

Redland Researcher



proudly supported by Redland City Council

*The newsletter of
Redland Genealogical Society Inc.*

Issue No. 149

November 2023

Redland Genealogical Society Inc.

PO Box 605, Cleveland Qld 4163

Email: redlandgs@gmail.comWebsite: www.rgs.net.au

Patron: Les McFadzen

Management Committee 2023/2024

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

Special Interest & Other Groups

DNA Interest Group Convenor	Kevin Hughes
Facebook Co-ordinator	Yvonne Weston
Magazine Interest Group Convenor	Annette Hall
Writing Interest Group Convenor	Helen Veivers
Zoom Group Convenor	Penny Stewart

Life Members

2010 Denise Brady & Marel Donaldson - Foundation Members

Kaye Barber, Pamela Gilbert, Elaine Speck, Glenda Webb

2013 Les McFadzen, 2016 Jeanne Dixon

Past Life Members

2011 Les Callaghan, 2019 Pat Misson

General Meetings are held **on the second Wednesday of the month**, February to December, **12:15pm to 2:30pm**, at Donald Simpson Centre, 172 Bloomfield Street, Cleveland. An entry fee of \$2 applies to cover the room booking (and a lucky door prize ticket). Free parking is available at the Centre. Meals can be purchased from the Centre's café by those wishing to have an early lunch prior to the meeting.

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

The Management Committee meets on the first Wednesday of the month, February to December, at 2pm.

Meetings are not held during January.

The RGS Collections contain a range of resources **for world-wide genealogical research** in various formats. These are held in our Genealogy "Genie" Room in the Council's Cleveland Library, Middle St (opp. Bloomfield St), Cleveland.

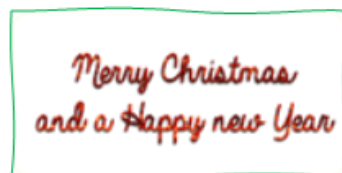
RGS members can use the RGS Library and its facilities, including accessing available online research organisations, at any time the Cleveland Library is open. **To obtain the Genie Room key**, members must present their **RGS Redland City Council's Libraries Service card** to the Cleveland Library Reception staff. It is not the same card that you use for borrowing privately from the Council's Libraries. It is the card given to all joining members. You must activate this card at Cleveland Library each time you renew RGS membership by presenting it with your latest RGS Membership Card.

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

Tuesdays & Thursdays 9.30am to 12.30pm - Saturdays 12:30pm to 3:30pm

Volunteer GRAs: Karen Hawkes (Librarian), Ian Barrett, Chris Boylett, Val Burt, Margaret Clark, Russell Clarke, Jeanne Dixon, Annette Hall, Laraine Haswell, Bev McFadyen, Sandra Pawluk, Eddie Richards, Irene Salvatierra, Dianne Smith, Penny Stewart, Helen Veivers, Robyn Waters, Charlotte Wruck.

Redland City Council's Local History Collection: The Local History Collection is housed in the Cleveland Library with much of it available online at https://redl.sdp.sirsidynix.net.au/client/en_AU/search/asset/1007593/0. Georgia Bennett is Redland City Council's Local History Librarian; Gillian McNeill is Local History Technician.



A Note from the Editor

This is our final edition for 2023, and I take the opportunity to wish all a safe, enjoyable Christmas, and the best of health for the New Year.

We owe much to the time freely given by our volunteer Genealogical Research Assistants in the Genie Room. They will be taking a much-deserved break from Tuesday 19th December 2023, returning Tuesday 16th January 2024.

If anyone has an interest in or knows of anyone who may have an interest in, the family names GOUGH, KENT, BREDDIN or RUSSELL, please refer to *Notes from the Librarian*.

Recently the Redland Genealogical Society was successful in obtaining a Grant through the Redland City Council's *Councillor's Community Benefit Fund* which has enabled the purchase of a new Laptop. This Laptop will be used at Society meetings to ensure that our Guest Speaker presentations are seamless. The Redland Genealogical Society is very appreciative of this assistance.

Greg Glidden

Contents	Page
Management Committee ~ SIG Convenors ~ Meeting Times ~ Resources in the Genealogy Room & Access	2
Genealogical Research Assistants & Hours of Duty ~ Redland City Council's Local History Collection	2
A Note from the Editor ~ Contents ~ Copyright ~ Membership Fees and Payment Methods ~ Disclaimer	3
Notes from the Librarian	4
Alexandra Hills Private Museum	5
A Report from our Membership Officer	5
<i>Life in Cape York 1867 - William Turton Kennett</i> by Bev McFadyen	6
A Past Memory of Brisbane	9
The "My Family History" Book	9
<i>Grandfather's Watch</i> by Chris Boylett	10
Presentations at General Meetings	11
<i>Who is Thomas Newbery</i> by Mark Player	12
Snippets	14
Wandering Through the Web	14
Crime Prevention Corner ~ National Archives of Australia ~ Queensland State Archives	15
Where to Get Your Certificates	16

Copyright

Articles published in *Redland Researcher* are copyright to the Society and the authors. While articles may be copied for personal use, they may not be reproduced without the written permission of the Society and the Author.

Requests to reprint articles should be directed to redlandgs@gmail.com.

Membership Fees & Payment

Single Membership \$35.00 per annum - Family Membership \$50.00 per annum

Payment by New Members and Renewing Members can be made to -

The Membership Officer at General Meetings, a GRA on duty in the Genealogy Room,
or by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)

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

IF A NEW MEMBER: *The word New + Surname* ~ IF RENEWING: **Membership No. + Surname**

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

Banking details for EFT are provided on the Forms.

Redland Researcher is free to Members. It is emailed unless otherwise arranged.

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.



Notes from the Librarian

The Christmas Vacation Dates for GRAs are Tuesday 19th December 2023 to Saturday 13th January 2024. No GRAs will be in attendance from and including these dates. First day back for GRAs will be Tuesday 16th January 2024.

Our Society subscribes to the following sites, all freely accessible in our Genie Room –

- FindMyPast
- Biographical Database of Australia
- RootsIreland
- The Genealogist

Ancestry.com, provided by the Redland City Council, is freely accessible in the Room as well. Because the Society is an Affiliate Member of the Genealogical Society of Queensland, members can freely access the *MyHeritage* research site through GSQ's website.

