



# TRACKS

Journal of the  
**Tweed Gold Coast Family History & Heritage  
Association Inc**



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## Front Cover

Our 20th anniversary get-together in May 2017. Foundation members Margaret Finlayson, Mary Long, Sherene Tregellas, Marion Kelso, Noelene Magrath & Lindsay Gleeson share the honour of cutting the cake.

## From The President's Desk

Welcome to all *"Tracks"* readers. It was my pleasure to be re-elected as president at our recent Annual General Meeting on 1 August. Sadly, three committee members, namely Sylvia Coste, Noelene Magrath and Trish Oldham did not re-nominate. Noelene generously filled a gap on last year's committee but opted for a second retirement. Both Sylvia and Trish, with other commitments, have chosen some respite from committee duties. Their past services to our association have been sincerely appreciated.

Fortunately, their places on committee have been filled by Pat Dunne, who has abandoned retirement, Marilyn Meredith and Helen Banister-Clow. May I offer my sincere thanks to you three ladies for offering your services.

It was with some trepidation that the committee decided to cancel our only fund raiser, the annual Antiques and Collectables Fair, this year. Because of renovations to the Tweed Shire Library and uncertainty about viable rear entry to the Civic Centre for dealers, it was considered too risky to go ahead. Given that access appears not to be available even at the time of writing, I believe we reached a sound decision. Most dealers have re-booked for next year's fair.

Some members and visitors recently participated in our annual bus trip to Brisbane to conduct research at Queensland State Library or simply enjoy a day out. During these visits, I usually visit the Oxley Library on the fourth floor where family documents, papers, manuscripts and books may be viewed. For some time I have noticed several changes to the manner in which manuscripts may be handled. In past times, it was always a requirement that one wore white gloves to handle these very old pieces of history. On this last visit, I was simply questioned on whether or not I had "washed my hands"? If not, it would have been necessary to wear gloves in order to handle the manuscript in question. Later checking online, it was interesting to read that, generally, most archival material is now handled with clean hands rather than with white gloves.

*"Trails"* is emailed a few days before each monthly "Get-Together" and I hope you all take the opportunity to read it. Marion makes an effort to include all sorts of interesting and current family history news and the sites included may reveal something of value to researchers.

It has been somewhat distressing to learn that, after the end of August, films from FamilySearch will no longer be available other than those already in our possession. FamilySearch advised that they will be digitising all records and these will be available on their website eventually. Distressing as this may be, I was interested to note quite a lot of South American records are now available on their site. No doubt other countries have been uploaded. It is worth checking.

In closing may I add this thought *Genealogy is not fatal but it is a “grave” disease.*

**Bev O’Hara**

## Editorial

Another year nearly over. Time to announce the winner of this year’s Bruce Graham Memorial Award. This year, the Award goes to **Helen Henderson** for her article “William Keevers 1792-1871 and Waterloo”, which appeared in the October 2016 edition of Tracks. As the winner, Helen will receive a certificate plus \$50 as a prize. Congratulations, Helen! A big thank you to members who submitted articles over the past year. We hope you keep writing!

Articles published in this edition of Tracks, plus those in next March and June’s editions, will be eligible for next year’s Award. The criteria for judging is as follows:

- The article must be the original work of the submitter
- The article should, if possible, be between 500 and 1200 words in length
- The article must have a basis of either family or local history

We would very much like to commemorate our ancestors who fought in WWI, in Tracks next year, 2018 being the 100th anniversary of the end of the “war to end all wars”. Although we won’t insist on all articles being based on this topic, we will give priority to including those which are.

On behalf of your committee, I’d like to wish all of our members (and your families) a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year. Look forward to seeing you all at our Christmas lunch on 5 December.

For details of the dates our Research Room will be closed over Christmas/New Year, please go to Page 8.

## Get-Together Dates

**Place:** South Tweed Sports Club, 4 Minjungbal Drive,  
Tweed Heads South  
**Time:** 1.15 pm for a 1.30 pm start (Daylight savings time)

### Future get-togethers

**Tuesday, 14 November 2017 (second Tuesday)**

*Speaker—Erik Kopittke—German 19th century emigration*

**Tuesday, 5 December 2017**

*Christmas lunch (see below)*

**January 2018**

*No get-together*

**Tuesday, 6 February 2018**

*General meeting—revised constitution to be considered, plus*

*Speaker—Lesley Spalding—Handing on your family history*

**Tuesday, 6 March 2018**

*Podcast or website demonstration*

## 2017 Christmas Lunch

Date and time	Tuesday, 5 December 2017, 12 noon
Venue	South Tweed Sports Club (Secret Garden)

All members and their guests are welcome. Please indicate, on the sheet in the Research Room, whether you will be attending, so that we can advise the Club how many to expect.

We usually have a good time, with a trivia quiz (with prizes) and the drawing of the Christmas raffle.

All meals and drinks can be ordered from the Bistro and/or Café, and will be left to each member to arrange on the day.

# **Financial Report 2016/2017 (as presented to the Annual General Meeting on 1 August 2017)**

Our total income for the year was \$21,040, which is about \$6000 less than the previous year, and expenditure was \$20,494, about \$3000 less than last year. We once again earned more than we spent, but only just, so our bank balance remains healthy. Next year we must anticipate expenditure totalling more than our income, due to the cancellation of this year's Antique Fair.

## **Income**

The largest fundraiser for the year was the annual Antique Fair last August, which realised a profit of \$5,825, about \$3,500 less than the 2015 profit. This is the most important contribution to our finances. Our raffles during the year raised \$1,241, slightly up on last year's profit.

Membership fees received during the year amounted to \$6,786, although \$3,083 is for renewals/new members to 30 June 2018. Donations totalled \$48.

