

# *Redland Researcher*



proudly supported by Redland City Council

*The newsletter of  
Redland Genealogical Society Inc.*

*Issue No. 138*

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# Redland Genealogical Society Inc.

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## Management Committee 2020/2021

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

## Life Members

**2010** Denise Brady and Marel Donaldson (Foundation Members)

Kaye Barber, Pamela Gilbert, Elaine Speck, Glenda Webb

**2011** Les Callaghan, **2013** Les McFadzen

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

**Management Committee Meetings** are held on the first Wednesday of the month, February to December, from 2.00pm.

**General Meetings** are held on the second Wednesday of the month, February to December, from 12:15pm to 2:30pm, at **Donald Simpson Centre, Bloomfield Street, Cleveland**. An entry fee of \$2 applies at each meeting. Free parking is available at the Centre and meals can be purchased by anyone wishing to partake in an early lunch.

**The Annual General Meeting** is held on the second Wednesday in July at 12:15pm, followed by the General Meeting.

Meetings are not held during the month of January.

**The Society's Collection**, on-line data bases, books, microfiche, CD-ROMs, etc, contains resources for world-wide research. These are held in the **Genealogy Room, Cleveland Library**, cnr Middle & Bloomfield Streets, Cleveland.

**Due to COVID-19 restrictions**, members currently cannot obtain the key to the Genealogy Room. Until Cleveland Library lifts this restriction, **only the Society's Genealogical Research Assistants (GRAs)** can obtain this key.

**GRAs** are in attendance in the Genealogy Room to assist RGS Members and the General Public, during the following times –

**Tuesdays & Thursdays 9.30am to 12.15pm | Saturdays 12.30pm to 3.15pm**

**Volunteer GRAs:** Bob Aldred (Librarian), Kaye Barber, Thel Brooks, Greta Brown, Val Burt, Margaret Clark, Russell Clarke, Jeanne Dixon, Annette Hall, Karen Hawkes, Margaret Johnson, Bev McFadyen, Les McFadzen, Pat Maclean, Pat Misson, Irene Salvatierra, Penny Stewart, Helen Veivers.

**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.

## Disclaimer

*The opinions expressed in Redland Researcher are not necessarily those of the Management Committee, nor of Redland Genealogical Society Inc. 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.*

## A Note from the Editor



I hear reports that we were well looked after by the Redlands Museum staff who set up the room and provided our Christmas Lunch; "the food was delicious, and our day could not have been happier". I'm sorry that I had to miss it!

The Management Committee has determined that, should a member wish to sell a genealogy-related item, the cost for placing an advertisement in one (1) issue of *Redland Researcher* is \$5.00 for a quarter page. Members wishing to do so can contact me.

Bob Aldred gives us good news in his "Librarian's Jottings" - Redland City Council has approved that our Genealogy Room in the Cleveland Library can, once again, open three days a week. In addition to its re-opening on Thursdays in October 2020, it also will be open on Tuesdays and Saturdays, from 2 February 2021. However, Members access to the Genealogy Room remains restricted to the hours that our Genealogical Research Assistants are in attendance. Certain COVID-19 restrictions do remain in place. Please check the details on page 4.

Bob also puts out a call for more members to volunteer as Genealogical Research Assistants. A number have had to resign due to health and family issues. Please consider his request! As Bob mentions, GRAs gain research benefits for themselves out of providing this assistance to others.

Greg Glidden

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### Copyright

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Requests to reprint articles should be directed to [redlandgs@gmail.com](mailto:redlandgs@gmail.com).

### Banking Details

Heritage Bank | Redland Genealogical Society | BSB: 638-070 | Account no. 011106514

### Membership Fees & Payment

Single Membership \$30.00 per annum | Family Membership \$45.00 per annum

**Payment by New Members and for Renewals can be made either to -**

Membership Officer at a General Meeting, a GRA on duty in the Genealogy Room, or by Electronic Funds Transfer

**When paying by EFT, please ensure that the following details are inserted in the Payment Reference -**

NEW MEMBERS: The word "New" and **Surname** | RENEWALS: **Membership Number** and **Surname**

Renewing Members paying by EFT need to complete a Renewal Form, scan and email it to the Membership Officer

*Redland Researcher* is free to Members. It is emailed unless otherwise requested.



## Librarian's Jottings

The Genealogy Room has permission to begin opening again on three days a week. This will commence on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February, The uncertainty of the COVID-19, however, means that this could change at any time.

Due to health and family reasons, we have received resignations from some of our long serving Genealogical Research Assistants (GRAs) and wish to thank them for the dedication and contribution over the years. We extend our thanks to Audrey Warner, Brenda Jones, Dianne Smith, Cath Maris and Jan O'Brien for their service.

We are pleased that two of our newer members, Val Burt and Thel Brooks, have volunteered to be GRAs and are familiarising themselves with the role and requirements of a GRA. Being a GRA has many benefits from helping others with their research.

The GRA plays an important role in our Society. Although the time commitment is not onerous (3 hours a month), the benefits are significant to both the GRA and those they assist. The satisfaction of helping people discover the stories of their ancestors, hearing the heart-warming histories as well as the less savoury hidden secrets, adds to the GRA's satisfaction. The search experience can also unveil the lesser-known sources for information and reveal new information for the GRA's own research.

**Currently we haven't enough GRAs to complete our roster or fill-in when a GRA is unavailable. If you can give a morning a month, or a Saturday afternoon a month, please contact me for further information on what is involved.**

To be a GRA you need some knowledge of family history, a basic understanding of how to search computer data bases and searching a library catalogue. Importantly, you'll need to be able to say, "I don't know, but I will try to find out for you!"

New or prospective assistants are given an introduction to the library and its holdings, after which they work alongside someone more experienced for as long as necessary. The Genealogy Room opening hours for which GRAs are required are 9.30am to 12.30pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and 12.30pm to 3.30pm on Saturdays.

