

Redland Genealogical Society

A branch of the Genealogical Society of Queensland Inc.

REDLAND RESEARCHER



Redland Genealogical Society

A branch of the Genealogical Society of Queensland Inc.

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2017/2018 Management Committee

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Treasurer	Irene Salvatierra
Assistant Treasurer	Yvonne Weston
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Kaye Barber, Pamela Gilbert, Elaine Speck, Glenda Webb

Life Member 2011 Les Callaghan, **Life Member 2013** Les McFadzen

Life Member 2016 Jeanne Dixon

Membership: Membership is **either** through the Genealogical Society of Queensland Inc. and nominating to be a member of the Redland Branch **or** by directly joining the Redland Genealogical Society (Inc.) as an Associate Member; refer page 3 for Membership Fees. **Associate Membership of RGS does not entitle members to free use of GSQ facilities.**

Meetings: The Management Committee of the Redland Genealogical Society meets on the first Wednesday of each month, February to December, commencing at 2.00pm.

General Meetings of the Society are held on **the second Wednesday of each month**, February to December, from 12:15pm to 2:30pm, at the Donald Simpson Centre, Bloomfield Street, Cleveland. **An entry fee of \$2 applies at each meeting.** The Annual General Meeting is held in July, followed by the General Meeting. Meetings are not held in January.

The Society's Collection such as books, microfiche, CD-ROMs etc, which contain resources for world-wide research, are held in the Genealogy Room in the Cleveland Library, corner Middle and Bloomfield Streets. Volunteer Genealogical Research Assistants (**GRAs**) are there to assist both members and the general public on-

Tuesday and Thursday: 9.30am - 12.30pm Saturday: 12.30pm - 3.30pm

Financial members of the Society have access to this Collection any time that the Cleveland Library is open.

GRAs: Pat Misson (Librarian), Bob Aldred, Kaye Barber, Greta Brown, Margaret Clark, Pauline Davy, Jeanne Dixon, Annette Hall, Margaret Johnson, Brenda Jones, Ross Lambert, Bev McFadyen, Les McFadzen, Cath Maris, Jan O'Brien, Anne O'Connor, Irene Salvatierra, Dianne Smith, Helen Veivers, Audrey Warner, Charlotte Wruck.

A reminder to GRAs: If unable to attend on your rostered day, please arrange to swap duty with another GRA.

Local History Collection: The Redland City Council's local history and heritage collections are housed in the Cleveland Library. Angela Puata is Redland City Council's *Acting Local History and Heritage Librarian*.

A Note from the Editor

Bill James has been welcoming members and visitors to our General Meetings for the past five years and was our "chief photographer" until the onset of ill health. He was a master of Adobe Photo Shop and could do wonders with photos.

This photo may be "out of season" but it demonstrates Bill's expertise - note our Patron watching over us from the clouds!

Bill recently moved into Redland Residential Care, Weippin and Wellington Streets Cleveland. We are grateful to him for the roles that he has performed for the Society and hope that he may be well enough, in time, to return to our meetings.

An example of Bill's Art Work, 2015



Hearing Loop in Meeting Room

The room at the Donald Simpson Centre, in which we hold our General Meetings, has a Hearing Loop. The Management Committee has investigated and the Society's sound system will be set up at meetings to link with the Loop, thus assisting members and visitors who have a hearing loss. Hearing "aids" are available for those who might require them to take advantage of this facility.

Please speak to Kevin or Helen, prior to the commencement of the meeting, to arrange a suitable device. Arrival by 12 noon to enable sufficient time to match you with a device is recommended.

Notice of Annual General Meeting:

Members are reminded that the AGM of the Redland Genealogical Society is due to be held at the Donald Simpson Centre, Cleveland, on Wednesday 11 July, 2018, commencing at 12.15pm. All positions are declared vacant at that time and members are encouraged to nominate to become part of the Management Committee. Nomination forms will be made available to members shortly.

Greg Glidden

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The opinions expressed in this Redland Researcher are not necessarily those of the Researcher Committee, nor of the Redland Genealogical Society. The responsibility rests with the authors of submitted articles; we do not intentionally print inaccurate information. The editor reserves the right to edit, abridge or reject material.

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Associate Membership Fees

Single Membership is \$30.00 per annum. Family Membership is \$45.00 per annum
The Redland Researcher is free to all types of membership.

Unless requested otherwise, the Redland Researcher is sent to members by e-mail

Les A Callaghan (A.A.U.Q.)

by Irene Salvatierra



Les & Marjorie – AGM 2010

'Tis said *"a man of words and not deeds is like a garden full of weeds"* and, for me, that special man is one akin to our long-serving member, Les Callaghan. When he was not camping or off-roading, our Society could count always on Les as an active volunteer. Ever reliable as a Genealogical Research Assistant (GRA), Les interspersed those duties with volunteering at Fairs, Highland Gatherings, Celtic Days, Shopping Centres, during *Seniors' Week*, and a variety of displays and outdoor activities. Why, he even was spotted decked out with an apron serving up sangers outside Bunnings at Vicki Point. In summary, his name appeared on many a roster.

Although I can't recall reading any articles of Les' family research, I feel sure that he has amassed copious and comprehensive records considering that he joined our parent body GSQ way back in 1991. And later, with our introduction of Associate Memberships, he and his late wife Marjorie transferred over to RGS in 2010 and were allocated Family Membership No. 134.

Despite the aforementioned involvement, in July 1993 Les agreed to be appointed Honorary Auditor and devised an improved accounting system. This system I inherited from my predecessor Joy Vincent. So, in 2010, it fell to Les to then guide me in the rudiments of good book-keeping for which I thank him for his patience and understanding. Twice a year until 2015 – after which it was deemed no longer a requirement to have an Auditor - I visited with the Callaghans at their Salford Waters residence; ostensibly for a hand-over of records but inevitably a talkfest around their garden and their many spectacularly flowering orchids.

