

MANNING WALLAMBA FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY Inc TAREE

Issue 160 November 2021

THE FIG TREE



Inside this Issue

President's Report	2
Editors Note	3
Annual Reports	4-6
Office Bearers	7
Research Service	7
Membership Fee Schedule	8
Research Directory	8
The Story of Albert Nichols	9
William Green's Disappearing Act	10-11
The Churches Family from Godney Farm	12-13
Nurse Alice Sawyer	14-16
The Story of Harriett Butt And her Descendants	17-19
What is This?	19
A Reminiscence of George Sawyers Youth	20
Bathurst Remembers WW2	21
Research Request Form	22
Isolated & Unmarked Graves Form	23

Operating Since 1985 in Partnership with
Mid Coast Libraries

ISSN 2208-3243

Postal Address: P.O. Box 48, Taree, NSW 2430

Website: www.manningwallambafhs.com.au

Email: secretary@manningwallambafhs.com.au

PRESIDENT'S REVIEW

Another year has passed with it's own particular event which we appear to be surviving.

My congratulations to your committee who have had a lot to contend with as conditions changed ever again.

We finished the year financially stable.

Your committee has adjusted meeting places and times so that the organization could keep functioning.

Your committee has agreed to stand again this year but would stand aside for some new people who wish to come on board.

A big thank you to Mid Coast Library for having us as part of their organization very much appreciated by all.

We hope that a form of normality can progress not only for our organization but for business and our lives.

What a year with conference being virtual our library opening and closing and we are a year older.

Considering our organization started in the 1980's and we are still going strong and again I can only stress that this is due to the committees in the past and present.

This brings me to ask of you;

Your organization needs you

As our committee members find personal circumstances prevent them from carrying out their duties than we need people who would be understudies.

If there is a position you would be interested than let us know.

Our membership has dropped off probably due to COVID and we expect that with the online being brought back to in-house will see an increase.

RUOK

May I on behalf of all pass on best wishes to all who are suffering and remember, if you need some one to talk to, then approach the person who you would be most comfortable with.

My best wishes to all for the coming year ahead

As always you could say more but I am not into writing novels.

My best wishes to all

Your President

Ken Beeton



From the Editor's Desk



It's hard to believe its Christmas time again and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have contributed to "The Fig Tree" over the past 12 months, not only helping to make your Newsletter interesting and informative, but making my job so much easier!

Just remember your contributions don't have to be lengthy family histories even a joke or a poem are most acceptable or perhaps a photo of a family heirloom or details of a website you have found to be helpful

Just email to secretary@manningwallambafhs.com.au

I would also like to wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy 2022.

I think we will all agree it has to be an improvement on the last couple of years and hopefully those borders will open and we can once again enjoy time with family and friends.

If you are travelling Drive Safely .



At our recent **AGM held on Monday 15th November**, in the hall at Mitchells Island, reports were tabled by a number of our Office Bearers.

An overview of those reports is as follows:

Our **Secretary** Barbara Waters expressed her thanks to the Office Bearers who, she pointed out, have been the Society's backbone during the last two challenging years. Barbara advised that her role as Secretary has been one of monitoring the email correspondence (deleting the vast amount of spam!) and keeping members up to date with online events and trying to be informative, arranging the Bunning's BBQ rosters as well as thinking of the welfare of our members .

Not forgetting the library staff who have been so supportive, having Ancestry and Find My Past accessible from our home computers.

It has been difficult to recruit library duty volunteers and hopefully next year we can run some information sessions and try to attract some new volunteers, look at some speakers and anything that may create interest. Thank you Janine for sending the rosters out and thank you to all who have helped in many ways, it is always good to be able to share our "finds" or that breaking down of a brick wall with our fellow members.

Barbara Waters

Our **Treasurer** Lorraine Martin, who became Treasurer at the 2019 AGM had no way of knowing what challenges the next two years would bring. Local bushfires, floods and how could we forget the Covid-19 pandemic, all life changing events to our members in one form or another. After taking into account our total income and expenditure, as well as donations to Lions Club of Taree for the Local Bushfire Appeal and Motor Neurone Research, for this two year period the total balance of the Societies accounts currently stands at \$18,080.17.

In early 2020 we were approached by the Regional Australia Bank to join their Community Partnership Program, where 1% of our average account balance during the financial year on our S3 and S3.1 accounts would be paid to us by the bank. Any regional Australia Bank customer can nominate MWFHS to receive 1% of their account balances also paid by the bank to us. Good news for the 2020-2021 financial year we earned a total of \$59.87.

