MANNING WALLAMBA FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY Inc TAREE

THE FIG TREE



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Volunteers!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

My best wishes to all especially those not so well.

Due to the lack of volunteers we had to cancel the Bunnings fund raiser, this puts in doubt for future fund raising, thus support is diminished.

There are still openings to do duty days as we have members who cannot due to other factors. and others doing more than required.

If you are interested you won't be left on your own, you will be given guidance for as long as it is necessary.

Your committee has been kept busy doing their roles

MEET & GREET—SATURDAY 28 MAY 1.00PM

Meet and Greet for members both new and those who have not been in for a while, will be on Saturday 28 May starting at 1.00pm. This will include afternoon tea and introductions. Then at about 2.00pm Fiona from the Library staff will present a talk and information session on using TROVE

It will also be an opportunity for you to explore the vast amount of resources available In our Resource Library with Committee Members on hand to answer your questions..

Not everything is on the internet.

GENEALOGY VOLUNTEERS WANTED.

Being a volunteer with Manning Wallamba Family History Society Inc. is exciting. No two days are alike. No two enquiries are alike. No one knows everything. New members will be rostered on with a more experienced volunteer who will help to familiarise the new member with the library resources. Working hands on with someone else is the best way to learn, although instruction sessions are held on a regular basis.

Taking part in library duty is an exciting journey. The challenges of helping researchers are great. The rewards are even greater



RESEARCH SEVICE

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?

The FigTree 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.

Our Journal is not only distributed to you, our members, but to other Societies throughout Australia and overseas.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE NOW DUE

Family Membership \$33.50

Single Membership \$25.00

This renewal fee will not apply to new members who have recently joined

The membership renewal form is available from our room at Taree Library during our normal

operating times -

Monday-Saturday 10.00am to 12 noon or alternatively can be downloaded from the Society's web page

OFFICE BEARERS 2022

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

PIONEER DAYS

Our forbears endured such trying times, of pestilence, drought and flood.
The rivers rose above their banks, houses filled with stinking mud.
Times were hard, doctors few, roads ?, mere tracks, and rough.
The rivers were main thoroughfare, in flood, they called one's bluff.
Babes were born at home, kindly neighbour assisting there.
Or maybe an experienced midwife called, for those with funds to spare.
Tragedy and illness were common, no distinction, between status, race or creed.
Gravestones in our cemeteries stand testament to this, or maybe some brave deed.
Nowadays we have gone soft, complain bitterly to get our way.
How would you cope, 200 miles in heat, rain or cold on a lumbering bullock dray?
We need to look back and be thankful for our lot.
And praise those gone before us, who lie resting in a lonely plot.

LEOPOLD CLARENCE PRATT aka ROBERT HENRY SEFTON

"Oh what a tangled web we weave when first we practice to deceive"

Submitted by Wal Horsburgh

Whilst recently doing some research on a WW! Serviceman named R.H. Sefton, I came across a rather strange situation. When checking the First World War Service Records for a Robert Henry Sefton two files with the same name appeared, certainly not an unusual situation as there are a lot of people with the same name. HOWEVER, a check of both files revealed a different story.

Robert Henry Sefton, **Service No. 33.** Place of birth Taree, Place of Enlistment Enoggera, Qld. The Attestation Papers for Robert Henry Seaton Service No 33 dated 8 September 1914 stated that he was aged 31 and single, NOK was his brother L. Seaton, Melbourne. Why he enlisted under another name is not known, although he requested that part of his pay was to be paid into an account at the GPO in Sydney in the name of Mrs. L.C. Pratt. Presumably his wife knew he had enlisted.

Robert Henry Sefton, **Service No 9985.** Place of Birth Kempsey, NSW, Place of Enlistment – Victoria Barracks, NSW at the age of 20. He was single and embarked from Sydney on the 17 December 1915. Served in 3rd A.F.A. Brigade. He survived the war and was demobilised in August 1919 after serving most of his time in France.