Maybe, the pinnacle of Les' Redland genealogical career was the 2011 AGM when he received a Life Membership Certificate from the hands of Melva Hobson our then Patron and the incumbent Mayor of Redland City Council. Similar recognition came three years later when he was awarded a Life Membership Badge and a Perpetual Membership Card at the 2014 AGM from the hands of Les McFadzen, then President and nowadays our Patron.

Over many years Les was ably assisted and accompanied by his wife Marj, until declining health permitted her only the occasional attendance prior to her death in February 2017.



Melva & Les – AGM 2011

The Management and members are saddened indeed to hear of Les's enforced relocation but we all join in wishing our "genteel soul mate" an easier retirement in his new home at Seaton Place, Cleveland.

Magazine Interest Group

Presently the group has magazines from: Berkshire, Birmingham/Midlands, Bristol & Avon, Cambridgeshire, Cornwall, Derbyshire, Glasgow, Hampshire, Huddersfield/Yorkshire, Isle of Wight, Kent, Leicestershire & Rutland, Lancashire/Manchester, New Zealand, South Australia, Tasmania and Victoria

If you are interested in joining the group please contact me by phone or email or at our General Meeting.

Annette Hall
Convenor

Articles with the RGS Logo

The following articles are on sale, during tea/coffee break, at our General Meetings:

- Ballpoint Pens in Blue & Silver or in Burgundy & Gold \$10.00 each
- Refrigerator Bulldog Magnetic Clips \$5.00 each



LIBRARIAN'S JOTTINGS



We have had a small change in the library, with the move of one of our two internet computers to the rear of our room. This has greatly improved the space available to visitors, especially when they are working in conjunction with a GRA. We now have much more space for reference books, and legs under the table. Members using the room for research at times when no GRAs are on duty are free to use either IT computer, in exactly the same way as before the move.

Our subscription to The Biographical Database of Australia is now available to search from our IT computers. This database is well worth exploring, especially by those undertaking early Australian research, providing much more than a list of dates and places. The site has a lot of valuable records not easily found elsewhere. The team at BDA recently announced that they have added another 250,000 records, bringing the total to more than 1.5 million. Access information is detailed in the flip file.

We are pleased to welcome two new GRAs to our library, with two more soon to join us. We are fortunate to enjoy the advantage of assistants with a wide variety of research interests, which provides members with an excellent base when assistance is being sought. All are happy to assist with research in addition to providing advice.

Some resources are now being supplied in a USB format, and a recent purchase of the index of names of patients in Melbourne Hospital is of this type. The content is viewed via Adobe Reader, which is automatically loaded when the USB is inserted into the PC. USBs are stored in a separate container in the third drawer of the CD/Microfiche cabinet, with other items in the same medium. Full instructions are in the container.

A recent CD purchase, "A Dictionary of Occupational Terms" is based on the Classification of Occupations used in the Census of Population in the UK, 1921. It has been reported that this census may be released soon after 2020. The CD content is comprehensive and may take some time to absorb, so allow yourself a little time if you intend to refer to it.

Complete lists of holdings are available to search electronically on our nos. 2 & 3 PCs, and a complete set in printed form is also in a folder on the small cabinet. Handout sheets and information pages can be obtained in the library.

Subscription magazines had several pages devoted to recommended new websites and suggestions on new places to search. The journal of the Queensland Family History Society contains details of some interesting new sites, including notice of completion of the complete historic maps of England and Wales project. The National Library of Scotland has scanned, and made freely available, nearly 90,000 historic Ordnance Survey maps for all of England and Wales covering 1841-1952.

The Genealogist website advise the addition of over 100,000 individuals from the Malvern FHS in Worcester, bringing their total to over 18 million for that county in England. They have also added more British Indian records.

Latest Acquisitions

Title	Media	Location
Scottish Genealogy	Book	2 SCT GEN DUR R
A Dictionary of Occupational Terms	CD	
Index to Patients in the Melbourne Hospital Ward Books (or "Case Histories") 1855-1909	USB	
Ordnance Survey Sheet TG03/13 Holt, Norfolk, England	Maps	No 65
Ordnance Survey Sheet TF93 Walsingham, England	Maps	No 66
Ordnance Survey Sheet TG14 Shettingham, England	Maps	No 67
Ordnance Survey Sheet 132 North West Norfolk, England	Maps	No 68
Ordnance Survey Sheet 133 North East Norfolk, England	Maps	No 69
Ordnance Survey Sheet 136	Maps	No 70

Pat Misson

Guest Speakers

February Meeting



Robyn Tennant

Robyn Tennant, a representative of the Cleveland Local Ambulance Committee presented "CPR Awareness Training". Although she demonstrated the performance of cardiopulmonary resuscitation, her goal was to familiarise us with the process leading up to CPR, and to inform how its application can mean the difference between life and death for the accident or heart-attack victim.

Robyn is pictured with a slide from her presentation, discussing the recommended steps, leading to CPR. Determining any "Danger" to the person assisting is the first consideration. "Response" to possible danger (live electric wires or other conditions that could cause injury) is the next consideration.

March Meeting



Dawn Montgomery

Dawn Montgomery, an RGS member, presented a history of the French Protestant "Huguenots", a name ascribed in the 16th century in a predominately Catholic France. Dawn spoke of their massacre in the streets of Paris in 1572, repeated throughout France, and a period of tolerance under a protestant king who later became Catholic.

In 1685, Louis XIV of France exiled all protestant pastors, and forbade the laity from leaving the country. Many did seek refuge outside France, the men risking execution or being sent as galley slaves in the French Mediterranean fleet, the women being imprisoned; the children were sent to convents.

