Redland Researcher



proudly supported by Redland City Council

The newsletter of **Redland Genealogical Society Inc.**

Issue No. 139

May 2021

Redland Genealogical Society Inc.

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Patron: Les McFadzen

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Committee Member 2	Pat Misson	
Life Mombers		

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 - First Wednesday of the month, February to December at 2pm.

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

Annual General Meeting - Second Wednesday of July at 12:15pm. This is followed by a 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.

Financial Members can access this room for research any time that the Cleveland Library is open, making use of the Society's Collection and freely accessing the Research Websites to which the Society subscribes. **To obtain the key**, members must present their annually-activated "RGS" Redland Library Service card to Library Reception staff.

Genealogical Research Assistants (GRAs) are in the room, to assist RGS Members and the General Public, on -

Tuesdays & Thursdays 9.30am to 12.15pm and Saturdays 12:30pm to 3:15pm

Volunteer GRAs: Bob Aldred (Librarian), Thel Brooks, Greta Brown, Val Burt, Margaret Clark, Russell Clarke, Annette Hall, Karen Hawkes, Margaret Johnson, Pat McLean, Bev McFadyen, Pat Misson, Eddy Richards, John Ryan, Irene Salvatierra, Penny Stewart, Helen Veivers, Robyn Waters.

Local History Collection: The Redland City Council's Local History Collection is housed in the Cleveland Library with much of it available on line at <u>Finding local history resources online</u>. Angela Puata is Redland City Council's Local History Librarian; Gillian McNeill is Angela's assistant.

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

Our Displays Co-ordinator, Elaine, arranged a display in March at the Heritage & Harmony Fiesta at the Redland Museum. This was significant for the Society because it was the first display that we have been able to hold in over a year. These displays are invaluable for bringing our Society to the attention of the community. They serve the important function of being one method for recruiting new members, so necessary for the ongoing existence of any organisation. The Redland Genealogical Society has been in existence for forty years and we want to continue to assist family researchers for many more years to come.

Despite the occasional set-back, we are experiencing a gradual easing of COVID-19 restrictions. Read the good news in Librarian's Jottings – our Genealogy Room is now fully open to members!

Our Forty-year Anniversary will be celebrated with a lunch in May and we are fortunate to have an excellent range of prizes for the raffle being drawn on the day. Thank you to members who donated, and the Society extends its thanks to the following local supporters for their generosity –

Officeworks, Capalaba Don Brown MP, Capalaba Birch Carol and Coyle, Capalaba Central Developing Moments, Capalaba Park Leila Jayne Hair and Fashion, Cleveland Fame Orchids, Thornlands Hoya Garden Plaza, Alexandra Hills

Greg Glidden

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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 -

<u>Membership Officer</u> at General Meetings, a <u>GRA</u> on duty in the Genealogy Room, or by <u>Electronic Funds Transfer</u>
 When paying by EFT, please ensure that the following details are inserted in the Payment Reference RENEWALS: Membership No. & Surname | NEW MEMBERS: The word "New" & Surname
 Members renewing by EFT need to complete a Renewal Form, scan it, and email it to the Membership Officer
 Redland Researcher is free to Members. It is emailed unless otherwise requested.

Librarian's Jottings



Good news! After months of closure and limited opening days a week, our members now have permission from the Cleveland Library to access the Genealogy Room at any time the library is open. Simply present your RGS Library Card to the desk to obtain the key to the room.

The condition for allowing entry is that you clean any items and furniture that you have used or handled us.

Following a call to our membership to volunteer to be a GRA, we had a great response and now have 18 GRAs. This year we are pleased to welcome Thel Brooks, Val Burt, Russell Clarke, Eddy Richards, John Ryan, Penny Stewart and Robyn Waters to our Library team of GRAs. Despite our numbers, the Saturday session still has a vacancy once a month. The session is from 12.30 - 3.30pm on the fourth and fifth Saturdays of the month.

May is the month that GRAs nominate the Librarian for the following year. A new librarian will need to be nominated for 2021-22.

Just prior to COVID-19 causing the closure of the Genealogy Room back in March 2020, we received a generous donation of books from Doreen Payne, for which we extend our grateful thanks. These have now been processed and catalogued and are now on our shelves. The titles of these books are -

Clarence River Register No. 1 by Nola M. Mackey and Jean M Bultitude
Charles Joseph La Trobe by Alan Gross
A History of Yorkshire by W.E. Tate and F.B. Singleton
Here's Ireland by Bryan MacMahon
Pastures New by R.V. Billis and A.S. Kenyon
Huddersfield Highways Down Through the Ages by W.B. Crump
Australians in the Waikato War by Leonard L Barton
An Emigrant in Van Diemen's Land by William Thornley
Tracing Your Ancestors Through Letters & Personal Writings by Ruth A Symes
Land Grants by R.J. Ryan (Editor)

The Genealogy Room contains a wealth of information. The complete catalogue of our resources can be found on our webpage at https://rgs.net.au and click on the link "Library & Groups". Books and magazines can be borrowed, along with a selection of CDs. Microfiche and most CDs can be accessed in the Genealogy Room during opening hours.