None of this may have come to light except "Leopold Pratt" aka R.H.Sefton was killed in action at Gallipoli on 11 November 1915 and a fellow soldier was able to give the following statement –

"When I joined the 2nd L.H. Regiment at Enoggera, Brisbane, I met a man whom I knew in Bangalow as Leo Pratt. He then told me in confidence that he was serving under the name of Sefton. I had no further conversation with him on the matter of his assumed name until the night of August 5th 1915, when he came to me in the trench at Quinn's Post and requested that in the event of him being killed I should make it known that his name of Sefton was assumed.

He also informed me that he had left papers which would enable his relatives to identify him in the event of him being killed.

(Sgd.) J.H. Ferguson

To further complicate the matter on the 21st December 1915 a letter was sent to the Camp Commandant's Office in Alexandria, which reads –

"It has just come under my notice that a No. 33 Sgt. R.H. Sefton of the 2nd Light Horse Regiment has been reported killed. Being related to him, I should be glad to know if this is true, if so, who was advised as next-of-kin, as I understand I was his only living relative.

 $^{\prime\prime} Sgt)$ J.W. Sanders, Corporal, 1^{st} Austn. Reserve Park Regt. Camp Comandt Wardin

LEOPOLD CLARENCE PRATT aka ROBERT HENRY SEFTON (Continued)

Yet another letter dated 16 February 1916 from the Records Office states that Cpl J. W. Sanders was interrogated and admitted that the statement he made was incorrect and the deceased was not a relative of his.

No reason was given why he made the statement in the first place!

"A reply was sent to Cpl. Sanders on 27 December 1915 from the Australian Records Section stating –

In reply to yours dated 21st instant regarding the abovenamed N.C.O. our record show that he was killed in action 11/11/15.

Our records here show his next-of-kin as Brother L. Sefton, Prahan, Melbourne, Victoria, to whom no doubt advice of his death has been sent by the Defence Department."

Sadly, it wasn't until 18 December that his wife discovered, whilst reading casualty lists in the paper, that he had been killed. This, of course, raises the question, if the casualty lists gave his name as Robert Sefton, and you can only presume that they did, then his wife must have known that he enlisted under an assumed name! If so, I am sure she could not have realised the problems this was going to create.

Records show that the Embarkation Pier Cemetery Anzac, Gallipoli is inscribed with the name Sefton, Sgt R.H.11/11/15. In yet more correspondence dated 17 June 1921 regarding the 'Scroll issued by His Majesty's Government' as a Memorial to those who lost their lives through the war of 1914-1918, in which it is stated - "**the name inscribed**" on these **memorials is that in which the deceased served and died, and no variation to this rule is permissible**"

It also appears that his wife had to make a number of submissions proving that Leopold Clarence Pratt was in fact the same person as Robert Henry Sefton, before a pension could be authorised for herself and their two daughters. Furthermore, it wasn't until August 1916, 9 months after he was killed, that she received his personal effects.

No doubt these unnecessary delays could have been avoided if only he had enlisted under his own name in the first place.

Regardless of all of the above, what must be remembered is that Leopold Clarence Pratt gave his life serving his country.

Lest we Forget

Eliza Mary Parr

In a previous issue of "The Fig Tree" there was an article giving a brief outline of the early lives of two sisters Eliza Rosanna Newton and Julia Maria (Lily) Newton. Sadly, the younger sister—Lily committed suicide, however, her older sister married the son of an rapidly expanding carrying business—William Parr.

By 1884 William and Eliza had 4 children this Photo showing them all in their prosperous Sunday best.

Louisa 9 my great-grandmother

Eliza Mary 7

Emily Rose 5

William jr 3



William and his brothers and brothers-in-law all work together as carriers running a circuit from Moama/Echuca to Melbourne then a second circuit Moama/Echuca to Deniliquin, Hay and Wagga Wagga. William's sister Harriet (Parr) King runs this logistics company, plus hotels in Moama/Echuca.

At the time there were two grades of Carrier/Carter businesses -

Bullock wagons - very slow, low cost transport where the driver slept under the wagon.