The Research Room contributed \$448 this year, which was for copies (\$232), visitors (\$104) and access to ScotlandsPeople (\$112). We also sell a few items (lanyards, research workbooks, USB memory sticks & charts) in the Research Room (and at the get-togethers) and this income totalled \$100. We sold one of our cemetery DVDs and some cemetery photos, totalling \$63. We also sold a few remaining Lion's Christmas cakes from Christmas 2015, at a total of \$39.

Bank interest totalled \$1,447, most of which was for a term deposit we have maintained with funds not required in the short term.

Income from the hire of FamilySearch films totalled \$248 and the ordering of English and Welsh certificates totalled \$817. We hold a debit card to facilitate online ordering of films and certificates. The card was 'topped-up' during the year, to take advantage of the favourable \$A/British pound exchange rate. An approximate amount (in \$A) of \$751 remained as at 30 June.

## **Expenditure**

This year we spent \$412 on books and CDs, these days on the low side because of the continuing growth of resources now available on the internet. An amount of \$1,148 was spent on equipment (a new laptop & adaptor for use at our get-togethers and a new printer for the Research Room).

This year we spent \$3,083 on internet and magazine subscriptions – Find My Past (\$1,095), Ancestry.com (\$464), The Genealogist (\$482), SEAX (online records of the Essex Record Office - \$128), Deceased Online (\$156), Irish Roots (\$276), Ulster Historical Federation (\$69), Fold3 (\$55) and ScotlandsPeople credit vouchers (\$142). The balance of \$216 was spent on magazine subscriptions.

Our ongoing incorporation costs totalled \$1,297, comprising \$1,243 for insurance and \$54 for our annual return to the Department of Fair Trading.

Other costs included rent for the Research Room (\$2,600), printing and posting of 'Tracks' (\$1,602), equipment maintenance (\$383), Research Room overheads (\$759), membership of other societies (\$140), namely the Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations and the NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies, other overheads (\$736), audit costs of \$1,548, purchase of more charts for sale (\$48) and our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations (\$145).

## **Research Room Hours over the Christmas-New Year Period**

As is usual for our group, we will be closing the Research Room from close of business on Saturday, 16 December 2017, and reopening at 10 am on Tuesday, 16 January 2018.

Thank you to our much valued and dedicated group of Room Assistants for enabling our Research Room to open for 5 days every week. We hope you have a good break over the Christmas-New Year period, and come back refreshed for another year in 2018.





# Puzzle

Using their phonetic versions, can you attempt to spell the following tricky English towns?

Numbers of letters in each word are in brackets.

Many are also surnames.

Only one of them is easy and some are almost impossible to crack after our attempts at pronunciation from an Australian perspective.

1. LESS-ter (19)
2. KER-by (6)
3. TOE-ster (9)
4. MANN-err-ing (10)
5. ALL-trup (7)
6. MOW-zel (9)
7. RAYF (5)
8. RALPH (7)
9. FAN-shaw (17)
10. LUF-brah (12)
11. WOOS-ter (9)

Answers are on Page 23.

***Used with permission from WORDWIT, Sydney Morning Herald, 2 June 2017, compiler David Astle.***

Submitted by Ken Eldridge (Member number 54)



# The Jones Brothers

Recently, I reconnected with my first cousins on my father's side of the family – yay, somebody 'close' is interested in the family history! Getting my research ready to send off, I realised I had not done any meaningful work on this side for many years. Other than the odd scrap of information here and there, the last time I had added to my database was in the very early days of Trove and before the National Archives of Australia (NAA) had finished digitising all of the WWI service records. So, once I had completed a hasty 'tidy up' of my sources to send to my cousin – who amongst us has cited their sources in a suitable format, in their early days of research – I decided that I needed to spend some 'quality' time on my dad's family.

I am still in the early days of this research. However, as we are approaching the end of commemorations of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of WWI, I'm doing something rare for me, and putting pen to paper (in reality, fingers to keyboard) to share the story of a couple of distant cousins.

George and Rictor Jones are my 2<sup>nd</sup> cousins, twice removed. They are the grandsons of Sarah (nee Lowndes) and Samuel Lewis, who married in Meath, Ireland, in 1848, before emigrating to Victoria in the early 1850s. Sarah's sister, Elizabeth, is my great great grandmother. Sarah and Elizabeth's parents, John and Mary Lowndes, and most, if not all, of the surviving children of this couple, emigrated to Victoria at different times during the 1850s and settled in or near Strathfieldsaye, now part of greater Bendigo.

Sarah and Samuel Lewis had 9 children, the 6<sup>th</sup> of whom was Letitia, born in 1865 in Bendigo (then called Sandhurst). At the ripe old age of 17, Letitia married Thomas William Jones, also Sandhurst born and bred. Bit of a cradle-snatcher was Thomas, he was 25 years old when he and Letitia wed.

Letitia then spent the next 25 years bearing children, 15 of them! Most of the Jones children lived to adulthood, two (twins) died as babies, one girl died at age 18 and one son I have not been able to trace. Letitia lived to the age of 81, so she must have been of sturdy stock!

George Jones, the eldest of the 15 children, was born in Strathfieldsaye, Victoria, in 1883. In my earlier days of research, that was the sole piece of information I had about George. At that time, from the WWI index entries on the NAA's website, there were multiple George Jones, so I had no idea if one was my George. Revisiting the website recently, I quickly discovered that George did indeed serve during WWI.

In fact, he also served during the Boer War and had moved to Western Australia in the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. All this was derived from his WWI service record.