Famous Australians of Huguenot descent include, Lady Franklin, wife of Sir John Franklin, Lt Governor of Tasmania (early 19th century), Sir Henry Chauvel of the "Light Horse" and Charles Joseph La Trobe, first Lt Governor of Victoria.

April Meeting



Sharyn Merkley

"Brisbane Burns" was the title of Sharyn Merkley's presentation. How many of us knew of two disastrous fires in Queen Street in 1864?

Fourteen shops were destroyed in April and fifty tenements plus commercial premises in December, fortunately without loss of life. Due to rudimentary equipment and lack of water, there was little that the volunteer fire brigade could do. Some unaffected buildings were purposely demolished for firebreaks.



Salvaged from fire April 1864

Sharyn, a GSQ member with a love of history, became side-tracked from her family research after seeing an article on this subject. The end result was publication of her book *Brisbane Burns – How the great fires of 1864 shaped a city and its people*. She embarked on research into the buildings' owners and their stories and spent many hours in Queen Street, measuring tape in hand and assisted by family members, determining the location of each affected building.

TRUE BLUE: My Claim to Blue Blood

by Dawn Montgomery

My Dad came home from his sister's funeral in 1973 and told us, "Your cousin George is doing the family history. He says we are descended from an aboriginal who had a ferry business; he used to row people across Sydney Harbour early last century."

I was incredulous. "What cousin George? I didn't know I had a cousin George? And I can't imagine an aboriginal running a business like that, early last century – I'm sure we would have learned about it at school."

"He's one of Ettie's sons," said Dad tersely. Ettie was his youngest sister and the black sheep of the family from having two boys out of wedlock and then handing them over to one of her older sisters to bring up.

I had never really been interested in my family history, as I was convinced the reason I looked like no-one else among the family I knew, on either Mum's or Dad's side, was because I was adopted. This did nothing to dispel my adoption theory, but nevertheless I was curious.

A week or so later I was having my hair cut and, chatting to the hairdresser, I told her about Dad's astounding claim.

"I can well believe that," she said.

"Well, thanks," I rejoined, laughing. "I know I have a big broad nose, but I never thought I had any aboriginal in me. Besides, I'm sure I'm adopted, 'cause I look like no-one else in the family. Anyhow, what makes you say that?"

"You don't have Caucasian, European-type hair," was her strange reply. I asked her to explain, and she continued, "Your hair is thick and strong but very soft. And it grows at twice the rate of other people's. I wish all my clients had to come to me for a haircut as often as you do – I'd be rich."

Well, I thought, how odd. I fell silent. My mind harked back to when I was 16 and in hospital. The admitting doctor had looked at my thick, red, raised appendix scar and said, "Hmm! Do you have black blood in you?"

At that time it was not fashionable to admit to any aboriginal connections and at age 16 it was unthinkable! "Of course not!" I hotly denied. He had raised his eyebrows in obvious disbelief.

Amongst the things I later learned, when training to be a nurse, was that keloid scars – which is what my appendix scar was, plus all my other scars acquired over time – are a sign of negro blood, but also found in young girls. I just knew I didn't have any negro blood – there weren't any negroes in Australia, were there? So I just figured I was unlucky to scar that way, and dismissed the matter.

Then there were those West Indian seamen at the Seamen's Mission in Sydney who used to ask did I have any West Indian blood because, they claimed, I danced "differently to the other girls." I thought it was just a line, and laughingly dismissed that, too. And now this!

But I was adopted, wasn't I? Even though my mother vehemently denied it, any time I broached the subject, and said she had me at home to make sure she kept the correct baby, trotting out my birth certificate to verify this fact. I told her I knew that birth certificates could be falsified by giving the wrong information, and was not convinced.

Six years after Dad's revelation, we celebrated my parents' Golden Wedding by a big party in Sydney, for that is where all our relatives still lived. The next day, bored with the chatter at my brother's house, I decided to ring up my mysterious cousin George and find out some more about our 'aboriginal ancestor' for, though I still could not imagine an aboriginal in the early 1800s having the business nous to run a ferry service, the story intrigued me. So I rang George and introduced myself and asked him about this supposed black ancestor of ours.

"Just a minute," said George, "I'll get my research notes out." I waited. "Yes," he said. "He was transported here in 1801 for seven years for stealing twenty pounds of sugar from a ship he was unloading."

"Hey, wait a minute!" said I. "How could he be transported if he was an aboriginal?"

"Oh, he wasn't aboriginal, but he was black," said George matter-of-factly, and went on to tell me some of the details. "His name was William Blue but everyone called him Billy Blue. Governor Macquarie took a shine to him and granted him 80 acres of land on Sydney's North Shore and that is now the suburb of Blue's Point, and some of the streets are named after his family."

"Wow, Blue's Point once belonged in our family? But tell me, if he was black, how come he was in England?"

"Don't know. Though a lady named Meg Swords has done some research and written a little book about him."

"Is she a relative too?"

"No, just someone interested. I spoke to her one time and she told me that she thought it time someone other than Alexander Berry of Berry's Bay got some recognition, so she decided to research and write about Billy Blue."

"How can I find out more about all this?"

"There's loads of stuff in at the Mitchell Library, including one of the Blue family bibles. I haven't seen it yet but I know it's there. Only thing is, it's almost impossible to get a reader's ticket for the Mitchell unless you are a professional researcher. But they make special arrangements for people coming from interstate. You could get a ticket and come down again to have a look."

I decided I had to know more.

"OK, I'll see what I can do," I told George, and went off to tell the family what I had learned. It was all so amazing.

