

# *Redland Researcher*



*The newsletter of*  
***Redland Genealogical Society Inc.***  
*a branch of Genealogical Society of Queensland Inc.*

***Issue No. 135***

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# Redland Genealogical Society Inc.

a branch of the Genealogical Society of Queensland Inc.

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## 2019/2020 Management Committee

Patron: Les McFadzen

President	Helen Veivers
Vice President	Kevin Hughes
Secretary	Dianne Smith
Treasurer	Yvonne Weston
Assistant Treasurer	Karen Hawkes
Membership Officer	Annette Hall
Archivist	Janelle Everest
Displays Co-ordinator	Elaine Speck
Newsletter Editor	Greg Glidden
Librarian	Bob Aldred
Committee Member 1	Lyn Smyth
Committee Member 2	Pat Misson

### Life Members 2010

Denise Brady (Foundation Member), Marel Donaldson (Foundation Member)

Kaye Barber, Pamela Gilbert, Elaine Speck, Glenda Webb

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

**Life Member 2016** Jeanne Dixon, **Life Member 2019** Pat Misson

**Membership:** Membership is **either by** joining the Redland Genealogical Society Inc. as an Associate Member **or by** joining the Genealogical Society of Queensland Inc. **and nominating to be a Redland Branch 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.

**The General Meetings** of the Redland Genealogical 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; parking available on site. An entry fee of \$2 applies at each meeting. **The Annual General Meeting** is held on **the second Wednesday in July**, followed by the General Meeting. Meetings are not held in January.

**The Society's Collection** of on-line data bases, books, microfiche, CD-ROMs, etc **contains resources for world-wide research**. These are accessible in our Library Room in Cleveland Library, corner of Middle and Bloomfield Streets.

**Financial RGS and GSQ-Redland Branch members have access to this Room at any time that the Cleveland Library is open by presenting their special activated Redland Library card at the Cleveland Library to obtain the key.**

**Volunteer Genealogical Research Assistants (GRAs) are in attendance, to assist members and the general public, as follows -**

**Tuesdays and Thursdays** 9.30am to 12.30pm - **Saturdays** 12.30pm to 3.30pm

**GRAs:** Bob Aldred (Librarian), Kaye Barber, Greta Brown, Margaret Clark, Jeanne Dixon, Annette Hall, Karen Hawkes, Margaret Johnson, Brenda Jones, Bev McFadyen, Les McFadzen, Pat Maclean, Cath Maris, Pat Misson, Jan O'Brien, 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 *Local History Librarian*; her assistant is Gillian McNeill.

## A Note from the Editor

Due to the Corona virus pandemic, we must continue with being unable to - hold our monthly meetings - have access to our Library Room - have outings! Hopefully, you have determined what suits best to help you through this difficult time of isolation. To date, no word has been received of any members contracting the Corona virus, and may it remain this way for you and those close to you!

Several Family research websites mention that many genealogists are utilising the extra hours spent at home to delve further into their research or tidy up those "loose ends". I know that several of our Members are doing just that.

*RGSSchat* (and the *GSQ e-NEWS* circulated with it), provided some alternative paths to continue with our research, and encouraged us to take a fresh look at the way that we go about it. How good was it to receive Redland Libraries' advice that we can access the Library version of "Ancestry" from home while the Libraries are closed? From committee and convenor reports, you will have seen that isolation is not preventing the Society's continuing work.

I am sure that, like me, you were pleased to receive *RGSSchat*, and are grateful for the work that our President, Helen, put into it. While we are unable to meet at Donald Simpson Centre or perform research in our Library Room at the Cleveland Library, *RGSSchat* will keep members informed of newsworthy items and further developments.



Further to advice in the April *RGSSchat*, **free access to "Ancestry" from our computers at home, through "Redland Libraries Online," has been extended to 31 May 2020.**

A warm welcome to our new Committee Member, Karen Hawkes. Our Treasurer, Irene Salvatierra, retired in February after giving many years of committed service in this role. Yvonne Weston is our new Treasurer and Karen has replaced Yvonne as Assistant Treasurer. Thank-you Yvonne and Karen. A big "thank-you", Irene, for your commitment and for a job well done! Irene is not leaving, and she still is one of our Genealogical Research Assistants.

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.*

## Copyright

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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***

## Librarian's Jottings



The corona virus hasn't closed the door to your family history research. True, the library is closed, but access is still available to Ancestry.com via the library web page. Just log in to the Redland City library site and click on the Family History box and go to Ancestry.com. This version gives you worldwide access. At the time of writing this has been made available until 31<sup>st</sup> May but may be extended if the library remains closed.

Another option is to send your research requests to Pat Misson who has volunteered to search the RGS subscription sites - FindMyPast, RootsIreland, TheGenealogist and the Australian Biographical Database. Pat's service is available only to our financial members and only during the current period of not being able to access our Library Room. Email Pat with your research requests.

Other research options from home are the multitude of websites, including those that are free, like FamilySearch at [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org)

To find other free sites Google "free family history" but be careful as many sites offer free access for a limited time only. If you use these sites be sure to cancel within the time offered to avoid payment, as they require you to submit a credit card.

Another place for good ideas for research is our Facebook page where you can interact with other members, learn about on-line courses and pick up ideas. Go to [www.facebook.com/redlandgs/](http://www.facebook.com/redlandgs/) and discover something new. While you are there, join the RGS Members Chat Room and share some of your experiences, submit questions and share stories with other members.