Our on-line resources, available free in the Genealogy Room, include *Ancestry.com*, *FindMyPast*, *RootsIreland*, *TheGenealogist*, and the *Biographical Database of Australia*. To personally subscribe to these is expensive, but a visit can provide you access and assistance from our GRAs to optimise your research efforts.

However, if you cannot make it to the library, members may send their research requests to Pat Mission who has volunteered to search the RGS subscription sites, ie: *FindMyPast*, *RootsIreland*, *TheGenealogist* and the *Biographical Database of Australia*. Email Pat with your research requests.

Members are reminded that there are a variety of magazines and newsletters that we receive and are on Computers 2 & 3 for your access. The magazines include *Cambridgeshire Journal*, *Dugullumba Times*, *The Manchester Genealogist*, *Time Traveller*, and others. If you are in the library take time to peruse them on our computers.

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).

Family History and the Resettlement of Displaced Persons after the Second World War

by Dr Jessica Stroja

Those of you who know me will know that I've spent the past few years working a project at Griffith University that researched the resettlement experiences of Displaced Persons with children in Queensland after the Second World War. At a broad level, you are probably wondering how this related to family history. When I was undertaking the research for my project, some of my colleagues certainly wondered about this too! When I started this project, I intended to interview Polish, Latvian and Ukrainian Displaced Persons who had arrived in Queensland as children after the Second World War. I then combined this with documents I obtained from the state and national archives – documents that covered policies in use at the time, records of old newspaper clippings, and government correspondence. Yet, I still felt like my project was 'flat'. I knew about the policies and the regulations, and I knew how people felt about their migration, and how they remembered their arrival in Queensland. But I didn't really know the full impact of their journey around the world as they searched for a new start after the trauma of the War.

The post-Second World War Displaced Persons crisis was the largest mass movement of refugees the world had experienced up to that point in time. In Australia, these Displaced Persons became the first major wave of immigrants to arrive in the country after the War. For those sent to Queensland, they did not have access to the same facilities and language classes that refugees interstate received. But what was *their* story? I wanted to bridge the gap between the archives and my interviews. It certainly wasn't considered to be the norm, but I decided to turn to my family history and genealogy skills.

This opened up whole new worlds for my project. I fortunately had a very innovative supervisor while I worked on this project, who keenly waited to see what this would bring. No longer were these people a mass group of refugees who remained faceless, with the exception of those who decided to participate in an interview to talk about their memories of arriving in Queensland. I now had more pieces to the puzzle. It certainly took time, but I could now trace the journeys of people from the time they were forced to leave their homes in Poland, Latvia or Ukraine, to the time they arrived in Queensland – including events people no longer remembered. These were the real people affected by the upheaval of displacement, who eventually found themselves making a new life in Queensland.

It wasn't long before I was getting to 'know' many Displaced Persons and families during my research. People like George Sudull – a Polish refugee who found himself working in rural Queensland after he arrived in Australia. Government records told me that 'George Sudull' and 'Zbigniew Sudull' were most likely the same person who was born in an independent Poland before leaving his home at the threat of invasion, eventually making his way to Cunnamulla as a fettler after the War. And there his story ended. Personal memoirs added a little further information. But it was the births, marriages, electoral rolls, correspondence, Church records and family history that told the rest of his story and helped me develop a better understanding of what these displaced families experienced when they came to Queensland.

During this project, it was a privilege to work with so many valuable historical records, ranging from national archives through to personal collections. Now that my project is finished, I am planning a new project, while I write about my research and what it tells us about the resettlement of refugee children who have been displaced. And while it is of course important we understand how Australia managed the resettlement of Displaced Persons in our unique Queensland environment after the Second World War, I also hope to have been able to let these Displaced Persons have a voice that has thus far not been spoken in our post-war history of Queensland. But none of this would have been possible if I had not turned to family history.

I now urge my students, colleagues, and clients to not overlook genealogy and family history simply because they don't feel it will turn up something new for their type of project. As I'm sure you know, we can often be surprised by the gems that can turn up in the least expected places. But this also works in reverse. When I work on family histories, I also turn to other archives – local, state, national, library and religious archives – because you never know what you will find in the most unexpected places.

Guest Speakers

February Meeting

"Protecting Yourself Online" was presented by Warren Drover, Volunteers in Policing, Qld Police Service. These volunteers work with Police and public to improve community awareness of security and safety. Potential issues confronting us when we use the internet were explained, and invaluable advice was given on improving security. Dependence on the internet makes us constantly vulnerable to financial loss, identity theft and being held to ransom when a scammer locks up our computers.