My thanks goes out to all who have assisted me over the last two years, especially those rostered members who receipt monies received at the library and to our "Mail Boy" Graeme Rose who whilst the Taree Library was closed due to lockdown delivered treasurer related mail to my home mail box. This allowed the wheels of finance to keep ticking over.

Lorraine Martin

Continued...

Annual Reports Continued.

Sue Robinson our **Librarian** was pleased to report that after a shaky start as Librarian at the end of 2019 was now feeling more confident in the job. Sue pointed out that our Dear Jan Mitchell left very large shoes to fill, but thankfully she had things very organized.

Digital Magazines and Journals that we have received during 2020 and 2021 have not been printed as hard copies because Pandemic restrictions prevented our members from coming into the Library to sit and have a read. Assistant Librarian, Kay Brooke, has been working with Secretary Barbara Waters to produce a database of these magazines. The idea being that members can access this database and ask for copies of any of the magazines they want to be emailed to them to read at their leisure.

Over the last two years since our AGM in August 2019 we have sold the following publications:

Pioneer Registers to the value of \$335.00:

Cemetery Books to the value of \$412.00

Other Publications to the value of \$149.72.

This has added a total of \$896.72 to the Society Bank Account. Many thanks to Wal Horsburgh for all his help in producing copies of our Publications for sale—he has been a lifesaver.

Kay Brooke as **Assistant Librarian**, has worked on her “Find a Grave” project all along, and is currently working with Wal on his favourite project, a wonderful update of our Gilwarra Cemetery Book Publication.

Overall, our resources library is very valuable and as restrictions slowly ease, and we can be in the Library more often, we all need to have a closer look at what we have at our fingertips to help with research. Don’t forget to look up the Resources Index on our website and use the “control-f” function with often surprising results. You never know what you will find on our shelves!

Sue Robinson

Our **Research Team** reported that with the Covid Restrictions they have been a long time getting to the Day. For the period since the last A.G.M. there has been 101 written requests, plus a few phone calls for assistance.

Currently there are only 3 incomplete requests and we are awaiting on a response to our email requesting advise. These requests have generated an income of \$405.00. Other projects undertaken this year have been the continuation of the **Pioneer Card Digitisation** and update. the **Indexing of the Research request information** (a work in progress). A simmering project has been the **Gilwarra Cemetery** which has progressed to the compiling stage, thanks to the efforts of my willing band of helpers—Kay, Janine, Barbara and Ian

Lastly, I have to thank the Researchers Team—Barbara, Kay and “my Secretary” Sue for their help in achieving these tasks.

Wal Horsburgh

Annual Reports Continued.

Our **Isolated and Unmarked Graves Team Graeme and Pam Jarman** advised the database for the Isolated and Unmarked Graves continues to acquire more information. The unmarked graves form has been modified and published on the Fig Tree. This form now includes questions for documentation and permission to share with other interested people. The working documents for the database have been entered onto the master document and after checking will be copied onto the database copy at the Library.

An article regarding the activities of our Society with particular emphasis on the role of the Isolated and Unmarked Graves Database was published in the Harrington TellEverybody¹ newspaper in the Jan/Feb edition 2021.

The plaque with information about our Society at the entrance to the Pilot Hill cemetery had deteriorated and during 2020 was replaced by Harrington Lions' Club.

There have been inquiries during the year for information on Isolated and Unmarked Graves in the area. Photos of plaques and memorials near Crowdy Head Lighthouse were taken and this is also underway for the Harrington wall and other places as they are mentioned to us. These photos will be a supplement to the database.

As one of their projects in the coming year the Lions' Club of Harrington are making some changes to the Pilot Hill cemetery at Harrington. This project will add markers for 3 unmarked graves, 2 boatmen and a newborn baby. I am locating information for these graves. Approval for one side of the fence to be moved has been granted by Mid Coast Council. The fence is over the graves of the boatman. The plaque to mark the resting place for the Muir baby is ready for placement.

Social Activities

Owing to Covid restrictions in 2020 and 2021 there were very few opportunities for our members to enjoy our usual social outings. Unfortunately, these restrictions included the cancellation of our Christmas party for 2020. During the restrictions our Committee held meetings were in private homes and these became a social event including our Christmas meeting.