While Covid-19 has physically isolated us, there is still a big world out there to search in for your family history. Also, a better chance of getting replies if you contact family members and others who may have information that will help your research.

We hope that restrictions will be able to be safely lifted in the near future and the library door be reopened. In the meantime, stay safe and may your "virtual library" reap results to help you grow your family tree.

*Bob Aldred*

## A Little Humour

### 1881 Occupations(?)

An 1881 British Census Household Record lists unremarkable occupations of the inhabitants, including Butler, Footmen, Ladies' Maids, Cook, but the Head's is listed as "International Playboy" and the 40-year-old son's as "Ponce". None of the meanings of the latter, as noun or verb, is well-intentioned or respectable – a "tongue in cheek" entry, perhaps?

### Does It Pay to Advertise?

A young woman, seven months pregnant, boarded a bus. She noticed a young man smiling and, feeling humiliated on account of her condition, she changed seats. He seemed only more amused. She moved again, and the same thing happened. The fourth time she moved, he burst out laughing.

She had him arrested and, when the case came before the court, the judge asked him if he had anything to say. To which he replied –

"When the lady boarded the bus, I could not help but notice her condition. She sat under an advertisement which read, 'Coming soon – The Gold Dust Twins'. Then she moved under 'Sloan's Liniment Removes Swelling', I was even more than amused when she sat under the shaving cream advertisement 'Williams Stick did the Trick'. I could not control myself any longer in the fourth move when she sat under 'Goodyear Rubber would have prevented this accident'.

The case was dismissed!

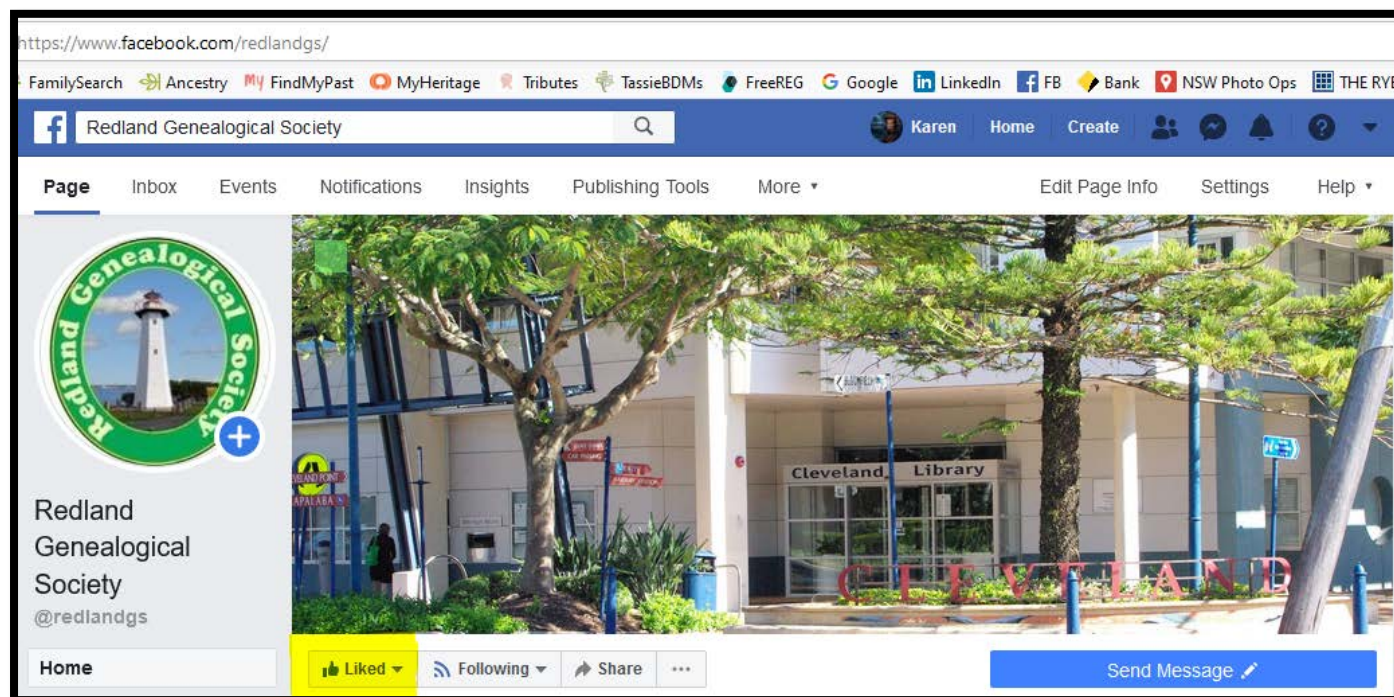


## RGS Facebook Page

*from Karen McCormack*

Just a reminder - although we are unable to meet, you still can stay in contact with other members via the Society's Facebook Page.

Do you have a Facebook Account? Click here <https://www.facebook.com/redlandgs/> and give our page a LIKE (yellow highlight at bottom mid-left of illustration)



You also can chat to other Members "away from the public eye" by joining our RGS Members Chat Room on our Facebook Page.

Application to the group is open only to current Members to liaise, network and interact through the sharing of events, outings, information, and genealogical related reviews, tips and advice. This is a 'Private' group, meaning only the members of this group can see what is posted and who is a member. Members are encouraged to post and comment. Many already are sharing information.

Click here to join - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/RGSMembersChatRoom/>



## Golden Weddings - 50 Years

by Annette Hall

After reading an article in the December 2019 issue of the Derbyshire Family History Society's journal, on the subject of 'Golden Weddings,' I decided to put pen to paper or should I say fingers to keyboard (doesn't quite have the same ring to it).