We also subscribe to *Family Tree UK*, *Who Do You Think You Are? UK*, and the *Irish Roots Magazine*. The latest copy of each can be viewed in our Genie Room and previous copies can be borrowed.

Also, a reminder that Books & CDs from our Genie Room can be borrowed only by RGS MEMBERS and MUST BE WRITTEN INTO OUR BORROWING BOOK and ALSO CHECKED OUT THROUGH THE REDLANDS LIBRARY SYSTEM.

Georgia Bennett, the Local History Librarian, has advised that the Cleveland Library is not able to add FOLD3 to their Ancestry subscription due to their budget.

Ken Gough from Victoria Point has donated his Family Research to RGS. This consists of two Folders with Certificates, Information and Research Notes. His Family Names are GOUGH, KENT, BREDDIN and RUSSELL originally from Scotland. The Society would like to forward this on to someone who is related or connected. Is that you or do you know someone who is?

Please contact the Society or the Librarian if you are interested in these Families or would like to view these documents,.

The Workshop for Family History Month held in August at the Cleveland Library was a great success. An awesome presentation was given by President Helen, Secretary Penny and then a visit to our Genie Room by Librarian Karen. We would like to Thank Georgia Bennett, the Local History Librarian, for her help in organising the Starter Folders that were given to each participant. We had Approx. 12 people attend and sold one *My Family History Book*. We now have more *My Family History Books* in stock For Sale in our Genie Room. Cost is \$30.00 each. We also have USB sticks for sale. Cost is \$5.00 each.

When visiting the Genie Room please remember to Sign the Attendance Book and please ensure that the second door in the Genie Room is kept locked at all times.

The next GRA Meeting and Christmas Party Morning Tea, including the Magazine Interest Group Members, will be on Monday 27th November 2023, 10am at the Librarians Home. If you would like to join the GRA Team please contact the Librarian.

I would like to "Thank" all GRAs for their Time and Dedication in Our Genie Room especially those who have filled in to do extra Duty Days.

I wish All GRAs, Members and their Families a Safe and Merry Christmas!!

See You All in the Genie Room in 2024.

Karen Hawkes



Alexandra Hills Private Museum

28 August 2023

Annette Hall

Eight of our members plus one tag-a-long husband paid a visit to Tracey & Wayne's Museum at Alexandra Hills.

The museum features the collection, over 3000 items, of the Fauser family's love of old things and a need to save history and love between generations. Tracey's father Vic Fauser started the museum in Port Neill on the Eyre Peninsular in South Australia.

After Mr. Fauser passed away, his wife could not handle the museum on her own. It was decided to pack up and send the collection to Queensland by road train, firstly to Goondiwindi before moving to Alexandra Hills where it was set up by Wayne, Tracey and Tracey's mother Jill Fauser.

One of the largest pieces is a Marshall steam engine which Mr. Fauser restored himself. A 1926 Dodge Tourer and BSA motorbikes are also on display, one of which was Mr. Fauser's first bike. There was a lot of cleaning, sanding and polishing to be done as originally the family lived by the ocean.



There is also a collection of wedding gowns worn by both the Fauser and Sander family members from the early 1920s.

Everything from wheat and farming equipment, a colourful collection of tractor seats, everything you can think of in households over the generations is included, plus lots more. A must see.

We then lunched at My Horizons Bush Pantry cafe in a beautiful bushland setting with great food, along with a cheeky kookaburra and magpie. We also celebrated Elaine Speck's 83rd birthday.

It was a very enjoyable, relaxed outing. Thanks to those who came along.

A Report from our Membership Officer

Once again our Membership has increased slightly, thanks to all who have recently joined and to those who religiously renew. Don't forget to email me - Annette, or the Society if there are any changes with your contact details.

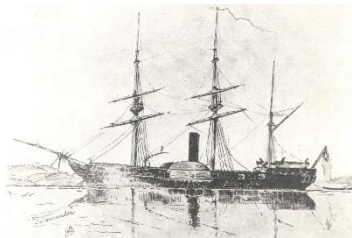
I'm quite sure there are many of you who have not set foot in our Genie Room at the Cleveland Library in a very long time.

There are so many wonderful books to browse through. You are also able to gain access to the various Subscription sites we have available. You can while away an hour or two by yourself. **You do know Members can borrow the key to our room** anytime the Cleveland library is open.

If you aren't all that familiar with the Genie room, then pop on in when the GRAs are on duty, and we can help you find what you are after. This especially applies to new members to help you navigate your way to a truly amazing experience of mapping your Family Tree.

If you can't get to the Library but you need help with any Research, email the Society on redlandgs@gmail.com giving your name, membership number and contact details and the message will be passed on.

Annette Hall



Life in Cape York 1867

William Turton Kennett

Bev McFadyen

*HMS Salamander, John Oxley Library,
State Library of Queensland
Neg 168785*

Following this introduction is part of a letter written home to England from William Kennett in 1867. He was a mission teacher based at Somerset, 5 miles south of the tip of Cape York in North Queensland. Bev's grandfather's eldest sister married William. He spent time at Somerset located five miles from the tip of Cape York during which he was well received by the local community. However, due to a change of government he was subsequently asked to leave.

More information is available at <https://www.slq.qld.gov.au/blog/taking-william-kennett-archive-tip-queensland>.

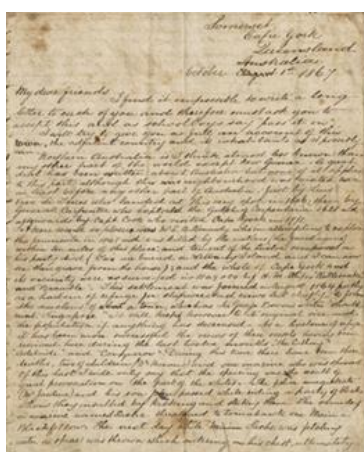
William Turton Kennett was born 1840 to William Roberts Kennett (a Watchmaker) and Ann Turton. He was baptised 22 March 1840 at St Mary's, Lambeth, Surrey, England, and died at Symondsbury 13 Jun 1910. On 13 May 1885 at Symondsbury Dorset England, he married Florence Elizabeth Marsh born 20 Mar 1863 at Loders, Dorset, who died 17 Jan 1935.