Advice included - ensure that operating system, applications and virus-protection software always are updated; free virus protections software is okay but paid is better; it is okay to read the message in an email but DO NOT OPEN any links or attachments that you are unsure of; if a window pops up unexpectedly during financial activity, LOG OUT immediately and contact your financial institution; do not have one password for everything.

After the presentation, brochures and "The Little Black Book of Scams" were made freely available.



March Meeting



This month's Guest Speaker was author, Caylie Jeffery. She gave a talk, both captivating and humorous, beginning with her 1996 purchase of a 1912 Federation Queenslander on Heussler Terrace, Milton and culminating in the 2018 publication of her book UNDER THE LINO: The Mystery The History The Community.

Upon removing linoleum from the floors, a number of items were found - £5 notes, Commonwealth Bank of Australia passbooks and several coins. Many years later, Caylie began her search for the owners of the passbooks. Soon, a dedicated band of enthusiastic researchers came to her assistance. Stories of the owners' lives were uncovered, intrigue discovered, relatives found, and the research widened to encompass history of white settlement in the local area. Further information can be found on <u>www.underthelino.com.au</u>.

Caylie left us with the suggestion that we should make ourselves the centre of our stories - it is after we are dead that our families want to know about us.

April Meeting

Joy Neeson, a long-time resident of Redland Bay, spoke on the results of research done on finding families of the WWI soldiers named on the Redland Bay Cenotaph. The goal was to bring these names to life - 'names only' has little meaning without stories behind them. Success was achieved with sixteen of the eighteen soldiers named, who gave their lives during the Great War.

Joy gave us background on the early lives of these soldiers and their families in Redland Bay. Some still have relatives living in the area. She also told of the extent to which the Red Cross would go on the battlefield, enquiring of soldiers who had survived a battle, the specifics on how a soldier had died, who was with him at the time and what burial arrangements had been made.





Unidentified Photos of the British Isles

The Facebook Group, with the above name, assists its members with identification of these photographs. Judy Lofthouse, Genealogical Society of Qld, posted on Facebook that she had joined and was very impressed. She had 20 unidentified photos taken by an ancestor before he came to Australia in 1910. Nineteen (19) were identified. The identification of one, with hardly any distinctive characteristics, had been solved in seven minutes!

Lost and Found

by Robyn Foster submitted by her Mum, Audrey Warner

My brother took possession of a red brick art deco house on Fernberg Road, Paddington, Brisbane in the 1990s. He purchased the home from the original owner/builder, a plumber named Mr Reik, who had lovingly built the house in the earlier half of the 20th century and resided there until his mid-nineties.

Crawling through the ceiling space, my brother discovered a small wooden crate of century-old sepia photographs. Mr Reik's sons were contacted. They assumed that the photographs were of their mother's family, all long passed. They had no interest and gave instructions to dispose of them.

Imagining how I would feel if photographs of my own ancestors were to face the same fate, I took stewardship, hoping there might be some way of one day reuniting these treasures with an appreciative family member.

They were all sepia studio images, mounted on brown card with the photographer's gold stamps suggesting that they were from around the Toowoomba/Ipswich region.

Since gaining custodianship, I had been working up the courage to utilise copies of the photographs in my artwork and, a decade after taking possession of them, I found the perfect vehicle to give them a voice.

In 2014, Rick Thomasen, the Exhibitions Officer at Redland Museum, invited me to create an exhibition and I struck upon the theme of personal histories. It seemed to me that museums often house public histories but rarely delve into personal family stories, especially for objects that have lost their provenance.

I began a blogsite and a website for the exhibition and invited artist book makers from around the globe to contribute to the project. I also posted images and stories about the photographs that had been the impetus for the project.



My subject proved popular. I ended up with over 150 contributing artists and three ensuing large-scale exhibitions, Redland Museum Cleveland, Redland Art Gallery Cleveland, University of New South Wales Canberra, and a small showing at ABBE QCA Griffith University 2015 (Artists Books Brisbane Event, Qld College of Art).

"Lost & Found"

Artist books made by Robyn Foster from copies of the Baills family photographs for the Personal Histories exhibition

The only image to contain any personal information was a funeral card for a sweet young girl with blonde curly hair. It was inscribed *Elsie May Baills, beloved daughter of Sam and Martha Baills, lost to her family at the tender age of 10 years 10 months on 23rd April 1914.*

I posted a story about this on my blog, which piqued the interest of one of the contributors.

Vicki, a keen family researcher, recently moved from Melbourne to Iceland, decided to do her own sleuthing and typed Elsie May's information into ancestry.com. There was an active listing for the Baills family where she found Elsie's parents were listed as Thomas George Baills - not Sam as noted on the card (d.1940) and Martha Jenner (d.1952) who had married in 1902. Ancestry also listed 3 brothers for Elsie - Allan, Percy and Norman.

Coincidentally, not long after receiving this new information from Vicki, I received an email from a lady named Elaine, who herself was a keen family researcher and lived less than an hour from me.