As my own 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary was fast approaching (June), I decided to look into my ancestors' Anniversaries to see how many, if any also made the 50 years.

I remember as a child, about 12 years of age, my mother's parents, Nanna and Grandpop's 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary in July 1962. Hannah Mary HEWITT and Joseph PORTER married 3rd July 1912. A large gathering was held at my Uncle's place, next door to where my Grandparents lived at Bulimba. Ancestors came from out of the woodwork to attend. My sister and our cousins, eight of us in total, were amazed at the number of 'rellies' that we had. Some we knew, and lots we only had heard about.

My own parents, Raymond Aubrey OLIVE and Ray Margaret PORTER, married 19<sup>th</sup> January 1946. Dad had only just arrived home in January, from WW2, and Mum had him down the aisle much to his mother's disgust. Oh well Mum had waited a long time for his return. We celebrated their Golden Wedding in January 1996 at a dinner with my family. They then flew to Victoria to spend the actual date of their wedding anniversary with my sister and her husband as they had married on the same date.



The earliest 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding events I found were for two sets of 5 X Great-grand Parents; four sets of 4 X Great-grand Parents and three sets of 3 X Great-grand Parents.

My 2 X Great-grand Parents were John T(W)OOMEY and Mary PIGOTT. When they married in County Cork Ireland, about 1854, I wonder what their life plans were? Two of their daughters Hannah and Margaret, my Great-grand mother, arrived in Queensland in 1877. John and Mary with another two of their known children arrived in 1883. The two daughters had by this time married and started families of their own. John and Mary would have been married 50 years in about 1904. Did they celebrate their milestone? That, I don't know! John died 14<sup>th</sup> December 1913 aged 89 years, and Mary died 29<sup>th</sup> March 1914 aged 86 years.

On Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March 1943 in The Sydney Morning Herald there was a Golden Wedding advertisement for my Great-grand Parents – William THOMPSON and Bina Ann PATERSON. They married on the 14<sup>th</sup> March 1893. Bina Ann died 24<sup>th</sup> April 1944 while her grandson, my dad was away at war. William died 19<sup>th</sup> May 1963 aged 93 years. I didn't see him very often as he lived in Tuncurry, NSW but I have a photo somewhere, probably put away in a safe place, but I can't remember where. He was very, very tall (over 6 foot) and I was very, very small.

That was just one side of the equation. On my husband, Denis' family line, I found two sets of 2 X Great-grand Parents. One set was of tough Irish breeding, Michael (Martin) HOGAN born Ireland married 10<sup>th</sup> March 1863 NSW to Ellen KENNEDY born NSW to Irish parents. The other set, Henry SMITH (and yes, his father was John SMITH – not our Society member Pat Misson's John Smith) married 1<sup>st</sup> April 1862 at Ipswich, Queensland, Hannah EMERY.

Two sets of 3 X Great-grand Parents; four sets of 4 X Great-grand Parents; two sets of 5 X Great-grand Parents and one set of 7 X Great-grand Parents. These were John SMERDON and Alice HAMLYN, married 29<sup>th</sup> May 1711. John died 26<sup>th</sup> January 1769 and Alice died 24<sup>th</sup> July 1770. Not a bad innings!

I was surprised to find as many as I did, and it was interesting to work out the ages that they were when they married, and their ages at death.

I'll keep you waiting until the August's *Redland Researcher* to see if we made our 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary.



## Biographical Database of Australia

*from Bob Aldred*

Your Society subscribes to the BDA, providing members with full access from the Library Room computers. The indexes can be **searched for free from** your home computer at <https://www.bda-online.org.au/> and selecting "Search now".

BDA comprises transcripts and indexes of many original records and published biographies of deceased individuals who arrived in or were born in Australia, starting from the earliest times. Biographical reports can be very detailed, featuring events, place names and key dates, during the life of the person and family members.

BDA update #8 was released January 2020 with **sixteen (16) new datasets containing two million+ records**. Highlights are Baptisms 1833+ GOULBURN & WOLLONGONG; Many new NORFOLK ISLAND records 1802-1855; New vistas on convict lives: database of 14,000 convicts & others sent to and from penal settlements, gaols & courts NSW, Norfolk Is, Vic, Qld 1828-50; Australians in the 1849 CALIFORNIA GOLD RUSH; Two thousand (2000) new 1830s soldier profiles including MELBOURNE'S 1<sup>ST</sup> GARRISON 1836.

### Births, deaths, marriages, church records:

- Baptisms Goulburn NSW C of E 1833-1865
- Baptisms Wollongong NSW C of E 1834-1864
- Deaths at Sydney Hospital 1811-1826

### Convict records:

- Applications for convict workers NSW 1826-1828
- List of uncollected convict pardons NSW 1850
- Lists of convicts recommended for pardons NSW 1826-1856
- Lists of convict tickets of leave cancelled NSW 1832-1869

### Shipping & passenger records:

- Lists of passengers sailing Sydney to California 1849-1851 in search of gold in the USA
- List of Masters and Shipowners NSW 1849

### Military & biographical records covering most rank & file in British garrisons in Australia to 1837:

- 4th Regiment of Foot (King's Own) 1831-1837
- 17th Regiment of Foot (Leicestershire) 1830-1837
- Royal New South Wales Veteran Companies 1826-1832
- Royal Staff Corps 1826-1829

### Miscellaneous lists & databases:

- Colonial Secretary letters to Sheriff NSW 1828-1850
- Norfolk Island victualling lists 1802-1809
- List of Norfolk Island residents 1825-1855, includes many convicts also in NSW, Tas, Vic & Qld

## Who Remembers These?



## What a Find!

*by Di Edelman*

It's not often you find a new relative and there's a treasure trove of information just waiting to be discovered.