¹ Harrington TellEverybody is a free community publication of the Harrington Crowdy Head Chamber of Commerce. It is available to read on line at:
<https://www.harringtonandsurrounds.com.au/tell-everybody>



OFFICE BEARERS 2022

President	Ken Beeton	Research Officers	Wal Horsburgh Sue Robinson
Vice Presidents:	Graeme Rose George Sawyer	Duty Roster Clerk	Janine Roberts
Secretaries	Barbara Waters (Mail/Email) Sue Robinson (Minutes) Vicki Fletcher (Membership)	Librarian	Sue Robinson
		Asst. Librarian	Kay Brooke
		Newsletter Editor	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 this
publication or from the
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.



Membership Fee Schedule

RENEWAL	NEW	MEMBERS
1 July—30 June	1 July-30 June	1 Jan– 30 June
Single \$25	\$30	\$17.50
Family \$33	\$38	\$21.50

Overseas Membership Price on Application

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Janet Bath, Shirley Turner-Mann, Margaret Weiley

Beverley Richards, Janice Byatt, Robert & Angela Cooke,

Margaret Agland, Warwick Aldham, Suzanne Touzell,

Don't be afraid to ask the Duty member for help when visiting the library. We are a friendly group and more than happy to help.

Our next General Meeting will be held at Taree Library on **Monday 14th February 2022** at 10.30am
All Welcome.

At this meeting a date will be decided for a "Meet and Greet" morning tea at the Library when our Librarian and other Committee members will also be on hand to show and explain to you the resources available for your use during our normal operating times.

RESEARCH DIRECTORY

The Society's Research Directory can be found on our website,

<https://manningwallambafhs.co.au>

Just go to the Research Tab and click on Research Directory. You may be surprised to find that the list of items fills 92 pages, but don't despair, it is organised by type of resource and then alphabetically and better still these resources are available to all members by attending our meeting room at Taree Library, during our normal opening hours.

HINT: When searching the Research Directory on your computer for a specific item, use the shortcut e.g. by "control F " and typing in the box that appears ,what or who it is you are looking for e.g. a name or perhaps location—give it a try....

THE STORY OF ALBERT NICHOLS

1864-1912

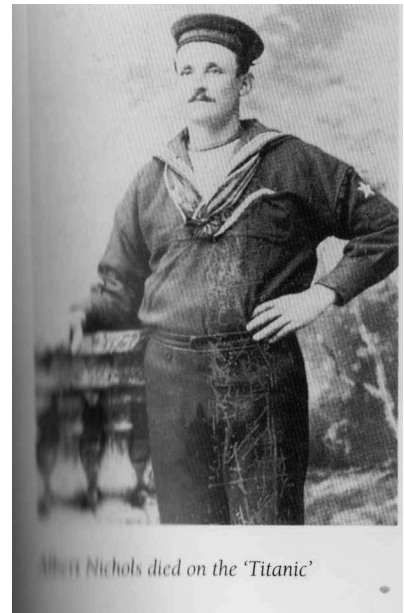
VICTIM OF THE RMS TITANIC SINKING

Albert was the first born of a family of ten of Thomas Nichols and Mary (Andrews) Nichols of Lord Howe Island.

Thomas was master of the whaling barque Aladdin from Hobart and arrived at Lord Howe Island July 1862.

Albert was not fond of his parents as it seems they made their children work very hard due to the fact that their father was absent at sea for very long periods.

Family legend has it that Albert or Bertie as he was affectionately named kept a bonfire set ready to be torched at Blinky Beach. Sometime when older than 18, on seeing a ship, he lit the beacon and told the longboat crew who came in that he had been shipwrecked on the Island. He left without saying goodbye to his family, married in England, became the boatswain of the Titanic and perished in 1912 when the ship went down after striking the iceberg in the Atlantic.



A bosun's duty is to ensure that all was "ship shape" on the vessel and to summon the crew with his whistle.

Many years later his daughter Jean and her daughter Anne journeyed from Wales to Lord Howe Island to visit Bert's birthplace and to meet surviving relatives.

Their family story is, that when the Titanic was sinking, Bert came up on deck and asked a crew member, who was launching a lifeboat, to take his whistle and pass it on to Bert's wife. He then went below decks to help the rest of the crew and so perished.

Anne's brother, Bert's grandson still has the whistle.



Acknowledgement

**Pinetrees, Lord Howe Island 1842-1992 A brief history of the Andrews-Nichols-Kirby families by Kerry McFadyen
Albert Nichols**

WILLIAM GREEN'S DISAPPEARING ACT



William George Green aka William Mills. Photo courtesy of George Sawyer.