When we returned home, I wrote to the Mitchell Library telling them of my plans to come and research my ancestor, so please could I have a reader's ticket. They replied, *There were thousands of people in Sydney early last century. It is most unlikely we'd have anything about your ancestor.*

To which I replied, *My ancestor is Billy Blue, and I still want a ticket please.*

Imagine my surprise when they wrote back,

If your ancestor was Billy Blue, you are welcome any time. We have drawers full of information on him. Bring this letter with you and we will issue you a one week ticket when you arrive.

So who was this Billy Blue? They had drawers full of information on him?! And didn't these drawers full of information, coupled with Meg Swords' book which George bought and sent to me, unfold a story! Subsequent reading and research and purchase of certificates confirmed that Billy Blue was my father's great-great-grandfather. My keloid scars and my non-European hair must have come from him. So Mum was right – I wasn't adopted after all. I have true Blue blood.

Billy Blue is my favourite ancestor because he was such an individual, an eccentric scallywag by all accounts. He was afraid of no-one and kowtowed to no-one.

Because of his ferry business, Governor Macquarie – who had dubbed him "the Old Commodore" – made him Sydney's first water policeman but he lost that position when he was caught smuggling rum. According to his burial certificate, he was 99 years old when he died in 1834, having fathered seven children since his cohabitation and subsequent marriage in 1805 to Elizabeth Williams, reputedly 'a very fair Englishwoman' and also a transported convict.

How did he get to England? Who knows? For various reasons uncovered by our research, we believe he came from Jamaica, or at least his forebears did. He claimed to have fought with General Wolfe at Quebec and to have been in King George III's 'crownation' Marine Guard of Honour. Neither of these claims can be proved or disproved, but if he was 99 when he died (some dispute that, but it is the official record on his burial certificate), he would have been the right age to be at both those events.

One of the things I like most about him is the reaction I get when I tell people my g-g-g-grandfather was a negro, 'as black as the ace of spades.' They look at my blond hair and fair skin and shake their heads in disbelief.

I don't need to imagine what he looked like. There are numerous illustrations of him from newspaper articles. On my wall hangs a photographic reproduction of a painting in the Mitchell Library which shows him in full living colour. He even looks eccentric!

And I have a fair idea of the way he thought, at least during his life in Australia, for many details of his life are already well documented for me as he was often 'in the news' with his eccentric behaviour, his friendship with Governor Macquarie, and his ongoing business feud with Berry and Wollstonecraft over many years.

This article was first published in the "Queensland Family Historian" in May 2002. It appeared in "The 1788-1820 Pioneer Gazette" in July 2002 and "The Mail" (Descendants of Convicts Group) in May 2008. [Ed. RR]

© Dawn Montgomery 2002

Scottish Monumental Inscriptions

by Les McFadzen

We have all been confronted with the problem of changed spelling of surnames as we research our ancestors back through the ages. The Roman, Viking and English invasions of Scotland all had an influence on the spelling of the original Gaelic names, or at least the way that they were recorded. The Latin of the Catholic Church, which was the basis for early education, had an influence on them as well. The Norman and Flemish migrations also influenced the way the names were recorded.

There are 14 major variations of the Gaelic MACPHAIDEIN 'son of Paidean' (little Pat), and at least 80 variations all told, and that is without taking into account the "Mc" and "Mac" variations. They are MACFADIN, MACFADION, MACFADWYN, MACFADYEAN, MACFADYEN, MACFADZAN, MACFADZEN, MACFADZEAN, MACFADZEIN, MACFADZEON, MACFAYDEN, MACFEYDEN, MACPHADEN and MACPHAIDEN.

"MACFADYENS" were said to have been the first possessors of Lochbuie, on the south west coast of the island of Mull and when expelled by the Maclains they became a race of wandering artificers, "Sliochd nan or-cheard," the race of goldsmiths in Mull. (Clan Traditions and Popular Tales, p.41)

A source of genealogical data in Scotland, as it is in Australia, is the transcription of cemetery records and monumental or head stone inscriptions (MIs). Scottish head stones can be a good source of data for the genealogist as they can show complete families, including the maiden names of the women, ages, place and date of death, and the relationships between the deceased.

Some of the transcription work is carried out under the supervision of the various branches of the Scottish Family History Society, although private individuals, work for the dole schemes, churches and other organisations also contribute to the number of published works.

The people who carry out this work are mostly dedicated and conscientious volunteers. As with their equivalents here in Australia they understand the need to match parish and county records to the corresponding headstones and they are usually quite particular about their accuracy.

While carrying out family history research on the McFadzen line in the County of Dumfries and Galloway, I visited the Dumfries and Galloway Family History Society (D&GFHS) research centre in Dumfries. Mrs Moira Aitken, a Kiwi War Bride and Editor of the society newsletter, at that time, was on duty and was most helpful in providing copies of the pages of the Index of Wigtown Free Press newspapers that I needed and also some pages of the MIs for the Glenluce cemetery as my research centred on Glenluce.

I was surprised to find that, in such a large cemetery, there were none of my McFadzen ancestors shown, either in the index or on the transcriptions, as I had already proved that they lived in the vicinity of the village for two generations prior to 1865. There were quite a few entries for the McFadzean family which is a more common variant of the name both in Scotland and Australia.



The headstone on the left

I was staying at a B&B in Glenluce, a five minute walk from the cemetery, and with a few hours to spare one evening, I headed to the cemetery with my note book and camera. You can get a lot of work done in a day when the sun shines until 10 pm.

One of the first headstones inside the gate of the church yard, where the old cemetery was located around the church, was stone No 129 shown on the transcription as belonging to the McFadzean family.

On close examination, I found the inscription was in good condition and was quite legible and matched the transcription from D&GFHS with one minor exception. It was the McFadzen family tombstone not one belonging to the McFadzean family. The wrong name had been recorded not once but nine times during the transcription.