Horse wagons - fast often sprung, higher cost where the driver slept in a hotel.

The Parrs were of the second type.



Obviously, because of the type of business they conducted, the Parrs had many places they supplied and knew the circumstances of many of the people they dealt with.

Amongst their customers were the prosperous 38 year old James and his wife Grace Lynn, who had never had any children. An arrangement was made, that was never explained, that James and Grace could "have" 7 year old Eliza Mary as a informal foster-child.

Shortly after this "arrangement" occurred the Lynn family moved to the Sydney suburb of Granville, which at the time was the end of the Parramatta rail line, and was where all the western carriers terminated.

Continued ../

Eliza Mary Parr (Tattersall) Continued

When she turned 18 in 1894 the Lynns took their "beautiful daughter" to have her picture taken at several formal picture studios. Note the amount of care of hairstyle.

If any of my other relatives had a studio photo taken it would have only been for an engagement or wedding.



However, the other members in the Lynn family saw Eliza Mary as a "cuckoo", who would inherit the prosperous James and Grace Lynn estate, which they felt was "rightfully" theirs.

To solve this dilemma the greater Lynn family produced a suitable husband George Tattersall (whose mother was a Lynn). Eliza Mary was "coerced" into marrying George in 1897, thus the money stayed in the greater family.

When Grace Lynn died in 1905 her husband filled in the Death Certificate with Eliza Mary as their "biological" daughter.

George's opinion is not known, but Eliza Mary was never happy in the marriage. The descendants of Eliza Mary are also descendants of the Lynn family. Subsequently, all four of Eliza Mary's sisters migrated to Sydney, so that she was able to re-establish family connections. Eliza Mary lived with her married daughter Nancye (Tattersall) White until 1965 caring for her grand-daughter and passing on this story.



MR. DONALD JOHN LOBBAN

Sourced from the Macleay Chronicle 1 Apr 1942 The passing away of Mr Donald John Lobban on March 17, 1942 aged 84 years, of 21 Gladstone Street, Kempsey, removes one of the six remaining persons, who resided at Yapo (so named by the Aborigines) Brush, now referred to as The Bight, opposite Wingham, during the fifties of the last century. One of these survivors is the ex-Director of Education, New South Wales, Mr. Peter Board CMG, MA, of Marathon Road, Darling Point, Sydney.

The subject of this notice was the second child born to Thomas and Flora Lobban, "Thistleton", opposite Wingham, on December 30 1857. He was named Donald after his maternal grandfather and an uncle who died in Ardnamurchan, Argyllshire, Scotland and John after maternal and paternal uncles. The baptismal ceremony was officiated at by that fervent evangelist, the Reverend Allan MacIntyre of the Free Presbyterian Church of Eastern Australia, who for a time, resided at "Parkhaugh", the residence of Donald's paternal grandparents. On October 20, 1854, Thomas Lobban, who was the eldest child of Alexander and Margaret (MacLennan) Lobban, "Parkhaugh", the pioneer settlers at Yaypo Brush in the year 1852, married Flora, the eigth child of Donald and Mary (Stewart) MacDermid, "Dungallon", Mitchell's Island and who were the first Europeans to settle permanently on that Island.

The marriage ceremony was performed by the Reverend Arthur MacEwan Sheriff, who had the pastoral oversight of the Free Presbyterian Church on the Williams and Patersons Rivers, while on a ministerial visit to the Manning River. Flora MacDermid was a native of Ardnamurchan, meaning in the Gaelic language, "The height above the sea", Argyllshire, Scotland. During the period 1837-1840 many families from the Highlands of Scotland, decided to leave their native heathered hills and glens to emigrate to New South Wales. Among them were the MacDermid family of eleven souls. On September 1, 1839 this family consisting of the parents and their children John, Duncan, Anne (Mrs Lachland MacDonald, The Bight), Hugh, Alexander, Archibald, Flora (Mrs Thomas Lobban), Mary (Mrs George Martin, Eatonsvill) and Christiana, along with 17 other Highlanders from various shires, boarded the newly constructed barque "George Fyfe", 160 tons, in command of Captain George Pike, at Tobermory ("The Well of Mary"), Isle of Mull, and set sail for "down under". After a voyage of 129 days without having called at an intermediate port and with no sickness among her passengers, the goodship "George Fyfe" entered the waters of Port Jackson on January 23, 1840.

