

MANNING WALLAMBA FAMILY
HISTORY SOCIETY Inc TAREE

Issue 155 August 2020

THE FIG TREE



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**What Were Your Ancestor's
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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The pandemic is still with us and not improving the outlook, hopefully we will not end up like our southern neighbours.

My thoughts go out to those who are not feeling 100% and hope life improves for you.

Your executive have been keeping in touch and have had 2 small face to face meetings to keep the organization running smoothly, and looking forward to when we start back to operating as somewhat normal.

My thanks to Barbara for her efforts by keeping in touch with you by email and those who are not well.

Many of you have found the online resources have kept you working through your family.

Also through facebook their are quite a few resources available;

Just a couple I follow;

- ◆ Australian Ancestors Family History Group
- ◆ Australian Family History Genealogy Ancestral Research
- ◆ Genealogy New South Wales Australia
- ◆ Second Fleet 1790 researchers

Also just for a look back in time;

- ◆ Australia Remembering The Past
- ◆ Sydney And NSW Historical Waterways

Have not tried this one yet not a facebook page;

- ◆ Textqueensland.com.au digitised colonial and state history

Your researchers Sue and Wal have been busy during this time with around 40 contacts to research.

If you feel you could help contact them and offer what you can.

Keep on Keeping On

Ken B

President

DO YOU HAVE A LITTLE TIME ON YOUR HANDS AND LOOKING FOR SOMETHING INTERESTING TO READ.....There was an article in the Telegraph re stories from WWII

<https://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/news/national/australian-wwii-heroes-narrate-their-own-stories-in-moving-animated-tribute-one-in-a-million/news-story/2059d3532d73f2525cea06f950035b89>

OFFICE BEARERS 2019-2020

President	Ken Beeton	Research Officers Wal Horsburgh	Sue Robinson
Vice Presidents:	Graeme Rose	Duty Roster Clerk	Janine Roberts
	George Sawyer		
Secretaries	Barbara Waters (Mail/Email) Sue Robinson (Minutes) Vicki Fletcher (Membership)	Librarian Asst. Librarian Newsletter Editor	Sue Robinson Kay Brooke Joan Irvine
Treasurer	Lorraine Martin	Publications Officer	Sue Robinson
Asst. Treasurer	Graeme Rose	Publicity Officer	Vicki Fletcher
	Isolated & Unmarked Graves:	Pam & Graeme Jarman	
	Public Officer	Lyn Haynes	

RESEARCH SERVICE

Research Forms can be downloaded from Society Website

<http://manningwallambafhs.com.au/>

Initial Research Enquiry
\$20.00 including up to 2 hours research and limited photocopying, to the value of \$5.00

Extra microfilm copying \$1.00 per page. Additional Research \$10 per hour

Have you “Hit a Brickwall”?
As you know the Fig Tree is issued 4 times a year, so please feel free to send in any query you may have and it will be included in the next issue.





The THEME for this year will be -

**WHAT WERE YOUR ANCESTORS
DOING IN THE 1920's?**

Your contributions are always welcome and **don't** have to be limited to the "Theme"

REGULAR EVENTS

Our regular General Meetings and Workshops have currently been suspended until further notice.

When it is time for them to resume our Secretary will email all members. Look forward to seeing you there.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

In view of the fact that we are unable to utilise the Societies Resources at the present time, it was decided by the Executive Committee, that membership fees for the next 12 months will be **reduced**.

When it is time to renew your membership for 2020/2021 the yearly fees will be as follows -

Family Membership \$16.50

Single Membership \$12.50

New Members: A decision has been made to waive the "new members" joining fee for the upcoming year.

BUNNINGS BAR-B-QUE



BBQ's will be held on the last Sunday of March, May, July, September & November.

**The date of the next BBQ -
TBA**

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

USE OF LIBRARY COMPUTERS

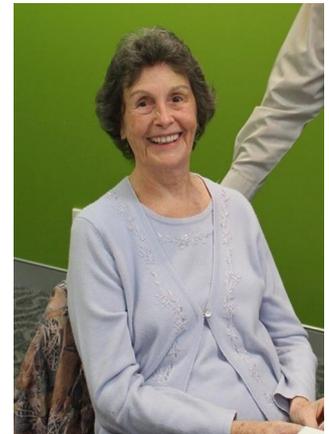
Although we are still unable to return to the library in the same capacity we did prior to Covid, members using their library card can still use the library computers . Contact the library to book a time and use your library card to log in.

Just remember our Research Team is still hard at work, if you have a query don't hesitate to let our Secretary know.