William trained as a school master, being an assistant master and master at the National School at St Mary, London, and Hybury College. In 1866, he and the Rev F C Jagg were selected from applicants, by the "Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts" for service in Far North Queensland, at the request of the Queensland Governor, Sir George Bowen.

Rev Jagg and William were funded by the Queensland Government to establish a school at Somerset, 5 miles from the tip of Cape York. They sailed from England in October 1866, arriving in Sydney 10th January 1867. From here they sailed to Brisbane. On advice, Rev Jagg left his wife and child with relatives in Ipswich, before sailing on the HMS *Salamander*, to Somerset.

Sir George Bowen had a special interest in this project. The settlement was formed in August 1864, partly as a harbour of refuge for shipwrecked crews, but chiefly to form a town. Governor Bowen had talks with Rev Jagg and William in Brisbane, saying he was dismayed to find there was insufficient funds in the treasury to pay their allowances. After the discovery of gold in Gympie in 1867, all was well, and the project went ahead.

Queensland separated from New South Wales, becoming a state in 1859. By 1867 the State was all but bankrupt, but Gympie's gold was Queensland's saviour.



Page 1 of William Kennett's journal letters covering period 14 March - 31 August 1867.
33001-0002-0001 John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland.

October 1, 1867

My dear Friends,

I find it impossible to write a long letter to each of you and therefore must ask you to accept this and as schoolboys say "pass it on".

I will try to give you as full an account of this town, the adjacent country and its inhabitants as I possibly can.



William Kennett

Northern Australia is I think almost less known than any other part of the world except New Guinea. A great deal has been written about Australia but none of it applies to this part; although this neighbourhood was visited twice at least before any other part of Australia, first by Luis Vaer de Torres who landed at this very spot in 1606; then by General Carpenter who explored the Gulf of Carpentaria 1628 and afterwards by Capt. Cook who visited Cape York in 1771. A more recent explorer was Mr E. B. Kennedy who in attempting to explore this peninsula in 1848 was killed by the natives (the Yaardiagans) within ten miles of this place; and ten out of the twelve composed of his party died (two are buried on Albany Island and can now see their grave from this house); and the whole of Cape York and its vicinity were surveyed in 1849-50 by H.M. Ships "Rattlesnake" and "Bramble".

This settlement was formed in August 1864 partly as a harbour of refuge for shipwrecked crews but chiefly to form the nucleus of a town, which as Sir George Bowen writes should rival Singapore. It still keeps however, to its original size and the population if anything has decreased. As a harbour of refuge it has been more successful, the crews of three vessels having been received here during the last twelve months – “The Cathay” “Adelaide” and “Conqueror”.

During this time there have been three deaths, two of children (Dr. Hasans) and one marine who was speared. Of this last I will only say that the spearing was the result of great provocation on [the] part of the whites. The police magistrate (Mr. Jardine) and his son John passed while riding a party of blacks whom they insulted by kicking and striking them. The same day a marine named Sache threatened to tomahawk one, Main a blackfellow. The next day while Sache was fetching water a spear was thrown which, entering his chest, ultimately killed him. In the fight which followed another marine, Dent, while taking aim with his rifle was speared in the shoulder. He recovered. One black only, named Doctur, was killed.

Some weeks afterwards a canoe was seen a considerable distance off fishing. It contained five black fellows whom Lieutenant Sascoe (the Marine officer recognised as having been concerned in the “break-out”). Chase was given and the result was that the whole of the blackfellows were murdered.

It is in this way that the black population decreased. Of six children who were in my house a few days ago, only one had a father living.

Well, so much for the history of Somerset – now for its geography.

It is about five miles south of Cape York and about 600 miles North of Bowen. Port Denison (the largest town almost along the coast) contains between five and six hundred inhabitants. Three quarters of a mile to the east is Albany Island separated from the mainland by a pass through which the tide runs so strongly as to make navigation at all times difficult and dangerous. The town itself is situated on two hills and the intervening valley and consists, at present, of five inhabited buildings, a hospital, storehouse, lockup (chapel), two empty cottages and the residence of the Marine Officer who is absent on leave.

The population consists of Capt Simpson R.N. (the police magistrate), his wife, a female servant, Rev Mr Jagg, Dr Hasan, Serjeant [sic] Dent and ten marines, J. Ralph, a shepherd out of employ, who acts now as my servant, and myself, 18 in all. About three miles out is a solitary squatter with four blacks belonging to one of the southern tribes. They are the cause of much of the blood shedding there has been since my arrival and I believe of very much before. I dare say I shall have more to say of them as I go on.

The soil in the valley is chiefly sand and on the hills, red sandstone and ironstone, at present all attempts at cultivation have been unsuccessful. The hills are covered (and so is the whole country for some miles inland) with “scrub” or dense thickets of underwood of very rapid growth. It has taken me the whole time I have been here to clear about two acres round my house. In damp places the scrub gives place to coarse rank grass which frequently attains a height of seven or eight feet. It is unsuited for sheep feeding, in fact, sheep do anything but thrive here. There is a good supply of water. Much rain falls in the summer or wet season, we have a well and at the back of the settlement there is a rivulet, the Pola.

The scrub has of course its many inhabitants, the wallaby (or small kangaroo) is the chief quadruped, the paddymelon is a smaller animal of the same kind. There are a few opossums, several varieties of bats, native cats, flying foxes, squirrels and rats. Of birds there is a great variety, the principal that I have met with are the blackbird of paradise, black macaw, cockatoo, blue mountain and rosella parrots, three kinds of doves, white and green pigeons, ducks, curlew, sandpipers, quail, bowerbirds, brush turkeys, marsh pheasant.

Five “carpet snakes” from eight to thirteen feet long were killed within 20 feet of the house during the first fortnight of my stay here in the same time I shot from the verandah a lizard of 42 inches in length. The snakes, a green one especially, are most frequently found in the trees, lizards of all kinds are plentiful and alligators are occasionally seen.