George had married Agnes Jane Skiller in Fremantle, Western Australia, in 1905. The electoral rolls on Ancestry.com filled in the next few years for me, showing that George was a police constable, firstly in Fremantle (1906), then Southern Cross (1910), followed by Boulder (1915). Boulder is goldfield territory, close to Kalgoorlie, a pretty rough and ready place at the time, I suspect. I'm sure George would have been kept busy as a police constable. In the ten years since they married, George and Agnes had three children – Ruby, Nellie and William.

Possibly as a result of the devastating news from Gallipoli, George enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force, on 22 August 1915. He was described as 32 years and 3 months old, 6 feet 1¼ inches tall, weighing 222 pounds, with a fair complexion, blue eyes and fair hair. George embarked from Australia in December that year, joining the 52<sup>nd</sup> Battalion in Egypt. By the third week in April of 1916, George was in trouble, having disobeyed an order and been insubordinate to his Corporal. He faced a court martial and was found guilty of disobeying the order, but not guilty of insubordination. George was sentenced to 28 days' detention, however this was commuted to 28 days of field punishment, probably being kept in irons and subjected to hard labour.

At the conclusion of his punishment, George embarked for France, arriving at Marseilles on 12 June 1916. At Sailly (north-west of Paris), he was attached to the traffic control squad for several months, maybe because of his policing experience before the war, or possibly a continuation of punishment for his earlier disobedience, or maybe because of his age. Traffic control, a little known duty, was important, due to the large movements of troops and equipment over the country roads of France.

At the end of February 1917, George rejoined the 52<sup>nd</sup> Battalion. The battalion participated in the advance that followed the German retreat to the Hindenburg line, and attacked at Noreuil on 2 April 1917. The battalion was then involved in the Battle of Messines, in the Ypres sector of Belgium, between 7 and 12 June. George's service record indicates that he was awarded the Military Medal, for bravery in the field, which I have deduced was during the Battle of Messines.

“The Bendigo Advertiser” of 23 October 1917, reported on George’s award as follows:

### ***Military Medal Awarded***

#### ***Lance Corporal George Jones***

*The Military Medal has been recently awarded to Lance-Corporal George Jones, eldest son of Mr and Mrs T W Jones, of Strathfieldsaye. He is of giant stature, standing 6ft 3in in height, and being 16st 12¼lb in weight. He is unofficially reported to have qualified for the distinction by carrying into the shelter of his trench from under fire the lieutenant of his company and another man, one under each arm. Many incidents which demonstrate his great strength are related by those who knew him in WA, where he was a member of the police force for 12 years or more, during which time he was stationed at several widely separated districts, and for two years prior to enlisting for active service was stationed at Boulder. He is a South African war veteran. His wife and family reside at Northam, WA.....*

Of course, it is probable that the newspaper article exaggerated George’s deed, given that his height and weight both seem to have increased significantly since his enlistment in 1915!

By early October 1917, George had been admitted to hospital with ingrown toe nails, a diagnosis which was soon changed to onychia (an inflammation of the nail folds, due to the introduction of pathogens through small wounds). This diagnosis appears to have been sufficient to evacuate George to England, where he spent some months. George returned to Australia on the HT “Sardinia”, disembarking on 16 December 1918. He was discharged on 22 February 1919, with trench feet.

Following his war service, George and his family settled on land near Busselton, Western Australia, where he lived until his death in 1935.

George’s younger brother, Rictor Jones, was born in 1896, in Strathfieldsaye, Victoria. On 10 July 1915, about six weeks before his brother, Rictor enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force. As he was well under 21, his parents gave their written permission for him to enlist. Rictor was described as 18 years and 10 months old, 5 feet 10¼ inches tall, weighing 11 stone 4 pounds, with a fair complexion, blue eyes and light brown hair.

Rictor embarked from Melbourne on the “Demosthenes” after Christmas 1915, attached to the 21<sup>st</sup> Battalion. Once in Egypt, Rictor was transferred to the 60<sup>th</sup> Battalion, which was raised from the remains of the 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion’s Gallipoli veterans and fresh recruits from Australia. The 60<sup>th</sup> Battalion arrived in France on 29 June 1916. Just three weeks later, on 19 July 1916, the battalion was involved in the Battle of Fromelles. That day, the battalion was virtually wiped out, suffering 757 casualties. Rictor

was one of these casualties. Such was the slaughter that day that many, including Rictor, were originally reported as missing in action. This could be explained by the decision to remove identity discs and personal belongings from the dead, to return to the next of kin. The result was a high number of unidentified Australians buried in surrounding cemeteries.

It took a year before a court of enquiry found that the missing men had actually been killed in action and the service records were amended to reflect the change. In Rictor's case, the new finding was probably based on the two statements of Private A Billingsley who reported:

*7 December 1916*

*I knew a V Jones quite well. He lived near Bendigo. He was in XV Pl, D Co. He died beside me during the night of July 19 at Fleurbaix. He was a tall young fair-complexioned lad of about 21 years of age. He lay about 100 yards from the German trenches, badly wounded. I gave him a drink of water. His leg was almost blown away. He must have bled to death painlessly. I am not absolutely certain as to his initials or number. We knew him as "Jonesy". He used to be a Military Policeman at one time.*

*1 June 1917*

*He was originally in C Co but was transferred to D Co and was a Military Policeman. He came from Strathfieldsaye near Bendigo, Victoria. I saw him on the night of July 19<sup>th</sup>, 1916. We were in the same shell hole near the German 1<sup>st</sup> line trench at Fleurbaix opposite Fromelles Railway Station. His leg was badly shattered and he was in great pain, and begged me to get him some water which I did. He died about 45 minutes later. We lost the ground. His name was I think Victor.*

Poor Rictor. One can only hope that he didn't suffer for too long.