Continued .. /

MR. DONALD JOHN LOBBAN (Continued)

Among the noble band of immigrants who came by the same trip were the parents of the late Reverend S.P. Stewart, Taree and his eldest brother John and nine members of the great clan MacDonald, who were the grandparents, uncles and aunts of Mrs. W.W. McDonald, High Street, Taree. At the Crown Land Sale held at Port Macquarie on February 1, 1854, Thomas Lobban purchased a block of land containing 41,28 acres fronting the right bank of the Manning River and the north boundary line of which is the present Wingham-Tinonee Road, which separates this block from "Parkhaugh". This portion of land Thomas named : "Thistleton". On it he and his wife resided after their marriage. Exactly five year later on October 20 1859, Flora, in the twenty fifth year of her age through complications at childbirth, passed to her eternal rest, leaving an offspring of two young sons, Allen Alexander and Donald John. As the Yaypo cemetery was not then in existence her remains were interred on the hill at "Parkhaugh". Thomas the husband, who was born in Banff Scotland, on January 14, 1829, died at "Parkhaugh" on December 30, 1883, aged 54 years. His remains lie in the Yaypo Cemetery. After his death, the precious dust of his wife was removed and placed along those of her husband. A tombstone erected by Donald John marks their last resting place.

Donald John was educated at Oxley Island and Port Macquarie schools, where his father taught during the period 1862-71. After leaving school he was employed in James Campbell Duff's General Store, Farquhar Street, Wingham, which was built during or about the year 1870 by Samuel Lee and Francis John Dennes. When Donald John vacated this position, it was filled on May 9, 1876 by Donald MacPherson now residing in William Street, Wingham. Like his father and elder brother before him and all his three younger sisters and brothers after him, Donald John entered the services of the Education Department, New South Wales. His first appointment was under his father at the Hinton School during February 1878. Thereafter, Donald John taught successively at the following schools:-

Morpeth, Hanbury, Nelson's Plains, Morpeth, Balmain 1878. Taloumbi, Clarence River 1917, Wombah 1882, Broadwater 1885, East Kempsey 1889, Hinter (for the second time) 1917, Bingara 1917, Dog Trap Road 1917, Nicholson Street, 1917. Largs 1918, Brookvale 1919, Kingsgrove 1918, St Peters 1919 and Beechwood from April 1919 until December 31 1919 when he retired from school teaching.

Continued../

MR. DONALD JOHN LOBBAN (Continued)

On January 2, 1883 Donald John married Louisa Anna daughter of James and Jane (Trotter) Robinson, at the residence of her parents in Taree. The wedding ceremony was performed by the Reverend Gustavus R. Glasson, Wesleyan Minister, in the presence of Mary Robinson and Harry John Pratt. The names of their children were:

Claude Richmond, Donald Roy, Mary Robinson (deceased 1908), Flora Jane Macleay (died when 5 months old) and Renee Marjorie.

Their mother entered the dark vale of the shadow of death at Kempsey on December 6, 1914. On retirement from the Education Department, Donald John made his home at Hinton until about the year 1932, when he returned to spend his last days at Kempsey. He had been in ill-health for nine years, for the last five of which he was bedridden. During his invalidity he was tenderly nursed by his devout daughter who relinquished a successful business career to be with her father.

Like his Scottish forebears, Donald John took an intelligent and active interest in the Presbyterian Church and some years ago he was ordained to the eldership of that denomination. The remains of Donald John were laid to rest in the Presbyterian cemetery on March 18, 1942 alongside those of his wife and two daughters. The funeral service was conducted by the Reverend F. Lackey, Presbyterian Minister.