Ants of many kinds swarm everywhere and are a great pest in the house, covering the meat and devouring the sugar. Books, boots, clothes are destroyed and all efforts to get rid of them are fruitless. One kind builds a hill 10 to 12 feet high of red clay and shaped like an irregular pyramid. Beautiful butterflies abound. The sea too teams with its finny thousands and supplies its share to the wants of our table. The sharks however quite prevent sea bathing.

Of the trees I can say but little, of course all that are here are native (wild). Some I might mention are the gum tree, cedar, white and red apple, vine, cherry, date and the oak. The climbing plants are very large with stems as thick as an ordinary tree. At present I have seen but few flowers.

The climate is delightful, a more pleasant one could not be wished for; and considering that we are only 600 miles from the equator (much nearer than India) it is cool. It is now winter with us and the thermometer ranges from 75 to 82 during the day and night. In the summer it is about 12 degrees hotter. We have but two seasons, summer or wet season and winter or dry season. The former generally lasts from October to March and the latter from April to September. The wet however this year lasted till the middle of July.

In the neighbourhood of the settlement there are five distinct tribes of natives, the Goodang round the settlement, the Unduagamos join these to the South and further south (nine to fifteen miles from Somerset) the Yaardiagans; to the north of the Goodangs are the Goomkodeens and on the Prince of Wales group of Islands, north of the mainland are the Kowraregas. These tribes are divided into two parties at enmity with each other. The Yarrdiagans and Goomkodeens being allied against the Kowraregas and Goodangs. The Unduagamos are, I think, neutral but incline to the latter party.

They feed chiefly on roots and fish. The roots being yams, mangrove, booa (*calladium esculentum*) moppetta and quittepetta, the three last not unlike potatoes in shape and size and flavour. One article of food I must not omit as it forms their chief support at one period of the year, I mean the turtle, which is procured in large numbers. There are five varieties. A dugong is occasionally speared.

The tribes speak different languages. I can speak Goodangs pretty well and have a slight knowledge of the Unduagmos and Kowrarega. The males in all the tribes are entirely naked but the females from two years of age wear the covering which decency required consisting of a tuft of long grasses or split pandamis leaves fastened in front to a waistband behind. They are all modest and retiring. Their chief duty is to make the baskets (which every man, woman and child carries) and to procure the vegetable food. The woman wears the hair cropped very closely like convicts; the men keep theirs about the same length as a white man does.

I can't say much for the good looks of the ladies, but in one respect they are not unlike their white sisters that is, they do the greater part of the talking.

The men have from one to three wives but seldom more than four or five children. The children when about a fortnight old have a hole pierced in the septum of the nose through which they frequently wear a stick two or three inches long. The men (and sometimes the women) have the shoulders and breast tattooed. With the Kowraregas and some of the Goodangs, the marks on the shoulder are a large complicated oval scar, slightly raised, those on the breast simply parallel lines. Most of the Goodangs, however, have three short lines on the shoulder instead of the oval scars.

The men are all fine tall (from five feet eight to 6 feet 2 ins) handsome fellows with moustache and beard, generally shaving off the whiskers. I have, using a colonialism, called them blackfellows; but their colour is generally dark brown, some being as fair as a Chinaman.

The women are really the "fairer sex" being some shades lighter than the men.

On the mainland the chief arms in use are spears and throwing sticks. The spears are of three kinds

- (a) Alka. This is simply a piece of wood about six feet long (the common length of all spears) sharpened at the end. This is used when fighting at a distance or in spearing fish.
- (b) Kinta, or Tona. This is larger than the former and barbed with a piece of bone or wire.
- (c) Tarka. Three and four headed and barbed.

The last two are used for fighting. The barbs frequently breaking off in the wound. The spears are jointed in the middle. The pointed end being made of hard red wood, the other end of light wood, not unlike deal.

The Kkara or throwing stick is made of the oak and is about three feet long and an inch and a quarter broad, two pieces of shell joined at one end form a kind of handle and a piece of wood a couple of inches long is fixed at an angle of 45 degrees at the other end. This short piece fits into a socket at the end of the spear and when used the pieces of shell rest in the palm of the right hand, the three last fingers grasp the stick and the forefinger and thumb loosely retain the spear. The throwing stick gives such powerful leverage that the spear can be thrown from 80 to a 100 yards with great force and accuracy.

The Kowraregas use in addition bamboo bows and arrows and “gubba gubbas”, a kind of club consisting of a flattened round stone like a quoit, sharp edged [sic] and with a hole in the centre into which a wooden handle about four feet long is fixed.

All these tribes have canoes. A tree with straight trunk of from twenty to thirty feet in length is selected in the scrub, cut down and hollowed out with iron axes (which many of the natives possess) it is dragged to the beach and two stout poles about two thirds the length of the canoe are lashed across the top, in the middle, about five feet apart. Two stout pieces of light wood, pointed at both ends are fastened to the ends of these poles (one on each side of the canoe) by wooden pegs, so that they touch the water and across the centre of the canoe, extending two feet beyond the gunwale on either side, a platform of small sticks is made and on this a piece of bark covered with sand, makes a place for the fire which is always carried. They generally keep close to the land so that being in shallow water they can push the canoe along by means of poles from 15 to 20 feet in length. The paddles are about five feet long with a narrow rounded blade and are very clumsily made. The cable is made of twisted rope and a stone serves for an anchor.

They build no huts but during the rainy season make a small covered place into which they can crawl for shelter. They always keep a fire burning. They light a fire in a very short time by rubbing two sticks together. Each family has its own camp fire and a large melon shell for holding water.

They are peaceable and live together without any quarrels except that at times a man finds it necessary to touch his good lady up with a knife or tomhawk [sic]. The children show little respect (although affectionate) for their parents who have little authority over them.

The dingo or native dog is not, as I once thought, wild, but thoroughly domesticated and lives in the camp – its great fault is its great partiality for mutton; we have had several sheep worried by them.