There are two letters on Rictor's service record which show how little information was passed on to the families. In fact, it appears the authorities requested information from the families. Both letters (notice how many years had passed), from Rictor's mother, Letitia, read as follows (complete with mis-spelling):

*Strathfieldsaye*

*26.1.20*

*Dear Sir,*

*I received a form to fill up consurning my son Rictor but I am at a loss to furnish any information as I have not received any information as to his death. I have been led to believe he was suposed to be killed in action but that is all the information I have received so I would be very thankful to receive any information you could furnish.*

*I am sir your sincerely*

*Mrs L Jones*

Strathfieldsaye

4.8.21

Dear Sirs,

*It is with regret I have to inform you that I do not know where my son Private R Jones, No 3544 60<sup>th</sup> Battalion was killed. I was informed he was missing 19<sup>th</sup> July 1916, then I was notified he must have been killed as they had got no trace of him since then. I have never heard any more about him only that he was fighting where the trenches had been flooded by the enemy. I believe it was near some Rly station but do not know the name of it. I have no letters that would throw any light on his death or burial nor where he was last seen alive. I had a trench card sent to me from him & it was posted on the 19<sup>th</sup> July 1916 the day he was supposed to be missing, but did not give any information where he was. I am very sorry indeed that I have nothing to throw a light on the mystery of his death & burial or I would only be too pleased to forward same. Thanking you in anticipation.*

*I am yours truly*

*Mrs Letitia Jones*

*(mother of deceased)*

Rictor, being an unidentified casualty of the Battle of Fromelles, is buried in an unknown grave. His name is listed on the memorial wall at VC Corner Australian Cemetery, near Fromelles (see below).



I do hope, in the short time that their time in Egypt coincided, that the two brothers, George and Rictor, met again, before their duty and their fates took them in different directions. One hundred years down the track, I will never know if that occurred.

#### Sources:

- Victorian Registry of Births, Death & Marriages, Online index
- Western Australian Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages, Online index
- Ancestry.com, Australian Electoral Rolls
- National Archives of Australia, RecordSearch, WWI service record, George Jones, Regimental number 3826
- National Archives of Australia, RecordSearch, WWI service record, Rictor Jones, Regimental number 3544
- Australian War Memorial website
- Commonwealth War Graves Commission website
- National Library of Australia, Trove website
- Also contributions by Ross Court, descendant of John & Mary Lowndes

Submitted by Marion Kelso (Member number 1)

## Photobook Workshops

Do you like the idea of a photobook but find it too daunting a task? Don't know where to start or what to do? Bring along a few photos, maybe paper clippings, census images, death notices, pics of gravestones, house, church, map of area, or other relevant photos or information for a particular person or family, and we shall show/help you put it all together into a book you can be proud of. Photobooks are a great talking point and easy for family and friends to flip through. We can start with just one page and work from there.

If you are interested, contact Marion Kelso or Lesley Spalding and we will make a date to get started. (our contact details are on the inside of the front cover.)



# **My Army Career by WWII Veteran, Herb McDougall (1993)**

Some time has passed since World War 2 has ended, but I can remember quite vividly some of the experiences I had while I was in the Army.

Australia became involved when war was declared against England and Europe by Germany in 1939. Australian men enlisted in their hundreds to fight overseas and were trained for desert fighting. These soldiers were known as AIF (Australian Imperial Forces).

To qualify to go overseas, men had to be 21 years of age or older to volunteer for service, some of them put their age up, others used false names. In those days it was not necessary to produce a birth certificate to prove identity, so it was not hard to volunteer.

Anybody 18 years or older could join another section of the Army called the Militia. This was known as Home Defence and not to be drafted overseas. About 1940, a law was passed that all men over 21 were to be "called up" to do a 3 month compulsory training course in the Militia, so that we could have trained men if they were ever needed. These were known as Universal Trainees.

My military experience began in early September 1940 when I enlisted at Victoria Barracks (Sydney) for service in the Militia. I stated that my birth date was 4 January 1922 (not 1924, my correct date). I passed all the tests given and was "marched in" the next weekend. At this stage, my actual age was 16 years and 9 months old.

I was assigned to a transport unit known as AASC 1 Div (Australian Army Service Corps 1<sup>st</sup> Division) at Greta (NSW) and allotted a military regimental number on N25246. Because I was a voluntary enlistment, I was termed as a permanent soldier.

At Greta camp there were 2 sections; one housed the troops training to go overseas. Their huts were painted silver and this was known as "silver city". The other section housed the Universal trainees and their huts were painted brown and this was known as "chocolate city". Because of this, the AIF called the Militia chocolate soldiers, meaning not real soldiers.

The trainees completed their 3 month training and another group was marched in to take their place with the idea that they were on call in case of war. Who was to know that within about 12 months they would all be in camp again permanently.



When the second batch were finished their training, I went back to civilian life and resumed work at WD & HO Wills.

In August 1941, about 8 months later, I was recalled into camp at Ingleburn (NSW) to rejoin my unit, where one of my first duties was to learn to drive military vehicles.

The unit consisted of 3 companies (petrol, ammunition and supply [rations]). Later these 3 companies were to be made into one unit, namely the 14<sup>th</sup> Company, AASC, which handled the lot.

In December 1941, Japan declared war on Australia, so now any troops that happened to be in camp were to remain but not to be released until the end of the war.

In February 1942, Japan bombed Darwin which was immediately declared a front line. This put the AIF and Militia on the same footing.