You will even have the opportunity, when you are not busy, to pursue your own research. Knowing that you've helped another researcher, or even started someone on the family history trail, is immensely satisfying, and assistants often find that they've learned something new in the process.

### COVID Safe

The COVID Safe restrictions required by the library have been eased. Instead of limiting the number in the Genealogy Room to two, those in the room will be determined by the safe distancing rule of 1.5 metre. However, if this cannot be met, such as a GRA sitting next to a visitor at a computer, both must wear a mask. In practice, the limit in the room is now four at a time and social distancing must be observed or masks worn.

Offsite access to Ancestry.com via the Redland City Council Library web page is still available at the time of writing. Just log into the Redland City library site, click on the Family History box and go to Ancestry.com. This version gives you worldwide access. Find My Past is also available (one person at a time across all Redland libraries).

Should access to Ancestry.com become unavailable through Redland libraries, it can be accessed through the National Library until 30<sup>th</sup> March. To do so you will need to obtain a free National Library card. The card can be obtained on-line at <https://www.nla.gov.au/getalibrarycard/> Use this Library card to access this resource from home by visiting the National Library eResources portal.

As a service to our members, we are circulating the digital magazines we receive. Before Covid-19 these were loaded on to our computers for members to access. This is something we can continue, if valued by our members.

Print magazines received during the Covid-19 closures are now on the shelves in the Genealogy Room. These can be perused at the library by taking the magazine of your choice from the Genealogy Room to the Local History section in the library or they can be borrowed.

*Bob Aldred*



## My grandfather Seymour and his brother Edward

### Part 3

by Di Edelman

*This concludes Di's story about her maternal grandfather and his brother. So far, it has told of their sporting prowess as youths, described life and battles on the Western Front during WW1, and reported the death of Edward. At conclusion of part 2, Seymour had been hospitalised on 27 September 1917, later transferred to a hospital in England, and re-joined his battalion in January 1918. [Ed. RR]*

Whilst he was away, the Battalion had been involved in the major attack on Broodseinde Ridge near Ypres in Belgium on 4 October 1917 and the allies were successful in gaining this vantage point although there were heavy losses again. Many German prisoners were captured. On 9 October and 10 October in an advance on Daisy Wood, the battalion's losses were 24 officers and 392 other ranks. By 10 October, the four battalions of the Brigade managed to form one composite battalion out of the men remaining. After this terrible time, the men were rested, undertook training and competed in sports events.

When Seymour re-joined the battalion, they were in Lottinghem where they were enjoying five weeks of leisure. Men were given a day's leave at the seaside at Boulogne; they played football and some even had two weeks leave in England.

The battalion doesn't return to the front until 6 March 1918 by which time Seymour has left the 24<sup>th</sup> Battalion for the last time. On 5 February he was admitted to the 6<sup>th</sup> Australian Field Ambulance with synovitis of the right knee and this would have been very swollen and painful. He was then transferred to the New Zealand Stationary Hospital at Wisques in France. On 21 February he was transferred to the 53<sup>rd</sup> General Hospital at Boulogne and on 29 March he was transferred to England and admitted to the Norfolk War Hospital, Thorpe.

From here he was sent to the No 1 Australian Auxiliary Hospital at Harefield House. This House was planned as a place for soldiers to recuperate when they were discharged from hospital before returning to the front. Initially meant to house 50 soldiers in winter and 150 in spring and summer, it eventually cared for 1000 men at a time. Even so, its history indicates that men could enjoy the billiards room, the writing room, the grounds and could go off for picnics or catch the train into London.

On 29 April 1918 he was discharged from hospital and sent to the No 3 Command Depot at Hurdcott. Men were sent to the command depots to be trained and to achieve peak fitness after hospitalisation before being returned to the war. On 8 June, he marched into the Overseas Training Brigade and on 12 September, he returned to France, marching into the M.G.C.B.D at Camiera. [I can't find meaning of this acronym, but I assume it is the Machine Gun Company Battalion Depot?] I have read *The Last 100 days* by Will Davies to put together this part of Seymour's story along with the War Diaries of the 3<sup>rd</sup> MG Battalion. [Ed RR - Base Depot of the Machine Gun Corps, established in France at Camiers.]

On 16 September he was taken on strength into the 3<sup>rd</sup> Machine Gun Battalion back in the Somme. I wonder how he felt returning to the battlefield after some six months in England, healing and recuperating. I imagine he would much rather have been on a ship to Melbourne. His new battalion had just been involved in heavy action on the Mont Saint Quentin area and had suffered many casualties and taken many prisoners in the advance towards the Hindenburg Line. Seymour joined them where they were billeted in Buire and Hamelet, near Villiers-Bretonneux. The battalion war diary shows them moving off at 6pm to take up positions at the front where they remained until the morning of the 20<sup>th</sup> when they returned to Buire. During the next week much training was undertaken, and organised games and sports were played, and equipment was prepared for battle.

At the end of September there was to be a big push to breach the Hindenburg line. It was a formidable line protected by a determined, well-equipped force that needed to be overcome if the war was to end before winter came again. The attack was planned to begin at 5:50am on 29 September. The Allies under Gen Rawlinson and Lt Gen John Monash had 1600 guns including 593 heavy guns and howitzers and 1044 field guns. On the 4<sup>th</sup> Army Front, these would fire one million shells. For the first time, 30,000 mustard gas shells were used by the Allies although the enemy had been using gas for over a year.

Each of the four companies of the battalion was allocated to a brigade and since I have not been able to identify which company Seymour was in, I do not know where he fought in this battle. American troops were also in this battle but were not accustomed to such dreadful fighting and suffered terrible casualties.