There was one other minor error, and that was the 'Mc' had been dropped from the name of the man who had the stone erected, when his turn came, and was not picked up on the transcription. This practice of dropping the 'Mc' is quite common and was noted on several tombstones from the same time period.

As a result of finding deliberate transcription errors, or "corrections" of surnames, on two of the families I am researching in Wigtownshire and on three of the tombstones, I decided to check transcription records in other parts of Scotland as I continued my research. I found discrepancies of a minor nature in cemeteries in both Ayr and Fort William although they appear to have been accidental rather than deliberate.

At this time I could not say that the practice of "correcting" names while transcribing data on monuments is a national trait or whether it is only done in Dumfries & Galloway. It could also be the work of just one misguided individual. I doubt that it was a typographical error as at least two names were involved and there were too many occurrences.

While attempting to have the names corrected, I was told that the document held by the D&GFHS research centre had been privately produced and that the best that could be done was that a note could be inserted in the pages of the book held in the library showing the errors and advising other researchers of the correct spellings. On my return home I also wrote to the SAFHS to inform them of the practice of "correcting" names in the hope that they may be able to rectify the problem, or at least advise their branches to be on the lookout for further occurrences.

It was only due to a lucky break that I managed to find two additional generations of my family on that Glenluce stone, and that, in turn, has provided the leads to further generations. It is difficult enough tracing our ancestors through a maze of legitimate name changes without having a major source of information deliberately falsified.

The main lessons that I learned from this exercise are to double check your data. Indexes and transcription records should only be used as a guide, and don't give up when you are confronted with an impenetrable maze. If you can't climb over the wall, go around.

We can all get lucky at least once, so happy hunting.

Some Things Just Make You Cry

by Yvonne Weston

So often we come across families in our research that give us reason for pause. I have found such a family.

A couple married in 1860 in Texel (Netherlands) with all the hopes and dreams of any newly wedded couple. During the course of the next eighteen years, they had sixteen children. Normally, this would make most modern women wince just at the thought of having so many children. But consider this - it is in The Netherlands, mainly in colder months that children are dying, and they are farmers; not the ideal life. The real tragedy is that not one of their children lived more than a few months, most dying around 3 weeks of age.

How heartbreaking it would have been for this family!

Snippets



ScotlandsPeople

In the Census section on the Home page, as well as having click boxes for 1841 – 1911, there is an additional box "1881(LDS)". As well as providing the index, it provides free access to the household transcriptions. To access it, click on it before entering your ancestor's name and location.

Irish Research

Paid membership is required to obtain most information from the Irish Genealogical Research Society's website, www.irishancestors.ie. However, access to the Early Irish Marriage index is free. The Birth and Death indexes are available only to members but "surname only" searches are free for everyone.

Ted's Story

submitted by Cath Maris

My father-in-law wrote this story many years ago and gave it to me to type. I have tried to supply the story as Ted wrote it, apart from photos, place names and dates. We are very grateful to the Queensland Education Department Legal Department for supplying an amazing amount of information on his professional history; we even know when he had his tonsils and appendix out.

Ted loved a good laugh and was an honest and caring man. At Ted's funeral a gentleman attended who was an ex-student of Ted's from Yungaburra State School 50 years prior. He stood up and told how Ted had changed the lives of him and members of his family in a positive way, looking for the students' strengths and encouraging them in that direction. *The Townsville Bulletin* interviewed students of Mundingburra Primary when he retired; the comments from the children were priceless; one boy said "He's even nice to you when he has to give you the know what"; a little girl said "He even tells me who I am when I'm lost".

Much loved and terribly missed.
Cath Maris

Edward (Ted) Mervyn Maris

Born 2/4/1918 Charleville - Died 5/12/2009 Brisbane.

Eldest son of Mabel Maris, Saville, Murdoch and father William James Hamilton (Apart from being a Shearer, no details known, still looking)

Ted won a scholarship to Toowoomba Grammar for senior in 1935 – 1936.

Awarded scholarship to Brisbane Teachers Training College.



My Yesterdays - Ted Maris

(Part 1)

Year 1937 came in without any great flourish that I can remember. I was 18 and the world was my oyster but there was little chance of my finding any pearls.

The depression continued unabated. Adolf Hitler gained more power in Germany. Japan intensified its "invasion" of China. The 1936 senior results were released. The Department of Public Instruction gave 25 scholarships to Brisbane Teachers Training College. Though these five incidents seem to be in no way connected, they were to have a remarkable impact on the lives of those of us who presented ourselves in due course. Within a few short years some were to die in battle, others were to leave the profession after the war, while the remainder were to carry the flag in "the city or the bush".



Senior Men Teacher's College Qld 1937

After completing the twelve month course with such lecturers as G.K.D. Murphy, Clare Dean Homrigh, Rene Matthews, Jack Corkery, Phil Radcliffe etc. in the College, we were classed as being ready to spread the word. The College, by the way, was a brick building at the rear of the Canberra Hotel (editor's note - on the south west corner of Ann and Edward Streets), built over the tunnel which joined Central and Roma Street Stations. The front windows looked out on what was the old Brisbane Gymnasium which had become a home for the unfortunates who were victims of the depression. The view, as can well be imagined, was by no means picturesque.