I'm currently researching the lives of my grandfather, Seymour John HARRISON and his brother, Edward Toyler HARRISON. They served together in WWI and Edward died of gunshot wounds. In an endeavour to make my story as complete as possible, I have ordered a history of the 24th Battalion in which they served from an interstate library.

Whilst I wait, I am going back over information I found years ago and kept even though I wasn't sure if it was about my lot or not. One of these led me to this discovery.

Edward and Seymour's parents were John William Harrison and Harriet NORLEY. Harriet's father and grandfather were both Thomas NORLEY. They all lived in the Beechworth/Bright goldfields area of Victoria Australia. My old finding was for the burial information of Alice Jane NORLEY, nee NEEDHAM. She died on 1 Mar 1944 and was buried in the Bright cemetery on 2 Mar 1944. She was married to a Thomas NORLEY. Now, this Thomas was Harriet's brother, so he is my GG uncle. And he was killed in the Great Boulder Mine disaster on 25 May 1904 at Kalgoorlie in Western Australia.

Four men, including Thomas, were killed in the bottom of the mine and the one man who was brought to the surface died in hospital. Here is a photo of the five. Thomas NORLEY is top right. The other men were Thomas Bates, John Robert Riseberry, Samuel Jones and James Caudwell Harper.



After such a disaster, there is of course an inquest and it found that it was accidental death but that the company had been careless in trying out a new method of lowering the gear without a test run when there were no men underneath it. It was found that the miner working at the top, Mr Reidle, was not to blame in any way.



The funeral was huge. The following is an extract from this article taken from Trove:

Shortly before 2 o'clock the funeral cortege was ready to start. The Masonic brethren, in regalia, to the number of about 160, were first to step slowly forward on the road that was to end in the departed men's last long home. The I.O.O.F. and the M.U.I.O.O.F. in regalia, followed.

The mournful procession was headed by the combined Boulder and A.W.A. Bands, assisted by representatives from the Kalgoorlie Town Band, at a slow march, and as soon as the long array of vehicles behind had got in motion they struck up the grand though solemn strains of the "Dead March."

The A.M.A. and the A.W.A. amalgamated for the day in the presence of Death in such a distressing form, and they, to the number of 300 or 400, marched behind the bands. The deceaseds' late fellow-workers, and the various sporting clubs with which Bates had been associated came next, and then followed the Salvation Army Band, the members of which took their turn in playing on the route to the cemetery.

The crowd which lined the streets in thousands fell back sick and sad at heart as the five hearses came slowly through the human lane opened before them. By each hearse marched six pallbearers, chosen, from the different organisations to which the unfortunate deceased had belonged. The five mourning coaches, containing relatives, followed, and then came the vehicles belonging to the different mines and businesspeople of Boulder and Kalgoorlie. There were in all over 90 conveyances, and the cortege, which took half an hour to pass any given point, was over a mile in length.

Apparently nearly every citizen of note was present, either as a member of some society or driving in the line of vehicles behind the hearses. The Mayor and Mrs. Rabbish represented the citizens of Boulder. and the Mayor of Kalgoorlie (Mr. Keenan) was in the next vehicle. Mr. R. Hamilton, the manager, and the Boulder mine officials, together with officials from the other mines on the belt," were also present, so that the funeral was as representative of the community as it was possible to make it.

Thousands of people, after joining in or seeing the funeral to the Boulder town boundaries, went by tram to Kalgoorlie, and awaited the cortege at the cemetery. The Tram Co. had five single and six bogie cars on the Boulder loop, and as fast as one filled it was sent into Kalgoorlie, and a fresh car took its place till the crush was relieved. The deep impression the awful nature of the catastrophe had made up on the imagination of the public was thoroughly evidenced by the large number of spectators who had gathered in the central portion of Kalgoorlie hours before the arrival of the procession of mourners, friends, and acquaintances from Boulder. Maritana Street was lined with men, women, and children for the whole of its great length. The bulk of the crush was at the intersection of that street with Hannan Street. As the procession passed along the numbers of those who followed were swelled by Kalgoorlie representatives of public bodies, friendly societies, and trades unions. All heads were either bowed or uncovered as the combined bands advanced, playing the mournful music of "The Dead March" in "Saul," and as the hearses and mourning coaches came into view and passed on.

Long before the cortege reached the Kalgoorlie Cemetery the trams had been very busy landing passengers from town at a convenient point. They found their way to the place and helped to swell the number of residents of the northern part of the town, who had patiently waited at the gravesides in the Anglican, Presbyterian, and Methodist portions of the cemetery.