Elaine had been doing a bit of family research on Ancestry. Her father Norman, now deceased, had had a sister named Elsie whom Elaine had been searching for unsuccessfully for quite some time. Typing her aunt's name into her google search engine to see what would come up, low and behold, a link to the information Vicki had been compiling came up which then led her to my blog site. She not only found an image of the long-lost aunt she had previously only heard rumours about, she also discovered someone who was actively looking to return the original photos to interested family members.



We made arrangements to meet to make sure they were indeed the right photos. It was very evident upon meeting Elaine that she was the custodian these photos had been waiting for. Elaine showed me one of the only photos she possessed of her father. It had been rent in two so badly at some stage that it was irreparable, so Elaine had it stored away in a velvet-lined box. Many tears were shed when I was able to hand her an original and perfect copy.

It was an absolute joy to be able to reunite these images with a loving descendant, but I do miss them!

Unrelated Certificates "You're Not Mine"

Over our years of research, we may have purchased BDM Certificates which, to our disappointment, did not relate to the families being researched.

Members, who discovered that they ordered incorrect Certificates for their family history research, have donated the originals of these to the Society. A database for such certificates has been set up on our website <u>www.rgs.net.au</u>.

Members are able to access the information on this database and purchase a copy of the certificate for a small fee. The list is very detailed to enable members to determine if the certificate relates to their research interests. Information in the file includes Surname, Forename, Type (Birth, Marriage, Death), Year, Certificate Date, Country, County/State. As well, listings may include notes eg: Age, Place, Parents, etc to help you identify if this certificate is the one for you.

Details will be found by selecting + Unrelated Certificates in the website menu, where a PDF of certificates held can be accessed.

If you have any "unwanted" certificates, would you like to donate them to the Society? If so, they can be brought along to one of the General Meetings and passed to Pat Misson.

RGS Logoed Shirts

Members wearing a logoed shirt often receive enquiries about "who or what" we are. This raises the profile of our Society and sometimes has led to the recruitment of a new member.

For those interested in wearing a shirt with the Society's logo, shirts, embroidering, and logo badges are available from Complete Embroidery & Apparel, 4/45 Waterloo Street, Cleveland. The company is located at the Showground end of Waterloo Street, a block away from the Donald Simpson Centre – Phone: 3821 5777, Mobile: 0408 180 131.

Options available are -

- Buy a blue shirt from their range, prices including embroidery -\$39.00 Ladies' S/Sleeve, Lt Blue self-stripe, Code M8600S \$42.00 Ladies' 3/4 Sleeve, Blue, Code M8600Q \$42.00 Men's S/Sleeve, Chambray Blue, Code BS03S \$43.00 Men's L/Sleeve, Chambray Blue, Code BS03L
- Take your own garment -\$13.30 for embroidery
- Purchase an embroidered badge for you to sew onto your own garment -\$18.50

[Prices correct at time of going to print - Ed. RR]

Hiding in plain sight!

by Yvonne Weston

Have you ever tried to solve the mystery of a missing child? Of course, you have. Ours was hiding so well that we never suspected he was right there all along.

Our missing child was the son of my first husband's grandmother, Wilhelmina. When I first started to research this family, many years ago, my then mother-in-law, Wilhelmina's eldest daughter, had quite a scandalous tale to tell about her missing older half-brother. She had all her siblings believing that 'he' was institutionalised in a mental asylum and was the result of unwelcome attention from Wilhelmina's eldest brother! So, now that I have that information, what am I to do with it? How much truth is at the base of this sordid tale?

Over the years, I got to know Wilhelmina and was able to talk to her about her relationships as she was keen to help with the family tree. She showed a deep interest in getting the facts right. She was married twice, the first being in 1934 just a couple of months prior to the birth of her eldest daughter (my mother-in-law) but the marriage was not to last. Now with 4 children to care for, she had endured her husband's philandering for too long and divorced him in 1946. Her husband left with his lover, mother of his two illegitimate children born whilst he was still married to Wilhelmina. We discovered later that he married her and headed to New Zealand, where they raised another 4 children. But that's a whole other story.

Back to Wilhelmina, she remarried in 1947 to an English man, who did not get on with her eldest daughter no matter how hard he tried. As a direct consequence of her hostility and behaviour, all four children were sent to boarding school, which only added to the children's hostility. Once her children grew up, they all eventually moved to Australia, married and had families of their own. After Wilhelmina's second husband passed away, she made the decision to come to Australia to be near her adult children and all her grandchildren.

So, what about the unspoken about child? Well, Wilhelmina did tell me that there was a boy, a local lad, who was the love of her life and they had a little boy who was taken away from her. She was not allowed to keep her son. Her parents forbid the couple from marrying. In the words of her father, "he is not good enough for this family", and so it was, the couple were parted and never to meet again.