Back Row (left to right): S. Paul, G. Briggs, D. Bracewell, L. Kluver, P. Briody, H. Grebam, C. Fitzgerald, N. Sherwin, D. Hooper.
2nd Back Row: E.M. Maris, G. Bishop, H. Shewan, No Name?, D Jones, G. Workmen, T. Houston, J Hunt.
3rd Row: C. Armanacq, S. Kreles, D. Donnely, J. Fitzgerald, L. Morris, R.F. Hamlyn, L. Waters, B. Bevin,
Front Row: M. Harnell, S.T. Svenson, L. Dennis, C. Brown, L.T. McCasker

Later in the year a start was made on the Dental Clinic over the road, and it was a common occurrence to hear rocks striking the College building when blasting was in progress. Perhaps this was basic training for 1939 - 45. Every month or so there was a dance in the College hall on the second floor. On Thursday and Friday of each week, we went to the old Central Prac. School for our practical teaching, and on Wednesday of each week, we observed a lecturer taking a class from Prac. School to show us how it was done. Then the classes split up into groups and we each had a turn at taking a lesson while the remainder of our group sat around and wrote criticisms of the lesson. When one made a mistake it was really uplifting to see 24 heads go down as one to record it. Fortunately one's mates usually let the "eager beavers" know what would happen in their turn if they laid it on too thick. Luckily most of the College football and swimming teams were in our section so we went through the year without any major problems. Those of us who started the ball rolling in March or April had to repeat our lessons later on, but all agreed that this was a good thing.

In December 1937, most of us were appointed to schools, but several - including me - returned to College. We then were sent out in pairs to a group of three schools, in each of which we spent nine days. We were still on College pay - less than £1 (\$2 now) a week. Certainly it was equivalent to a lot more than the present two dollars, but board cost £1.10 a week, so our wild times were very limited - in fact, non-existent. At these schools we were given jobs by the teachers - correcting all manner of books, taking lessons that the teachers did not fancy and even taking classes for days at a time as unpaid relieving teachers. At one school on the south side (editor's note - Brisbane South State School) I took a class for all of my nine days stint. Most of the teachers were very pleasant, but a few treated us as slaves. I told one fellow what I thought of him and was promptly called up to the office and reminded of my lowly status by the Head Teacher. Upon my telling him that Mr -- prevailed on us to correct all of his books and to take his reading, art and natural science while we were in the school, he replied that Mr --- only had our future welfare at heart. As he hardly ever left his chair at any time, and as I did all the tripping around, I had reason to believe otherwise - but the Head Teacher was not interested in what I thought. This went on until June - and, at last, the great day!!

My transfer to a south western town arrived (editor's note - Charleville 27/6/1938)) - together with the rail pass and the ever necessary papers. I was a teacher at last - my own class - my own room - and all of the prestige that went with it! That's what I thought. When I arrived there was neither classroom nor prestige! The Head Teacher, who will of necessity remain anonymous, promptly informed me of four facts which I must get straight

- a) As I was a footballer I would take all of the school's football;
- b) As I was a swimmer I was expected to "pitch in" there also;
- c) Nobody was allowed to "sign on" after 8:30 am nor to "sign off" before 4 pm. This did not really concern me as I was a probationer and was expected to put in longer hours in any case;
- d) There was no class for me until the district reliever went out - but in the meantime I would do charts for the teachers and take lessons in the various classrooms each day. All of these I did. But at least I was being paid!

I had the satisfaction of knowing later on that the District Inspector admired the charts in the school - but a remark in the report indicated that the various teachers were responsible for them. When later I did get a grade 4 of 46 pupils, the Head Teacher ordered me to take down these charts in my room as they were done in school time and informed that no Inspector would include them in my industry mark. Presumably the qualified teachers were judged by different standards. Each day, after lunch, the great man closed his office door and had forty winks, and woe betide any teacher who sent wrongdoers to the office before that door was opened again.

All of my corrected books, exercises, copy books, mapping books, drawing books, compositions - had to be put on his table for inspection. Usually he would find an error and suggest that I go through them all again. I soon realized that his inspection was only fleeting, and back into the press they went. Regularly I was treated to a great spectacle. He conducted a running (or sitting) battle with a middle aged female teacher who ignored all of his directives with impunity, which pleased the rest of us who were not in a position to do so.

Whether or not he was responsible I do not know - this "rebel" teacher was transferred to another western town. With due ceremony he handed her the papers and off she went - not without pointed comments on both sides. The "boss" was happy that day and even smiled on me. He did not smile on me or anyone else a few days later when the very same teacher rolled up and with great ceremony handed over her transfer papers back to the school. It so happened that her brother was an M.L.A. (Member of Legislative Assembly - Member of Parliament), but I am not suggesting that there was any connection.

So the fun continued until the end of the year, when quite a few of us were transferred - while many of the remainder wished they were. It could not be classed as a happy school, but I really enjoyed going back to the school which I had attended from grade 1 to grade 7. Come "Breaking-up Day" and some male teachers evened up the score with a "crawler" who had apparently kept the principal informed about remarks made in the Staff Room during the year. After it had been proved beyond doubt who the culprit was, some others nailed his new hat around the hole where the wash basin (old time) fitted and filled it with soft drink. Even then nobody dared to bring anything else on to Public Instruction Departmental property.

In the New Year, I went to a Downs school (editor's note - Harlaxton, Toowoomba 31/1/1939 – April 1940) and changed places with a chap with whom I had been to secondary school and college. Once again I was on familiar ground as I had been to the Grammar school in this town, so the stage was set for a pleasant stay. Once again I could play Rugby Union - I had played League in the west with some success - and I could swim in a club where I knew most of the members.

The staff at the school were very pleasant and the "Boss" and I taught in the same room - his class facing one way at one end and mine facing the reverse way at the other end. He was in direct contrast to my previous head, but I doubted that I learnt much from him as regards teaching techniques or handling either pupils or teachers. On the other hand, he was a gentleman, and I had little cause for complaint - nor had anyone else. His main worry was about my playing football and the degree of my fitness on Monday mornings. I considered his doubts to be without foundation but when I went back for the school centenary one of the pupils of that time remarked "oh yes. I remember you were the footballer who arrived every Monday in tapes and bandages". I vividly remember a few stitches and sprains occasionally, only.