VALE : JAN ELIZABETH MITCHELL 1942 – 2020

Jan and her husband Alan were married in Sydney 1963 and started their married life together in the Sydney suburb of Leichhardt and in 1966 they moved into their first home in Fairfield, by which time they had two children, a son and a daughter.

They joined the local community sporting clubs and school communities and both her children participated in competitive ballroom dancing. However, physical culture was Jan's life-long passion and she started the Parkview physical culture club at Wetherill Park in Sydney. She would go on to run and then, later, judge various competitions around Sydney and Taree.



In 1989 with the children "off their hands" Jan and Alan purchased a block of land at Harrington where they had enjoyed many holidays near the sea and built a new home. After 22 years of living in Harrington they sold that home and built in Taree West in 2011, which meant much less driving.

It was during their time at Harrington that Jan discovered in 2002 a new passion –
Family History.

Jan became a volunteer of the Manning Wallamba Family History Society, researching her own family history and helping people to research theirs. She was an energetic, organised person, which showed up the rest of us. Jan became the Society Librarian cataloguing the accumulated resources of the Society.

Jan was made a Life Member for her services to the Society.

When discussing her life recently with her children and Alan, Jan asked that they not be sad. She felt that she had had a great life and she was proud of the family she and Alan had raised and what they had achieved together since they met as teenagers, a relationship that lasted a total of 63 years.

Jan is survived by her husband Alan, her daughter Sheryl, her son Mark and her grand-daughters Ebony, Charlie, Laura and Kate.

Jan asked that you celebrate her life.

UK Archives at Kew for Free

Vice President Graeme has advised that currently (not sure for how long) you can download certain records from the UK National Archives at Kew for free -

Go to: <https://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>

You will see the top line in yellow. Graeme said he registered and was able to download English service records for free.

FYI: The following was downloaded from the archives website

We are making digital records available on our website free of charge for the time being, as we are initially only able to re-open our reading rooms for a very limited number of researchers.

Registered users will be able to order and download up to ten items at a time, to a maximum of 50 items over 30 days. The limits are there to try to help manage the demand for content and ensure the availability of our digital services for everyone.

To access the service and download for free, users will be required to:

- Register/sign in to their Discovery account before adding items to their basket (maximum ten items per basket)

Abide by the terms of our [fair use policy](#)

- Complete the order process to receive a download link, which will remain active for 30 days. (The link will also be saved in 'Your orders' in your account for 30 days)

Our usual [terms of use](#) still apply – digital copies can be downloaded for non-commercial private use and educational purposes only, and bulk downloads and web crawlers are not permitted.



Another Site you may find helpful -

Hall Genealogy Website (England) : <http://rmhh.co.uk/occup/index.html>

As part of this website there is a link to “Index of Old Occupations” and also “Old Medical Terms” (Just two of **many** links, it is just that I found these two of particular interest)

MY BRICK WALL

Submitted by Ken Beeton and Janine Roberts

For many years my father told me about my nearly drowning event as a 2 year old. He could not tell me who saved me only that he gave him an item he held dear to himself. I have tried many times to see if I could find this person.

On TROVE I decided to put my name in just for fun and a newspaper article from the Northern Champion came up. I at last had a name but nothing else. So I began searching and mentioning to some of our members, but to no avail.

Two things happened:

I was on Facebook and Gary Edwards posted a picture of the river bank before beautification. Then Mid-Coast Stories posted a story about a hand print and I commented to Janine about her sleuthing ability. Then 'aha' so I sent the following to Janine

From: Ken Beeton

Date: Saturday, 9 May 2020 at 8:55 am

To: Janine Roberts

Subject: Emailing:
img20200509_08424449

Hi

Maybe you can help ?

re; attached

I have traced a known Ken Gibson and he is not the one.

hearsay;

A police family by the name of Gibson resided in Taree at the time.

A Ken Gibson worked for Manning Motors at a later date.

I would like to meet the person who saved my life they would be in their late seventies now.

The presentation item may prove a family mystery as associated with the bombing of Darwin

Big ask

Regards

Ken B



Cont'd Next Page

MY BRICK WALL *Continued*

When I received Ken's email I was determined to find his rescuer. I started by searching Trove historical newspapers for information about any Ken Gibson associated with Taree. This yielded limited results because newspapers after 1955 are largely unavailable and due to Covid restrictions I wasn't able to access the microfilm or original copies. I did however find a Ken Gibson who won most of his races in the Taree Public School swimming carnivals (a useful skill if you are going to save a drowning toddler!). I also used electoral rolls available on "ancestry.com.au" (the electoral office was closed during Covid) and I found a number of Gibson families that lived in both Taree and Wingham. The possibilities were endless – what if the Gibson family were visiting the hotel or renting premises nearby and didn't have a strong link to Taree? I wondered if I would ever find the right one.