Troops were dispatched north in their thousands. When our Unit learned it was to be drafted to Darwin, we decided to change over to AIF, to remain together. I received a new regimental number (NX105004). While waiting draft, we were to be housed in many camps in the Sydney area. At one stage we were camped in the Maitland Show-ground. Finally, in February 1942, we were on our way to Darwin.

The trip to Darwin was travelled overland by troop train (or should I say trains). The railway system throughout Australia had a different rail gauge in each State, which meant that when we came to each border we had to change trains and lug our kitbags and any other luggage to the next train. Each of us had a job to do, so it was not surprising to know that our trip from Liverpool to Darwin took (*only*) 10 days.

At Alice Springs, we joined a road convoy for 4 days, with a stop-over each night at various staging camps which were set up for the purpose of billeting troops overnight on their way north. The last part of our journey we travelled in cattle trucks which had been cleaned and fumigated, to get us to Adelaide River, about 70 or 80 miles from Darwin.



*Adelaide River  
(photo supplied by  
Marion Kelso)*

In January 1943, we set up our supply unit at 46 mile peg (46 miles from Darwin). Many of our duties took us north to Darwin and sometimes south beyond Adelaide River. For recreation, we played inter unit rugby league and on very hot days on weekends each platoon would allow some men free time to go swimming at Melville beach or Rapid Creek, also occasionally we would get to see films flown up from Sydney.

*Herb McDougall & friend  
at 46 mile peg, 1943*



It was about June 1944, when we had been away from home for about 18 months, the unit was allowed to send us home for 32 days' leave; this was achieved by breaking us up into 3 groups for leave purposes. I was lucky enough to be in the first batch away. When we got back, the second group then had their turn. Little did we know that this was the beginning of the disbandment of the unit in Darwin, as the Japanese raids were getting fewer and fewer. As a result, we were used to reinforce units in the area that were understrengthened, which caused mates to be scattered, not to meet again until after peace was declared.

I, with others, was transferred to an infantry unit from Western Australia and, because we came from NSW, we were called "foreigners" (not in a friendly way, either). Of course, we did not like the idea of being transferred from a transport unit to one where there were no vehicles. So as not to appear unwilling, and get on the wrong side of authority, I became a person who could not "do it right".

For instance, on the rifle range, I would miss the target completely, I could not march in step, I could not lob a grenade correctly, and when on a route march, I could not keep up with the others.

They ended up giving me a job as a batman (an officer's lackey) and I stayed in camp most times.

On Christmas Eve, 1944, the 28<sup>th</sup> Battalion sailed from Darwin and on my 21<sup>st</sup> birthday I was at a place called Jacquino Bay on the island of New Britain. From there we were taken by barge to a place further towards Rabaul, called Wide Bay. It was during this move that the Japanese got word we were moving. We boarded the barge earlier than the time stated and moved out. A plane came over and bombed the barge point at the exact time we were supposed to be loading. This was all done under the cover of darkness.

We landed next day at a place called Tol Plantation, about 90 miles from Rabaul.

It was in this area that the Japanese were still active but only with what we call nuisance raids. They had trouble getting supplies and relied a lot on the natives, but because they had not treated the natives too kindly, they (the natives) were more friendly to us Australians. The Japanese would make quick attacks during the day from a distance. Using the smoke coming from our kitchen area, they would send mortar fire in our direction, a lot of the time the shells would be well wide of the mark. By the time we could organise some men to pinpoint where the mortar fire came from, they would have retreated.

Each night at dusk, and every morning at dawn, we would have to "stand to" because it was thought that this was the time that the Japanese would most likely attack, if they were going to.

All the times that I was on the forward line there were never any such attacks, except once when we thought they were coming and someone (on our side) fired a Bren gun into the jungle.

We heard no more.

No voice contact was made during the darkness hours, except in whispers. Sometimes whilst on guard during the night, your eyes would play tricks on you and you would swear that there was movement, but it was all in your imagination.

It was towards the middle of 1945 when it was decided to clean up a lot of undergrowth on the plantation, to prepare to make a landing strip, when the skeletal remains of about 55 bodies were found.

These were believed to be the remains of Australian soldiers that had fled Rabaul when it was captured by the Japanese in 1942. It appears that when they reached the

plantation, the Japanese were waiting, took them all prisoner, tied them to trees and used them for bayonet practice. This story can be found in the history of "War in the Pacific".

In August 1945, Japan surrendered and, as a result, our next move was on to Rabaul where we took the position of occupation troops.

We released all prisoners of war there, mainly Chinese, Cantonese, Hindu, etc. We found no English, Australian or American prisoners.

As the compounds were evacuated, we put the Japanese prisoners in their own cells. They were rounded up from other islands around the area, the main bulk of them were camped on New Ireland. The Australian troops were used as (sort of) customs officers, where we could search prisoners and their belongings, looking for anything that could have belonged to an Australian that they had kept as a souvenir.

We constantly guarded them (for their own safety) because the POWs would come looking for some Japanese guard that had given him a bad time whilst he was a prisoner, so as to get his own back.

There was one case where a Chinese caught up with one Jap and killed him with an iron bar because he ate the Chinaman's dog.

The Japanese were put to work mainly de-lousing their own ammunition which they had in tunnels around Rabaul. After de-lousing, it was taken out on a barge and dumped in Simpson Harbour, into an extinct underwater volcano.

The cordite from the ammo was destroyed by burning it. The glow could be seen for miles.

In January 1946, I sailed home from Rabaul on the troop ship "Duntroon". Four days later I arrived at Brisbane, next day I was on a train to Sydney.

After a very short leave, I was discharged from the Army, on 26 January 1946.