The combined bands ceased their rendering of "The Dead March" at the gates and the hearses, mourning coaches, Masonic brethren, and friendly societies' members entered the sacred enclosure. The Freemasons and the Oddfellows ranged themselves round the open graves in the Anglican portion of the burying ground. The Rev. R. H. Moore, Rector of St. Matthew's, Boulder, and the Rev. Cuthbert Hudleston, Rector of St. John's, Kalgoorlie, who were attired in their priestly vestments: stood in readiness to take up their duties. The relatives of the deceased men, Thomas Bates, Thomas Norley, and John Risebery took up positions at the foot of each grave. The graves were side by side. The vicinity was densely crowded. The beautiful service of the Church of England for the burial of the dead was begun by the Rev. R. H. Moore as the bearers brought the coffins and placed them on the trestles. The prayers were said by the Rev. Cuthbert Hudleston, and subsequently the Rev. Mr. Moore delivered an address to the assembled crowd from the lessons to be derived from the liturgy. He made reference to the touching incidents of the past two days, and remarked that whilst probably not one among them desired to die a lingering death, with all its painful episodes, yet he thought they would all agree in thinking it very hard to be hurried out of the world without preparation or without farewell to those

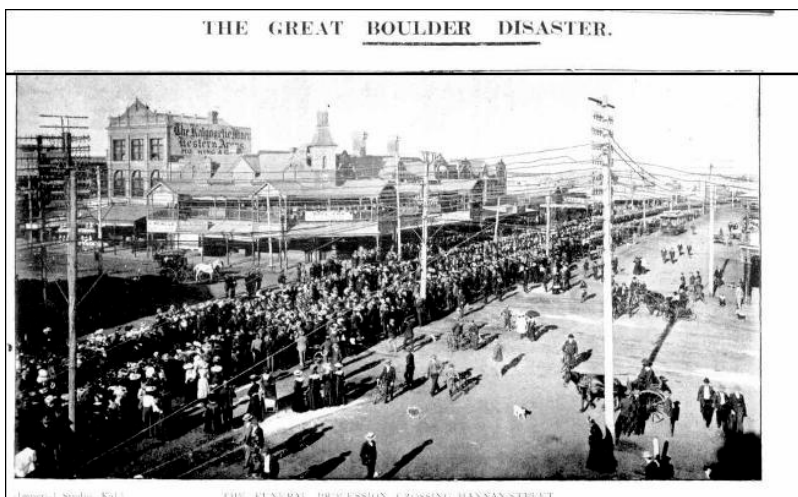
who were left behind to mourn for departed ones. The present catastrophe had been terrible in its nature, but at the same time they ought to remember that the hand of God was in it.

Thomas who was born 19 September 1863 and Alice had two small children, Violet Alice who would have turned 7 on the day after her father's funeral and Geoffrey Maynell who was 3.

How sad would it all have been?

It looks as though Alice returned to the Bright area and her family as she was buried there on 2 Mar 1944.

So, as you can see, I've had a very interesting couple of days finding out about this branch of my family. A very distressing story though!



*The funeral procession*

[The funeral details in this article were extracted on 11/09/2019 from Trove article - 31 May 1904 – THE FUNERALS. <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/rendition/nla.news-article33126704.txt?print=true> 1/2 Kalgoorlie Western Argus (WA : 1896 – 1916), Tuesday 31 May 1904, page 14]

## Guest Speakers

February 2020



Robyn Tennant, Secretary, Cleveland Local Ambulance Committee, presented "CPR Awareness". The committee considered it worthwhile to refresh our knowledge of this matter; Robyn had presented a similar talk in 2018.

The objective was to familiarise us with the process of CPR and equipment available to assist, when a person suffers cardiac arrest. Its application can mean the difference between life and death for the accident or heart-attack victim. Defibrillators are becoming available in many public places. This medical item can restore a normal heartbeat by sending an electric pulse to the heart.

Always check the surroundings – the first consideration should be determining any Danger to the person assisting. Respond accordingly – are there live electric wires or other conditions that could cause injury? Send for help.

Those who wish to know how to perform CPR need to attend an accredited training course.

Robyn is pictured holding a CPR Training baby manikin

March 2020



The topic this month was "Beginner's Guide to DNA for Genealogy". It was presented by Judy Lofthouse, Genealogical Society of Queensland.

Judy explained that we receive twenty-three (23) pairs of chromosomes, 50% from our mother and 50% from our father but siblings do not inherit identical sets. This accounts for the difference in their looks and their DNA test results. She elaborated on the value of the different types of tests available, test methods (mouth-swab, saliva in a tube), and the market positions held by various organisations that offer these tests.

Methods of how we can use DNA results to enhance our research were demonstrated.

Judy advised of a series of instructional videos "Family History Fanatics", many of which are on the topic of DNA. These are freely available on YouTube at the following site -

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmkKepHoafldMRZ4UNt0AkW/playlists?sort=dd&shelf\\_id=2&view=1](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmkKepHoafldMRZ4UNt0AkW/playlists?sort=dd&shelf_id=2&view=1)

## The National Archives UK

### Free Access to Digital Records

*from Pat Misson*

The National Archives (UK) published the following advice on its website 22 April 2020. This should be of great interest for Members who are researching families in the UK -

We are making digital records available on our website free of charge for as long as our Kew site is closed to visitors. Registered users will be able to order and download up to 10 items at no cost, to a maximum of 50 items over 30 days. The limits are there to try to help manage the demand for content and ensure the availability of our digital services for everyone.

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

- Register/sign into their Discovery account before adding items to their basket (maximum ten items per basket)
- Abide by the terms of our [fair use policy](#)
- Complete the order process to receive a download link, which will remain active for 30 days. (The link will also be saved in 'Your orders' in your account for 30 days)

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

#### **How can I download documents for free?**

You will be required to [register for a free account on our website](#) and be logged in to be able to download documents.

To find records that are available to download for free, filter your search results in [Discovery](#) to include records that are 'available for download only'.