[The second part of this article will be published in the February 2024 edition of the “Redland Researcher”. It commences with William Kennett’s describing some of the weapons used by the First Nations People of Cape York. Editor RR]

A Past Memory of Brisbane



Remember the rivalry between our local Brisbane teams, before the formation of the National Rugby League?

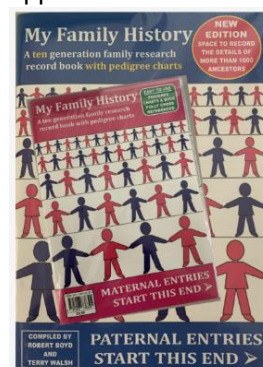
Charlotte Wruck sent this in, commenting that her husband, Bob, played Reserve Grade for Souths, often being reserve for A Grade. Jim Murphy, third along from Coach Des Crabbe, was his mate. (I was an Easts Tigers supporter, of course, being from Norman Park.)

Des Crabbe would be well remembered for refereeing many boxing matches in the now demolished Festival Hall in Charlotte Street Brisbane. Over the years, Des leased or owned several pubs, including the *Redland Bay* and the now demolished *Oriental* opposite Festival Hall.

The “My Family History” Book

“My Family History” record book is a ten-generation family research record book with pedigree charts for efficiently keeping your family research in order - Paternal entries start at the Front, swap around and Maternal entries start at the Back.

It is available for purchase in our Genie Room at \$30.00.



Grandfather's Watch

Chris Boylett



This short story is about my Grandfather's Waltham pocket watch. Being a small family with very few heirlooms, this watch is personally precious to me, as is my grandfather. He was Albert Joseph Daniels, born on 13 September 1896 at St Pancras, London. For most of his working life he was employed by The London and Northeastern Railway Company, later nationalised to British Rail on 1 January 1948.

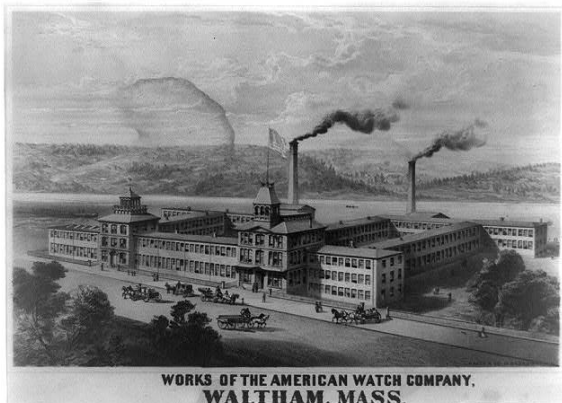
He was initially employed as a Goods Delivery Driver but eventually trained to become a porter and platform signaller at King's Cross Station in North London. King's Cross Station serviced the London to Northeast England and some Scottish routes. My understanding is that his duties entailed helping passengers aboard the train and when all aboard, check all doors were secure and finally signal the guard and driver that it was safe and timely to commence their journey. He would do this by checking his pocket watch for the correct time, waving a green flag, and blowing his whistle as he walked the platform on a final check. His Waltham pocket watch was used for this task. Albert retired from British Rail in 1956 due to health issues. He finally succumbed to cancer on 28 November 1957.



A Signaller using his flag and whistle

The Waltham watch has its origins in Roxbury, Boston, USA. Originally started by three men, namely David Davis, Aaron Dennison, and Edward Howard, the first watches produced around 1850 were labelled Howard, Davis and Dennison – Boston. The original concept was to manufacture watches with interchangeable parts without sacrificing quality. It was hoped this would decrease production costs giving the company a price advantage over its competitors. A small factory was built along with precision watch making machines, and production began in 1851. The parts proved to vary dimensionally, and the machines had to be improved for greater accuracy.

By 1852, the machines were perfected and patented. The American Horology Company was created and production commenced. Each watch was given its own unique serial number and batches were named, both being engraved inside the back cover.



In 1853 the name was changed once again, to the Boston Watch Company. In 1854 a new factory was built in Waltham, Massachusetts. This facility produced approximately four thousand watches until the company failed in 1857. The company was auctioned and sold to Appleton Tracy and Company. In 1859 Appleton Tracy and Company merged with the Waltham Improvement Company and the American Waltham Watch Company was formed. The American Civil War seriously affected sales and in 1860 production fell to its lowest level. The company downsized to the minimum requirement to stay afloat which proved to be its saviour.

The company continued until 1957 producing over forty million jewelled watches along with other precision instruments such as compasses, speedometers, and time fuses for bombs. The company was disbanded in March 1960 with many of its assets purchased by the Dextra Corporation which in turn, failed in 1983.

In 1954, a Swiss subsidiary was formed, namely Waltham International SA. This company retains the right to sell their wrist and pocket watches under the "Waltham" brand and it is still operating today. The luxury watch market is its focus with the Aeronaval range of wrist watches being their main line of products. It still retains an American influence with Antonio DiBenedetto, an American entrepreneur being the major shareholder.

The Waltham name was resurrected in 2014 when two engineers, namely Tyler Wolfe and R T Custer started to produce watches based on the original Waltham design but using modern 3D technology. The watches have new cases with the mechanism using antique Waltham watches. They are sold under the Colorado based Vortic Watch Company banner.

Grandad's Waltham Watch has a serial number of 2943874. This signifies it was manufactured by the American Waltham Watch Company probably between March and August 1886. It is of silver / nickel construction with a full-face design. It has seven jewels and is size 18s. It is wound by a key which has unfortunately been lost. The total production of this particular watch was 99,980 units.



On the outer mechanism cover is engraved the name "Clark Royston". This is probably a fictitious company name frequently used by the company on its Home Watch Co grade of watches.

Grandad's Waltham Watch and Chain



Inside back cover of Grandad's Waltham Watch

Owning a Waltham watch allows Grandad to join a select group of previous owners.

They include:

- Abraham Lincoln, the sixteenth President of the United States, who owned an 1857 Waltham Ellery watch, serial number 67613.
- Ernest Shackleton, 1909 to the South Pole with a Waltham.
- Charles Lindburgh, 1927, first transatlantic flight with a Waltham.
- U.S Navy, 1967, Top Gun Pilots with Waltham products on board.