By 1 October, the allies had not reached the objectives that had been set and the German army was resisting and even counterattacking. The fighting was severe, and the Australians received heavy artillery fire and had to wear their gas masks for hours at a time as they were bombarded with gas shells. Family members tell me that Seymour was badly gassed and suffered its effects for the rest of his life. I can't imagine how awful that was – my respiratory system doesn't even cope with a squirt of fly spray.

However, by midnight on 4 October, the Australians held a 6,000yard (5.5km) front from north of Joncourt to Prospect Hill and the British held another 5,000 yards (4.57km). The men were exhausted and had suffered heavy casualties. But still they fought on. And they secured the Northern Flank of the Line. They won.

This was the last major battle that the AIF fought in WWI. During the remainder of October, the battalion was behind the lines at Hornoy, west of Amiens, resting and systematic training was undertaken under the guidelines laid down by Battalion Headquarters. Church parades were held, and sports were played – Rugby League for the Queenslanders and New South Welshman and Aussie Rules for the Victorians and others. Baths were built and bathing parades were held, and the men were issued with clean underwear. It's hard to imagine how grotty, smelly and unpleasant they must have felt so many times during the war – covered with mud, blood and goodness knows what else. How good it must have felt to be clean and playing sport!

This continued on into November and on the 11<sup>th</sup> the War Diary of the 3<sup>rd</sup> MG Battalion says: *"News of signature of Armistice released and the town beflagged. Great rejoicing by the inhabitants. The Battalion Band played a special program in the Market Square."*

Will Davies in *The Last 100 days* states that the Aussies were sceptical and did not celebrate as enthusiastically as the other nations and the local French inhabitants who really made a fuss of the Aussies. To quote Will: The evening of 11 November, the men began to take in this momentous news: *"Sitting around the braziers in the evenings, all manner of ideas were exchanged. What did an Armistice mean? Would we go to Berlin? When would we be likely to reach home? What did the future hold for us? While many other questions came up for discussion, deep down in the hearts of all was an unexpressed feeling of thankfulness that the strife was over."* The noise had quietened. The guns had stopped. They could put aside their gas masks and lay down their guns. They could now think positively of going home to their loved ones.

Following the Armistice, life was a cycle of route marches, sports, inspections, church parades cleaning equipment and training. On 30 November, the Battalion gathered in the Market Square for a lecture on demobilisation, education and repatriation. The weather was wet and getting cold and the mud was making the transport lines difficult to cross but parcels arrived from home and the battalion used its funds to buy fresh vegetables.

In December, life carried on in the same vein – training, cleaning, sports etc. A trotting race day was held, and a Tote was run. "The Cooees", were formed from the Division Concert Party and they gave nightly concerts in the village. On 9 December, the Battalion moved to Huppy, north west of Amiens where new billets had to be cleaned and improved. Christmas Day was celebrated with a visit by the Commanding Officer and arrangements had been made to ensure that the men were in good spirits, according to the War Diary. Training was being undertaken in trades such as wool classing that would be helpful when the men returned to Australia and were seeking employment.

The men had a day off from training on New Year's Day and were occupied playing sports and then the training, route marches cleaning etc continued. On 11 January they were moved to new billets in Gamaches, a four-hour march closer to the coast of France. Life continued in the same routine but in new surrounds.

There were not sufficient ships to bring all the men home at once. The Spanish flu was virulent and spreading through the world and measures were taken to protect the men. The men could only come home in groups and the first two groups of the 3<sup>rd</sup> MG Battalion left in February. For the others including Seymour, life went on as before. The stores were being packed up, ammunition stored, and training continued. As well as classes in the trades, men could study office skills such as bookkeeping in the hope that this would help with employment in Australia and playing football kept them fit. In March more men were marched out on their way to England and then home.

On 14 April, Seymour marched out to Le Havre to board the ship to Southampton. He was part of the second last group to leave. For more than six months, they had been training, playing football, doing route marches and generally filling in time. How did the men deal with that mentally when surely, they just wanted to get home or at least to England? They must have all been suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) from their horrific experiences and then to be unable to get home to their loved ones would have added to their anguish.

Seymour's war record shows that he disembarked at Southampton on 15 April, but it wasn't until 27 May that he embarked on the Rio Pardo for Australia. Apparently on 31 May he was severely reprimanded by Lt Col McColl for disobeying a command from his superior officer. I guess all the men would have built up a fair level of frustration by this time so I'm not too surprised at this. I think they would also be concerned about where life would take them when they arrived back in Australia. He disembarked in Melbourne on 18 July, having been away for 3 years and 4 months and was discharged medically unfit with a disability of chronic bronchitis on 12 September. He was a Lance Corporal and received the Victory Medal.

I have to wonder how this young man would have changed. He left Australia a very fit, healthy young man who grew up in the rugged Alpine region of Victoria. He returned medically unfit with chronic bronchitis and always had trouble breathing. Mentally and emotionally he must have been even more damaged (as I think all soldiers returning from the battlefield must be). How could these men wipe their memories of the terrible things they had seen and the terrible things they had experienced and done? How did any of them return to normal everyday life? Where would they find work? It seems that he returned to Porepunkah where he worked as a wood carter.

We think that Seymour met Mary Elizabeth BURGESS at a dance in Brighton, a suburb of Melbourne before he went to war as, just five months after he returned to Australia, they were married by the Reverend Alfred Madsen in the Methodist Church, New Street in Brighton on 19 November 1919. Mary was the daughter of Joseph BURGESS and Rebekah HAWKER and she had been born at Laverton Werribee Victoria on 2 April 1894. Joseph who was born in Tarporley, Cheshire, England on 2 July 1865 had arrived in Melbourne on the Gilereux on 7 February 1887. He was a weaver but became a very successful dairy farmer in Melbourne. Rebekah was born in Wyndham Victoria on 25 November 1871 after her parents, Isaac Hawker and Elizabeth Couch migrated from Port Isaac, Cornwall to Melbourne on the Accrington in 1862. Rebekah and Joseph married at Werribee in 1893.