I narrowed my search to three men – one living in Port Stephens, one in Newcastle and one in Coffs Harbour. I found a phone number for Ken Gibson in Port Stephens using the white pages and after a phone call was able to discount him. The two other Kens were not listed in the phone book so I turned to Facebook to see if anyone had connections. I joined different facebook groups in those areas and people gave me hints and contacts to follow up. The most promising lead was from the "You're from Taree if..." facebook page. One lady told me there was a Ken Gibson who lived in Newcastle and his son Dean Gibson was an accomplished chocolatier. She had gone to teachers' college with this Ken. I remembered there was a Ken Gibson on the electoral rolls who had been a teacher. I contacted Dean Gibson and after several attempts was able to speak to him. My first question was "Did your father ever talk about saving someone from the Manning River?". Dean replied with "Yes, this story is in my family". He gave me his father's phone number and I excitedly made the call.

I cannot tell you the delight I felt talking to Ken Gibson and the relief when I rang Ken Beeton to say "I found him!". To find out the ending to this story you need to watch the ABC story of the emotional reunion between these two lovely men:

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-05-30/two-men-reunited-nearly-70-years-after-lifesaving-rescue-manning/12292284>

To have been one small part of the story means so much to me. Who would have thought we could use family history as a way to help others?

Regards
Janine R

FINDING JAMES ALEXANDER IRVINE

Submitted by Barbara Waters

During this time of the Covid virus and lock downs, I set myself a task to attempt to find what happened to James Alexander Irvine born 1827 Northampton Shire , the last record was, that he was a witness to the marriage of his step sister Georgiana Beaumond Brame to James Richard Alsop on 29 April 1945

For many years I have been looking in England, had received a death certificate, but my gut feeling told me this wasn't the person I was looking for.

One of Manning Wallamba Family History Society members has used Facebook with success so I thought I would give it a try, I applied to become a member of the Lancashire Genealogy group and was accepted. (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/113369512152128/>)

My first post was a few days later, a reply came back with the death of James Alexander Irvine in Essendon Victoria on 11 June 1902, on Ancestry I found his father was James and his mother Susan.

His death notice in Melbourne Argus confirmed this-- beloved son of the Rev James Irvine M.A. Vicar of Leigh,--- Lancashire papers please copy, further research found the marriage of James to Jane Binney (nee Tout) widow of Richard Henry Binney in 1886, and a copy of his will.

I have found a lot of references to James on Trove, mainly his business dealings with Richard Henry Binney and John Blyth with their Bone Mills in Footscray, manufacturing super phosphate, Bone Dust and other Manures.

I am still trying to find the ship he came to the colony on and wonder why he didn't settle on the Manning River with his uncle and other family members.

I have been looking for the first marriage of Isabella Agnew to John McIntire or McIntyre and John's death, again on a Facebook site - Scottish Indexes Group, after posting my request for help I was given lots of hints and this web site <https://sites.rootsweb.com/~ainsty/index-2.html> SITES.ROOTWEB.COM Wigtownshire Pages, this site is worth a look it has a lot of information.

Barbara Waters

What Were My Ancestors Doing in the 1920's?

Paving the way for a better way of life

Settling in the Manning Valley by Eric Michael Trad

Lebanese emigration to Australia began in the period 1865-1870. Some remained here others returned to their home town of Barhalioun at the foot of Mount Lebanon. Some emigrated to North and South American countries.

These men came to Australia looking for a new life into which they would bring their families, as at that time, under the Ottoman Rule (Turkey), the North of Lebanon being a predominantly Christian country, was ravaged by religious unrest, and famine.

This is a story about one man, my Great Uncle Isaac Elias Yazbeck Karam. He was recorded using the name Isaac Elias and generally known as Yazbeck Elias in the Manning area.

Isaac arrived on Australian soil in 1888 and proceeded to the Southern Monaro District of NSW where he joined other family members who had already emigrated from Barhalioun Lebanon. We are told by, now deceased family members, that Isaac along with others, was invited to assist in the road development of parts of the Monaro, namely the Bungandore to Braidwood road.