"To live in hearts we leave behind is not to die".



FEMALE FACTORY

"...the women in the female factory at Parramatta, will be divided into three distinct classes as follows viz....

The first class to be considered as the asylum of women received into the factory on their first arrival from England, or subsequently under circumstances which they could not control, and for which no blame could be attached to them.

The 2nd class to be probationary, and will be composed of women who after they have been assigned are from the impropriety of their conduct, returned to Government – also of women degraded from the 1st or advanced from the 3rd class.

The 3rd or penitentiary class is to be Ustrictly penalU and composed exclusively of women sentenced to be confined there, for any offence against the lasws, or transgressions of the regulations established for the Government of female prisoners."

Sourced: Guide to Convict Records in the Archives Office of NSW

Latin in Irish Roman Catholic Parish Registers

Here are some Latin words that you will often see in a Roman Catholic parish register.

afinitatus — related through a previous marriage of the two families

baptizatus - baptized

baptissadi nomen--christian name (give name)

cognomen--surname (family name)

conj./conjunxti-joined together in marriage

consanguinati en tertio grado—second cousins

coram-in the presence of (witnesses)

de-of

die--day

domicilium--abode (usually a townland within the parish but sometimes even smaller)

et—and

Filius—son of

Filia—daughter of

mense--month

natus--born

Patrini/Patrinorum or Sp. or Ss.—sponsors (godparents)

USEFUL WEBSITES

The following are some useful links to help you in your research.

AUSTRALIAN CIVIL REGISTRATION: -

AUSTRALIAN CIVIL REGISTRATION: -				
NSW Historical Indexes -	https://www.bdm.nsw.gov.au			
QUEENSLAND -	https://www.bdm.qld.gov.au/IndexSearch			
VICTORIA -	https://www.bdm.vic.gov.au/			
STH. AUST	genealogysa.org.au/resources/online-databases.html			
TASMANIA -	MANIA - <u>https://www.justice.tas.gov.au/bdm/indexes</u>			
WESTERN AUST -	https://www.justice.wa.gov.au			
OVEDSEAS ON HI DECISTRATION.				
OVERSEAS CIVIL REGISTRATION: - ENGLAND & WALES	https://www.freebmd.org.uk/			
NAT. RECORDS OF SCOTLAND -				
SHEFFIELD INDEXES -	https://www.sheffieldindexers.com/LinksIndex.html			
LINCOLNSHIRE MARRIAGES -	https://www.snemelundexers.com/Linksmdex.ntm https://mi.lincolnshiremarriages.org.uk/			
LINCOLNSHIKE MARNIAGES -	<u>nttps://m.mcomsmremarriages.org.uk/</u>			
<u>LIBRARIES –</u>				
NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUST (C	atalogue) <u>www.nla.gov.au</u>			
NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUST (D	vigitised Newspapers, plus much more) - <u>www.trove.nla.gov.au</u>			
STATE LIBRARY OF NSW -	www.library.sl.nsw.gov.au			
BRITISH LIBRARY -	www.bl.uk			
NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SCOTLA	ND - <u>www.nls.uk</u>			
NATIONAL LIBRARY OF IRELAN	D - <u>www.nli.ie</u>			
COUNTY CLARE LIBRARY (IREL	AND) <u>www.clarelibrary.ie</u>			
WALES LIBRARY https://	//www.library.wales/information-for/family-historians/records/			
MILITARY –				
AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL				
NATIONAL ARCHIVES (also have searchable databases for Military Records) <u>http://www.naa.gov.au/</u>				
(As do THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF THE UK) <u>http://nationalarchives.gov.uk/</u>				
ARCHIVES-				
NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF AUSTI	RALIA - <u>http://www.naa.gov.au</u>			
NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF IRELAND www.nationalarchives.ie				
NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF UK	- www.nationalarchives.gov.uk			
NSW ARCHIVES	- www.records.nsw.gov.au			
SA ARCHIVES	www.archives.sa.gov.au			
NT ARCHIVES: <u>https://dtc.nt.gov.au/dat</u>	ta/assets/pdf_rile/0010/267832/researching-your-family- history.pdf			
TASMANIAN ARCHIVES -https	://www.libraries.tas.gov.au/archive-heritage/Pages/default.aspx			
VICTORIAN ARCHIVES -	www.prov.vic.gov.au			
WESTERN AUSTRALIA -	www.sro.wa.gov.au			
SCOTTISH ARCHIVE NETWORK	- http://www.scan.org.ukdigitalarchive.index.htm			