William Green was born at Knorrit Flat in 1886.¹ He married Laurell Patch of Coraki in 1914 and operated a fleet of buses around Lismore.² Family stories say that the marriage between William and Laurell became unstable.

One sad tale describes Laurell stripping naked and lying on the road in front of the bus William was driving which was full of passengers. Undaunted, William promptly drove around his wife and continued on his way.

On the night of 14 April 1931, William went fishing at 9:30 pm at Evans Head. He had arranged to meet a friend by the riverbank. When the friend arrived there was no sign of William except his upturned rowing boat, fishing equipment and floating oars. Days of searching for William's body proved fruitless and the case was labelled a mystery.³

Continued../2

WILLIAM GREEN'S DISAPPEARING ACT (continued)

Sightings of William were reported to police including one from a relative that claimed to see William on a train to QLD dressed as a swagman. Adding to the mystery was the fact that William had recently sold his bus service . These rumours proved to be correct when William contacted his siblings to let them know he was alive and well in QLD.

William changed his surname to Mills, his mother's maiden name, and moved to Western Australia where he married Maisie Giese. William, Maisie and their two daughters moved back to NSW settling in Chatham. Prior to William's retirement he was the curator of the cricket pitch of the Johnny Martin Oval at Taree Park. He died in 1974 and is buried at Wingham Lawn Cemetery as William Green.⁵

Author: George Sawyer

P.S. Laurell was granted a "decree absolute" in 1935 and that same year married Henry Field. She passed away in 1981.

¹NSW BDM, Birth Index for William G Green, No. 23212/1886.

²NSW BDM, Marriage Index for William G Green and Laurell Patch, No. 6624/1914.

³Northern Star, 16 April 1931, 6.

⁴Northern Star, 20 April 1931, 4.

⁵NSW BDM, Death Index for William George Green, No. 56477/1974.



THE CHURCHES FAMILY FROM GODNEY FARM,
GODNEY, near GLASTONBURY, UK

Submitted by Graeme Rose

In 2014 I drove into the recently flooded part of Somerset to the small village of Godney, which is a village and civil parish near Glastonbury on the River Sheppey in Somerset and stopped at the Post Office. While photographing the lovely old building, the postman came out and asked what we were doing. I explained that I was tracing the Churches Family and all I knew was my ancestor had come from Godney. He knew Michael Churches and gave us directions to the Godney Farm. We introduced ourselves to Michael, who is 5th generation from Thomas Churches, who inherited Godney Farm from Jeremiah his father. My ancestor George Churches (1834-1909) was the eldest son who left for Australia. WHY? That is something I can't answer, what I do know however, George arrived in Sydney on board "Samuel Boddington" and 9 months later married a widow Sophia Byrne in Bathurst, NSW. They lived in the district for over 50 years. George was a successful farmer and was made a Life Member of the Bathurst Agricultural, Horticultural & Pastoral Society. George and Sophie had nine children four sons and five daughters.



<https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Churches-20>

The Holy Trinity Church Godney is a former Church of England Church. It was designed by George Phillips Manners and was rebuilt in 1839-41 when it was deemed to be in a poor state of repair. However, by the beginning of the 20th century, with the flooring, seating and gallery being in poor condition, restoration plans were drawn up by the diocesan architect Edmund Burkle and the work, which included the construction of a chancel, was carried out and the church reopened on 12 December 1903. More repairs were carried out 1980, however, Holy Trinity closed in 1998 and was declared redundant on 1 July 1999. The pews were removed in 2001 and the church then used for storage. The church building was subsequently purchased by Michael Churches and in 2016 planning permission was obtained to use the church as a venue for civil weddings. The conversion work included the installation of a kitchen and toilets. It is now known as the Glastonbury Wedding Venue.

THE CHURCHES FAMILY FROM GODNEY FARM, (Continued)

Fortunately for me, my visit to see Michael Church was prior to the conversion work taking place and I was able to photograph the building prior to renovation. The oldest family graves (illegible) are Elizabeth Churchouse died 1763 and John Churchouse died 1775.

Fast forward to October 2021 when a relative of mine in Gaurock, Scotland was reading 'The Times' over breakfast, when she came across a story about Rachel Churches, daughter of Michael and Jenny Churches and realised that she recognised that name and knew some of the story from my Wikitree profiles of the Churches. The article in question was in relation to Rachel Churches' wedding. She was married in the now renovated church that the family purchased and have started up a wedding business.