Being a diligent and honest worker, he was invited to be part of a contract to help build the road that is now known, as the Koppin Yarratt Road, from Upper Landsdowne over the mountain to meet up with a road gang coming down the mountain from the village of Comboyne. This road then gave safe travel for the cedar logging to flourish in that area of the Manning Valley.

Following completion of this roadwork, Isaac was awarded "conditional purchase" of land at Killabakh by the Government. Thus, he possibly, became the first Lebanese to settle in the Manning area. Yazbeck, as he was known to the locals, went on to purchase and work a further three properties under CP title between 1898-1913. These properties were in the area now bound by the Wingham to Comboyne road and Miss Carey's Road.

Family members maintain he built and lived in a bark hut while working his holdings. There is still a road known as Yazbeck Lane coming off Miss Carey's Road in the Killabakh area today.

Isaac Elias became a naturalised citizen of Australia on the 12 October 1903. He remained in the Manning Valley until 1927 when he sold up and moved to the Revesby/Panania area of

Cont'd...

Settling in the Manning Valley by Eric Michael Trad. (Continued)

Sydney where he purchased a large acreage of land. It was due to his setting up this property, as market gardens, he was able to sponsor, and employ, other village members who wanted to emigrate and settle in Australia. Part of this land was resumed by the NSW Government for the building of social housing leaving only 17 acres of land in his possession upon his death on 21/12/1933.

My Grandfather George Trad left Barhalioun and emigrated to Australia in 1923 and settled in Killabakh. He was invited to set up camp on the property belonging to another Lebanese emigrant Anthony Abdoo. He obtained a hawkers license and began selling haberdashery and clothes around the area going from property to property by foot. He later expanded his business, upon the purchase of a horse and dray, he covered the area across the mountain to Kendal, down the east coast to Harrington, Old Bar, Forster to Bulladelah. Then inland through Glouchester and back up inland to Wingham.

When I look at the map for the coverage of our Manning Wallamba Historical Society, I can imagine my ancestors of the 1920's travelling by horse and cart, over this same area selling their wares from property to property on unsealed roads and often only bush tracks.

In 1926 Georges' son Eric, my father, joined his father to help prepare the way for bringing the remaining family members to Australia. They both held hawkers' licenses and Eric took over the larger part of the travelling, being away from Killabakh and camping out for long periods of time.

They were well respected in the community and often camped on their customers property. They both returned to Barhalioun in 1931 to catch up with the family. Eric married Judith and they had two sons before the two men returned to Australia in 1935 to recommence their preparations and livelihood.

Judith and the boys emigrated in 1939 and they all resided in Killabakh where another two girls were born. With a growing family and living in small hut with limited amenities it soon became necessary to obtain better housing.

While living at Killabakh George reared and sold livestock. This is verified by notices in the Wingham Chronicle of the Wingham Stock Sales.

Cont'd..

Settling in the Manning Valley by Eric Michael Trad. (Continued.)

At this time Eric and Judith purchased a house in Flett St Wingham, this house is still there today although unoccupied. While living here they increased their family to ten children. The children were students at Wingham Catholic School.

George Trad also moved into town with the family and both men continued plying their trade as hawkers. George later purchased a property in Bulga Rd (now Murray Rd) and brought his wife Tarouz and youngest son John, along with John's new wife Adeebi, to Australia in 1948.

On the 17th February 1939 Eric began a business selling, men's, womens', childrens wear, and general drapery, in Isabella St Wingham. The family became naturalised in 1942.

During their time in Killabakh and Wingham the Trad father and son assisted many other emigrants from the town of Barhalioun Lebanon in their desire for a better life here in Australia, providing them with accommodation and support.

George Trad retired in 1952, and Eric in 1953 ceased trading and began working at Ericsons' Saw Mill Wingham and later at a saw mill at Ellensbrough.

With a growing family, in 1958, Eric and Judith decided to move to Sydney to avail the children of a better education and job opportunities. They purchased land and built a home in Panania. They still had land interests in Wingham and remained in contact with many friends in the area. Son, Eric Michael, known to all in the area as Michael or Mick, while growing up, was the first to return to the Manning Valley followed by his two younger brothers. All, at times, being property owners in the area.

The family again acquired land in the Manning Area, being 100 acres at Old Bar South, they gifted the complex known as the E G Trad playing fields, and began the housing development in that area. The family also took a stand in stopping the destruction and in gaining Heritage Listing of the Old Bar Airfield.

To this day there has remained a Lebanese influence and pride in the Manning Valley and the new start in life they enjoy in Australia. This story is only one of many that can and will be told. Many family members are at rest in Wingham.