Seymour and Mary had four children: Mona was born in 17 October 1920, John Joseph was born on 15 January 1922, Lorna May was born on 31 October 1924 and Jean (my mother) on 17 January 1926, meaning they had four children under 6. All of the children were born in Brighton. Mary had been a teacher employed by the Victorian Department of Education prior to 1916 but lived with her parents between 1916 and her marriage and did not teach during that time.

In 1931 she filed for divorce from Seymour who was definitely having trouble settling back into everyday life and taking on his responsibilities. It seems that between their marriage and 1931 Seymour had been in and out of employment in a range of jobs including: dairy worker, motorman and conductor on the Melbourne trams, wood carter, saw miller, police constable, tannery presser, letter sorter and skin buyer. One of my cousins told me that Joseph bought Seymour a sawmill at one time but that he couldn't make a success of it. However, I can find no records of this.

The family moved around a lot, living in eight different locations in that time. Just imagine the turmoil for the children changing schools and making new friends every time! In 1924 Seymour was discharged from the police force for drunkenness and in 1925 he spent two months in the Caulfield Military Hospital when his health suffered because of the gassing during the war. Reading the divorce papers filed by Mary made me so sad. The relationship disintegrated as Seymour's alcoholism increased and Mary returned several times with her children to live with her parents. In 1927 Mary returned to teaching and this must have been very difficult with four young children, but I suppose that their grandmother, Rebekah, cared for them. The divorce was made absolute in 1932.

In the electoral rolls, I've found Seymour who seems to change his name to John Seymour or just John Harrison living with his mother Harriet and his sister Pansy Grace at 2 Erskine St, North Melbourne between 1931 and 1942. He is listed as a labourer and Pansy as a machinist while Harriet looks after the family. This was the time of the depression, so I imagine finding work if you were unskilled was very difficult.

I suppose that is why Seymour enlisted in the army again at the Melbourne Town Hall on 16 September 1941. He listed his usual occupation as sawyer and turner but said he was currently employed as a rigger. His attestation form gives his army number as V19437. Sadly, even during this time, his alcoholism continued to be a problem.



In 1943 I think Seymour found some happiness again. On 14 August at St Michael's Church of England in Carlton, he and Dorothy Joyce Lesar were married. She was 28 and he gave his age as 41 but he was actually 49. She was a factory hand – could Pansy have introduced them – she was a machinist? They look so happy in the photo.

Dorothy and Seymour moved to Narrabundah Canberra in the Australian Capital Territory. They had a son who would be about my age so I will not give any further details about him as he is probably still living, and he has his right to privacy.

Seymour died in the Canberra Memorial hospital on 26 June 1962 and was buried in the Woden Cemetery plot H-EX-E-003 Memorial ID 180601803.

Of course, having been adopted out of the family and not discovering this until 2001, I did not meet Seymour and it has been important to me to find out about his life. I feel for him. He went off to war with his brother as a fit and healthy young man. He came back alone as so many of our young men did – battle-scarred and weary – and unable to resume a normal life and take on life's responsibilities. It hadn't been named then but I have no doubt that he suffered from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and there was no support available for the emotional and mental strain of war at that time.

I think learning this story also helps me to understand my mother, Jean. When she was young her family was in chaos. Sometimes her father was there and sometimes he wasn't. He was an alcoholic and she became one too! She was in relationships with many men. Her life was such a mess.

I wonder how Seymour's life would have been if he hadn't had to go to war?

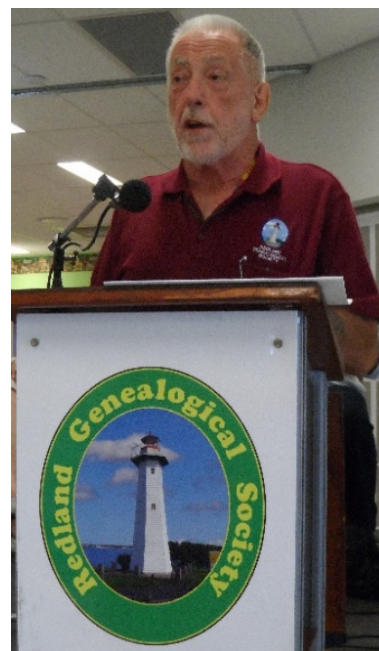
### Guest Speaker

Our Patron, Les McFadzen, was Guest Speaker at the November General Meeting. He presented the topic "Chinese Ancestry".

We learnt that Chinese surnames come first, Chinese women don't change their names upon marriage, and of the confusion caused in cataloguing in alphabetical order by Australian authorities, due to the Cantonese "Ah" often used in speech, preceding the surname but actually being an "exclamation" not a part of the surname.

Births, marriages and deaths were recorded by families on scrolls, some known to date back to 1100BC. Sadly, many families' long-kept genealogy records were destroyed by the Red Guard during the Cultural Revolution in the 1960s.

Les advised that he has thirty pages of notes on Chinese ancestry and offered to email them to interested members. He can be contacted at [redlandgs@gmail.com](mailto:redlandgs@gmail.com).



### Members' Interests



Please contact Members through the Society's email: [redlandgs@gmail.com](mailto:redlandgs@gmail.com)

**Member's Name:** Thelma (Thel) Brooks

**Membership No:** 352

Surname	Country	Town/City	State/County	Year or Range of Years
Graham	Scotland	Glenmavis	Lanarkshire	1896-1980
Chalmers	Scotland	Markinch	Fife	1783
Cryan	Ireland	Leitrim	Roscommon	1829-1916
Murray	Ireland	Leitrim	Roscommon	1837-1925



## How do I search the International Genealogical Index (IGI)?

Did you know that you can search the International Genealogical Index (IGI) on FamilySearch?