This link will take you to a picture gallery of the renovated church as it is today and it certainly appears to have many more years left in it.

<https://glastonburyweddingvenue.co.uk/>



Reference:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Holy_Trinity_Church,_Godney

NURSE ALICE SAWYER (nee Gore)

1867-1944

Family Recollections and an Insight into Midwifery in the late 19th Century

Submitted by: Barbara Waters

Alice Sawyer was born in 1867 at Kimbriki, she was the daughter of Henry Gore and his wife Mary Ann nee Pearce..

On 5th November 1890 Alice married James Dougan Sawyer at St Luke's Church, Tinonee. Alice and James had a family of six children.

Granddaughter Valda Minns recalls that when Alice was old enough she travelled around the district with the local midwives. After her marriage she continued nursing by converting the family home in Mill St Tinonee into a hospital, where many babies were delivered. Valda remembers her grandmother as a very patient woman never becoming angry with her grandchildren, she loved playing cards, crib and euchre. Alice loved her church and was uncomfortable with people working on a Sunday, she ensured that her grandchildren went to Sunday School.

Granddaughter Doreen Collier recalls Alice always wore a starched apron and nurse's cap. After her marriage, she dedicated three rooms in her home as her wards. Alice was a dedicated nurse going out in all types of weather, delivering a baby, laying out the deceased and other duties.

Doreen also recalls Alice as a wonderful grandmother who loved all her grandchildren. She had a large veneer Jar which was always filled with "farmer grub cakes" (aka biscuits!) for the grandchildren, when they visited after school. Another family favourite was ginger beer, with the taps tied up with string and the cork hitting the ceiling when removed, the bottles always had egg shells in the bottom of them.

Doreen remembers the nasty leg ulcers on her grandmothers leg's which wouldn't heal. Alice was a believer in herbal remedies using Dock Leaves, Aurm Lily Leaves over the ulcers.

Family recall Alice as a homemaker and a very caring nurse.

Alice delivered her last two babies on Christmas day 1937, one being her grandson Barrie Sawyer.

A gold watch in a gold hunter case was presented to Alice on her retirement by either Dr. Gormley or Dr. Stockes. The gold fob watch was donated to Tinonee Museum in 2016 by Doreen Collier granddaughter of Alice Sawyer.

Another granddaughter Mary Murray recalls, anybody who was 'feeling poorly' was taken a 'pot of broth' from what appeared to be a bottomless boiler, demijohns always filled with 'Johnny Cakes 'and 'Farmer Grubs'. She kept a supply of boiled lollies, bullseyes, humbugs, peppermints.

Her memories of Alice's home in Mill Street, included the picket fence and verandah and the rooms on the northern side of the house that were "The Hospital". Mary recalls walking past the telephone in the hallway, up two steps to see the new babies. There were white china wash basins and jugs on wash stands in the rooms.

Continued..../

NURSE ALICE SAWYER (nee Gore) (Continued)

Alice died on 23rd October 1944 she is buried in Tinonee Cemetery. In her Obituary in the Northern Champion Taree, 25th October 1944 it is reported ..

“Up until a few years ago Mrs Sawyer, who was a nurse, conducted a private a hospital at Tinonee, where she earned a lasting reputation for her kindness and service. In fact, there are few homes in this part of the district, the occupants of which, have not cause to remember the many kindnesses of the late Nurse Sawyer”

Midwifery is the same as it was 200 years ago, with midwives going to extraordinary lengths to work with women and achieve the best possible outcome for her and her baby.

Prior to the time and during when maternity homes were developing and remote areas were being pioneered, women relied on a neighbour to assist at childbirth, this was often referred to as neighbouring .

The use of the title “Granny” with so many of the women who “neighboured” women in need, suggests they were well on in years, whilst doing this arduous work. The character, compassion and courage of the midwives or neighbours who went by foot, by horse back or sulky, often great distances regardless of payment, weather conditions or terrain, is very humbling.

One such person in the Tinonee village was Granny Clarken, wife of Joseph Clarken the police constable stationed at Tinonee, no doubt Alice would have heard of the work of this midwife.



Rules for midwifery training for Australian midwives and nurses were introduced in 1899 with the formation of the ATNA (Australian Trained Nurses Association) in NSW. Training to gain a recognised certificate with the ATNA required six months training at a recognised midwifery hospital (1900-1903) or 12 months training from 1903.

