



THE FIG TREE

JOURNAL OF THE
MANNING WALLAMBA FAMILY
HISTORY SOCIETY Inc.
TAREE

OPERATING SINCE 1985

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH GREATER TAREE CITY LIBRARY

No 129

FEBRUARY 2014

Postal Address: PO Box 48 Taree NSW 2430

ABN 50 373 809 536

Website: www.manningwallambafhs.com.au

Email: secretary@manningwallambafhs.com.au



MANNING WALLAMBA FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY Inc.

Taree covers the whole Manning Region as shown in the above map and includes the following areas:

Manning Valley, Wingham, Taree, Kendall, Cooperbrook, Old Bar, Forster, Harrington, Manning Point, Nabiac, Bulahdelah, Kew, Krumbach, Oxley Island, Mitchells Island, Tinonee, Moorland, Lansdowne, Killabakh, Failford, Rawdon Vale, Tuncurry, Coolongolook, Bungwahl, Smiths Lake, Wallis Lake.

OFFICE BEARERS:

- | | | |
|------------------|------------|-----------------|
| President: | G Rose | |
| Vice Presidents: | G Toohey | L Kidd |
| Secretaries: | S Robinson | J Mitchell |
| Treasurer: | J Parslow | L Haynes |
| Librarians | J Mitchell | C Troth |
| Research: | G. Toohey | N. Swan |
| Committee: | I Hardy | L Kidd P Jarman |
| Public Officer: | L Haynes | |
| Publicity: | G Rose | G Toohey |

Dear 113 Members,

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Happy hunting on the branches of your family tree in 2014.



Firstly I would like to thank all those who attended the MWFHS Christmas Party at Martine's Café. I don't think we could have fitted anyone else in.

Even with so many in attendance everybody left with a gift. Thanks to Pam, Irene & Nancye for making this event happen.

Please support this new restaurant by trying it when it is not a function night. I have & still found it very tasty the 2nd time around.

I have shown several people, members & guests, how to use the ST Viewscan digital scanner in the Greater Taree City Library. I have heard stories of hours of research NOT ending up on the memory stick, so please if you need to, ask how to check that you have downloaded the pictures.

Gloria & I spoke in January this year with Margie & Lisa from the library about:

The OCR program that turns the pictures captured by the Viewscan into Word documents. She did not know this was not activated & will pay the difference required ASAP. No money requested from us.

The old small computer screens that we have in the library. There is a routine upgrade cycle & they will report back when ours are due. I offered to help this along financially if necessary as I had expected to contribute to (1).

My own research has turned up the Rev. John Rose graduating from St John's Anglican College Armidale in 1920. The archivist at the Anglican Church in Sydney provided me with this link <http://anglicanhistory.org/aus/cci/index.pdf> if you think you have one in your tree.

On my first duty day this year when reading the most current journals I came across an article in "Kith & Kin" about the Panopticon which will be an English research project into the lives of everyone convicted at the "Old Bailey" in London <http://www.oldbaileyonline.org/>
This project has just started so keep up-to-date at <http://www.digitalpanopticon.org/>

In a follow up to the meeting Gloria & I attended "Volunteering Forum 2013" offered by the Volunteering Centre of Port Macquarie at Port Panthers, they are now seeking expressions of interest in the formal training Certificate IV in Volunteer Program Coordination.

Danielle Old, events Co-ordinator at the GTC, has asked if we have members interested in:

Writing Your Family History or Memoirs

This seminar is for those interested in preserving the history and stories of themselves or their family. It offers ideas on gathering raw material and methods for sorting through information and pictures to create an attractive, easy to read and informative record of your history.

The presenter is Geoff Bartlett - here is the link to his website for more information

<http://www.lhaproductions.com.au/>

If sufficient numbers are willing, we can make this happen.

Once again I need to stress that most Society resources are paid for with the money raised by the Bunnings BBQ. I find that attending, even only for 3 hours, gives me a feeling of "ownership" of anything that this money buys. A big thank you to all who attend and help make this fund raising so successful. First BBQ for this year is Sunday 30th March.

Regards

Graeme

SOCIETY NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS: to Lynette Mayo OAM who was named in the Australia Day Awards. Lyn has worked with members on some projects

ILLNESS: To those members and family who are ill or recuperating, your friends in the Society are thinking of you and wishing you well.

BUNNINGS BARBECUE: SUNDAY 30TH MARCH.



If you are able to spare an hour or two on any of these days, please add your name on the list at the Library. This will be the first BBQ for 2014.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 15th February General Meeting

Saturday 22 February Workshop

Saturday 15 - Saturday 23 March SENIORS WEEK

Saturday 15 March General Meeting

Wednesday 19 March "Getting Started" Workshop Halliday's Point

Saturday 23 March Workshop

Sunday 30 March Bunnings BBQ

Wednesday 2 April "Getting Started" workshop Taree

NO APRIL MEETING (EASTER WEEK END)



SENIORS WEEK ACTIVITIES

During Seniors Week we are running two events: a 2 hour Introduction to Family History at Old Bar CTC (book at the CTC); and a full-day session of our regular "Getting Started" at Hallidays Point (book at the Library)

We will also be holding a full-day session at Taree on 2nd April.