The full history of the watch has been lost in time.

Manufactured in 1886, the watch was obviously second hand when my grandfather obtained it. I have fervently searched my family tree looking for previous relations who may have owned it but have been unable to find any further information. My parents told me the little information supplied in this writing then the watch was thrown into a tin with other items and documents and never mentioned again.

I suspect that this scenario may be true of many families. With no living relatives of previous generations, the mystery will sadly remain unsolved but will not diminish its personal value to me and hopefully, further generations in the future.

Presentations at General Meetings

August presentation was given by Helen Connor, Editor eNews, Genealogical Society of Queensland, her topic being "Irish Immigration – why they left Ireland and where they went". It is believed that 1 million perished during the "Potato Famine" when successive crops failed during 1845 to 1849. Many emigrated due to this crisis. By 1891, 40% of the Irish were living overseas and the population had decreased from 8.2 million in 1841 to 4.2 million.

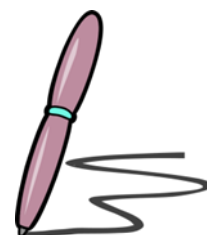
September a workshop was held on methods for breaking through "Brick Walls". Members' problems were discussed. Annette Hall talked of the many resources available to assist with breaking through, demonstrating these via the data projector.

October presentation "Those Who Served: Discovering WWII service records" was given by Peita-Maree Clark from the National Archives Australia

RGS Logoed Items

The following articles are on sale at our General Meetings -

- Ballpoint Pens in Blue & Silver or in Burgundy & Gold
- Refrigerator Bulldog Magnetic Clips
- Keyrings

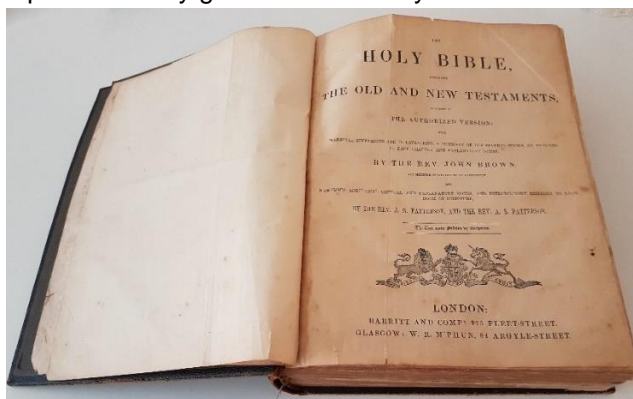
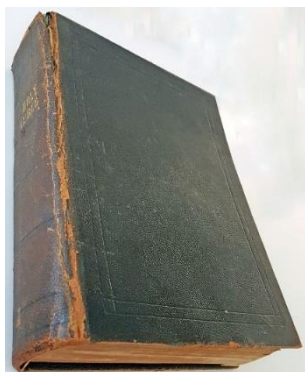


They can be purchased at the "sign-in" table upon your arrival or during the tea break.

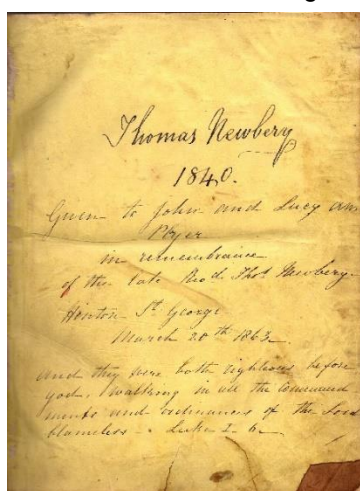
Who is Thomas Newbery?

Mark Player

Recently I pulled out our old Player family Bible, which I inherited after my father's passing some years ago. Published in 1853, the Bible must have taken pride of place in many generations of Player households.



The Bible has the following dedication in the front:



*Thomas Newbery
1840
Given to John and Lucy Ann Pl[a]yer
in remembrance
of the late Rev. Tho^s Newbery
Hinton St George
March 20th 1863*

As in many cases, this Bible contains invaluable genealogical information. A list of Player forebears is reproduced twice, in different hands. But that is something for a future story.

The John and Lucy Player mentioned in the dedication are my great grandparents. John Abner Player was born 20 May 1838 in Combe Saint Nicholas, Somerset, England. John married Lucy Ann Brooks (born 1 June 1843 at Hinton St George, Somerset, England) on 13 May 1860, at Hinton St George, Somerset, England.

In 1884, John and Lucy, with their nine children in tow, made the monumental decision to migrate to Australia. The rest, as they say, is history. What an adventure that must have been, but again, that is to be told at another time.

But who is the mysterious Bible donor **Thomas Newbery**? How did he relate (if at all) to the mentioned Rev. Thomas Newbery? Why did he give my ancestors such a lovely gift? I only started thinking about this recently. My investigations and conclusions are as follows.

Opening my family history database [I use a program called Legacy Family Tree] I searched for the name **Newbery** (and likely variants – always remember to do that). I could not remember the name and a search confirmed it.

As a modern-day family historian, the next place to turn to is ... *Google* of course. A search for *Thomas Newbery* resulted in over 4 million hits! Even *Thomas Newbery :genealogy* gave 782,000 results.

Maybe I would have more luck with *rev thomas newbery*, but that brought up 976,000 hits! However, the first hit was *Rev Thomas Newbery M A Died: 30 Mar 1861*, by the BillionGraves website.

The BillionGraves website has photographs of a family grave in the Church of St George cemetery, in Hinton St George, Somerset. The inscription is hard to read, but I can make out –

*THE REV^d THOMAS NEWBERY M.A.
FOR 15 YEARS RECTOR OF THIS PARISH, AND
OF SEAVINGTON ST MICHAEL CUM DINNINGTON
HE DEPARTED THIS LIFE ON THE 30TH DAY
OF MARCH 1861, IN THE 58TH YEAR OF HIS AGE*

What are old Bibles worth?

You would think that a book published in 1853 and in good condition would be worth a bit. Right? Well, not in the case of Bibles. The primary reason is that they were printed in large numbers – the Bible is the most printed book in history. Many have survived; precious heirlooms lovingly cared for. While family Bibles have sentimental value, they are rarely more valuable than a couple of hundred dollars.