THE BENEFITS (For me) OF A PUBLIC FAMILY TREE...By Graeme Rose

My family tree is a public tree on “Wikitree” (wikitree.com) and this means people may be able to find our shared relatives just by Googling. One big positive result of having a public tree has been, that three people have found me and offered pictures of valuable items that they hold.

1. Between 1870 and 1900 the butcher families of **Rose, Hanson and Blamey** children all grew up together in Wagga Wagga, NSW.

Elizabeth (Lizzie) **Rose** and Matilda **Hansen**, were born in 1882 and became best friends. Early in the 1900s, Elizabeth Rose gave Matilda Hanson a gold friendship memento, which the Hansen Family still holds. During my research I have found two occasions that may have been the reason for this gift.



Matilda commenced as a probationary teacher at Junee Public School May 1898, taught at North Wagga Public and Wagga Public. She left for Junee 1904 returning in 1910 to marry Edward Albert Gethings. Either time was suitable for this friendship gift.



2. When **Andrew & Harriett (Noble) Parr** were married in 1820 in Kirkburton, Yorkshire they were given sterling silver spoons to commemorate their marriage. These have been passed through one arm of the family.



Andrew and Harriett emigrated to Australia in 1857 to live with their son Frederick and his family who were already in Australia, living at Moama, NSW on the Murray River. Only 2½ years after arriving Harriett dies and is followed six years later by Andrew, who died in 1866 whilst delivering goods at Wanganella, NSW. Due to some bureaucratic error there is no official death certificate, so no record of his parents' names.

Further Research shows that there are 7 other people called Andrew Parr found living in the same area as our Andrew in West Yorkshire / Lancashire and one of which shows Parr & Noble families entwined, as is ours. ..**Our Andrew Parr** born 1798 in the Parish of Halifax, Yorkshire, married in Kirkburton, parents unknown.



John Valter Dowdle sr. 1810 – 1872. Father unknown

Mother Maria Vater Dowdle.

3. **John Valter Dowdle Sr** was born on 17 Jan 1810 in Taunton, Somerset, England. He was baptised on 5th Nov 1810 and the record shows no father. In 1812 in Bristol when John is 16 months old, Maria Dowdle marries Richard Tossell from her neighbouring village in Devon. This surname “Tossell” is mentioned on John Dowdle’s death certificate applying to Maria. Richard Tossell has not acknowledged John as his son, leaving him with his birth surname.

In 1827 John Dowdle, along with John Anderson and Joseph Withycombe, is found guilty of break and enter and sentenced to Death commuted to Transportation for Life to Australia.

It is at this time he arranges for a “Love Token” halfpenny to be sent to his mother as they are to be parted forever. Presumably after her death the Tossell family sell this token into the coin market.



This coin eventually finds its way to an Australian collector, who in turn contacted me as a potential buyer.



TWO SISTERS – TWO VERY DIFFERENT LIFE OUTCOMES

Two of the children of Alfred Charles Newton and Eliza Jane (Adams) Lidbetter

By Graeme Rose

Eliza Rosanna (Newton) Parr. Born 18th July 1857 in Sandhurst, (Bendigo) Victoria.

In 1866 when aged 9 her mother ran off with Alfred Lidbetter, so Eliza would have been expected to take over the domestic duties of the house in Sandhurst (now Bendigo).

In August 1870 aged 13 years old she attempts to run away from her father (See following article).

RUNAWAY AUGUST 1870 (Source: Bendigo Advertiser Vic. Wed 24 August 1870)

“A Runaway.- At the Inglewood Police Court, on Friday last, Eliza Newton, a girl of thirteen years old, was brought up on warrant, on an information laid by her father, Alfred Charles Newton, that he was unable to control her and that she had left home and gone to Sandhurst without his permission and knowledge. From the evidence of her father, it appeared that he had threatened to beat her, and she had left home through fear. She had been arrested at Ryan’s United Kingdom Hotel in Golden Square, Sandhurst, respectable house and kept by parties with whom

Con’t...

TWO SISTERS—TWO VERY DIFFERENT LIFE OUTCOMES (Continued)

she was acquainted. She had always borne a good character, was a very industrious girl and had managed her father's house and took care of her younger sisters since she lost her mother. Her father wished her to be sent home with him and as the evidence did not bear out the view that she was a neglected child, within the meaning of the Act, the magistrates would not take upon themselves to send her to the Industrial Schools, and she was handed over to her father."