Until the enacting of the Private Hospitals Act of 1908 a midwife, nurse, doctor or private individual could establish and operate a private hospital in NSW without government oversight, regulation or qualifications. With the passing of the Private Hospitals Act , in operation from 1908, all persons were required to renew their licence annually, to register a private hospital for all premises conducting surgical, medical and/or lying in nursing and be open for regular inspection .

There was no requirement for a midwife to be trained until registration came into operation with the first entry in the Midwives Register made in January 1926.

**Further reading re midwives is Noeline Kyle's book
Women's Business Midwives on the North Coast of NSW
(This book is available amongst the Societies' Resources)**

Continued..

NURSE ALICE SAWYER (Nee Gore) Continued

Alice's Mill Street Tinonee Lying Hospital was licensed on 3rd December 1913 for two Lying In beds and three Medical/Surgical beds, with Alice Sawyer the Licensee, the first birth recorded there was on 18 February 1913.

Alice Sawyer became a registered midwife on 9th December 1926, the certificate obtained from Lismore Hospital (*Branch Midwifery Section-10 (2) Schedule 74*) *Nurses index 1926-1954 Citation NRS10856{ 6/4535 p.513}Reel 2620*. Alice retained her registration up until 1939. Records from Wise's New South Wales post office directory show Alice's hospital listed in the Medical Directory of years 1914 and 1916.

A copy of the Children's Protection Act No 47 1902, Schedule 1V at Tinonee Museum lists all babies that were delivered at the hospital either by Dr. Gormley, Dr Stokes or by Alice. During this time Alice lost one patient in childbirth her daughter Vera Pearl.

The gold pocket watch, previously mentioned, that was presented to Alice on her retirement, was much treasured. It was left to her daughter Mary Dennes, who later gave it to her daughter Doreen Collier. Doreen recalls the watch did have a chain and she loved wearing it as a pendant.

It also has historic significance, it was manufactured by Waltham a company that explored innovative methods, such as interchangeable parts, with watches produced to be more affordable, as well as producing high quality watches. As previously mentioned the watch was presented to the Tinonee Museum and it is relevant to the museum's collection policy, as it was a gift to a lady who devoted her working life to the village of Tinonee and many descendants of her family reside there today.

Watches have been manufactured by Waltham since 1850, their vision was to form a watch company that could produce high quality watches at a lower cost using interchangeable parts, that were made on specialised machines invented just for that purpose. They also developed a highly organised factory based work system to speed up production and cut costs.

In 1885 the company became the "American Waltham Watch Company". In 1865 the prices for movements only (no Case) were William Ellery \$13.00, which is the model of the watch given to Alice Sawyer.

This gold pocket watch in a gold hunter case model William Ellery reflects the style of watches that were popular amongst women the 19th century.

Waltham had many renaming's from its inception related to financial reorganisations.

These high quality watches have been made for prominent companies like the Canadian Pacific Railway and a William Ellery key wind model was presented to Abraham Lincoln upon giving the Gettysburg Address in 1863.

Every watch the company produced was engraved on the inside working with an individual serial number that could be used to estimate the date of production.



THE STORY OF HARRIET BUTT AND HER DESCENDANTS

Submitted by Denise Porter

In 1862, a young 22 year-old girl was about to start her new life as a married woman.

Harriet Butt had arrived in Sydney a little over four years previously from Southampton with her parents and siblings. Her intended was the 32 year-old Louis Martin Gustavus Adolph D'Ottway from Prussia.

Things started out suspiciously. The ceremony was performed by Dr. James Fullerton, representing the Presbyterian Church under a "Special Licence". It was said he asked no questions regarding ages or marital condition and was highly suspect. He was referred to in a prosecution as running a "marriage shop" or a "bucket shop" and narrowly escaped prison.

The happy couple worked their way down to Tipperary Gully which was a part of the Lambing Flat goldfields. Louis mined for gold and worked as a painter. Their home was of bark, consisting of 4 rooms – two front and two skillions. Louis's neighbours and friends said he was a hard-working and a respectable man. Harriett produced four children and it is possible that a 5th child was born in the same year as her death at the age of 35.

Louis seemed to be depressed or threatening suicide. Anonymous letters were being sent to the druggists in town requesting them not to sell him strychnine.

A housekeeper was engaged to assist with the children and keep house on a 12-month contract. Mrs. Andrews arrived in June, 1875. She was about 35 – 40 years of age and had an eighteen month-old child. Within one month of arriving, Louis had proposed marriage to her and kept proposing. Mrs Andrews wasn't interested. She made some acquaintances in the neighbourhood and went riding with Dr. Smith on occasions. At the end of her contract, Mrs Andrews had told Louis that she was leaving. If only she had!