The records are a mix of community-indexed sources and community-contributed records. This collection contains two types of data:

- **Community-indexed IGI** consists of sources indexed by the genealogical community from collections of vital and Church records on microfilms of original records. Community-indexed IGI records are limited to a small portion of the old IGI. The remaining indexed records are now found by searching on the general search page of the FamilySearch website.
- **Community-contributed IGI** consists of personal family information submitted by individuals.

Not all of the data is equally reliable. Attempts to prevent duplication resulted in the exclusion of some indexed records. If you cannot find an entry in the community-indexed entries, try searching the community-contributed entries.

Here's how to access the IGI, either through the website or your mobile device.

### Steps (website)

1. Go to FamilySearch.org.
2. At the top of the page, click **Search**.
3. Click **Genealogies**.
4. Enter information about the person you want to find.
  - Use the options under **Events** and **Search by Relationship** to narrow your search.
  - You can add multiple names, events, and multiple relationships by clicking the **plus (+)** symbol. The information you enter will be added to your search query.
  - To search for an exact match, click the circle for **Show Exact Searching Fields** located near the bottom of the search area.
  - Then check the box labelled **Exact** next to the appropriate search fields.
5. In the section titled **Other Options**, click **+Collection**.
6. In the drop-down list, click **International Genealogical Index(IGI)**.
7. Click **Search**.
8. Your search results appear. The closest matches appear at the top of the list.
9. If the search yields too many results, try refining your search.
  - Click one of the filtering options that appears at the top of the page. These include: **Collection**, **Birthplace**, **Birth Year** and **Marriage Year**. To see more filtering options, click **More Filters**.
  - Additional filtering options appear in the column on the left. Here you can modify the person's name, add or remove a life event, and add a relationship to your search.
  - To update your search, click **Update**. To clear all of the search fields, click **Reset**.
10. Click the name that interests you.

### Steps (mobile app)

Open the FamilySearch Family Tree mobile app.

1. Open the menu.
  - Apple iOS: In the bottom righthand corner, tap **More**.
  - Android: At the top of the screen, tap the **three bars**.
2. Tap **Search HistoricalRecords**.
3. In the search box under Find a Collection, enter **International Genealogical Index** (you can tap the full name of the collection as soon as it appears).
4. Enter information about the person you want to find. (To limit your search to a specific batch number, film number, or serial or sheet number, enter the number in the appropriate field.)
5. Tap **Search**.
6. To expand or limit the parameters of your search, at the top of the search results, tap **Refine your search**.

## The Lady in the Painting

by Robyn Dean



As I looked at the face on the computer screen, I felt goose bumps rising. It was if I was looking at a blend of my father's two sisters, Jean and Betty.

I'd been idly typing names into good old Google late one night - Mary Steven, Mary Ainslie, James Ainslie, Mrs James Ainslie - and up she popped, "Mary, Mrs James Ainslie". I was looking straight into the eyes of my 2x great grandmother, Mary Ainslie! I couldn't believe it!

Amazingly, a portrait of her had been painted in Hobart and was now in the possession of the National Gallery of Australia (NGA) in Canberra! Information accompanying the painting, and confirmed by the Allport Museum Hobart, matched the records I'd already found. This was indeed "my Mary". To say I was excited was an understatement to say the least.

I immediately contacted the gallery to ask what they knew of the painting. While it is unknown why Mary was chosen as a subject, they could tell me that the artist was Norwegian Knut

Bull, who had been convicted in 1845 of counterfeiting a £100 note in Britain and transported for 14 years, initially to Norfolk Island and then on to Van Diemens Land in 1847. The NGA records showed that the painting had initially been in the possession of family members, and then had been sold on to a couple of private collectors before being bought by the NGA in 2012 for an undisclosed sum. Predominantly a landscape artist, Bull also painted portraits of several Tasmanian identities.

I was offered a private viewing of the painting and of course I leapt at the chance; it's not everyday you get the opportunity to "meet" an ancestor. According to the curators at NGA:

*"Bull depicted Mrs Ainslie with a subtle sensitive attention to detail. Mrs Ainslie's cool steady gaze and neat attire convey a sense of her as a well-dressed and calm, yet serious character. Bull has also captured a glowing quality in the sitter set against a darkened background; her white bonnet is luminous against the black, and her cheeks have a rosy sense of warmth. With her attire and the glimpses of rich red wooden furniture on which she sits, Bull suggests a comfortable social status. The painting is a fine example of colonial Tasmanian portraiture".*

What a lovely description and I certainly felt a calmness about Mary when I spent time with her. Her appearance certainly suggests that at least at the time the portrait was painted, that Mary was a lady of comfortable means.

As you can see, while the painting isn't large (neither is the Mona Lisa), it is framed by an ornate gold frame which I think complements the painting well.

James and Mary Ainslie, from Lanarkshire, had arrived in Hobart on board the immigrant ship Louisa in January 1853. With them were children Mary, John, Euphemia, Emily, Georgina (my great grandmother) and Jemima. Eldest son, Archibald, remained in Scotland.

James Ainslie was a tailor, and according to the immigration records, on arrival in Hobart, the family left the Louisa at their own request. An articulate man, James penned a letter, published in the Hobart Guardian, on behalf of the passengers of the Louisa to thank the ship's surgeon, Dr Kitching and teacher Mr Bray, for their kind superintendence and kind interest during the voyage.



Robyn Dean

The family settled in Argyle Street, Hobart, James took up work with Mr George Belcher, an established tailor of Murray St, Hobart. I wonder, could it have been that Bull painted Mary's portrait in exchange for newly tailored clothing some time after receiving his conditional pardon in November 1853??

