Advanced Methodology. This speaker lost me I cannot make comment as I found him hard to follow. But Suzanne Maiden made up for it with her delivery on Marriage Contracts and Marriage Settlements from pre medieval to the 1850's. After lunch we heard Roger Kenshaw "Interment of enemy aliens in the UK and Australia during the second World War", there was very little on the Australian side

the focus was on the UK, the second day finished with Dan Poffenberger, he entertained us with his research into his Grandma Poff as he called her, this was light-hearted and presented on Power Point, he kept me awake at the end of a long day.

Day Three Friday: I skipped the early start for extra time but arrived in time to hear Colleen Fitzpatrick's talk with more forensic genealogy. CSI meets Roots this time solving "The hand in the snow: and yes she found out who it belonged to, check out her website at <http://forensicgenealogy.info/>. After morning tea we were on our seats to hear about "Tracing criminals transported to Australia" by Roger Kenshaw. Roger is from the [National Archives UK](http://nationalarchives.gov.uk/) so he was using UK records to illustrate his talk. After lunch our next session was Stephen Young on Power Point "Your Family History". I found this an interesting way to present a family history that could be presented at birthdays, weddings, anniversaries and of course funerals. Next Ann Burrows spoke on publicans and public servants. The Congress Dinner was held this night so we dolled ourselves up and arrived to a lovely room with tables beautifully decorated but for me the food was not what I would expect. June Penny was the recipient of the AFFHO award for meritorious service to family history. There was some bush dancing and music and a few congress delegates joined in. Then [Dan Poffenberger](#) was the after dinner speaker It was a very funny look at odd entries from parish registers and other documents and a great way to end the evening.

Day Four Saturday: I was feeling pretty over it all by now so took the morning to explore Rundle Mall and look at the shops I arrived for the keynote speaker, [Dan Poffenberger](#) as I had enjoyed his previous talks. This time he talked on familysearch 2012 and beyond, it was not quite so captivating, but was informative. Then came the captivating Colleen Fitzpatrick again for her final talk on "The Curious Case of James Jake Smithers Gray". You can read about him at the following website <http://www.identifinders.com/smithers.html>. This was a great presentation. The closing ceremony followed with thanks to the planning committee, the raffle draw and the handover to the [Canberra 2015 Congress](#) the Convener gave a few highlights on the venues which include the [National Convention Centre](#), the [Australian War Memorial](#) and [Parliament House](#). For news update visit <http://www.congress2015.org.au/>

Summary: I think I had higher expectation as I have attended NSW & ACT Conferences as well as convened one and I was surprised at the lack of local groups and societies in the exhibition area: it was mainly the commercial Exhibitors. The venue was great and must have taken a large amount of their budget; however I congratulate all the people who worked so hard to bring such a huge event together, well done.

It was all over and Marilyn and I were off to Kangaroo Island but that's another story.....TOL



Wyong Family History Group has published a book called

Central Coast Roll of Honour.

The NSW RSL magazine '*Revellie*' has reviewed our publication.



This monumental project could only have been achieved by a team of dedicated local enthusiasts, who shared the passion to record the names of those men and women who enlisted from the Central Coast of NSW, comprising Gosford City and Wyong Shire.

CENTRAL COAST ROLL OF HONOUR

Available from Wyong Family
History Group

P O Box 247 Wyong, NSW 2259
\$40.00 (\$6 P&H within NSW and
\$10 interstate)

also available from the AWM shop
in Canberra

ISBN 9780980570021

Through their meticulous research and collation of details, taken from memorials, plaques, honour rolls and other sources, this group has ensured that such a definitive record will appeal to a broad range of interested parties.

Presented by town and village in alphabetical order, details are recorded for those who enlisted for service in the war in the Sudan 1885, the Boer War and through the wars of the 20th century.

There are numerous images of local honour rolls, plaques and memorials, supported by brief biographies of many local veterans and a useful glossary of military terms.

This is clearly an important reference work that sets a standard for other communities to follow. Excellent work is now being done by family and local history groups with the support of local governments and their libraries.

Though presented as an index, the 100 pages (the book is 399 pages) of some thousands of names are in themselves a Nominal Roll for the Central Coast District. The bibliography offers a reference to other interesting publications, including the highly regarded *Every Mother's Son* (M Rooksberry – Gosford City Library 1997) which was an earlier record of honour rolls and memorials within the District...TOL



Members are reminded that anytime they are at 'The Cottage' for any purpose, they have to wear their membership card and do so in such a manner that it is clearly displayed.