SAD NEWS: Rebecca Linton died in Tasmania in early January after a tough battle with cancer over the last few years. Rebecca was a past member of our society and loved to talk about the Manning and its residents, in particularly Crowdy Head and Harrington. Rebecca and her husband David came to Crowdy Head in 1970. David was a shipwright and after coming to Crowdy designed, built and repaired trawlers and other fishing vessels. Rebecca became very involved in the community and researching the history of the area. Rebecca was the author of "Crowdy Head - Lighthouse of the Manning, its Shipwrecks, Fishing Industry, National Park and Residents" and "Crossing the Bar - A History of Harrington Gateway to the Manning Valley". Over the last months of her life Rebecca was still thinking of work to be completed, organising photos and also additions and changes to the Crowdy book. The reprint is now at the printers. In the words of her daughter 'Farewell to a special lady or as the French say "une grande dame" '. Pam Jarman

CLASS MATTERS

by Joan Ransom

My great grandfather, Thomas Holt, arrived in Brisbane from Lancashire, aboard the "ALMORA" in 1881, accompanied by his wife Ada and son James. My great grandmother Clara Ross travelled with them as she was a maid and companion to Ada. She was also pregnant to Thomas. This is probably the reason they left England. Clara's son was born soon after they arrived. When Ada died, the result of an abortion, Thomas married Clara on his 40th birthday. They honeymooned in the USA, visiting Thomas' sister and family, before returning to Brisbane via England, where they visited family.

Thomas wrote a wonderful diary about the trip but only the American part remains. He had become very wealthy producing his famous Anchor pies and confectionery and he associated with other wealthy business men in Brisbane. Years later his business was wiped out by a huge flood in the Brisbane River. Consequently he was rejected by his so called wealthy friends. He didn't trust banks and kept his cache of gold sovereigns in a box under his bed. The box unfortunately disappeared while his funeral was in progress.

A huge brick wall presented itself when trying to find details of Clara's family. Her death certificate stated that her father was a Scottish gentleman and landowner. The family oral history stated that John Ross, Clara's father, died of starvation when the cotton mills closed in Lancashire,. It was said that his wealthy father had come from Scotland and taken the body back for burial. He had abandoned Clara, aged seven, her brother William, aged four and mother Clara, nee Goodwin aged 29. They lived in Manchester where Clara senior was a dressmaker. She remarried so Clara obtained work as a maid at a very young age.

The Lancashire 1841 and 1851 census, showed Windle as the birthplace of a John Ross born in 1840, This birth date was established by obtaining the birth certificate of great-grandmother Clara. The census revealed that this John had three other siblings born in Lancashire: father George, a gardener born in Scotland, mother, Margaret Gibson, also born in Scotland and three older siblings born on the Isle of Man! But John was supposed to have been born in Scotland! Checking out the births on the Isle of Man was easy. George was described as a gardener and land steward from Scotland.

With no other option available, I purchased the birth certificate for John which turned out to be correct. The door opened. The family had moved from the Isle of Man to Lancashire where George was now employed by the owners of

the huge Pilkington glass manufacturers, as head gardener. So much for the story of the wealthy Scottish land owner and gentleman, and a generation out of order to boot! Anyway, why would a wealthy gentleman have a son working in the Lancashire cotton mills? The family story is that John Ross married Clara Goodwin below his class. I suspect it was the other way around! John actually died of consumption at his father's home at Windle Lodge and is buried in the St. Helens cemetery along with his mother, Margaret, father, George, step mother and sister, Margaret.

After obtaining the certificate for George's remarriage, it was discovered that his father was Donald Ross, a Scot and a butler. Census, marriage and death records give a range of birth dates for George Ross the gardener. With no exact birth date to work on, Fearnie in "Ross and Cromarty" in Scotland seems to be the most promising for further investigation. Unfortunately Ross is a very common name in Ross and everyone used the same naming pattern, besides having large families!

So where did great grandmother Clara's mother [Clara Goodwin also born in Scotland according to the 1871 census] come from and did her family also move to Lancashire? One brick wall smashed has left two more. Little did great grandmother Clara realise that her snoopy great-grand-daughter would discover her secret and uncover the truth about her supposedly wealthy Scottish family of class.



HENRY GORE 10-11-1824 - 9-8-1915

"Gore" Old English "Gara" Saxon for a three cornered (Triangular) shape of land
First Gore on record 1181 Ralf De La Gore - Dweller by the triangular piece of land Kent
Saxon (Piperoll)- William the Conqueror introduced the "Piperoll" to tax those who smoked
to raise money for military spending etc.

GORE MOTTO

SOLA SALUS SERVIRE DEO

" To Serve God is the only Salvation"

Henry, born the 10 November 1824 was the third of ten children of *George Gore*, farm labourer aged 40 and *Mary Collett* 47, charwoman of the Hinton Blewett district of Clutton, County of Somerset, now County of Avon England. He was baptised 17th June 1832 at All Saints Church of England, now known as Saint Margaret's, Hinton Blewett.