#### **What sort of documents can I download?**

You will be able to download records digitised by The National Archives and published through Discovery, our online catalogue. These include -

- First and Second World War records, including medal index cards
- Military records, including unit war diaries
- Royal and Merchant Navy records, including Royal Marine service records
- Wills from the jurisdiction of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury
- Migration records, including aliens' registration cards and naturalisation case papers
- 20th century Cabinet Papers and Security Service files
- Domesday Book

A [full list of digitised collections can be seen here](#), although please note that it includes collections available on other sites that may charge for access, and are not included in this offer.

#### **Does this apply to all digital records that are searchable in Discovery?**

No, as not all digital records searchable in Discovery are available on our website.

The free access will apply to the digitised collections on our website, but it will not extend to our collections on other sites run by our commercial partners, such as Ancestry, Findmypast and TheGenealogist. These sites are usually free to search with a subscription charge to view and download records, although most offer a 14-day free trial, and some are currently offering selected free access to their collections.

#### **How many documents can I download at one time?**

We'll be limiting the number of items that users can download at one time to ensure that our systems remain accessible to as many people as possible.

Our [fair and reasonable use policy](#) applies, and states the following:

- The National Archives permits registered users to order and download a reasonable number of documents for free and has set a maximum order limit of 50 documents in a 30-day period.
- In order to maintain the integrity of the service for everyone and ensure that as many people as possible can benefit from it, we reserve the right to disable users' accounts where there is a breach of this fair use policy.
- We reserve the right to change the maximum number of items ordered in a 30-day period and revise these terms of use from time to time.

#### **Are there restrictions as to how I can use a downloaded document/image?**

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



### Can I get help in finding and downloading documents?

We have a wide range of [research guides](#) to help you navigate your way through our online catalogue.

You can also find [podcasts and videos](#) on our Archives Media Player, along with a number of [different blogs](#) on our website.

Our [live chat service](#), which provides one-to-one expert research advice, is available between 09:00 and 17:00, from Tuesday to Saturday.

We're also running free webinars with our experts on [19 May](#) and [16 June](#), offering an introduction to Discovery and offering some top tips on getting the most out of it to find what you're looking for.

Website address for the UK National Archives is <https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>. The direct link to their digital downloads is <https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/about/news/digital-downloads/> [Ed. RR]

## Probate Records/Wills England and Wales

*from Dianne & Dave Lee*

To check for probate records for anyone that left a Will between 1858 to now -

EITHER -

- Go to website <https://www.gov.uk/search-will-probate>
- Scroll down to, then click on **"Start now>"**

OR (if already in the UK government site, <https://www.gov.uk/>) -

- Enter "probate" in the search box, and click on magnifying glass
- Scroll down to, then click on [Search probate records for documents and wills \(England and Wales\)](#)
- Scroll down to, then click on **"Start now>"**

Either method will lead to tabs for the following three (3) databases -

- [Wills and Probate 1996 to present](#)
- [Wills and Probate 1858 – 1996](#)
- [Soldier's Wills](#)

Choose the database that you need and enter the surname and year of death. If you cannot find the record you're looking for, check the years after the person died. These records are stored under the year that the grant was issued, rather than the year of death.

A number of records will be shown, several each side of your requirements. You can browse forwards and backwards through the pages and can move forward or back a year at a time.

If found, each person will have a summary generally including Value of the Estate, Date of Probate, Address and Occupation of the Deceased, Date and Place of Death, Registry where Probate was lodged, Name/s and details of who gave the oath to "Prove" the Will (ie: officially establish it as genuine).

NO CHARGE IS LEVIED UNTIL THE NEXT STEP – viz: If you decide to proceed with purchasing a copy of the Will, add details to your "cart" and make payment, currently £1.50 (around \$A3.00).

If purchasing a Will, a Folio Number must be entered into the 'Folio Number' text box wherever available (excluding any letters). However, some results may not have an associated Folio Number. If there is no number present, then this field can be left blank. Folio Number positions and format do vary. You may find the Folio Number is handwritten next to the relevant entry.

You will receive an email confirming your order, and another when the copy is available for download. Log in to the system, go to "My Wills" and save each available item to your computer. After you have logged in, the copy will be available for 31 days, so make sure that you save it before then!

Some of the grants and wills are quite old so may not be in very good condition. The scanned copy of the grant or will that you receive will be the best quality available.

## Travelling on QRail

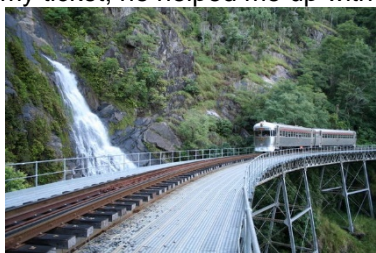
by Dawn Montgomery

Rail travel can be fun. It can be boring. But sometimes, something interesting happens.

When I worked as CEO for the Youth Hostels Association of Queensland, once a year I visited travel agents around Queensland, often by rail, and usually burdened by loads of brochures and handbooks for said travel agents. Here are a couple of my memorable experiences:

The first was published in the YHA magazine back in 1975 under the title *There is nothing vulgar about the Cairns to Atherton railmotor – like indecent haste*. The story:

‘Yes, he’ll pick you up there’, said the man at Cairns railway station. So, I sat on the side of the road where the line crossed it and a sign said ‘R.M. stop 4’. And right on time the railmotor came down the line tooting. I jumped up and hailed it like a bus and the driver stopped it right opposite me. The guard seemed surprised to learn that I already had my ticket; he helped me up with my luggage and carried it in for me and we were off!