Submitted by Herb McDougall (Member number 764) - son of the author



# Websites of Interest

## **International Society of Genetic Genealogy Wiki**

[https://isogg.org/wiki/Genetics\\_Glossary](https://isogg.org/wiki/Genetics_Glossary)

A very detailed glossary of terms commonly used in the study of genetics and genetic genealogy. A good site to help the DNA novice to understand the terms used.

## **British First World War Trench Maps, 1915-1918**

<http://maps.nls.uk/ww1/trenches/index.html>

Maps of the Western Front in the Great War depicting British and German trenches. The maps are very detailed and a must for family historians interested in this period.

## **Welsh Mariners**

<http://welshmariners.org.uk/>

An online index of 23,500 Welsh merchant masters, mates and engineers, active from 1800 to 1945, compiled by Dr Reg Davies. There is also a database of 3,300 men (including over 600 Welshmen) of Royal Navy servicemen who served at the Battle of Trafalgar.

## **The USGenWeb Project**

<http://usgenweb.org/>

The introduction to this website reads: *The USGenWeb Project is a group of volunteers working together and having fun providing free online genealogy help and information for every US state and county.* The website was established in 1996 and includes links to thousands of websites created and maintained by volunteers.

## **Morayshire Family History Sharing**

<http://www.wakefieldfhs.org.uk/morayweb/>

Member, Lesley Spalding, has passed on this website. It includes a link to a transcript of a rare piece of the 1811 Census, covering the parish of Dallas, Morayshire, Scotland. The detail in this transcript is not ordinarily found in the 1811 census—usually it is just numbers (of houses, people, etc). Are you lucky enough to have family in Dallas?

## Lambeth Vivian Pearsall



Lambeth Pearsall (my Grandfather) joined the Australian Imperial Forces on April 29 1918, at the age of 21 years. On his enlistment papers (service number 50563), he listed his occupation as 'farmer', with 3 years previous service in the Field Engineer Cadets.

He was part of the General Services Reinforcements (1<sup>st</sup> GSR Tasmania), which embarked from Sydney aboard HMAT 'Wiltshire' on June 10, 1918. After embarkation and arrival in Egypt, he underwent additional training and transferred to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Light Horse Regiment. From here he joined the main 3<sup>rd</sup> Light Horse Regiment which was at that time in the Jerusalem area.

After the fall of Jerusalem, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Light Horse moved to the Jordan Valley and took part in operations in the region. This included the taking of Jericho, the attack on Amman during March 27 to April 2, 1918 and the Es Salt raid from April 30 to May 4, 1918. Its last major action prior to the breakout was to repel the German Asian Corps attack on Abu Tellul which took place in July 1918.

At the opening of the final allied offensive on September 19, 1918, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Light Horse Regiment took part in the invasion of the Moab Hills for the third time. This time, Amman was captured and finally the Ottomans called for Armistice on October 10, 1918.

A full description of these battles can be found on the “Australian Light Horse Studies” web site under ‘Light Horse Battles’. Also the Wikipedia site under ‘Battle of Megiddo 1918’.

After the conclusion of hostilities, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Light Horse was marked for return to Australia. Prior to this occurring, one of the saddest actions occurred for the Light Horse men, they had to farewell their best friends, the horses. After assessment, the fit horses were transferred to the Indian Cavalry, while those in poor condition were euthanased by the veterinary corps.

On March 16, 1919, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Light Horse embarked from Egypt for the long voyage home to Australia, where the unit was disbanded.

For his service, Trooper Pearsall was awarded the British War Medal 1914-1920. He was subsequently discharged on November 28, 1919, as being medically unfit through illness contracted on active service.

I know he suffered badly from asthma in his later life, so perhaps he had been “gassed” at some stage. He died in 1960 and his ashes were placed in the Cornelian Bay (Tasmania) Crematorium Memorial Arch Number 3.

Submitted by Chris Smedley (Member number 824)

## **Puzzle Answers (see page 9)**

1. Leicester
2. Kirkby
3. Towcester
4. Mainwaring
5. Althorp
6. Mousehole
7. Ralph
8. Ranulph
9. Featherstonehaugh
10. Loughborough
11. Worcester

# County of Suffolk



"SUFFOLK, a maritime county on the E. coast of England, is bounded N. by Norfolk, E. by the German Ocean, S. by Essex, and W. by Cambridge. It lies between 51 56' and 52 37' N. lat., 0 23' and 1 46' E. long. Its greatest length from Southtown, a suburb of Great Yarmouth, on the N.E., to the south-western border, is 68 miles, and the extreme breadth 52 miles. The area is 1,481 square miles, or 947,681 acres, of which about 820,000 acres are arable land, meadow, and pasture. The population in 1801 was 214,404; in 1851, 337,215; and in 1861, 337,070.

In the earliest times of which we have any record, it was inhabited by the Icenii, a British tribe, and subsequently formed part of the Roman province of Flavia Caesar-iensis. It was afterwards occupied by the Angles, and formed part of the kingdom of East Anglia. In 654, Penda, king of Mercia, attacked the East Anglians, and in a battle fought near Blytheburgh, slew their king. The Danes early commenced their ravages along this coast, and in 871 defeated and took prisoner Edmund, king of East Anglia, whom they put to death for refusing to renounce Christianity. His body was removed from Hoxne to Bury, which received in consequence the name of Bury St. Edmund's, and a monastery was erected to his honour. In the division of the kingdom under Alfred the county was included within the Danelagh, and at the time of the Norman conquest was held by Gurth, brother of Harold II.