Louis was overcome by jealousy regarding her association with Dr. Smith.

He told Mrs. Andrews that she was not to go out riding with him. She said she would. He then threatened her with his gun and she pleaded for mercy for her child. Louis in a state of rage, shot her and hit her over the head two or three times with the gun until the gun broke. She fell and lay dead. This happened on the 5th August, 1876.

The eldest child aged 11, woke from his bed from all the noise. Louis told his son that he was going to get the neighbour to come down. He told the neighbour that he had been poisoned. He had to be assisted by Daniel Caldwell in getting home and was laid on his bed. He asked for oil as he had heard it was an antidote for strychnine

A short time later Louis died.

The Story of Harriett Butt and Her Descendants Continued

An inquest was held the next day at the neighbour's house and eventually it was found that Louis had poisoned himself. As to Mrs. Andrews, her name was discovered as being Miss Marianne Lillian Chaplaine from letters found amongst her possessions. The letters were from a law firm with regard to a law suit.

Both deceased were buried in the local cemetery. There was a large procession of mourners for Louis and only the minister for Marianne. The neighbours took the children in until relatives could be found.

One month later, the household furniture and clothing were sold to curious and anxious buyers who seemed to show a great desire to secure some article belonging to one or the other. The gun, the murder weapon, realised an unusually high price of £8.

The second child Augusta, aged 8 years, was sent to her uncle, Henry Butt in Glenthorne, near Taree and lived happily on his farm. Augusta was a competent seamstress and opened a store on the Taree wharf. It was here that she met Captain (Henry) Murray Eastaway.

Murray had travelled the world's oceans for many years. His wife had died in childbirth in Youghal, IR. and so he took up the post of harbour master at Youghal, near Cork in Ireland. He had left several children back in Ireland. Murray had come to Taree from Ireland to work on the recommendation of his cousin Captain Martin Prendergast. Murray became first mate or chief officer on various ships travelling between Taree and Sydney.

And so it was that Augusta aged 22 met Murray aged 46, they were married and had 7 children and Murray brought out five of his children from Ireland. One became a nun in the Mary Mackillop order, two girls went into service in Sydney, one boy became a farmer and two boys worked for the local newspaper. It must have been a busy time for Augusta.

The family eventually moved closer to the river on farmland at Taree Estate with a river frontage where Murray and the boys sailed and farmed. Murray appeared to be well liked, respected and hard working. He didn't take sick leave until one particular time when he was so missed that a townsman took to pen and paper to write a poem that was published in the Manning River Times.

Murray passed away in 1915 and Augusta sold the farm and moved into town. Later she moved to Newcastle where three of her adult children lived

Augusta died in 1938 a happy and contented woman.

Continued....

The Story of Harriett Butt & Her Descendants (Continued)

The story of her young childhood remained a secret she took to the grave, as her daughter once said that her grandfather was a German architect! She never knew the story of her mother's beginnings in a bark hut on the goldfields of Tipperary Gully and of her grandfather's murder suicide –

UNTIL Trove Digitised Newspapers.

This true story has been researched and compiled from old newspapers including

The Sydney Morning Herald,
Burrangong Argus,
Burrowa News,
Grenfell Record
Lachlan District Advertiser,
Freeman's Journal,
Ovens and Murray Advertiser (Beechworth),
Manning River Times.

By Denise Porter who decided with time on her hands during Lockdown to write this story from information gathered over the years



WHAT IS THIS ITEM?



GIVE UP?

It is a butter mould for "stamping" a pat of homemade butter!

The lower picture is of the inside of the "stamp" featuring intricate carving of an acorn and leaves. It belonged to my parents Jack and Jessie Sawyer of Taree Estate and how it came into their possession I am unaware, however, at one stage they did make butter for home consumption. It is a rather unique object and a great keepsake and memento of life on the farm in times gone by.

Why anyone would want to fuss with stamping butter for appearance sake only escapes me.

It would probably make a pat of butter attractive if intended for sale.

The item is ten and a half centimetres in diameter.

CHICKEN GIBLET SOUP

(A REMINISCENCE OF GEORGE SAWYER'S YOUTH)

George Sawyer Member 533

While holidaying with my Grandparents Bill and Edie Richardson in Church Street Harrington many years ago, I was asked by Grandma to switch off the stovetop at a certain time of the afternoon, as she was retiring for an afternoon nap. She asked me to give the contents of one of the two saucepans to her dogs, Butch, Tiny and Tess. I was only too happy to oblige and when the saucepan's contents had cooled enough I doled out the contents equally between the three dogs who relished the meal.

