



THE FIG TREE
JOURNAL OF THE
MANNING WALLAMBA FAMILY
HISTORY SOCIETY Inc.
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Manning Wallamba Family History Society was named in 1985 for the two major river valleys in the area, the Manning and the Wallamba and covers the Region as shown in the above map and includes the following areas:

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

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Research:	G. Toohey	W Horsburgh
Committee:	P Jarman	G Jarman
Newsletter:	J Irvine	J Mitchell
Public Officer:	L Haynes	

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Dear 125 members and our friends,

Since our August AGM it is encouraging to hear of those special finds that members have found and with much enthusiasm to retell.

Much appreciation for those members carrying out special projects and if you need extra help then I am sure it will be made available.to

Thank you to all our helpers at the Bunnings Bar B Qs thanks to you Our Bar B Qs have as always been very successful with our last effort giving us much excitement caused by a wind gust thankfully no injuries.

Thanks to those who rescued material after the water ingress much appreciated

Looking forward to our Christmas luncheon get together 10/12/2017 especially for the show and tell hope you all can find the time as this is the occasion when we all can get to know one another and show those items of interest.

Our hope and best wishes for those who are ill and those who have had bereavement our family in history are here for your support.

Looking forward to a successful new year

Be aware we will close 16th December 2017 and reopen 29th January 2018

Again much thanks for all your efforts

Ken Beeton President

NEW MEMBERS: Welcome to the following new members: Lou Northam, Steve and Sue Bromhead, Lisa Johnston, Edwina Ricketts, Bayden and Michelle Henry, Norma Morgan.



BARBECUES:

BBQs will be held at BUNNINGS on the last Sunday of March, May, July, September and November.

If you are able to spare an hour or two on any of our BBQ days, please add your name to the list at the Library or email secretary@manningwallambafhs.com.au

REGULAR EVENTS:

General Meeting: 1.30 pm 3rd Saturday of every month except December and January

Workshop: 1.30 pm 4th Saturday of every month except December and January



WANTED: ARTICLES FOR THE FIG TREE

The main theme for the next Fig Tree will be "My Military Ancestor". Thanks to all who gave us their Convict Ancestors. .

CONGRATULATIONS to founding member Sue Robinson and her husband John, who are celebrating 50 years of marriage.



SIR HENRY BROWNE HAYES (1762-1832) - My 5th great-grandfather (Joan Irvine)



Sir Henry was born in Cork, Ireland in 1762 and was often described as a "convict adventurer". He was the son of Attiwell Hayes a reputable citizen of Cork. Henry was a captain the South Cork militia, and on the 12th Nov 1782 at the age of 21, Henry was made a Freeman of Cork City because of his family connections.

By 1790, Henry was elected as a Sheriff of Cork City, again with his father's help and family connections. As one of the two Sheriffs, Henry was asked to welcome the Lord Lieutenant, the Earl of Westmorland who at that time was making a tour of Southern Ireland. The position of the Lord Lieutenant in Ireland was equivalent to that of a Viceroy, a position second only to the king in the country. (Maybe this is why he was knighted?)

However, in 1797 by which time he was a widower with a number of children (both legitimate and illegitimate); he kidnapped a Quaker, Mary Pike who was heiress to a fortune of £20,000, forcing her into a spurious marriage at his home at Mount Vernon. However, she was rescued shortly after the marriage. It is reported she never remarried and had a mental breakdown as a result of the kidnapping and subsequent shame. (Not sure if this is true or just a good story..)

Sir Henry was outlawed and went into hiding and about two years later he handed himself

in believing all would be forgiven. However, he was sent to trial and sentenced to death, this was later commuted to transportation for life and he arrived in NSW on 6 July 1802 aboard the Atlas. He paid for a privileged passage, which was apparently fortunate as this particular voyage was reputed to be one of the worst in history.

His time in NSW was noteworthy, particularly for his war against authority. He was suspected of an active part in the Castle Hill uprising in 1804 and this together with his association with various 'intransigents' earned him time in Van Diemen's Land. After his return to Sydney it is reported that because of his sympathy with the deposed Governor William Bligh, he was sent to Newcastle coal mines for about eight months in 1809.

His first noted and perhaps positive contribution to the colony was his attempt in 1803 to found a Masonic Lodge for which he incurred the displeasure of Governor King and his meeting on the 14 May 1803 is regarded as the foundation day of Freemasonry in Australia.