So where did he go? This is when the surprise came. I got a message through FamilySearch from a young man named Simon, stating that the Wilhelmina in my tree, is his great-grandmother. Hmmm, they do have the same surname but that does not mean anything yet. So, after a few tentative questions and emails back and forth, he sent me a photograph of his Wilhelmina. He also sent supporting documents for his grandfather's birth and marriage. It is her!

Ooh so many questions, how did Simon get the photo? Who are his grandparents? Why does he have her maiden surname?

Well, the photo was one his grandfather had with a notation on the back, Melbourne 1955. She was in Melbourne around that time visiting her children. So that is a clue. As to the other questions, this is where it gets to be a bit of a soap opera.

Way back then in Scotland, pregnant teenagers, for Wilhelmina was barely 18, were a disgrace to the family and either sent off to an unwed mother's home from which a forced adoption would be arranged or the family raised the child as one of their own.

In this case, William, her son, was raised by his grandparents, Wilhelmina's parents, as if he was their own child. He was there, hiding in plain sight. Sadly, his life was not a happy one, he was treated badly by his grandfather, both mentally and physically and parts of his life are still a mystery that together, his grandson and I are working to uncover.

What we have managed to discover is that William married a Swiss lady in 1952 and lived all his life in Scotland. He and his wife had two sons and between the sons, they had 11 children. He did not speak much about his life and after his wife died in 1979, he remarried. He was not a good father according to his sons and lived all his life believing that his mother abandoned him without a care, for that is what he was told. Sadly, both have passed away before we were able to reunite them.

So together, Simon and I have worked out that Wilhelmina was married off to her first husband as she was again pregnant when William, her son, was only 19 months old. This time, she was almost of full age and considered to be disgracing the family yet again. The scandalous tale that I was told, originated from her first husband, so it is clear he did not want to raise another man's child. What better way of keeping them away from each other, and it deterred his children from looking for their older half-brother. I know from my discussions with Wilhelmina, that she absolutely loved only that boy she was forbidden to marry, and her marriages were not out of love but duty.

I can't give her comfort in knowing that we have found William or indeed give William comfort that his mother did not abandon him carelessly, but, together, Simon and I will work to find William's father and tell the true story of their lives.

Looking Through Their Eyes

(Be realistic about ancestors' lives)

The following notes were taken by Dawn Montgomery at an AFFHO Congress in New Zealand, from a lecture given by Michael Gandy, English genealogist and family historian, also past editor of Society of Genealogists journal, UK –

- Don't imagine what it was like, in your own terms, and translate that into reality it may be quite wrong; for example, 'shipwrecked' may be very local, not in some far-off land or on the high seas.
- Don't approve or disapprove on our own terms in their times it may have been generally done / approved of, etc
- Conception before marriage was the norm in rural English working classes. A high proportion of brides were pregnant.
- All sorts of people get respectable in middle age or old age but maybe not when young. Remember Groucho Marx said, 'I knew Doris Day *before* she was a virgin."
- Things change or evolve probably in 30-year cycles.
- Read about conditions at the time you are researching, to get social history, for local marriage ages, etc don't presume people got married at 16 or 26, etc.
- Farming in different countries or even different parts of the UK is not the same as in Australia or New Zealand. Similarly, with other occupations.
- Don't think in stereotypes.
- You will find a lot of things of interest re family history in books on antiques or old things or times. Sometimes even from trees of people connected with such items.
- Historical novels, plays, TV don't trust them! They are written or produced to sell to people today, so they twist the truth. Read about the past in things which were written then, eg: for 1830s London, read Charles Dickens, but for France's late 1700s, his *Tale of Two Cities* is not accurate.
- Listen to the 'throw away' lines of people, or the actions of the people.
- Hold on to the cherished traditions of your ancestors.

Some suggested reading -

- Thompson, Flora: *Lark Rise to Candleford* Tells of 1880s childhood in a village and how the boys stay in the village and farm, but the girls move away to be a servant when they turn 12, until about age 22, when they marry. So, look in cities' census records. Note: This was made into a TV series by BBC, 2008-2011.
- Laslett, Peter: The World We Have Lost England before the Industrial Age
- Parker, Rowland: *The Common Stream* portrait of an English village through 2000 years.
- Reeves, Maud Pember and Wilson, Charlotte: *Round about a Pound a Week* from a survey on poverty and infant mortality in Britain, 1909-13.
- George, Dorothy: *London Life in the 18th Century* highlights problems with female drunkenness; in 1860s about 60 babies per month were killed by drunken mothers falling over or lying on top of them.
- Note [Wiki] : Mary Dorothy George was a British historian who worked in MI5 British Intelligence in WWI

How not to Write Your Family History?

The following article was originally published in The Midland Ancestor journal of December 2004 by Phillip Wheeler, former Editor of many years, and was republished in The Midland Ancestor Vol 19 No 5 March 2020.

"I found this in a Probus Newsletter at Geoff Caldwell's in Melbourne when we were over there earlier this year.