1871-1873

Soon afterwards Alfred and children move to Deniliquin, NSW where mother Eliza is already having Lidbetter babies. The family are described as in "Very poor circumstances." Eliza has a domestic position at the Exchange Hotel that would have provided better room and board, while meeting more affluent hotel guests, including potential husbands!

In 1874 William Parr, the eldest son of a rapidly expanding carrying business marries 16 year old Eliza Newton, in spite of her family's past, which all the town would have known.

Julia Maria (Lily) Newton: Born 1859 at Mt. Korong near Sandhurst, (Bendigo) Vic.

In 1878 Julia or Lily as she was known, was working at the Exchange Hotel, the same as her sister Eliza had done and once again this would have provided her with better room and board. Perhaps also, this may have given Lily unrealistic expectations to make a "good" marriage, as Eliza had done.

Sadly this was not to be as explained in the following story which appeared in the Monaro Mercury and Cooma and Bombala Advertiser NSW Saturday 4 May 1878. Page 4.

SUICIDE OF A GIRL

Early on Easter Monday a rumour was spread abroad that a young girl employed at the Exchange Hotel had been found dead in her own room under circumstances that left little room for doubt that she had died from the effects of poison, self-administered. The rumour proved to be only too true and the subsequent investigation confirmed that supposition that the unfortunate girl had committed self-destruction, and that in a most deliberate manner. The name of the deceased was Julia Newton, though familiarly known as Lily, and she was employed at the Exchange Hotel in the capacity of domestic servant, and also assisted in the bar. Her family reside in Deniliquin and are respectable people, though in humble circumstances, and much sympathy is felt for them in the sorrow in which they have been plunged by the rash act of their unfortunate and misguided relation.

An inquest was held at the hotel named on Monday 22nd April at noon when the landlord - Mr. Winterbottom, deposed that he last saw the deceased alive at 11 o'clock on Sunday night; on calling her next morning, and receiving no answer, he went into the room and found the body of the deceased, fully dressed, with the exception of the boots and stockings, lying on its back

Cont'd ...

TWO SISTERS—TWO VERY DIFFERENT LIFE OUTCOMES (Continued)

across the foot of the bed, the hands being clasped upon the breast; he also found a glass in the room containing a few crystals of what he believed to be strychnine. It also appeared from the evidence of this witness that on Sunday evening deceased left the house for a short time and returned with a small packet in her hand. She was interrogated by Mrs. Winterbottom as to the contents of the packet and replied that it contained some powder which she had got from the dispensary for her brother's eyes. She appeared to be in good spirits and was laughing and playing with the packet. The next witness examined was William Potts Doolen and lodger at the hotel, who stated that he remained in the house on Sunday night while Mr and Mrs Winterbottom went to church; while they were away, deceased came into the room where he was sitting and showing him a packet of vermin powder, asked him how it was to be used; he did not understand it and returned the packet to her; deceased after that wrote two letters, which she tore up and the wrote a third, which she placed in an envelope; she entered into conversation with witness, and referred to a young man named William Power, who had been paying attentions to her; she said that he had used her badly – had deceived her – and when he got the letter he would be sorry for what he had done; also that she was upset because Power had been walking with another girl and she stated further that Power had given her a ticket for a ball on Monday night, but she would not be there ; witness did not notice anything in the manner of deceased to lead him to suppose that she intended to destroy herself. Alfred Jefferson, chemist and druggist deposed that he knew deceased well and that she used frequently to come to the dispensary; on Sunday about 6 pm she came to buy some mouse poison; she wanted strychnine, but witness advised her to take some vermin powder; she said she would take it but did not think her mother would have it, because her father might be angry, as he had been in the habit of using strychnine ; she returned shortly afterwards and said that her mother wanted strychnine, but would keep the powder as well; witness then sold her six grains, for which he made her sign the poison book; witness stated further that deceased seemed to be in good spirits, and was laughing and talking in the shop.

Dr. Casey stated that he had held a post-mortem examination of the body of the deceased; he found the heart distended with fluid blood, but otherwise it, as well as other organs, was healthy; the lining of the stomach was much congested, as if from some irritant poison, which he had no doubt whatever was the cause of death; the deceased was not pregnant. William Power was then sworn, and stated that he lodged in the house; he last saw deceased alive about a quarter to 11; she then opened the door for him; he bid her good night, and nothing else passed between them; he had been keeping company with deceased till about a week ago, when he learned that she had been

Cont'd..

TWO SISTERS—TWO VERY DIFFERENT LIFE OUTCOMES (Continued)

corresponding with another young man, and he told her he should not go with her again; she said “all right”, and did not appear to be at all distressed ; since then they had only passed the time of day; he had not received that day a letter from deceased.