HENRY GORE



MARY ANN GORE 1827



ALL SAINTS HINTON BLEWETT,
NOW SAINT MARGARET'S

Henry, aged 24, a farm labourer married Mary Ann Pearce, aged 19, farm servant on 1 April 1848 in the Hinton Blewett Church of England.

Their first child Elizabeth was born 15 August 1848 at Hinton Blewett.

The family migrated to Australia 9 March 1849 on the ship "Emigrant" of 753 tons under Captain Kemp, arriving in good health in Sydney on 19 June 1849 whence the ship was placed in quarantine for several days. No reason was stated for the quarantine.

Henry could neither read nor write, however Mary Ann could read a little.

On arrival in Sydney they proceeded to the Rocky River Goldfields near Uralla and Armidale in the New England region of New South Wales, apparently to try his luck at finding gold. They later moved to the Paterson River area for some time and in 1861 to a property known as "Wisemans" he purchased from The Australian Agricultural Company at Kimbriki on the Manning River. They travelled from Paterson overland by bullock dray.

The children born to the couple after arrival in Australia were:

Mary	15-3-1851	Maitland
Henry	6-6-1853	Maitland
Sarah Ann	1-10-1855	Rocky River
William	3-9-1857	Rocky River
Martha	7-11-1859	Rocky River
Eliza	6- 6-1862	Rocky River
Matilda	1- 8-1863	Rocky River
Agnes	15- 7-1864	Kimbriki
Janet	23- 10-1865	Kimbriki
Alice	21-12- 1866	Kimbriki
James A	2- 2- 1868	Kimbriki together with unnamed twin boy died soon after birth

Mary Ann Gore died at Kimbriki aged 40 years from "Lockjaw" tetanus after the birth of the twins who also could not be saved due to the lack of suitable nourishment. They were all buried in a common grave on the property. A grandchild, a daughter of Elizabeth is also buried on the property. These deaths were not registered. The remaining children were cared for by older sister Sarah.

Henry married Esther W Sawyer aged 41, a widow on 11 April 1877 at her residence "Turnback" Western Dingo Manning River in the presence of her brother James Wiseman Walker. There was no issue from this union.

Esther had lost her husband John and son William in a tragic bullock dray accident near Dungog on 24 Feb 1859. She was pregnant at the time and had another son to be called John William Sawyer on 3 July 1859. She already had daughters Susannah and Mary who emerged unscathed from the accident.

Some seven years later she gave birth to another son to be called James Dugan Sawyer on 22 July 1866. His father remains somewhat a mystery however conjecture has it that she was housekeeper to a banker named Dugan.

Esther's sons John and James later married two of Henry's daughters, Martha and Alice.

Esther Gore died 31 August 1882 at Tinonee. Henry Gore died 9 August 1915 at Tinonee owning several blocks of land in that village. He had earlier sold some blocks to Son-in-law Joseph E Chapman of Chapman's Emporium, husband of daughter Janet (Gore) Chapman.

Henry is reputed to have been involved with the erection of the original Killawarra trestle bridge over the Manning River. The bridge is claimed to be an engineering masterpiece. He was also involved with the construction of the Brushy Cutting road at The Bight, between Wingham and Tinonee.



ESTHER W GORE 1846 – 31-8-1882

Henry and Esther are both buried at the Wingham Cemetery.

It is difficult to comprehend the privations endured by our forebears, travelling across the world to tame a strange and foreboding new land devoid of much habitation and where medical help was virtually absent.

Submitted by George Sawyer Member 533

NEWSPAPERS ONLINE

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/home>

The following local/nearby newspapers have been added or will be coming soon to the above website:

The Wingham Chronicle and Manning River Observer 1899-1954

The Northern Champion 1913-1954

The Gloucester Advocate. 1905-1954

The Newcastle Sun 1918-1954

The Dungog Chronicle: Durham and Gloucester Advertiser. 1894-1954



Top 100 websites for 2014

<http://www.genealogyintime.com/articles/top-100-genealogy-websites-of-2014-page01.html> This article has several pages but can be printed as a 2 page pdf document. The list gives the name, country of origin and whether free or "pay to view" for each website.

SOCIAL REPORT:

Our Christmas get together at Martine's Wine Bar was attended by 28 members. The roast dinner was delicious, with seconds being offered - an unusual happening. At the end of the day everyone went home with a lucky door prize. Thank you to all those members who contributed prizes and a special thanks to Nancye Swan for the Christmas cards. Thank you Irene and Laurie. Happy New Year to all, look forward to more social outings during 2014. Pam Jarman

Some of the members and friends enjoying the Christmas Lunch.



Pam, Graeme, Ivan, Joan

Keith, Lyn, Gloria, Joan



Lorna, George, Elaine, Nancye



**Are you
looking
for me?**

Manning Wallamba Family History Society Inc.

PO Box 48

Taree NSW 2430

secretary@manningwallambafhs.com.au