Later, when Grandma appeared from her rest she asked me "what happened to my giblet soup? Me being from a family who did not eat other than chicken flesh, readily admitted to feeding it to her dogs! She was almost in tears at my news as she was looking forward to her giblet soup! I had not looked in the other saucepan on the stove and thought that the chicken giblets were intended for the dogs. I have never been allowed to forget this incident much to my shame.

I am not alone at being ignorant as I believe another incident of equal stupidity had happened sometime previous to my event. With no washing machine in those days, laundry was performed in a fuel copper on the verandah of an annexe, out the back of the home. A visitor relative who has remained nameless, was asked to "put some wood in the copper". And that is precisely what he did, put the wood in with the clothes and not in the firebox beneath the boiling cauldron!

Some mothers do have them!



Edith J Richardson

NEW DATES

'Bathurst Remembers World War 2 Exhibition 2022'

Marking VJ Day and Anniversary of the end of WW2

Exhibition from Friday 25th February to Monday 28th February 2022 - Open: 9am to 5pm

The four day event will be held in four pavilions at the Bathurst Showground, Sydney Road

This WW2 Exhibition will consist of "Snapshots of World War 2" - 600 enlarged photos of soldiers in action, battlefields, training, the home front, Bathurst Army Camp, etc. There will also be the "Wall of Valour" - Over 130 enlarged photos of World War 2 Service Men and Women with an association with Bathurst who enlisted and served." In all over 2,000 wartime photos.

Guest Exhibitors will display over 3,000 military items and WW2 memorabilia, uniforms, a WW2 model railway, a large number of military vehicles, medals, reenactor groups, RAAF & POW items, Damien Parer Exhibition by Stannies, guest speakers, a rustic military picture theatre showing WW2 newsreels of the day, PowerPoint presentations, Schools welcome.



Sponsored by the Bathurst District Historical Society, Bathurst RSL Sub branch, Department of Veterans' Affairs, Bathurst Regional Council, and the Bathurst Showground Land Manager.

For further details contact Curator - Alan McRae on 02 6331-5404 amcrae@lisp.com.au

October 2021



MANNING WALLAMBA FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.

ABN: 50 373 809 536 / RESEARCH REQUEST FORM

Provide as much data as possible and complete a separate form for each research name.

If you require physical documents please provide a Stamped, Self-Addressed Envelope,

Initial Research Enquiry is \$20 including limited photocopying to the value of \$5

Additional Research \$10 per hour. Extra microfilm copying \$1 per page

KNOWN INFORMATION:

	When:	Where:
PERSON'S NAME:	Born:	
(Father's Name):	Born:	
(Mother's Name):	Born:	
Port of Arrival:	Date:	Ship:
Died:		Buried:
Occupation:	Date Married:	Where:
SPOUSE'S NAME:	Born:	
(Father's Name):	Born:	
(Mother's Name):	Born:	
Port of Arrival:	Date:	Ship:
Died:		Buried:
CHILDREN:		
1.	Born:	
2.	Born:	
3.	Born:	
4.	Born:	
5.	Born:	
6.	Born:	
7.	Born:	
8.	Born:	
Additional Children	Please write on the back of this page	

INFORMATION REQUIRED: (Continue on back of page if more space required)

--

YOUR DETAILS:

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms: SURNAME:	GIVEN NAMES:
ADDRESS:	POST CODE:
PHONE:	MOBILE:
EMAIL:	
AMOUNT ENCLOSED OR EFT: \$	SIGNATURE:
I agree to Manning Wallamba FHS publishing my details in their journal "Fig Tree" or releasing them to other people who are researching the same family. SIGNATURE:	

SUBMISSION DETAILS:

• SEND FORM BY MAIL TO: Research Officer, MWFHS Inc, PO Box 48 TAREE NSW 2430
• SCAN AND EMAIL FORM TO: secretary@manningwallambafhs.com.au with all details
• DEPOSIT ANY MONIES EFT: Regional Aust Bank / BSB 721 000 / Account 59128
• OR SEND A CHEQUE FOR THE AMOUNT TO: Research Officers, MWFHS, PO Box 48 TAREE 2430 (Cheque made out to Manning Wallamba FHS)



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