Stoney Creek Falls

This was the Ravenshoe railmotor from Cairns – half an hour behind the tourist train but just as good. We stopped at Stoney Creek Falls, the driver yelled “Do you want to have a look?” and waited patiently while everyone ran around like school kids, taking photos, etc. Then it was on to Kuranda, which regularly won the prize for the best-looking railway station. And the announcement: “Kuranda, stop for morning tea”. Nothing rushed about this train.

Then we were off again, after the guard made sure everyone had bought what they wanted. Through the dry grass and anthills of peculiar shape; a sudden screech of brakes, and we wait for a lady and child running down the hill. All the passengers help them on, and the guard nearly gets left behind in the excitement. Then the country levels out and we pick up speed. But still we stop in the middle of nowhere and people get on or off; the local ‘station’ often no more than a name on a post, or maybe a little dogbox with the local mailman waiting and the driver stops to have a yarn for a few minutes. All apparently allowed for as we get to our destination on time!

Another adventure happened when the YHA committee decided that we needed more country hostels, so I was sent to reconnoiter at our chosen locations of Hughenden, Longreach and Emerald. At this time, there was a once a week rail service between Hughenden and Winton, so the plan was to go to Hughenden by train from Townsville, then down to Longreach via Winton, and back to Emerald and thence to Rockhampton.

At Hughenden I consulted the local bank manager whose opinion of Hughenden was pretty low. “A youth hostel?” he remonstrated. “I wouldn’t even let my teenage daughter walk down the street unaccompanied, here! This is a rough, tough town. Tell your committee NO!” Hmm.

I checked in at the only hotel in town and had a fairly sleepless night. My room was adjacent to the beer garden so you can imagine the noise till late. Not only that, but the door wouldn’t close properly, let alone lock. My train left at 7 a.m. next day and I didn’t have an alarm, and you know what it’s like when you are afraid you won’t wake in time to catch your transport.

The publican’s wife told me there was only one taxi in town. She said “Yes, you can ring and book him if you like”. I tried.

“I’m not getting out of bed at 6 o’clock in the morning just to take you to the station”, said the taxi proprietor.

“Well, how will I get there?” I asked.

“You’ll have to walk, won’t you”, was his rejoinder. The station was over a kilometre from ‘town’. Terrific! With my heavy luggage!

So, I walked and stumbled my way to the railway next morning, feeling exhausted by the time I reached my goal. A man with hayseed practically coming out of his hat was sweeping the platform as I struggled along.

"Hello, lady, why are you here?" He plucked a piece of straw from his broom and chewed it thoughtfully.

"To catch the train", I said, thinking *why else?*

"Train? What train?"

*What gives with this guy?* I thought, and answered, "The one to Winton, at 7 o'clock".

"Oh no, lady". He continued his sweeping.

"What do you mean – oh no, lady?"

"Derailed up the line. Don't know when it'll be here", was his succinct reply.

What to do? It was quite cold and while I didn't want to have to sit around on the platform, shivering, I certainly did not want to struggle back to town. I asked his advice.

"Well, you could go and see the stationmaster and get a cup of hot soup", was his astonishing reply.

"Hot soup? From the stationmaster?"

"Yeah. He'll look after you. There's another chap up there waiting, too". He continued his sweeping.

So, the stationmaster fed us, not only breakfast soup, but lunch soup as well. The other 'detainee' was a young guy who had to wait for the train from Mount Isa because his pay was on it and he was otherwise 'flat broke.' Eventually the stationmaster declared the Hughenden-Winton train cancelled for this week and told me that I should get the train to Townsville, when they managed to get it back on track. The 'mixed goods' train finally arrived at around 3 p.m. and we both clambered aboard, my new travelling companion having thankfully retrieved his pay from the engine driver. It took hours to get to Townsville because the train stopped at every little wayside stop. What a day!

Neither of these trains runs, these days.

My latest 'country train adventure' has nothing to do with my YHA days.



My partner and I usually go to Cairns once a year in November or December to visit my daughter and her family. One year, some time ago, we decided to return by train, on the Sunlander, as John had never travelled on it. He's mad about trains and it had been worrying him that he had not sampled this one previously.

A couple of hours out of Cairns, the train stopped; again, in 'the middle of nowhere'. Soon, the staff came along to explain to us that they were having engine trouble. After about an hour, the next staff message was that the engineer

was unable to fix the problem and we had to wait for another engine to come down the line from Cairns. We were just outside of Innisfail, but it took almost three hours for them to find a suitable engine and send it down to us. Thankfully, the problem did not extend to the air-conditioning system! When we were able to proceed, we were running five hours late. Somehow or other they managed to get this down to four hours by the time we got to Roma Street, in Brisbane

One by-product of our enforced stop was that I taught myself how to 'text' from my mobile phone. After many attempts and losses and restarts, I managed to get a story out to my daughter in Cairns, telling of our plight. I was quite pleased with myself. It was a bit disheartening to know that she was so proficient in texting that I had a reply from her in under a minute!

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## Business Advertisement

Jessica's work includes family history/genealogy research, including the recording of oral histories, design of photobooks and navigation of archives. She works with organisations/community groups to provide significance assessments of collections or to research and design history displays and publications. She specialises in Public Relations for heritage organisations but is accredited across all areas of heritage and PR (PHAQ, APRIA). She can assist with developing and/or maintaining websites, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter pages. Her work also includes developing flyers and advertising materials, and helping organisations or people working on a project to 'get their message out there'.



### SEQ Headstones and Memorial Photos

[www.chapelhill.homeip.net/](http://www.chapelhill.homeip.net/)

This is a personal website maintained by a Brisbane couple. It includes photos from Brisbane cemeteries and surrounding shires in South East Queensland.