An amateur genealogical researcher discovered that his great uncle, Remus Star, was hanged for horse stealing and train robbery in Montana in 1889. The only extant photograph of Remus was taken when he was standing on the gallows just before he died. On the back of this photograph was this inscription - 'Remus Star, horse thief, sent to Montana Territorial Prison in 1883, escaped in 1887, robbed the Montana Flyer 6 times. Caught by the Pinkerton detectives, convicted and hanged in 1889'

In the family history subsequently written by his descendant, Remus' picture was cropped, scanned in as an enlarged image, and edited with image processing software, so that the picture shows nothing more than Remus' head. The accompanying biographical outline was as follows:

'Remus Star was a famous cowboy in the Montana territory. His business empire grew to include the acquisition of valuable equestrian assets, and he had closely intimate dealings with the Montana Railroad. Beginning in 1883, he devoted several years of his life to service at a government facility until, in 1887, he finally took his leave from it to resume profitable dealings with the Montana Railroad. Later, in 1888, he was a key player in a vital investigation conducted by the renowned Pinkerton Detective Agency. In 1889, Remus passed away during an important civic function held in his honour, when the platform on which he was standing suddenly collapsed."

This article is reprinted with the kind permission of Midland Ancestors, the public face of Birmingham & Midland Society for Genealogy & Heraldry Midland Ancestors, an affiliated society of the Birmingham & Midland Institute and a Member of the Federation of Family History Societies. Ed. RR]

Rural School Boys - Two Sent South

from Beverly Bourke (née McCowan)

I love this write up from 1921 for two 14-year-old footballers – 'dainty' tea party with all hob nobs who wanted to hang on to success -

"Never before in the history of the Nambour School has football been marked with such distinction as it has enjoyed this present season. To have two boys from the school selected to represent Queensland is surely a credit to their school and their enthusiastic coach (Mr Walker). As a result of a selection in Brisbane last Friday and Saturday from thirty school-boys, each playing with a determination for his inclusion in the Queensland team, two out of four boys from Nambour – Masters Scott and McCowan, were selected.

A pleasant function "on the spur of the moment" was held at Williams' Café last Monday afternoon at 4 p.m. and thanks to a subscription list taken around by Mr. O. Collins among the businessmen of the town, each boy was presented with a travelling rug and suitcase. The table was prettily decorated with sweet peas and streamers of ribbon of the colours of the Rural School. About seventeen persons sat down to the dainty spread, after which Mr. Oliver Collins opened proceedings by first apologising for the absence of Messrs. G. Donaldson, A Bennett, F. Walsh, A. E. Harvey, and W. Whalley, and afterwards explaining the reason for the send-off. He said it was a credit both to the Rural School and the teachers to have players selected to play interstate. He wished the two boys success and hoped they would make a name for themselves. He then called upon others to speak. Messrs. E. R. P. Wainwright, T. T. Chadwick, L. H. Collins and E. B. Fox each added congratulatory remarks to the boys and added to the chairman's wishes of success.

Mr Steele, the Headmaster, then made the presentations. He briefly outlined the position of the sport in the school when taken over by him and paid a high tribute to the keen coaching of Mr Walker. Mr Walker, responding on behalf of the two lads said he was sure they would act both as gentlemen and thorough sports, and even if beaten they would play the game. Mr. G. F. Scott also spoke on his son's behalf.

Mr. O. Collins said that £4 had remained after paying for the gifts, and he asked Mr. Steele to hand it over to the manager of the Queensland team, to enable the Nambour boys to draw £2 each pocket money whilst on their trip. (If they're like their elders they'll need it. –Ed.)"

[Citation: RURAL SCHOOL BOYS. (1921, August 5). Chronicle and North Coast Advertiser (Qld. : 1903 - 1922), p. 5. Retrieved April 22, 2021, from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article81873311]

Members' Interests

Please contact Members through the Society's email: <u>redlandgs@gmail.com</u>

Member's Name: Di EDELMAN

Membership No: 6061

Surname	Country	Town/City	State/County	Year or Range of Years
ALLEY	England	Swindon	Wiltshire	1850>
ALLEY	England	Trowbridge	Wiltshire	<1850
BURGESS	England	Tarporley	Cheshire	<1886
COUCH	England	Port Isaac	Cornwall	All years
GOULD	England	Trowbridge	Wiltshire	<1870
HARRISON	England	New Malton	Yorkshire	<1856
HAWKER (HOCKER)	England	Port Isaac	Cornwall	All years
NORLEY	England	Bethersden	Kent	<1841
YORK	England	Bradford on Avon	Wiltshire	<1863

Member's Name: Dudley PALMER

Membership No: 111

Surname	Country	Town/City	State/County	Year or Range of Years
MITCHELL	Australia	Gympie	Queensland	1790-1900
PALMER	Ireland	Birr (Parsonstown)	King's County (Offaly)	1700-1850