This closed the evidence and in accordance with the wish of the jury, the inquest was adjourned till the following day at 11 am for the production, if possible, of the letter referred to, as it was thought that it might throw some light upon the motives of deceased for committing self-destruction. The letter was discovered in deceased’s box the same evening and was produced at the adjourned inquiry. It was :- Deniliquin. Mr. W Power. You are the cause of my destroying myself. So goodbye and God forgive you, but I will never forgive you. I will leave you alone, I will trouble you. Yours truly LILLY NEWTON. The jury found a verdict to the effect that the deceased poisoned herself whilst of unsound mind.

Source: Deniliquin correspondent to S.M. Herald.



The Following poem

“The Family tree” by Willis G Corbitt

was submitted by our member Nancy Dixon

I think that I shall never see
The finish of my Family Tree
As it forever seems to grow
From roots that started very low;
‘way back in ancient history times
In foreign lands and distant climes.
From then grew trunk and branching limb,
That dated back to time so dim
One seldom knows exactly when
The parents met and married then.
Nor when the twigs began to grow
With odd named children, row on row.
Tho’ a verse like this is made by me,
And the end’s in sight as you can see;
‘tis not the same with Family Trees
That grow and grow through centuries.

Gallipoli Story

One of our members came across a relative by marriage whose war record said The 1st Royal Australian Naval Bridging Train, which meant nothing to him, when he came upon this very interesting story.

From time to time men of the 1st RANBT involved themselves in other affairs as revealed by the following account told by a sergeant of the British 32nd Field Ambulance, stationed at Suvla Bay across the Dardanelles straights from Gallipoli:

Fairly late in the day, as we all lay sprawling on the rocks, I saw a small party staggering down the defile leading to this point. There were two men with cowboy hats and between them they helped another thin and very exhausted looking fellow, who tottered along holding one arm which had been wounded. As they came nearer I recognised my little lance-jack [Lance Corporal], very pale and a little thinner than usual. The other two were sturdy enough, one short and the other tall, with great rough brown hands, sunburnt faces and bare arms. They wore brown leggings, riding breeches and khaki shirts. They carried their rifles at the trail and strode up to us with the easy gait of those accustomed to outdoor life. 'Australians' said someone. "Where's your boss" asked the tall colonial. "The adjutant is over here" I answered. "We'd like a word with him" said the man. I took them up to the officer and they both saluted in an easy going sort of way. "We found him up there" - the Australian jerked his head - "being sniped at and could not get away; he says he belongs to the 32 Ambulance, so here he is".

The two were about to slope off again when the Adjutant called them back. "Where did you find him?" he asked. "Up behind Jefferson's Post; there were five snipers potting at him and it looked mighty like his number was up. We killed four of the snipers and got him out". "That was very good of you. Did you see any more? We lost some others and an officer and a sergeant." "No, I did not spot any, did you Bill?" The tall man turned to his mate leaning on his rifle. "No" answered the short sharp-shooter, "He's the only one. It was a good afternoon sport, very good. We saw he'd got no rifle and was in a tight close-hitch, so we took the job on there and then, finished four of them, but it took some creeping and crawling." "Well, we will be quitting this now" said the tall one. "There is only one thing we would ask of you sir, don't let our people know anything about this". "But, why?" asked the astounded Adjutant, "you saved his life and it ought to be known". "Yes that may be so sir, but we are not supposed to be up here sharp shooting - we just done it for a bit of sport. Rightly we don't carry a rifle; we belong to the bridge building section. We only borrowed these rifles from the Cycle Corps and we will be charged with being out of bounds without leave and all that sort of thing if this becomes known." "All right, I will tell no one, but all the same it was good work and we thank you for getting him back to us," the Adjutant smiled.

The two Australians gave him a friendly nod and said "so long chaps", and strode away along the defile

To read more about The 1st Royal Australian Naval Bridging Train

<https://www.navy.gov.au/history/feature-histories/1st-royal-australian-naval-bridging-train>

Sydney 1809

(The Gypsey & The Slave)

Submitted by Graeme Rose

After 150 days at sea Lizzie was glad to be on dry land. What a strange place it was. Strange light, strange smells. The women were walked up from the wharf to a large walled area "The Lumber Yard" and told to stand in a line along a raised stage. They were to be "assigned" which meant transferred to masters for the term of their sentence. On board the Aeolus with little else to do they had imagined their lives without any real knowledge.