Unfortunately all was not smooth sailing so to speak. Articles in Trove and from the Tasmanian libraries (linc.tas) reveal that in September 1853, Mr Belcher's infant son died of croup and a little over 12 months later, Mr Belcher himself died of "delerium tremens" (the DTs) resulting from severe alcohol withdrawal. I wonder how this may have affected James workwise.

In December 1854, according to a report in the Hobart Mercury, "Mr Ainslie, the tailor, while on his way home from the house of a friend at the Old Wharf was assaulted by three ruffians who knocked him down and robbed him of his hat, his watch and £7 in money", a considerable sum in those days; another great loss for James, the family breadwinner.

In 1859, James was found wandering "an unhappy man" and remanded to the New Norfolk Hospital for the Insane (Hobart Town Daily Mercury) where he died in 1860, a pauper, from an "affection of the heart brought on by previous intemperate habits" according to the inquest report. I contacted Mark Krause from The Willow Court History Group, who are restoring the New Norfolk Hospital; he suspected James may have suffered from a form of Post Traumatic Disorder leading to his admission and demise. A sad end for my 2x great grandfather.



What happened to Mary?? I suspect she led a relatively peaceful life in Hobart after James' demise, I hope so anyway. Two of her daughters; Mary and Georgina married and left for Grafton NSW; her youngest daughter, Jemima married and settled in Sydney. Daughter Euphemia and son John remained single and in Tasmania. Daughter Emily became the third wife of the Francis Anderson Esq, 29 years her senior. Francis was a prominent Hobart builder. Up until his death in 1875 and subsequent sale of his properties, the Valuation Rolls tell us that Mary lived in one of several homes owned by Francis in Macquarie Street, just a block away from the harbour. At the time of her death at the grand age of 82 in 1887, Mary was living with Emily in Elizabeth Street. Mary died of "old age", unlike her poor husband, and is buried in the Cornelian Bay Cemetery with Euphemia and John, and next to Emily, Francis and their daughter.

Incidentally, Mary's great grandson was Sir Earle Page, leader of the Country Party and Australian Treasurer. He became Australia's 11th Prime Minister (for 19 days), following the death of Joseph Lyons and prior to the election of Robert Menzies in 1939. His painting also hangs in Canberra, but in Parliament House, and yes, I have visited him too (after all he's my 2<sup>nd</sup> cousin once removed).

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## The Right and Left Game Story

by Beverly Bourke (McCowan)

My parents came to Brisbane to live at the end of 1942. They lived at Yeerongpilly, on the train line between South Brisbane and Tweed Heads. From 1945, they would holiday at Bilinga and were able to travel there directly by train from Yeerongpilly. From a not very good memory, the trip took more than three hours. Bilinga then was beautiful wallum country with some houses along the beach and one shop near the train "stop" - there was no platform! With the train stopped, the huge, frightening jump to the ground could be made. The Coolangatta airport was not in anyone's thinking, let alone planning. That was a very long way off.



*Tweed Heads Station 1940 – Engine destination "South Brisbane  
State Library of Queensland Negative number: 67581*

### Instructions:

Every time the word *right* or *left* is read out in the story, the player who is holding the parcel at that time is required to pass the parcel to the right or left as appropriate. The person who holds the parcel at the end of the story is the winner of the game and gets to keep the parcel.

Mr and Mrs RIGHT and their 3 children, Beverly RIGHT, Lawson RIGHT, and Colin RIGHT always went from Yeerongpilly to Bilinga on the Gold Coast for their holidays at Christmas time. It was just the RIGHT place to be when it was so hot in Brisbane.

Mrs RIGHT had lots of packing to do. She wanted to take the RIGHT clothes to wear. Togs were RIGHT to take because they liked to swim. They had to pack Christmas presents as they couldn't be LEFT behind. The Christmas cake could not be LEFT behind, and the Christmas pudding could not be LEFT behind as they were eaten on Christmas day. Food was expensive to buy at the local shop so they would try to take what they could with them. There was no meat available at Bilinga so Mr RIGHT took his bicycle so he could cycle to get fresh meat for the family.

They travelled by train from Yeerongpilly to Bilinga, so the bicycle was RIGHT in the guard's van of the train. Chicken was expensive to buy to eat so Mr RIGHT made a cage to put two chickens in for travel by train. They were RIGHT in the guard's van with the bicycle. The chickens LEFT behind had to be cared for by friends. The two chickens were just RIGHT for Bilinga as one was eaten on Christmas Day and the other on New Year's Day. There were never any LEFT overs.

At Yeerongpilly they were RIGHT across the road from the railway station so just had to get themselves over the footbridge to the RIGHT platform. They had so much stuff that they could not have LEFT anything needed at home. The RIGHT fishing rods were taken as they were to be used in the ocean to catch fish to eat. They were LEFT in the guard's van. Even the trusty axe for the chickens had to be taken on holiday too. They LEFT on the train in the morning and it took a long time to get to Bilinga. At Bilinga unfortunately there was no platform for them when they LEFT the train. They scrambled down hoping not to break legs in the last jump. Then Mr RIGHT went and got the ports, bicycle, chickens in the cage, fishing rods and axe out of the guard's van where they had been LEFT for the journey. Mrs RIGHT, Beverly RIGHT, Lawson RIGHT and even Colin RIGHT had to help quickly as the train wanted to leave RIGHT away. Before them was the long walk past the shop RIGHT at the station to the flat. They all helped carry the luggage.

When they got there Mr RIGHT was anxious to get the chicken wire from the owner, Mr Olive, so that he could make the pen for the chickens in the back yard. It was natural wallum vegetation RIGHT up to the back door so that was RIGHT for the chickens. The family unpacked RIGHT away and found they had everything and had LEFT nothing behind that they needed.