[Devotion Newsletter Content](#) > [Masonic History and Things Historic](#) >

Freemasonry Beginnings in Australia

... "1803 the earliest recorded Masonic meeting was held by 'several officers of his Majesty's Ships, together with some respectable inhabitants of Sydney'. This was against the orders of the Governor, Captain King, and some of the members were arrested, though subsequently released. The instigator, Bro Brown Hayes, was ordered to Van Diemen's Land.."

"Respectable inhabitants" Maybe not all !!!!

His second contribution was Vacluse House, the home he built near South Head in Sydney. He lived there in between his "forced stays" away from Sydney and it is reputed he lived in a "style and freedom" not normal for a convict of that time. You can only presume that he paid for the privilege. The house passed to John Piper after Henry was granted a pardon and he returned to Ireland. Then in 1829 it passed onto William Charles Wentworth, who considerably extended it. The house was bought in 1910 by the NSW Government for preservation as a memorial to Wentworth. (Why couldn't Henry have kept it and passed it down to his descedants!!)

On his return to Ireland in December 1812 Sir Henry was shipwrecked at the Falkland Islands, survived and following his rescue returned Cork where he lived in retirement until his death in 1832.

MY SECOND FLEET ANCESTOR *Nancye Swan (nee Everingham)*

ELIZABETH RYMES (or Rimes) Born: c 1774 London

Arrived in Australia: 28 June 1790 aboard Second Fleet vessel "Neptune".

Married: Matthew James Everingham 13th March 1791 at St John's Parramatta.

Died: 12 December 1841 at "Knights Retreat" on Hawkesbury River and she is buried on the property.

1789: Elizabeth was tried in Old Bailey Court and found guilty of the theft of a sheet and a blanket. The man she passed off as her husband was also tried and was acquitted. Elizabeth got sentenced to 7 years transportation and was sent to Newgate Gaol. Less than two weeks later she was taken aboard the "Neptune" and sent to Australia. Elizabeth sailed from Portsmouth, UK on 17th January 1790 and arrived in Port Jackson 28th June 1790.

Elizabeth met and married Matthew James Everingham. They went on to have 10 children, 5 girls and 5 boys. Their first born, Mary, died aged 1 month in 1792. Their youngest was born 1815. The rest of the children lived, married and produced their own families. SEE "Cornstalks" by Val Ross for extensive Everingham family tree.

JULY 1791: Matthew and Elizabeth were granted 50 acres at The Ponds (today's Ermington area). They worked hard to clear land and grow crops, on poor soil and under difficult conditions, to feed their growing family and perhaps sell some. A lot of the time Elizabeth would have been pregnant and raising children, as well as helping on the land.

1802: Matthew and Elizabeth received a better land grant at Sackville Reach on the Upper Hawkesbury River. There was more hard work, they suffered a raid and were speared. Floods caused more havoc and Matthew got into financial difficulty.

1817: Matthew accidentally drowned on Christmas Day, so Elizabeth was left with growing children and an indentured convict to continue the work on the farm and, also do all that was involved in rearing her children. Hard work and lots of it with no mod-cons like we have today.

..... Elizabeth was eventually granted the land, which is still owned by the family today.

1827: On 20th August Elizabeth married Patrick McGann (or Maghey) at St. Johns Wilberforce. They continued to work the land.

I would love to know more about my 3 times great-grandmother, especially her life and

family before transportation (maybe I should learn computer). I think she was a "tough" but gentle woman who could teach us a lot.

Reference Books "Cornstalks" by Val Ross;

"The Second Fleet" author unknown

"Women of the Neptune" by Anne Needham

"Founders of Australia" by Mollie Gillen.

EDWARD HAYES, MY CONVICT ANCESTOR (Vicki Fletcher)

In mid-1833 young Edward Hayes was a stable boy in his native London. Just twelve months later he was on board the convict ship *Surry* bound for Australia with over 250 other convicts. He had been tried and convicted at Hicks Hall, Middlesex for the crime of stealing a note (presumably a monetary note).

Edward was only eighteen when he was sentenced to transportation for life. After his trial he spent some time on the prison hulk *Hardy* at Portsmouth before being transferred to the *Surry* prior to it leaving England in April 1834. The ship arrived at Port Jackson in August the same year. By 1837 he was living in the Windsor area where he had been assigned to Mr G. T. Palmer.

He remained in the Hawkesbury area after he had received his ticket of leave. In May 1854 he married Jane Turner at St John's Church of England at Wilberforce. She was the daughter of two convicts living in Wilberforce. St John's church was to play a major part in their lives. All of their ten children were baptised there. Edward became the church sexton of St John's which meant he was responsible for the upkeep and management of the church graveyard.