Member's Name: Elizabeth RETALLICK

Year or Range Surname Town/City Country State/County of Years 1867-1938 ALEXANDER Australia Queensland DORMAN England Huntsman 1848-1920 Devon OGG New South Wales Australia Maitland 1859-1938

Member's Name: Penny STEWART

Membership No: 207

Membership No: 60

Surname	Country	Town/City	State/County	Year or Range of Years
BAKER	England		Essex	1500-1700
BINNS	England		Yorkshire	1600-1700
CAMERON	Scotland		Inverness-shire	1700-1800
CLARK	England		Essex	1800's
KOHLHOFF	Germany			1800's
TREMENHEERE	England		Cornwall	1500-1800

Magnets & Pens with the RGS Logo

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

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



Civil Registration Timeline United Kingdom

1538	Thomas CROMWELL issues orders for parish registers be kept to record every 'wedding, christening and burying'
1753	Lord HARDWICKE 's act for 'the better preventing of clandestine marriages' means all marriages must take place within the established church (except for those of Jews and Quakers
1834	When the New Poor Law, 1834 replaced the Elizabethan statutes that regulated parish relief, workhouse inmates' religious rights were protected
1835	The government began keeping central records of prisons in England following the passing of the Gaols Act and the 1835 Prisons Act
1836	An 'act for registering births, deaths and marriages' is finally passed with an accompanying Marriages Act (relaxing HARDWICKE 's rules and enabling civil marriages)
1837	Only a few days after Victoria becomes Queen, civil registration begins in England and Wales on 1 July
1845	The registration of non-Catholic marriages in Ireland begins
1855	Civil registrations introduced in Scotland on 1 January
1858	New divorce laws make ending an unhappy marriage a realistic proposition for the first time
1864	Full introduction of civil registration in Ireland takes place on 1 January
1874	A registration act is passed updating the 1836 act. Deaths now require a doctor's certificate and an unmarried father must attend and sign the register to be named on a birth entry
1898	The Authorized Persons Act means that nonconformist places of worship can now conduct marriages without a registrar needing to attend
1911	The General Register Office indexes now show a maiden name on birth entries
1912	Spouse's surnames are added to the GRO's marriage indexes
1926	The Legitimacy Act allows births to be re-registered if the unwed parents have subsequently married
1926	Yet another birth and deaths registration act introduce the registration of still born children
1927	Adoption is legally regulated, and the General Register Office creates the Adopted Children Register to record the details
1969	The first major changes to the format of birth and death certificates takes place. The surname of the child is now specified, as well as the parent's place of birth
2005	Civil Partnerships are introduced
2014	The Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act 2013 comes into force, the first marriage in England and Wales is in March, Scotland follows at the end of the year
2016	The General Register Office introduces an online index showing maiden names on birth entries and ages at death on death entries back to 1837. Trials begin of a system to supply PDF's of historic birth and death entries
2018	Long running proposals to add the mothers name to marriage registers move forward, but are not yet implemented

This article is reprinted with the kind permission of the Cornwall Family History Society [Ed. RR]

Findmypast "Private Messages" Feature

Findmypast has launched a feature which allows subscribers to connect, correspond and collaborate with each other. It first was released on their UK site, and is now available on their Australian site.

"Private Messages" enables any user who receives a tree-to-tree hint to privately message the owner of that tree to ask questions, discuss their research, share discoveries, family stories, photos and even connect with distant living relatives. As long as the other user accepts their message request, the pair can then communicate through Findmypast.

More information can be found on to their Help page, <u>https://help.findmypast.co.uk/hc/en-us/sections/360003476897-</u> <u>Private-Messaging</u>

RGS Facebook Page Members Chat Room



We have probably been in a situation when we really needed assistance but were unable to wait until the next meeting or to drop by the Genealogy Room at Cleveland Library to chat with our GRAs.

This is where the private Facebook group, "RGS Members Chat", becomes a valuable tool.

Members can discuss their finds, ask for advice, share their experiences with resources, hints,

and tips, even ask for help with Family Tree Maker. There will most likely be someone within the group who can help or knows how to find the right solution.

Why not join in? The more who do, the better the group becomes!

To become a member of the group, use the link <u>https://www.facebook.com/groups/RGSMembersChatRoom/</u> or google search "RGS Members Chat" and "RGS Members Chat | Facebook" will show up. When the page is opened, there is a Join Group button. Select this, and there will be two easy questions to answer - (1) asking if you are a member of the Redland Genealogical Society and (2) asking for your membership number. When these two questions have been answered, I can approve your membership of the group.