Bags are not allowed past the foyer. Please use the lockers provided. You may take in research folders and a purse. Food and drink are not allowed in the research areas.

Books which can be borrowed from the library (i.e. Books without a 'NOT FOR LOAN' mark), can only be out for two weeks at a time. Please record them in the red 'Loan Book'

When returning any journals, books or magazines, please note the date returned in the book and then place them in the tray on the Library table. They will be placed back on the shelves by the volunteer on duty that day.

New Members

A very warm welcome is extended to all new members and we look forward to meeting and helping you at 'The Cottage'. Contact any of these members by sending an enquiry to: Member's Name & No.

C/- Wyong Family History Group Inc.

P O Box 247, Wyong NSW 2259

No	Member	Research Interest
554	Kerry Bryson	Cox, Ward, Ledingham, Bryson, Howard, Cook, Allen, Pitstock, Renton, Wilson, Long, Rolfe, Strachan, Carter, Woodbridge, Shaw, Barnett, Holden, Petrie & Leonard
555	Arlene Day	Day & Cowell
556	Robert Day	
557	Bradley Cook	Cook, Brannigan, Watson, Lambert, Courtney, Farrell, Waight, Mulhall & Pollard
558	Dianne Cook	
559	Lloyd Skeen	Skeen, Harris & Turner
560	Tim Card	Card, Tew & Toll
561	Tessa Card	Wood, Carter, O'Brien & Pywell
562	Jeanette Chapman	Beaven, Chapman, Arnold & Thwaite
563	John Wright	Wright, Bevin & Fitzgerald
564	Norma Wright	
565	Julie Kent	Kent, Hanshaw, Sadler, Wilson, Mason, Goole & Partington
566	Cathy Myers	Myers, Terrey & Flood
567	Janine Woods	Deece & Passfield
568	Hugh Leenders	Leenders, Gould, Ross Harcourts,
569	Jannette Leenders	
570	Lynne Pountney	Shields & Pountney
571	Gregory Moran	Moran & Steene
572	Alan Skidmore	Skidmore, Blackney, Keirle, Kairl, Comerford & Horne
573	Ian Connell	Connell, Bateman, Payne, Streeter, Pye, Truskett, Pearce, Pobjoy & Cameron
574	Lyn Truskett	
575	Raylee Jones	Butler, Featherstone, Prendergast, Austin, Bremner & Irwin.
576	Anique Wilmann	Bijoux & Wilmann
577	Gillian Balgowan	Bessey, Balgowan, Hunter, Arthurell & Hutchings
579	Gail Cowie	Downey, Downie, Cowie & Atkinson
581	Alan Kember	Kember, Wyllie, Dalsell & Marsh
581	Enid Kember	
582	Harvey Birtwistle	Birtwistle, Slater, Tyzzer, Murdock & Mitchell
583	Kate Krause	Bates, Leahy, Porteous, Fletcher & Wollett

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Publications for Sale

More details at

<http://rootsweb.ancestry.com/nswwfhg/publications.html>

CDs

Wyong Courthouse Death Records 1930 - 1953 (Published 2009) [Also available as Book; See below]	\$ 20.00 + p&p
Palmdale Lawn Cemetery and Memorial Park.	\$ 10.00 + p&p
Simplicity Funerals Bateau Bay NSW 1963 – 2006	\$ 25.00 + p&p

BOOKS

Wyong & District Pioneer Register - pre 1910 and pre 1930 (Out of print; New Edition coming)	
Wyong and District Next Generation Register 1930 - 1950 (Published 2010)	\$ 25.00 + p&p
Wyong and District Pioneers 1910 - 1930 Supplementary Information (Published 2010)	\$ 25.00 + p&p
Wyong Courthouse Death Records 1930 - 1953 (Published 2009) [Also available as a CD; See above]	\$ 25.00 + p&h
Simplicity Funerals Bateau Bay NSW 1963 - 2006	\$ 40.00 + p&p
Wyong Township Residents Index 1930 - 1939	\$ 10.00 + p&p
Guide to Researching Your Family Tree	\$ 6.00 + p&p
The Anglican Parish of the Brisbane Water Area (Pub. 2009)	\$ 25.00 + p&p
Central Coast Roll of Honour. (Published 2009)	\$ 40.00 + p&p
Brought in by the Tide. (Published 2009)	\$ 10.00 + p&p