BillionGraves

www.billiongraves.com
BillionGraves is an online database of headstone images and inscription transcriptions, which have been submitted by volunteers.

This was interesting, given the fact that my PLAYER ancestors also came from Hinton St George. Whilst not absolute evidence, it seemed convincing that this grave was for the Rev. Thomas Newbery mentioned in the family Bible. As the local religious leader in a community as small as Hinton St George, my ancestors would surely have known of and possibly personally known Rev Newbery.

Further, the death date given [30/03/1861] is prior to the Bible dedication date [20/03/1863]. At first, I assumed that the dedication date (i.e. when the Bible was given) was 1840 and the date 30/03/1863 was the date of the death of the mentioned Rev Newbery. But **that could not be – as the Bible was printed only in 1853**. So maybe, 30/03/1863 is the dedication date and 1840 is the birthyear of the donating Thomas Newbery?

My next thought was, maybe the Bible giving Thomas Newbery is the son of this Rev Thomas Newbery? The Reverend's memorial includes details of other relatives:

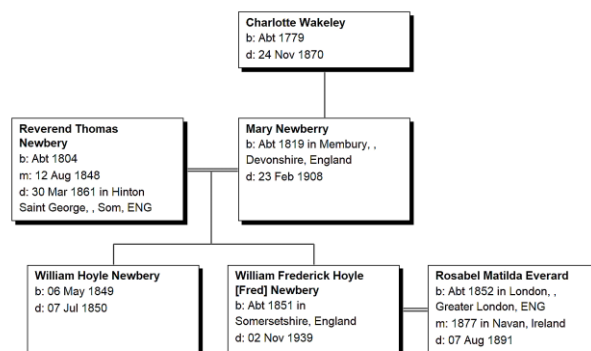
- *Mary Newbery (d. 23 Feb 1908, in her 88th year)*
- *Charlotte Newbery (d. 24 Nov 1870, aged 91) – widow of John Newbery*
- *William Hoyle Newbery (b. 6 May 1849, d. 7 Jul 1850) – infant son of Rev Thomas Newbery and Mary*
- *William Frederick Hoyle Newbery (d. 2 Nov 1939)*
- *Rosabel Matilda Newbery (née Everard) (d. 7 Apr 1851, aged 88)*

The memorial states that Mary is the daughter of Charlotte and widow of the Rev Thomas Newbery.

It is curious that Rosabel's maiden surname is given, but not for Mary or Charlotte. A search for a marriage between Rev Thomas Newbery and Mary uncovered something interesting – both Thomas and Mary had the same surname! On 9 Nov 1848 at Ealing Middlesex, the Rev Thomas Newbery, M.A. Rector of Hinton St George, married Mary, daughter of John Newbery, esquire of Membury.

A further search found a marriage between William Frederick Hoyle Newbery and Rosabel Matilda Everard in 1877 in Navan, Ireland.

The family tree is:



After much searching, I have been unable to uncover any other children of Rev Newbery and Mary. I can find no evidence of a son called Thomas.

Then I had another idea, what if 1840 is the year Thomas Newbery was first given this Bible? **But again, this is not possible, as the Bible edition is dated 1853.**

What about the possibility that the first mentioned Thomas Newbery and the Rev Thomas Newbery are the same person! A closer examination of the Bible dedication handwriting reveals that the first two lines are in a different script style to the rest of the dedication, indicating that they were probably written by different people and possibly at different times. The inscription *Thomas Newbery 1840* is an enigma, as it postdates Rev Newbery's death. So the original owner is a mystery.

I cannot state categorically that the following is true, but my belief is that the Bible originally belonged to Rev Thomas Newbery. A couple of years after his death the Bible was passed on to my ancestors and the second part of the dedication written. I speculate that the donor was Rev Newbery's widow Mary, who continued to live in Hinton St George until her death.

Why would Mary bestow such a valuable gift and memory of her husband? I thank her for her generosity. If Mary and Thomas are looking down from heaven –

Thank you for your gift. The Bible is much cherished, being handed down through the generations of the Player clan.

[Editor's note –

This article first appeared in the Botany Bay Family History Society's journal and the Somerset & Dorset Family History Society's journal in December 2019.

Footnotes referencing author's sources of information have not been included due to availability of space]



Snippets

Qld State Archives - Changes to Reading Room Hours

QSA has announced that they "are making a couple of small changes to the Reading Room".

From Monday 16 October you will no longer need to book to visit the Reading Room. However, you will still be able to pre-order records using ArchivesSearch so that they are available when you arrive.

Also, they no longer will be closing at lunchtime. The Reading Room will remain open from 9.00am through to 4.30pm Monday to Friday, and the second Saturday of every month.

Genealogical Thrillers

If you are a keen reader of crime novels AND you are a Genealogist, this will be of interest. You would learn how to improve your research skills as well as enjoy a good story.

Two authors to follow are Jefferson Tate and Jayne Sinclair -

- Jefferson Tate is an American professional genealogist. His searches undertaken for family tree clients takes him all over the world and are both very interesting and entertaining.
- Jayne Sinclair is an English professional genealogist, and all books are based in the United Kingdom.

It is best to try to read their books in chronological order because their own personal story expands with each book.

The links below will take you to a listing of their books -

- <https://www.goodreads.com/genres/jefferson-tate-series>
- <https://www.goodreads.com/series/198929-jayne-sinclair-genealogical-mystery>

New Australian Collections

MyHeritage recently added and updated several collections, including Adelaide Gaol Prisoner Registers, 1848–1912 ~ Western Australia Births, Marriages, and Deaths ~ South Australia Death and Funeral Notices ~ New South Wales Colonial Secretary's Papers, 1788–1825, and Business Register.

REMINDER - As an RGS member, you are able to access MyHeritage through GSQ due to your Society's holding Affiliate Membership – you will find details in the Members' Section of our website.

General Register Office Online View Digital Images

In the previous edition, I advised that the GRO, UK had implemented a new service that provides historical certificates at £2.50 per image.