I was reminded on that visit also of the occasion when one of the boys threatened to bring his brother to the school to - as he eloquently phrased it - "do me over". Apparently I invited him to bring his cousins also for a belting all round - much to the joy of all within hearing. Nobody offered me any help but fortunately the offer was not accepted as they were numbered amongst the towns "tuffs". I met some of them in football circles later and the matter was never mentioned again.

One of the Scholarship girls from this school was meeting the local pie man after school on her way home. This displeased her parents and the principal, so the latter asked me to watch out for them on my way home; I, knowing little about my position "*in loco parentis*" (in the place of a parent), and nothing about the legalities of the matter. One afternoon I met the two of them. After a couple of pointed exchanges without any of the threatened violence, the culprit who was about my age, left the scene - so a bloodless victory was the result. The parents thanked me, and the girl ceased to meet him - probably because he was too weak to belt a "Schoolie".

The Inspector that year was the same one I had encountered the previous year out west, and he remarked that the head out there was sorry to lose me as he liked me. I said nothing but inwardly I wondered what exactly happened to the ones he didn't like. I had seen no evidence of instruments of torture around the school so the mystery has remained with me through the years.

And so a pleasant year passed by - my only vivid memories being

- a) An extremely cold day when the maximum temperature was 42 degrees Fahrenheit (editor's note – 5.5 degrees Celsius) and all of the schools were closed at 1pm.
- b) Another cold day when I stood with one foot on the kerosene heater with which all the rooms were equipped, and burnt a hole in the leg of my long trousers. My class enjoyed the spectacle no end - particularly when I had to retire to the staff room to put out the fire.
- c) The occasions on which I had to accompany one of my pupils and the local police from the school to various places where he had hidden property which he was in the habit of thieving. I do not doubt that the locals often wondered just how "that Ted Maris" kept his job after being taken by the police so often.
- d) At lunch time on the day before Easter, one of the Teachers gave me a lift into town and back in the sidecar of his motorcycle. We had not much time and the trip was quite a fast one. Imagine my feelings after the holidays when he told me that, on riding into his yard that afternoon, the sidecar fell off the bike, the connecting bolts having let go without any warning. Maybe it is better to be lucky than to be rich after all.

[This article will continue in the next edition - Ed RR]



Members' Interests

Please contact Members through the Society's email: - redlandgs@gmail.com

Member's Name: **Greta BROWN**

Membership No: **181**

Surname	Year/ Range of Years	Town/City	County/State	Country
Bagley	1950	Townsville	QLD	AUS
Barker	1920	Wynnum	QLD	AUS
Barrasmean	1900-1940	Fortitude Valley	QLD	AUS
Barrassam	1900-1920	Southport	QLD	AUS
Barton	1930-1980	Wynnum	QLD	AUS
Bedgoode	1870-1920	Adelaide	SA	AUS
Bedgoode	1870-1920	Perth	WA	AUS
Bellas	1940	Brisbane	QLD	AUS
Birch	1790	High Halden	KEN	ENG
Blackman	1950	Wynnum	QLD	AUS
Boniface	1500	Reading	SSX	ENG
Boniface	1614	Upper Reading	SSX	ENG
Bourke	1841	Thurles	TIP	IRL
Bourke	1866	Warwick	QLD	AUS
Bower	1950	Melbourne	VICT	AUS
Brennan	1945	Kent		ENG
Brown	1845	Ipswich	QLD	AUS
Brown	1937	Toowoomba	QLD	AUS
Brown	1875	Maryborough	QLD	AUS
Brown	1836	Elsinore		DENMARK
Browne	1935	Longreach	QLD	AUS
Byrne	1878	Somerset Dam	QLD	AUS

Member's Name: **Bob ALDRED**

Membership No: **137**

Surname	Year/ Range of Years	Town/City	County/State	Country
Aldred	1600-1850	Manchester	LAN	ENG
Cole	1700-1836	Chippenham	HUN	ENG
Nichols	1700-1850	Plymouth		ENG
Whitehorne	1750-1850			JAMAICA
Toms	1800-1850		DEV	ENG

Member's Name: **Heather STEELE**

Membership No: **195**

Surname	Year/ Range of Years	Town/City	County/State	Country
Eccles	1869>	Woolloongabba	QLD	AUS
Eccles	About 1862>		SLIGO	IRL
McCann	1861-1887		ARMAGH	IRL

Member's Name: **Pam PULLAR**

Membership No: **124**

Surname	Year/ Range of Years	Town/City	County/State	Country
Brown	1802	Mitcham	SRY	ENG
Brown	1850	Broughshane	ANT	IRL
Brown	1860	Shildon	DUR	ENG
Castle	1740	London		ENG
Castle	1750-60	Whitfield	KEN	ENG
McClure	1840	Broughshane	ANT	IRL
Tatnell	1800	Caterham	SRY	ENG

Research Records Update

FindMyPast



- Gloucestershire, Bigland's Monumental Inscriptions
- Somerset Will Abstracts
- Prerogative Court Of Canterbury Administrations 1660-1700
- Ireland, Alphabetical Indexes To The Townlands and Parishes 1851-1911
- Irish Tontines Annuitants 1766-1789
- American Fenian Brotherhood 1864-1897

Ancestry

- UK, Historical Photographs and Prints, 1704-1989
- Kent, England, Extracted Parish Records, 1539-1876
- Liverpool, Electoral Registers, 1832-1970
- Yorkshire, Church of England Parish Records, 1538-1873
- Scotland, Sheriff Court Paternity Decrees, 1792-1922
- Gibraltar, WWII Evacuee Embarkation Records, 1940
- Australia, Victoria, Asylum Records, 1853-1940

TheGenealogist

- Outbound Passenger Lists 1940s

Wandering Through the Web



Princess Louise Hospital for Limbless Sailors & Soldiers Renfrewshire, Scotland

<https://www.erskine.org.uk/patient-records-search/>

The admissions register, covering the period 1916 - 1936, has been digitised and is now fully searchable.