Lizzie had by necessity been left alone, being big and black meant few were prepared to talk to her or try to intimidate her.

Stephen Vane stood in line at the Lumber Yard in the City. He was good at standing in line. As a newly freed ex-convict he stood near the end of the line but as other men arrived, men of higher social standing than he was, they casually pushed ahead of him, chatting with their equals.

Stephen hoped the wait would be worth it.

The men were waiting for the "assignment" of the female convicts from the ship Aeolus which had arrived the previous day.

The women had been herded up from the harbour by the guards and now stood, some making an effort to look their best, others uncaring.

When the disbursement began firstly army officers came with instructions from their wives to find a new laundress or seamstress, "nothing too pretty", then gentlemen, then common soldiers, some looking for wives, then free men all looking for wives. Stephen near the back waited his turn as the choices diminished.

Finally, there was only a black woman taller than most men, standing alone. Several of the men ahead, swore and left her standing, however when it was Stephen's turn, he dropped his handkerchief at her feet to indicate his proposal. She refocused her eyes down on him for a moment then quickly picked up his handkerchief and silently followed him out of the lumberyard. Her assignment paper which he had signed gave her name as Elizabeth Mandeville.

They started to walk to his home in Windsor immediately, as he had no money for even a tot of rum. The 12 hours walk gave them time to exchange a few words.

After 3 months on a ship she needed frequent rests. He told her that as a Roma (Gypsy) he was used to being insulted and that he had not minded picking her when he saw her standing alone. She smiled but said nothing as they resumed their walk. She stared hard at everything new and he offered explanations to what he guessed was strange as it was to him when he had first arrived 6 years before.

Those 6 years had been spent at Macarthur Farm at Parramatta as an assigned convict, virtually a slave, but those years had turned a town boy into a farmer. He was now a tenant farmer on the flood-plain at Windsor. He lived in a hut he had built himself on his leased land.

Elizabeth had spent her entire life in the West End of London. After the departure of most black Londoners to Sierra Leone in 1788 those that remained had fallen on hard times, so that Elizabeth was forced to live by her wits. Fortunately, gentlemen in the theatre district were always tempted by someone "exotic" and Elizabeth found that to her advantage. Working as a pair with Ann Grace they could watch out for each other.

If the man was drunk enough they would take all his money and slip away. Their last customer had not been as drunk as they thought.

Now she was walking through a strange rural land assigned as a slave to a Gypsy!

Dear Member, For Your Information

The MWFHS banks with Regional Australia Bank and is now part of the Regional Australia Banks' Community Partnership Program.

The Program allows our members to support their local community simply by transacting with a selected savings account and nominating their choice of organisation from their list of almost 1,000 registered groups and causes.

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The graphic features a dark teal background with a green and blue geometric design at the top. It includes the Regional Australia Bank logo, the text 'We're part of Regional Australia Bank's', the 'COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM' logo in a stylized font, the website URL 'www.regionalaustraliabank.com.au/cpp', and a call to action: 'Ask us or the team at Regional Australia Bank how your everyday banking can contribute to the success of our organisation, at no cost to you!'. At the bottom, it provides the bank's ABN and credit licence information.

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BSB 721 000 [Regional Australia Bank]
Account No 59128

As part of our ongoing project compiling a comprehensive list of as many isolated or unmarked graves as possible, we have included the following form for anyone who may have information, that will help us in this project.

Any assistance would be gratefully appreciated.



MANNING WALLAMBA FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC
ISOLATED OR UNMARKED GRAVES

SURNAME: _____ GIVEN NAMES: _____

BIRTH DATE: _____ BIRTH PLACE: _____

DEATH DATE: _____ AGE AT DEATH: _____

PLACE OF DEATH: _____

BURIAL DATE: _____ BURIAL PLACE: _____

CEMETERY SECTION: _____ GRAVE ROW/NUMBER: _____

GRAVE PHOTO: YES/NO COPY SUPPLIED: YES/NO

SPOUSE/S: _____

PARENTS: _____

DO YOU HAVE DOCUMENTATION OF THE ABOVE?

CERTIFICATE: YES/NO COPY SUPPLIED: YES/NO

MAP (if grave on private property): YES/NO COPY SUPPLIED: YES/NO

EXTRA INFORMATION: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

I understand that the above burial details may be used in publications in the future.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Are you willing to share this data with others seeking information about this family? Yes/No

Please return to: Manning Wallamba Family History Society Inc. PO Box 48, Taree, 2430

Or leave at the Society section of the MidCoast Council Library, Victoria Street, Taree