The collection is intended mostly to cover cemeteries for which there are no on-line lists of names. The webmasters hope that the photos of the headstones will help to provide a sense of place for those who can't visit the cemeteries personally. As they are based in Brisbane (Qld Australia), this mostly determines where they visit.

## Wandering Through the Web

### Dusty Docs

[www.dustydocs.com.au](http://www.dustydocs.com.au)

This website contains links to free websites in the British Isles containing Parish Records, information on old names given to diseases, old occupations, derivation of surnames and their distribution, among other things.

### History of Migration to Australia

[www.migrationheritage.nsw.gov.au](http://www.migrationheritage.nsw.gov.au)

**This website has been archived and is no longer updated.** The content featured is no longer current and is being made available to the general public for research and historical information purposes only. You will find some really good photos and information.



**16 Corporate Drive, Cannon Hill**

Phone: (07) 3249 4200

Website: [www.naa.gov.au](http://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.

**NB: Closed due to COVID-19**

~~Open - Wednesday to Friday 9am to 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 a rich source of information for local history.

## Queensland State Archives

**435 Compton Road, Runcorn**

Phone: (07) 3131 7777

Website: [www.archives.qld.gov.au](http://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.

**NB: Closed due to COVID-19**

~~Open - Monday to Friday 9am to 4.30pm~~

~~every Second Saturday 9am to 4.30pm~~

~~Closed - Public Holidays & Christmas/New year break~~

The Readers Lounge has tea & coffee facilities, a refrigerator and a 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 more information

These prices are based on Historical Certificates, where available

#### Queensland

Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages (Qld)  
110 George Street, Brisbane. 4000  
PO Box 15188, City East, Qld 4002  
Phone: 1300 366 430  
Hours: Monday-Friday 8.30am – 4.30pm  
**\$22.50 Historical Image** – PDF on-line  
**\$22.50 Historical Source Image** – PDF on-line  
**\$31.70 Historical Certificate** – includes postage  
[www.qld.gov.au/familyhistory/](http://www.qld.gov.au/familyhistory/)

#### New South Wales

NSW Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages  
GPO Box 30, Sydney, NSW 2001  
Phone: 13 77 88  
**\$35.00** (with Registration number)  
**\$48.00** (w/out number, includes 10-year search)  
Both include postage; Credit card charges extra  
[www.bdm.nsw.gov.au](http://www.bdm.nsw.gov.au)

#### Transcription services:

[www.joymurrin.com.au](http://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  
**\$24.50** Uncertified Historical Image - via email  
**\$33.80** Historical Certificate – postage extra  
[www.bdm.vic.gov.au](http://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  
**\$65.00** includes postage  
Historic Death and Marriage Indexes are now available.  
[https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/app/answers/detail/a\\_id/18/kw/bdm](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  
**\$54.50** - includes postage  
<https://www.sa.gov.au/topics/family-and-community/births-deaths-and-marriages/family-research> Also check their link to [Genealogy SA](http://GenealogySA) who provide an online name search and more!

#### 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  
<https://bdm.justice.wa.gov.au/>

#### Tasmania

Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages  
GPO Box 198, Hobart, Tasmania  
7001  
Phone: 1300 135 513  
**\$55.42** – includes postage  
[www.justice.tas.gov.au/bdm/home](http://www.justice.tas.gov.au/bdm/home)



#### Northern Territory

Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages  
GPO Box 3021, Darwin, NT 0801  
Phone: (08) 8999 6119  
**\$47.00** – postage extra  
(1856-1863 = NSW) (1863-1870 = SA)  
[www.nt.gov.au/justice/bdm](http://www.nt.gov.au/justice/bdm)

#### New Zealand

Registry of Births, Deaths, Marriages & Citizenship  
PO Box 10-526, Wellington 6143 New Zealand  
Printout **\$(NZ)25.00**  
(Visa, MasterCard & American Express accepted)  
A printout has more information than a certificate  
[www.bdmhistoricalrecords.dia.govt.nz/Home/](http://www.bdmhistoricalrecords.dia.govt.nz/Home/)

### Queensland Family History Society Inc.

**58-60 Bellevue Avenue, GAYTHORNE 4051**

Phone: (07) 3355 3369

Email: [secretary@qfhs.org.au](mailto:secretary@qfhs.org.au)

Website: [www.qfhs.org.au](http://www.qfhs.org.au)

### **NB: Closed due to COVID-19**

There are no stairs at this venue. It is accessible by either train or bus. Parking is available in the street.

Members are reminded that RGS is an Associate Member of QFHS. Membership cards are available from our RGS Secretary for a borrowing fee of \$2. QFHS will charge an Hourly or a Day fee, if you do not take this card with you.

If registering online for seminars, the card is not needed. Our QFHS Membership number, obtainable from RGS Secretary, must be stated.

### Disclaimer

The above information is correct at the time of going to print. Use this only as a guide. Check websites for full details. Prices are subject to change. If you do find incorrect information, I will appreciate your advising me.

[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](mailto:info@gsq.org.au) Website: [www.gsq.org.au](http://www.gsq.org.au)

### **NB: Closed due to COVID-19**

~~Mondays & Public Holidays.....Closed~~  
~~Tuesdays to Fridays.....10am to 3pm~~  
~~2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays.....6pm to 9pm~~  
~~Saturdays.....12noon to 4pm~~  
~~Sundays.....Interest Group Meetings only.~~