Find a Will

<https://probatesearch.service.gov.uk/#wills>

Information includes the deceased's name, address, parish & occupation, date & place of death and name/s & occupation/s of Executors.



16 Corporate Drive, Cannon Hill

Phone: (07) 3249 4200

Website: www.naa.gov.au

Important: Before visiting, refer to "Step-by-step guide for researchers" in their website for requirements for ordering & accessing records and using Reading Room.

Hours & Facilities:

Wednesday to Friday 9am - 4.30pm

Closed Public Holidays

A public kitchen with tea and coffee facilities is located on the Ground Floor.

Free on-site parking is available

The strengths of their Brisbane facility collection are the immigration records that date from the 1850s; the post office and mail service records, and photographs that are rich source of information for local history.

Queensland State Archives

435 Compton Road, Runcorn

Phone: (07) 3131 7777

Website: www.archives.qld.gov.au

Important: Before visiting, refer to "Public Search Room" in their website for requirements for using the search room and for accessing records.

Hours & Facilities:

Open Monday to Friday, 9am to 4.30pm

Closed Public Holidays & Christmas/New Year period

Open second Saturday each month, 9am to 4.30pm

The Readers Lounge has tea & coffee facilities, a refrigerator and microwave.

Free on-site parking is available.

Visit their website for details of a free taxi service from Fruitgrove Railway Station on Tuesdays.

The QSA holds informative Seminars and Events throughout the year, on their premises and at external venues. Check "What's on" in their website for details or to arrange subscription to their free "qsa bulletin"



Where to get your Certificates

Check the relevant Registrar's Office for details

These prices are based on Historical Certificates

Queensland

Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages
110 George Street, Brisbane. 4000
PO Box 15188, City East, Qld 4002
Phone: 1300 366 430
Hours: Monday-Friday 8.30am – 4.30pm

\$21.40 Historical Image - via email

\$30.00 Historical Certificate – includes postage

<http://www.qld.gov.au/law/births-deaths-marriages-and-divorces/family-history-research/>

New South Wales

NSW Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages
GPO Box 30, Sydney, NSW 2001
Phone: 13 77 88

\$32.00 (with Registration number)

\$45.00 (w/out number, includes 10 year search)

Both include postage

www.bdm.nsw.gov.au

Transcription services:

www.joymurrin.com.au

<http://www.transcriptions.com.au/>

Victoria

Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages
GPO Box 5220, Melbourne, Vic 3001
Phone: 1300 369 367

\$25.10 Uncertified Historical Image - via email

\$32.40 Historical Certificate – postage extra

www.bdm.vic.gov.au

Australian Capital Territory

(Pre 1930, apply to NSW)
Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages
GPO Box 158, Canberra City, ACT 2601
Phone: (02) 6207 3000

\$55.00 includes postage

Historic Death and Marriage Indexes are now available.

https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/app/answers/detail/a_id/18/kw/bdm



South Australia

Births, Deaths & Marriages
Consumer & Business Services
GPO Box 1351, Adelaide, SA 5001
Phone: 131 882

\$48.75 - includes postage

<http://www.cbs.sa.gov.au/wcm/births-deaths-marriages/>

Western Australia

Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages
PO Box 7720, Cloisters Square, Perth, WA 6850
Phone: 1300 305 021

\$20.00 (uncertified copy) – includes postage

www.bdm.dotage.wa.gov.au/

Tasmania

Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages
GPO Box 198, Hobart, Tasmania 7001
Phone: 1300 135 513

\$48.05 – includes postage

www.justice.tas.gov.au/bdm/home

Northern Territory

Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages
GPO Box 3021, Darwin, NT 0801
Phone: (08) 8999 6119

\$44.00 – includes postage

(1856-1863 = NSW) (1863-1870 = SA)

www.nt.gov.au/justice/bdm

New Zealand

Registry of Births, Deaths, Marriages & Citizenship
PO Box 10-526, Wellington 6143 New Zealand

\$(NZ)25.00

(Visa, MasterCard & American Express accepted)

A printout has more information than a certificate

www.bdmhistoricalrecords.dia.govt.nz/Home/



Queensland Family History Society Inc.

58-60 Bellevue Avenue, Gaythorne 4051

Phone: (07) 3355 3369

Website: www.qfhs.org.au

This venue is accessible by either train or bus and parking is available in the street.

Redland members are reminded that the Redland Branch is an Associate Member of QFHS and the membership cards are available from RGS Secretary, Dianne, 3286 9466, (Borrowing fee is \$2). A Day Charge will be made by QFHS if you do not have this card.

There are no stairs at this location.

Disclaimer-

Prices, addresses, etc. are correct at the time of going to print. Use this as a guide only as prices are subject to change. If you do find incorrect information, I would appreciate your advice.

[Ed. RR]

Genealogical Society of Queensland Inc.

25 Stackpole St (cnr Mt Gravatt-Capalaba Rd)

WISHART 4122

Phone: (07) 3349 6072 Email: info@gsq.org.au

Website: www.gsq.org.au

Opening hours:-

Mondays & Public Holidays:	Closed
Tuesdays to Fridays:	10am to 3pm
2 nd & 4 th Wednesdays:	6pm to 9pm
Saturdays:	12noon to 4pm
Sundays:	Interest Group meetings only