A lot of time was spent playing on the beach which was RIGHT in front of the flats. They had to cross the road to get there so had to look to the RIGHT, look to the LEFT and then to the RIGHT again before crossing. They swam in the ocean but there were no lifesavers, so they did not go RIGHT out into the water and were very careful. Mr RIGHT and another father acted as lifesavers, so they had to be there if the children wanted to swim. Even Mrs RIGHT liked going for a swim in the ocean

There were other children to play with, so the children were kept busy. In the afternoon they often would play beach cricket. When the bowler was bowling, and the ocean was on his or her LEFT it was not a good idea for the batter to hit the ball to their RIGHT as that was the side the ocean was on for them. It did not matter whether the batter was a RIGHT hander or LEFT hander the ocean was still on their RIGHT. They enjoyed playing and sometimes they LEFT the beach late. After tea was the RIGHT time to play cards and board games often received as Christmas presents. It started off with *Snap* and appropriately *Fish* and ended up with the card game *500*. *Snakes and Ladders* was a good board game and later *Monopoly* was a favourite especially for Bob, one of the children who lived RIGHT next door as he ended up with lots of property and LEFT very little for other players.

Mr RIGHT would go fishing late in the afternoon out in the ocean RIGHT in front of the flats. He sometimes caught Trevally fish and so the family would have fish for tea. Although they had chicken and fish on hand they also had an ice box with ice delivered RIGHT into the box so could keep meat for a short time. Mr RIGHT would go on his pushbike to get it. Turning LEFT out of the flat and onto the track he could go to Tugun or turning RIGHT he could go to Kirra or Coolangatta where there were butchers. With sea air and lots of activity appetites were huge.

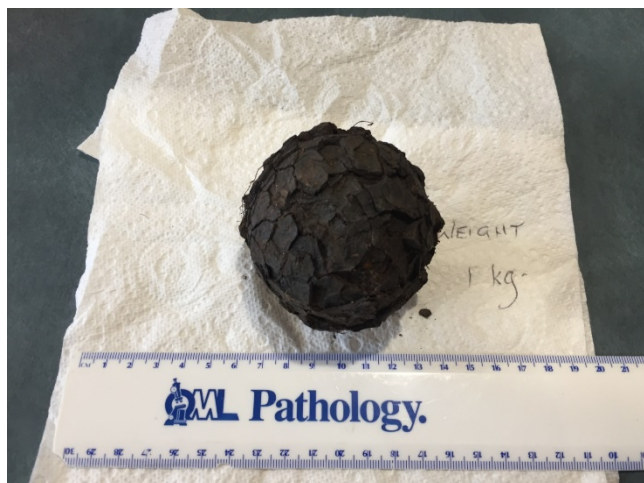
Christmas was celebrated with creative decorations and one chicken was killed for eating. After Goofy, Mr Olive's red pointer dog ate some chicken RIGHT off a plate ready to be served, chicken meat was LEFT under heavy guard. Christmas pudding was often made by Mr RIGHT's mother, but the cake was made by Mrs RIGHT. Mrs RIGHT had learnt cake icing at Nambour Rural School, so the cake was beautifully iced with marzipan icing. One time when Mrs RIGHT was not there for morning tea Mr RIGHT cut big pieces of Christmas cake for the children. Beverly RIGHT was overjoyed with the large piece and found out just how tasty Christmas cake was. When Mrs RIGHT came back and found out what had happened Mr RIGHT was in big trouble as there was very little cake LEFT.

New Year's Day was a repeat of Christmas Dinner menu when the second chicken was eaten. A mantel (small) radio was not LEFT behind at home and was just RIGHT as they liked listening to the cricket and Davis Cup tennis which was on then.

Soon two weeks were up, and it was time to go home. They had the train trip in reverse but without the live chickens. Guess where they were? They LEFT Bilinga, they LEFT the ocean and they LEFT their friends, but they were very happy as it was just the RIGHT sort of holiday for them.

## A Cannon Ball in Alexandra Hills

by Kevin Hughes



This Cannon ball was unearthed at 2 Topaz Street, Alexandra Hills by Sue Hughes. It was found 30 metres east of Allenby Road and 12 metres north of Topaz Street.

An expert from the Redlands Museum said that it was definitely a cast iron solid cannon ball. It has been the first reported finding of an actual cannon ball in the Redlands Area.

It measured about 8 cm in diameter and weighed 1kg, and it was heavily corroded. It is estimated that it could have been in the ground for about 150 years.

## A Visit to Annerley Junction

by Denise Brady



(Clockwise r to l) Karen, Karen, Denise, Elaine, Pam

When the Redlands Genealogical Society organised a daytrip to the Brisbane City Council Archives at Moorooka in October 2019, with lunch at The Groove cafe at Annerley Junction, I thought, "this will be fun - my old stamping ground!"

I attended Junction Park Primary School and, as a young teenager, spent a fair amount of time at Annerley Junction, shopping and generally just hanging out, as you do.

I remember the milk bar at the far end of the shops where I developed a lifelong love of vanilla malted milk shakes. They just don't taste the same in a cardboard container.

There was the Manahan's store which, through my eyes, had everything you could ever possibly need. I remember the jewellery shop and the Brisbane Cash and Carry, the supermarket of its day.

My father drank at the Junction Park Hotel and he was the quintessential Queenslander, walking home from the pub with a half-pound of Rainbow cake tucked under his arm

My sister and I attended the Pitceathly School of Dancing, run by Dawn and Robin Pitceathly held in the RSL Hall near the pub. I think we went once during the week, but the most exciting time was the Saturday morning class when all the mothers gathered in the waiting room where they had a cup of tea and a natter while we had our lesson in the adjoining room. After the lesson was finished, my mother, sister and I walked down to the shops and bought pies and peas from Lums' Shop and ate them on the way home.