The surface of this county is generally flat, or gently undulating, there being no eminence in the whole county worthy of notice. The highest ground lies towards the W., through which, some miles to the W. of Bury, and thence to Thetford, runs a chalk dyke, which crosses this part of England in a north-easterly direction. This ridge sepa-



rates the watershed of the N. from that of the S. of the county, the streams on the upper side flowing into the Little Ouse and Waveney, while those on the lower side fall into the Stour and Orwell, or directly into the German Ocean. The north western districts bordering on Cambridgeshire partake of its marshy, fenny nature, and in some places the land is secured from overflow of the rivers by large embankments along their course. The coast line, 52 miles in length, is for the most part regular, and convex to the sea. The bays are generally shallow, and the headlands have little prominence. The principal harbours are formed by the estuaries of the Orwell and Stour on the S.E., and of the other rivers which flow into the German Ocean. The shore is in most places low and sandy, and occasionally marshy; but low cliffs, composed of alternations of clay, sand, and gravel, are found on both sides of the estuary of the Deben, and at some other points. These are being slowly undermined by the sea, while at some places the reverse occurs, and accessions of land are being formed by the accumulation of marine deposits. Lowestoft, Southwold, and Felixstow are much resorted to as watering-places."

From *The National Gazetteer of Great Britain and Ireland* (1868)  
Transcribed by Colin Hinson © 2003

## Suffolk Websites

### **Suffolk Archives**

<http://www.suffolkarchives.co.uk/>

At present, all records held by the Suffolk Records Office are in three locations: Ipswich, Lowestoft and Bury St Edmunds. Refer to the Suffolk Archives website to identify what records are held by each branch. There are plans for a new heritage centre, to be called The Hold, scheduled to open in 2019.

### **Suffolk Family History Society**

<http://suffolkfhs.co.uk/index.php/>

The society does not currently have any online records, however there is a downloadable listing of all Suffolk parishes, together with details of whether the registers have been transcribed.

### **Bury St Edmunds, St James Parish Registers—Baptisms 1558-1800**

<https://archive.org/details/burystedmundsstj01bury>

At this site you will find the digitised version of the book, published in 1915, of transcripts of baptisms at St James, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk. This is one example of online books available at archive.org.

# TGCFH&HA Resources

Our Association currently holds a large selection of resources specific to Suffolk.

## CDs

Phillimore's Parish Registers - Marriages - Suffolk Volumes 1-4

1861 Census of Suffolk

1891 Census Index - Cambridgeshire, Essex & Suffolk

County Maps - Cambridgeshire, Norfolk & Suffolk

Marriage Licences Suffolk 1684-1839

Suffolk Burial Index Issue 2

Suffolk in 1674 - The Hearth Tax

English Parish Records: Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Norfolk, Suffolk

East Anglian Pedigrees

## Computer 8

The Parish Register of Ingham, Suffolk 1538-1811

1851 Census of Suffolk, Plomesgate RD

# Websites of Interest

## Canal River Trust

<http://collections.canalrivertrust.org.uk/home>

A collection of records & images related to the history of Britain's inland waterways. The collection includes boat people, bridges, aqueducts and the vast network of Britain's waterways that were so important in days gone by.

## ScotlandsPlaces

<http://scotlandsplaces.gov.uk/>

This is a free resource where thousands of records about Scotland can be explored by searching for a place name or clicking on a map. The records include, maps, surveys & plans, photographs, archaeological records, drawings, tax rolls, ordnance survey name books and publications. The records are drawn from National Records of Scotland, National Library of Scotland and Historic Environment Scotland.

# Acquisitions to August 2017

*Please note that as some items may only have recently been received, they may not yet be in the Room due to the need for processing.*

## BOOKS

Births & Baptisms, Marriages & De Facto Relationships, Deaths & Burials New South Wales 1811-1820 by Dr Craig James Smee (TGCFHHA)  
The History of Botany 1788-1970 by Frederick A Larcombe (Kerry Golds)  
Queensland's German Connections past, Present & Future by M Tesch, P Ludlow & R Kleinschmidt (Maurine Lumme)  
1788 The People of the First Fleet by Don Chapman (Anna & Bob Hardy)  
The Crimes of the Lady Juliana Convicts 1790 by John Cobley (Anna & Bob Hardy)  
Sydney Cove 1788 by John Cobley (Anna & Bob Hardy)  
Sydney Cove 1789-1790 by John Cobley (Anna & Bob Hardy)  
Born in The English Colony of New South Wales 1801-1810 by Dr Craig James Smee (TGCFHHA)

## EXCHANGE JOURNALS

Journal of the Cleveland (South Durham & North Yorkshire) FHS April & July 2017  
The Argyle Bulletin (Goulburn District FHS) May 2017  
Rootes (GCFHS) June 2017  
Links 'n' Chains (Liverpool GS) June 2017  
Timespan (Nepean FHS) June 2017  
The Cedar Log (Richmond-Tweed FHS) June 2017  
Golden Links (Bendigo Regional GS) April-June 2017  
The Tamworth Family Historian (Tamworth & District FHG) July 2017  
GhostBuster (Campbelltown District FHS) July 2017

## ELECTRONIC EXCHANGE JOURNALS (PDF FILES)

Time Traveller (Shoalhaven FHS) April & August 2017  
Spreading Branches (Narre Warren & District FHG) May 2017  
The South West Genealogist (Warrnambool FHG) March, April & May & July 2017  
The Crossing Place (Casino & District FHG) May & August 2017  
Bendigo Genealogist (Bendigo Area of the AIGS) June 2017  
The Fig Tree (Manning Wallamba FHS) May & August 2017  
Journal of the Newcastle FHS June 2017  
Missing Link (Cooroy-Noosa G&HRG) May 2017  
Clarence River Advocate (Maclean District HS) June 2017