CEMETERY BOOKS

Jilliby Cemetery, Wyong Shire, NSW [Updated 2009]	\$ 27.00 + p&p
Noraville Cemetery, Wyong Shire NSW	\$ 25.00 + p&p
St Barnabas & Yarramalong Cemeteries, Wyong Shire NSW	\$ 15.00 + p&p
Ronkana Cemetery, Wyong Shire NSW	\$ 15.00 + p&p
All 4 Cemetery Books	\$ 75.00 + p&p
Gravedigging Index of Wyong Shire, Compiled by Mr. A V McKenzie and his son Clive.	\$ 25.00 + p&p

GENE-GEMS

Gene-Gem No 1 :Gene Jotter, Recording Family History Information	\$ 2.50
Gene-Gem No 2 - Gene Recorder :Recording BMD England & Wales [Old St. Catherine's House Records]	\$ 2.50

GENE-GUIDES

Gene-Guide No 1 - Gene-Military, Guide to Australian War Records	\$ 2.50
Gene-Guide No 2 - Gene-Sands, Guide to The Sands' Directory	\$ 2.50
Gene-Guide No 3 - Gene-Convicts, Guide to Convict Records	\$ 2.50
Gene-Guide No 4 - Gene-Scottish, Guide to Scottish Research	\$ 2.50
Gene-Guide No 5 - Gene-Ireland, Guide to Irish Research	\$ 2.50

WFHG Inc Planned Events

	2012	Event
May	Tues 1	Committee Meeting
	Thu 3	FTM (Family Tree Maker) Workshop at 'The Cottage' 1 pm – 2 pm. Cost: members \$4.00, non-members \$6.00
	Fri 4	Family History Course Week 2 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon
	Wed 9	Convict Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon
	Thu 10	General Meeting 'The Cottage' 7 pm
	Fri 11	Family History Course Week 3 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon
	Sat 19	Workshop – Tuggerah Library 10 am – 2 pm
	Thu 24	Scottish Interest Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon Irish Interest Group 'The Cottage'
June	Fri 25	Family History Course Week 4 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon
	Fri 1	PAF Workshop 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon
	Tue 5	Committee Meeting
	Thu 7	FTM Workshop at 'The Cottage' 1 pm – 2 pm. Cost: members \$4.00, non-members \$6.00
	Sat 9	WFHG F.H.F Workshop – learning how to do Family History Filing
	Mon 11	Queen's Birthday Holiday, Centre Closed
	Wed 13	Convict Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon
	Thu 14	General Meeting 'The Cottage' 7 pm
	Sat 16	Workshop – Tuggerah Library 10 am – 2 pm
July	Thu 21	Scottish Interest Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon Irish Interest Group 'The Cottage'
	Tue 3	Committee Meeting
	Wed 11	Convict Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon
	Thu 12	General Meeting 'The Cottage' 7 pm
	Sat 14	Bus Trip State Records Kingswood
	Sat 21	Workshop – Tuggerah Library 10 am – 2 pm
	Thu 26	Scottish Interest Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon Irish Interest Group 'The Cottage'
	Fri 27	To Sun 5 August. National Family History Week
	Sat 28	UOR BBQ – Information Day & BBQ lunch 'Tree of Life' copy deadline
August	Tue 31	Committee Meeting – August
	Thu 2	FTM Workshop at 'The Cottage' 1 pm – 2 pm. Cost: members \$4.00, non-members \$6.00
	Fri 3	WFHG F.H.F Workshop – learning how to do Family History Filing
	Sun 5	Last day National Family History Week
	Mon 6	Bank Holiday, Centre Closed
	Wed 8	Convict Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon
	Thu 9	General Meeting 'The Cottage' 7 pm
September – Friday 14 to Sunday 14, NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies Inc State Conference		
October – Saturday 20, Pioneer Dinner		

Wyong Family History Group Inc. Research Centre

**'The Cottage', Wyong Community Cultural Centre,
6 Rankens Court, Wyong (entrance via the old school grounds)**

**Open: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 10.00am – 3.00pm
(7.00pm on 2nd Thursday of the month). Saturdays by
appointment only. Public Holidays – Closed.**

**Tuggerah Library, Westfield: Workshop 3rd Saturday 10.00am –
2.00pm (WFHG members available to help)**

Contact the Group as follows:

**The Secretary
Wyong Family History Group Inc.
P O Box 247
Wyong NSW 2259**

Telephone: (02) 4351 2211

Email The Secretary: secwfhg2@westnet.com.au

Email WFH Group: wfhg06@westnet.com.au

Website: <http://rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nswwfhg/>

**WFHG thanks Mr. Craig Thompson, MHR for his assistance in
the production of this issue of the *Tree of Life*.**

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Remember deadline for May 'Tree of Life' is 27 July 2012

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