When Edward passed away at the age of 72 the local *Windsor and Richmond Gazette* stated that "Mr Hayes was well-known throughout the length and breadth of the country, and was much respected by all." He was buried in the graveyard that he tended for many years. Most of his sons went on to become well respected businessmen in the Hawkesbury district. His youngest son was my Great Grandfather.

CONVICT JOHN COLEMAN 1819-1871.

Researched by Joan ransom, g.g. Grand

daughter.

A resident of Brighton Sussex, John Coleman lived in the horrendous slum district called the Lanes, where there were slaughter houses and unsavory living conditions. He and his widowed mother, name unknown, lived with his elder brother William and his wife Lucy Martin and their family. Some of Lucy's family also resided in the narrow Orange Row.

William was a sawyer born in Westminster London, who had moved to Brighton at the time when it became fashionable to leave crowded London to reside or holiday at the seaside. Huge mansions were being constructed to accommodate the increasing population explosion and consequently many workers flocked to Brighton.

In 1833 aged 12, John was imprisoned, placed in solitary confinement and whipped for stealing a hearth rug. Then in 1835 he was implicated with 2 others, in the theft of pulleys and a boiler but was acquitted. His luck ran out in April that year, when he was before the courts again for supposedly stealing a dead rabbit from a cart. A newspaper report from the "Brighton and Lewes Free Press" 1835 gave the following report:---
John Coleman was charged with stealing, at Brighton, on the 21st March, one dead rabbit, the property of John Strivens. Elizabeth Strivens [wife to prosecutor] lives at Fulking and attended Brighton Market, was there last Saturday fortnight the 21st March, went to the Clarence Hotel yard with her cart and left it there. She went about half past eight and missed the rabbit about 11 o'clock. Henry Hughes deposed that he saw the prisoner lurking about the cart, watched him and saw him take the rabbit and put it under his frock, and gave the alarm. The prisoner dropped the rabbit, which witness picked up and gave to the ostler of the yard. James Dinnage, the ostler, produced the rabbit skin which Mrs Strivens identified. SENTENCE ---- GUILTY TRANSPORTED FOR 7 YEARS.

Question-----who got to eat the rabbit?

John was confined to the prison hulk, "Leviathan" at Portsmouth but would have been forced to work onshore until 30th June 1835 when he sailed on the "ENGLAND 2" arriving at Botany Bay on the 20th October. Interestingly the hulk records showed that he had stolen fowls, as had many others listed in that column!

The Surgeon Superintendent on board the "England 2" was Obediah Pineo who reported that there were 230 prisoners on board, some old, some with infirmities and distorted limbs. Most were young and with a little attention to food and clothing, most arrived healthy. Some sort of experiment was done on several prisoners during the voyage which were unsuccessful, something to do with "mercurial salivation"? [Unreadable] Pineo considered that change of diet, use of tobacco and strong excitement on leaving their motherland forever, accounted for painful emotions even for hardened men. He went on to say that there were a few cases of scurvy corrected by lime juice and that cleanliness, proper food allowance, good ventilation and exercise on deck, along with employment of some sort, contributed to good health on arrival.

Obediah Pineo was dismissed and disgraced after a later voyage when the death rate on board was very high. His account for the "England 2" showed him to be a compassionate and caring surgeon.

Soon after arriving at Botany Bay, John and other convicts were marched to Bathurst

where he was assigned to a Mr. Elhert and then to Willoughby Bean. Fortunately for John Mr. Bean was a compassionate man when he transferred to Sydney to meet his wife to be, who was arriving from England, John accompanied Bean soon after moving with them to Brisbane Waters where John received his Ticket of Leave in 1842. Willoughby Bean was the Magistrate. This Ticket of Leave enabled him to work within the Brisbane Waters area until he received his Ticket of Freedom. He was employed as a sawyer, which he had no doubt been doing when he was living in Brighton with his sawyer brother William. At one stage John was lent out by his employer Mr. Donovan who was engaged in cattle duffing, as mentioned in a government Gazette. During this time he met convict Mary Green, they had permission to marry, which didn't happen. Instead he lived with Catherine Moran an immigrant from Dublin who had an illegitimate son to a sailor James Jordon who disappeared. She was living at Mangrove, most likely employed in a domestic capacity. The couple finally married in the Catholic Church Sydney after several children were born.

In 1847, after he had received his certificate of freedom, they moved to Lane Cove where daughter Harriett was born. John was employed in cutting firewood for the residents of Sydney.

By 1849 they were living in Sussex Street Sydney where their son John, who was born at Erina, was baptised in the Roman Catholic Church. Their twins, Elizabeth and Louisa also born in Erina, died. Elizabeth was baptised in Sydney but not her twin sister Louisa who was buried at Point Frederick Brisbane Waters. A monument now stands which includes her name.