Boy they were good!

I have wonderful memories of our dancing days, particularly the end of year concert. It was held at the Rialto Theatre at West End. We rehearsed on a Sunday and the concert was a few days later.

The rehearsals were hectic with people running everywhere and Dawn and Robin checking everything and everyone. It was very exciting and exhausting, especially for the mothers.

I remember my poor mother sitting up until the early hours of the morning hand sewing sequins on costumes. Not only was she the dressmaker for my sister and myself but she was the local dressmaker for the other kids as well.

Then came the year where I was considered old enough to be trusted to do a solo number. The rehearsal went well and on the night of the concert I was well rehearsed and ready to go. I ran onto the stage, saw the audience and promptly forgot every step I had learned so well. I remember Robin talking to me from the side stage, and she kept saying do anything, do anything. So, I did but I didn't know how to finish, and I kept doing the same step over and over. She eventually came onto the stage, grabbed my hand and we both bowed and walked off stage. Not a word was said.

The dancing school was still operating in the early 1970s as I can remember taking my daughter in 1971 to watch her cousins dancing at the Rialto concert.

During the 50s and 60s, Annerley was a safe, happy place with friendly people and judging from the people from The Groove and the other people I met during my day visit to the Junction, nothing has changed. Thank goodness!

I wish I had more photos of my days of dance, but this is the only one. It is of myself and a fellow dancer ready to perform "The Good Ship Lollipop" circa 1954.



## Free Access – Ancestry & FindMyPast

Access to Ancestry and FindMyPast continues to be available from home, at no cost, through the Redland City Council Library website, logging in with Council Library membership number. I urge you to make use of this while it is available.

## Members' Requests for Assistance

It was our Membership Officer, Annette Hall, who placed the "anonymous" request for assistance to find her Great grandfather's, (George John HEWITT) birth registration in England, and the marriage registration of his Parents, John HEWITT and Harriet COZEN.

One "surprise" response was from a gentleman, Norman Bainbridge, who is with Basildon Heritage in England. This is an organisation with whom we had arranged the exchange of newsletters just when our November edition was being published. On his own accord, Norman looked up information based on the female line, and came up with the marriage of a "Harriet COZEN" to a "John CLUETT" not "HEWITT". Norman and Annette were put in touch, enabling them to exchange information directly. Annette had found similar information but was uncertain about its relevance. She now is satisfied that the information provided by Norman confirms that she had been on the right track. Thank-you, Norman!



This is only the second time since I have been editor, that a member has placed a request for assistance in *Redland Researcher*. Perhaps something for members to consider?

## Members' Advertisements

The following books are offered for sale at a cost of \$20.00 each on a "pick-up by buyer basis only"

- "Australian Album: the way we were - Australia in photographs, 1860 – 1920" (large soft cover)
- "Australia Through Time: 125 years of Australian History" (large hard cover)
- "The Moreton Bay Courier to The Courier Mail: 1846 – 1992" (large hard cover)

Contact Annette Hall [redlandgs@gmail.com](mailto:redlandgs@gmail.com)

  <p><b>NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF AUSTRALIA</b></p>	<h2>Queensland State Archives</h2>
<p><b>16 Corporate Drive, Cannon Hill</b>          Phone: (07) 3249 4200          Website: <a href="http://www.naa.gov.au">www.naa.gov.au</a></p>	
<p><b>Important!</b> Before visiting, you should check NAA's requirements, details on <a href="https://www.naa.gov.au/help-your-research/research-centres">https://www.naa.gov.au/help-your-research/research-centres</a></p> <p><b>NB! COVID-19 restrictions Telephone before visiting!</b></p> <p>Open - Wednesday to Friday 9am to 4.30pm          Closed – Saturday to Tuesday and Public Holidays</p> <p>A public kitchen with tea and coffee facilities is located on the Ground Floor.</p> <p>Free on-site parking is available.</p> <p>The strengths of their Brisbane facility collection are -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• immigration records that date from the 1850s</li> <li>• post office and mail service records and photographs</li> <li>• works plans which cover everything from iconic buildings such as the General Post Office and Customs House, to defence service homes built in typical Queensland fashion.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Important!</b> Before visiting, refer to "Public Search Room" in their website for requirements for using the search room and for accessing records.</p> <p><b>NB! COVID-19 restrictions You will need to book your visit, using the link - <a href="#">Booking a session</a></b></p> <p>Currently, times are available Monday to Friday from 9am to 12.30pm or 1.30pm to 4.30pm.</p> <p>Times may be available on the second Saturday of the month.</p> <p>Free on-site parking is available.</p> <p>Visit their website for details of a free taxi service from Fruitgrove Railway Station on Tuesdays.</p> <p>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 arrange a subscription to their free "qsa bulletin".</p>





## 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

**\$22.90 Historical Image** – PDF on-line

**\$22.90 Historical Source Image** – PDF on-line

**\$32.20 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)

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### Victoria

Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages

GPO Box 5220, Melbourne, Vic 3001

Phone: 1300 369 367

**\$20.00** Uncertified Historical Image - via download

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[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

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Historic Death and Marriage Indexes are 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

**\$55.50** - includes postage

<https://www.sa.gov.au/topics/family-and-community/births-deaths-and-marriages/family-research>

Also, use their link to [Genealogy SA](http://GenealogySA) for an online name search for BDMs and other worthwhile resources!

### 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

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A printout has more information than a certificate

[www.bdmhistoricalrecords.dia.govt.nz/Home/](http://www.bdmhistoricalrecords.dia.govt.nz/Home/)



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**NB! Refer to website <https://www.qfhs.org.au/about-us/reopening-plans-and-how-you-can-return-2/> for COVID-19 requirements when visiting.**

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## 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]

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Saturdays 12noon to 4:00pm

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