USEFUL WEBSITES Cont'd

FINDING YOUR IRISH ANCESTORS

Marriages registered in non-Catholic churches from 8145. Civil registration from 1864 means all births, marriages and deaths available from that year. Indexes free from - <u>https://familysearch.org</u>

A subscription search engine combining the vital record databases is - <u>http://www.rootsireland.ie</u>

Census:

Only 1901 and 1911 and fragments of earlier census records are extant - www.census.nationalarchives.ie

Griffith Valuation 1847-1864:

As the early national census records were destroyed this is the main method of finding your ancestors in the 19th century.

<u>Tithe Appointments:</u>

Between 1823 and 1837 these records were compiled to assess those who occupied an acre of land or more in order to require them to pay a tax. The tax was for the support of the Church of Ireland (Protestant Church) in the local area in which people lived.

Visiting Ireland and researching your ancestors:

For Ireland reaching out go to - <u>www.irelandxo.com</u> Very helpful contact with a local historian. Post a question to your parish of interest.

Newspapers:

Some on Roots Ireland - <u>www.rootsireland.ie</u>

Church of Ireland Parish Registers -

https://www.ireland.anglican.org/cmsfiles/pdf/AboutUs/library/registers/ParishRegisters/ PARISHREGISTERS.pdf

A colour-coded resource accounting for what survives; where it is and with additional information of Copies transcripts and online indexes

Dublin Port Archive - <u>http://dublinportarchive.com</u>

Catholic Parish Registers at the NLI – <u>https://registers.nli.ie</u>

This website contains images from the NLI's collection of Catholic parish register microfilms. It contains records of baptisms and marriages from the majority of Catholic parishes in Ireland and Northern Ireland. Some as early as 1770's but most start after 1800.

Westmeath Genealogy - 9000 records (baptisms, marriages, deaths, gravestones)

http://www.westmeath.rootsireland.ie

USEFUL WEBSITES Cont'd

Waterford County – 12,000 records added. http://waterford.rootsireland.ie/generic.php? filename=sources.tpl&selectedMenu=sources

Limerick - This site consists of 10 websites. https://www.irishcentral.com/roots/genealogy/websites-researching-limerick-roots

<u>West Cork Genealogy –</u>

http://www.westcorkgenealogy.com

This is a genealogical database of people from West Cork where information is difficult to get. There are some interesting links including parish map links and West Cork families to name just two.

<u>Carmarthenshire, Wales –</u>

<u>https://forebears.io/wales/carmarthenshire</u> <u>http://www.dustydocs.com.au/county/3/wales/94/carmarthenshire.html</u> <u>https://www.ukbmd.org.uk/county/carmarthenshire/parish_records/</u>

<u>Scotland –</u> <u>https://www.oldscottish.com</u>

<u>META SITES</u> –

Cyndi's List Cora Num's Cora's Web Genuki Irish Genealogy www.cyndislist.com www.corweb.com.au https://www.genuki.org.uk/ https://www.irish-genealogy-toolkit.com/

<u>Hearth Tax</u>

Hearth taxes were levied in medieval and early modern Europe, notably in France and the Low Countries, but were not levied in the British Isles until the late seventeenth century.

http://gams.uni-graz.at/context:htx

<u>Adoption</u> <u>England/Wales - www.gov.uk/adoption-records</u> <u>Scotland - https://www.scottishadoption.org/</u> <u>Ireland - https://aai.gov.ie/en/</u>