The couple finally married in the Roman Catholic Church Sydney in 1852. It was also in Sydney that their second set of twins born in Erina in 1853 died a day apart aged 7 months of "teething" problems. Their sister Elizabeth's death was not recorded.

From there they moved to Fairy Meadow near Wollongong to join other cedar cutters. A 3rd set of twins was born in 1855. Only one survived, Henry William.

They were back in Sydney again in 1857, living at Brickfield Hill. Another child, Mary Anne, whose birth was not recorded, died that year.

By 1860 they had returned to Brisbane Waters to Matcham, where my G.Grandmother Ellen was born in a bark hut and baptised in 1861.

Around this time there were cedar getters heading to the Richmond River where my Jarrett ancestors had begun to migrate. It is possible that John Coleman met them while living at Brickfield Hill in George Street Sydney and decided to join them. The Colemans arrived on the Richmond at some time between 1862 and 1864 as Joseph was born at Ballina in 1864.

They would have originally lived at one of the cedar getters camps. There is a newspaper article stating that the family was on a timber raft made up from cedar logs transported from Lismore to Ballina and used as a temporary home. It was washed rapidly down the river at Ballina and the family narrowly saved their lives by leaping off, but in the process

lost everything they owned. Later John is recorded as living at Boyd's Mountain near Byron Bay and among the first to cut cedar at Mullumbimby. Later John and Catherine lived at North Creek Ballina where their sons Henry William [now William Henry] and John had acquired land.

Unfortunately John died of pneumonia aged 52 in 1871. He had been a member of the STAR of the EAST Temperance Lodge number 73, who paid for his elaborate headstone which says in part "an old resident of this river, deeply regretted by all who knew him, leaving a wife and numerous family to mourn his loss" It is interesting to note that John was examined by the Temperance doctor who pronounced him fit and well. He was dead within the month. Money was given to Catherine to help the family as she had no home and had to depend on charity. Soon after she married a butcher who was unprepared to keep her two youngest children Ellen and Joseph. They were farmed out to their brother William Henry and his wife who treated them very badly. My g. grandmother Ellen married John Jarrett at the age of 16 and Joseph was sent to Grafton Goal for being a "young rascal" and then to the training ship at Balmain where young trouble makers and orphans were taught a trade.

John's headstone still exists in a state of decay at the Pioneer Cemetery Ballina, one of the few convict headstones remaining on the Richmond.

A victim of the regressive social policies of Industrial Revolution England, he never the less acquired a social status far beyond what could have otherwise been expected.

It is said that there is a grain of truth in family stories. I always knew that we had a convict in the family who was convicted for holding a bag open to secure a stolen rabbit!

Resources used include convict indenture records, Sussex, Brighton church records, Glascott Diaries, Government gazettes and Birth Death and Marriage records.

RESEARCH SERVICE:

Research Forms can be downloaded from Society website. Initial Research Enquiry \$20.00.

CURRENT RESEARCH:

Grave of Policeman Joseph William GILHOLM died Taree 1902

Samuel Young BURNET- teacher Glenthorne and Dumaresq Island 1860s

James STYLES born 1849 Maitland

Allan families Oxley Island

BOOK Jacobites to Juggernauts- John and Grace Mclean Family in Northern NSW

If you can help with any of these enquiries, please contact the Research Officer or email secretary@manningwallambafhs.com.au

CAN YOU HELP?

We are trying to identify the people in this photo. It is possible that the couple are Alexander RITCHIE and his wife Charlotte nee ATKINS who were married in 1882 on Mitchells Island,

The photo is printed on tin. These were known as "tintype". Tintype photographs were mostly used in the 1870s and 1880s. If you can help please email secretary@manningwallambafhs.com.au



Don't toss your history!

It's Precious To Future Generations!

Contact Manning Wallamba Family History Society at Taree Library or email secretary@manningwallambafhs.com.au

WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO YOUR RESEARCH?

You've spent thousands of hours researching your family tree. You've collected documents and scanned old photographs. What happens to all of your hard work after you die?

This is what could easily happen to your work:

<http://rootdig.blogspot.com.au/2010/11/cleaning-mothers-house.html>

If your family is getting together during the holiday season NOW is the time to think and talk about your valuable research.

Is there a family member who will preserve your work? If not, contact your local Family History Society/Library/Museum.



We wish our members and friends a joyous and peaceful Christmas and Holiday season and we look forward to working with you in 2018.

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