LostCousins released a "special edition" newsletter in July 2023 which contains detailed information on this matter and is worth reading. It can be accessed at no cost on <https://www.lostcousins.com/newsletters2/jul23special.htm>.

Wandering Through the Web



ScotlandsPeople – Lighthouse Keepers

<https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/article/our-records-shining-light-lives-lightkeepers>

Scottish lighthouse keepers' employment records are accessible online. The collection comprises more than 2,000 scanned images, chronicling the experiences of those who manned 92 lighthouses spread along the Scottish coast between 1837 and 1921.

The record indexes, now freely searchable, open a portal to the past, while viewing some images may require nominal charges..

Identifying Common Ancestors with DNA

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q4ErfNlw9LI>

This is a YouTube webinar presentation by a senior member of the MyHeritage DNA team. "How to use their DNA results" is explained.

MyHeritage allows you to upload your raw DNA data, **eg: from Ancestry**, for free. When you upload your data, you then have free access to your list of DNA Matches on MyHeritage, and you are able to contact your matches free of charge.

In an **EMERGENCY**
dial **TRIPLE ZERO**
(000)



For **NON-URGENT**
Police contact call
POLICELINK
131 444

Crime Prevention Corner

3 Steps to protect yourself from scams

With scams increasingly becoming more complex and harder to identify, the ACCC advises people to follow these three simple steps to protect themselves from scams:

1. **STOP: Don't give money or personal information to anyone if unsure.** Scammers will offer to help you or ask you to verify who you are. They will pretend to be from organisations that you know and trust, like Services Australia, police, a bank, government or fraud service.
2. **THINK: Ask yourself could the message or call be a fake.** Never click on a link in a message. Only contact businesses or government using contact information from their official website or through their secure apps. If you're not sure say NO, hang up or delete.
3. **PROTECT: Act quickly if something feels wrong.** Contact your bank if you notice some unusual activity or if a scammer gets your money or information and seek help from the following organisations:
 - IDCARE (www.idcare.org or 1800 595 160) and report to
 - ReportCyber (www.cyber.gov.au or 1300 292 371) and
 - Scamwatch (www.scamwatch.gov.au and 1800 595 160).

Bayside DCPC – email: DCPC.Wynnum@police.qld.gov.au – blog: www.mypolice.qld.gov.au/bayside

National Archives of Australia	Queensland State Archives
<p>16 Corporate Drive, Cannon Hill Phone: (07) 3249 4200 Website: www.naa.gov.au</p>	<p>435 Compton Road, Runcorn Phone: (07) 3037 6777 Website: www.archives.qld.gov.au</p>
<p>Important! Before visiting, you should check NAA's requirements at https://www.naa.gov.au/help-your-research/research-centres#before-you-visit. Bookings are not essential but may be required if busy. Phone 07 3249 4200 to plan your visit and to find out more about COVID-19 health and safety measures in place.</p> <p>Open - Wednesday to Friday 9:00am to 4.30pm Closed – Saturday to Tuesday and Public Holidays</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"> • 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. <p>For details of regular Events, you can register on their website to arrange a subscription to their free newsletter .</p>	<p>When visiting the Reading Room, it is advisable to pre-order items on the "ArchivesSearch" catalogue to ensure that they are available on your arrival - https://www.archivessearch.qld.gov.au/</p> <p>Open hours are Monday to Friday 9.00am to 4.30pm & second Saturday of each month 9.00am to 4.30pm. The Reading Room is not open on public holidays or during the Christmas to New Year holiday period.</p> <p>QSA's archival collection comprises of millions of public records dating back to the early Moreton Bay penal settlement of 1823. Free on-site parking is available.</p> <p>The QSA holds informative Seminars and Events throughout the year, some on their premises, some at external venues. Check "<i>What's on</i>" in their website for details. You can keep informed of these by arranging a free subscription to "qsa bulletin", using the link on their website. The bulletin is sent by email.</p>

Where to get your Certificates

Prices are based on Historical Certificates, where available

This information is a guide. Please check websites for full details of types of certificates available, how to place orders and how to make payments.

NOTE: Prices are changed regularly by these government agencies.

Queensland

Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages (Qld)
Level 32/180 Ann St, Brisbane City QLD 4000
PO Box 15188, City East, Qld 4002
Phone: 13 74 68
Hours: Monday-Friday 8.30am – 4.30pm
\$24.70 Historical Image – Download
\$24.70 Historical Source Image – Download
\$34.70 Historical Certificate – Postage included
<https://www.qld.gov.au/law/rbdlm>

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)
Postage included
Credit card charges extra
www.bdm.nsw.gov.au

Transcription services:

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

Victoria

Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages
GPO Box 4332, Melbourne, Vic 3001
Phone: 1300 369 367
\$22.00 Uncertified Historical Image - Download
\$54.40 Historical Certificate – Postage extra
www.bdm.vic.gov.au

Australian Capital Territory

(Pre 1930, apply to NSW)
Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages
GPO Box 158, Canberra City, ACT 2601
Phone: (02) 6207 3000
\$70.00 – Postage included
Historic Death and Marriage Indexes are available.
<https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/s/article/births-deaths-and-marriages-forms-and-fees-tab-payment-options>

South Australia

Births, Deaths & Marriages
Consumer & Business Services
GPO Box 1351, Adelaide, SA 5001
Phone: 131 882
\$30.25 Historical Image - Emailed
<https://www.sa.gov.au/topics/family-and-community/births-deaths-and-marriages/family-research>

Also, use their link to [Genealogy SA](#) for an online name search for BDMs **also** to search a number of 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 – Postage included
<https://bdm.justice.wa.gov.au/>

Tasmania

Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages
GPO Box 198, Hobart, Tasmania 7001
Phone: 1300 135 513
\$61.08 – Postage included
www.justice.tas.gov.au/bdm/home

Northern Territory

Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages
GPO Box 3021, Darwin, NT 0801
Phone: (08) 8999 6119
\$52.00 – Postage extra
(1856-1863 check NSW)
(1863-1870 check SA)
www.nt.gov.au/justice/bdm

New Zealand

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