Yvonne Weston Facebook Co-ordinator

Any interesting information uncovered during these 'chats' could be shared at the General Meetings [Ed. RR]

Business Advertisement

Air conditioning installation/repairs Cold room repairs Smoke alarm installs/test Hot water repairs Safety switch testing Solar system repair/testing Appliance repairs Pool equipment repairs Water tank pumps and submersible pumps Alarm installation Security (CCTV) TV Antenna and points Data points



Wandering Through the Web

Cousin Charts—Family Relationships Explained

https://www.familysearch.org/blog/en/cousinchart/?et_cid=1772438&et_rid=130492853&linkid=CT A&cid=em-brc-10059

What is the difference between a second cousin and a cousin twice removed? This article explains the complexity of cousin relationships.

Cousin Charts and Cousin Calculator Charts can be freely downloaded from the FamilySearch website.

New online repository for Irish Roman Catholic Archives

https://catholicarchives.ie/

This repository has been launched to facilitate greater access to collections of material held by Roman Catholic congregations and religious communities in Ireland. It includes the provision of a platform for smaller archives to receive greater exposure.

Researchers can enjoy free online searching and browsing of a wider range of material, catalogued to international standards, from archives that normally have fairly limited access arrangements.



16 Corporate Drive, Cannon Hill

Phone: (07) 3249 4200

Website: www.naa.gov.au

Important! Before visiting, you should check NAA's requirements, details on <u>https://www.naa.gov.au/help-your-research/research-centres</u>

NB! COVID-19 restrictions Telephone before visiting!

Open - Wednesday to Friday 9:00am to 4.30pm Closed – Saturday to Tuesday and 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 -

- immigration records that date from the 1850s
- post office and mail service records and photographs
- works plans which cover everything from iconic buildings such as the General Post Office and Customs House, to defence service homes built in typical Queenslander fashion.

Family History for Beginners Learning Webinar



https://www.nla.gov.au/stories/video/family-history-forbeginners-learning-webinar

Don't let "for Beginners" put you off. This is a worthwhile 'refresher' on what is available at the National Library of Australia. Amongst other things it includes information on the Library's range of resources, the various formats and how to access them. It is of 58 minutes duration.

Poor Law Records 1845-1900 for Aberdeenshire, Banffshire, Kincardine and Moray

www.anesfhs.org.uk/databank/plindex/plindex.php

Information on this dataset and how to search it is available via a "HELP" button in the site.

JewishGen

https://www.jewishgen.org/JewishGen/Mission.html

This website features thousands of databases, research tools, and other resources to help those with Jewish ancestry research and find family members. Because JewishGen offers its services at no charge, it relies on donations for funding.

Queensland State Archives

435 Compton Road, Runcorn Phone: (07) 3131 7777

Website: <u>www.archives.qld.gov.au</u>

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

NB! <u>COVID-19 restrictions</u> You will need to book your visit by using the link - <u>Booking a session</u>

Currently, times are available Monday to Friday from 9:00am to 12.30pm or 1.30pm to 4.30pm.

Times may be available on the second Saturday of the month.

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 arrange a 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 **\$22.90 Historical Image** – PDF on-line **\$22.90 Historical Source Image** – PDF on-line **\$32.20 Historical Certificate** – includes postage www.gld.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

Transcription services:

www.joymurrin.com.au http://www.transcriptions.com.au/



<u>Victoria</u>

Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages GPO Box 5220, Melbourne, Vic 3001 Phone: 1300 369 367 **\$20.00** Uncertified Historical Image - via download **\$33.80** Historical Certificate – postage extra www.bdm.vic.gov.au

Australian Capital Territory

(Pre 1930, apply to NSW) Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages GPO Box 158, Canberra City, ACT 2601 Phone: (02) 6207 3000 **\$65.00** includes postage Historic Death and Marriage Indexes are available. <u>https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/app/answers/detail/a</u>_____id/18/kw/bdm

Queensland Family History Society Inc. 58-60 Bellevue Avenue, GAYTHORNE 4051 Phone: (07) 3355 3369

Email: <u>secretary@qfhs.org.au</u> Website: www.qfhs.org.au

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

Opening hours -

2 nd & 3 rd Monday	6:00pm to 9:00pm	
Every Tuesday to Saturday	10:00am to 3:00pm	
Every Sunday	12noon to 3:00pm	
Before visiting read Planning your visit on website.		

RGS is an Associate Member of QFHS. Membership cards are available from our RGS Secretary. **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 quoted**.

South Australia

Births, Deaths & Marriages Consumer & Business Services GPO Box 1351, Adelaide, SA 5001 Phone: 131 882 **\$55.50** - includes postage <u>https://www.sa.gov.au/topics/family-and-community/birthsdeaths-and-marriages/family-research</u> Also, use their link to <u>Genealogy SA</u> 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/

<u>Tasmania</u>

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

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



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/

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: <u>info@gsq.org.au</u>

Website: www.gsq.org.au

Opening hours -

Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays Saturdays 10:00am to 2:00pm 12noon to 4:00pm

RGS has Affiliate Membership with GSQ. This gives our members visiting rights to use GSQ's library resources. When visiting, **present your RGS membership card and quote our Affiliate Membership Number "6511"**