## **ELECTRONIC EXCHANGE JOURNALS (PDF FILES) (continued)**

The Endeavour (Botany Bay FHS) September & December 2016, March & June 2017  
Tenterfield Generations (Tenterfield FHG) June 2017  
Bay Leaves (Hervey Bay FHS) June 2017  
Lachlan Valley Gold (Forbes FHG) June 2017  
The Mail (Descendants of Convicts Group) July-August & September-October 2017  
Tracks & Trails (Maitland & Beyond FH) July 2017  
Lithgow Pioneer Press (Lithgow & District FHS) June 2017  
The Hawkesbury Crier (Hawkesbury FHG) June 2017  
The Parramatta Packet (Parramatta FHG) July-October 2017  
Camden Calling (Camden Area FHS) July 2017  
Relative Thoughts (Fleurieu Peninsula FHG) July 2017  
eMuster (Central Coast FHS) August 2017

## **MAGAZINES/JOURNALS**

Several journals (to trading table) (Pat & Ken McLeod)  
Australian Family Tree Connections April/May & June 2017 (TGCFHHA)  
Family Tree May, June, July, August & September 2017 (TGCFHHA)  
Inside History Autumn 2017 (TGCFHHA)  
Irish Roots Second Quarter 2017 (TGCFHHA)

## **NEWSLETTERS, BROCHURES AND OTHER ITEMS**

Queensland RSL News Edition 3 2017

## **Members' Interests**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>TIME PERIOD</b>	<b>TOWN/CITY</b>	<b>STATE/COUNTY</b>	<b>COUNTRY</b>
GASH	1810+	London		ENG
GASH	1912+	Brisbane	QLD	AUS
GRAHAM	Pre 1838	Ballymena	ANT	IRL
GRAHAM	1838+	Jamberoo	NSW	AUS
HARWOOD	1848+	Maryborough	QLD	AUS
MURRAY	Pre 1852	Armagh	ARM	IRL
MURRAY	1860-1918	Bega	NSW	AUS
MURRAY	1906-1918	Murwillumbah	NSW	AUS

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Annette Kapitzke (Member number 766)

NAME	TIME PERIOD	TOWN/CITY	STATE/COUNTY	COUNTRY
BOSSONS	Pre 1860			UK
BUTLER	Pre 1845		HAM	ENG
DALE	Pre 1883		CHS	ENG
DALE	Pre 1917	Birmingham		ENG
DALE	Pre 1946	Sydney	NSW	AUS
ELVIN	Pre 1900	Gosport	HAM	ENG
FREELING	Pre 1839		SRY	ENG
FREELING	Pre 1871		GLS	ENG
FREELING	Pre 1923	Stubbington & Portsmouth	HAM	ENG
RAVENS CROFT	All			UK
WITTER	Pre 1880		CHS	ENG

Diana Neville (Member number 1005)

FLYNN	All	Cork	COR	IRL
FLYNN	All	Inverell/Gum Flat	NSW	AUS
GOLDS	All	Deptford	KEN/LND	ENG
GOLDS	1900+	Taree	NSW	AUS
MARA	All	Toomevara	TIP	IRL
MARA	All	Kogarah/Coraki	NSW	AUS
MCCMAHON	All	Fermoy	COR	IRL
MCCMAHON	All	Inverell/Gum Flat	NSW	AUS
MIL(L)GATE	All		KEN & SSX	ENG
MIL(L)GATE	All		NSWAUS	
O'M(E)ARA	All	Toomevara	TIP	IRL
O'M(E)ARA	All	Kogarah/Coraki	NSW	AUS

Kerry Golds (Member number 835)

These members may be contacted by sending an email to [tweedfhs@hotmail.com](mailto:tweedfhs@hotmail.com) or writing to PO Box 6729, Tweed Heads South NSW 2486.

There are many more entries on our website (see back cover of Tracks for the website address).

## New Members

998 Judy Scicluna	999 Joe Scicluna
1000 Ron Steinhour	1001 Lyn May
1002 Renee Farmer	1003 Adrian Field
1004 Charmaine Bossie	1005 Diana Neville
1007 Glenda Burman	

## Rejoined Members

954 James Buckley  
796 Frances Blashak  
869 Jane Perston  
746 Martin Phillips  
567 Betty-Gore Jones  
849 Cheryl Loveday

*A warm welcome to our new & rejoined members.  
Happy ancestor hunting!*

*Members should note that we hold **free** classes in several subjects (beginner's, internet resources, Family Tree Maker, etc.) Please ask a Room Assistant in the Research Room or send an email to [tweedfhs@hotmail.com](mailto:tweedfhs@hotmail.com) if you are interested in a class.*



**RESEARCH ROOM**  
**SOUTH TWEED SPORTS CLUB**  
**4 MINJUNGBAL DRIVE, TWEED HEADS SOUTH**  
**TELEPHONE: 07 5524 3655 Ext 214 (Room Hours only)**

**RESEARCH ROOM HOURS**  
**TUESDAY — 10AM TO CLUB BADGE DRAW (APPROX 7PM)**  
*(CLOSED FIRST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH BETWEEN 1PM & 4PM FOR GET-TOGETHER)*  
**WEDNESDAY TO FRIDAY — 10AM TO 4PM**  
**SATURDAY — 9.30AM TO 3PM**

### **ROOM ASSISTANTS**

The Research Room is voluntarily staffed by members of the Association. We are always in need of assistance. Your assistance would be appreciated whether morning, afternoon or whole day, even in the event of an emergency. Please contact the Roster Secretary, Peter Johnston, or place your name in the Roster Book located in the Room.

### **JOURNAL**

The Editorial Committee is appreciative of all articles provided for our Journal and we hope for continued support during the year. Material for inclusion may either be left at the Research Room, posted or emailed to the Editor.

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