



ON TRACK

Newsletter of the Mid Gippsland Family History Society Incorporated

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SPAM TRAP: replace [at] with @

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Website: <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~mgfhs>

Meetings:

Meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each Month, except December, at the Meeting Room, entrance via the rear door of the Moe Library, Kirk Street Moe. Our Library will be open at 7pm with meetings commencing at approximately 7.30pm.

Membership fees 2007/2008: Single \$25; Family \$30 payable in July.

Library Hours:

Our Library is open to the public on *Wednesday Afternoons between 1pm and 4pm*. Volunteers from our group are available to assist with research at this time. The Library is also available to members at all times that the Meeting room has not been booked by other organizations. (Check with the Public Library Staff) The library is available to members on the first Saturday of each month.

Library Fees: Gold Coin donation per visit for non – members.

Research:

There is a minimum research fee of \$10, plus a stamped, self addressed envelope, for any enquiries requiring research, with additional charges for large amounts of photocopying and/or postage. Enquires should be clear and concise.

Cemetery Lookups

MGFHS charge a fee for lookups in their cemetery's.

For \$2 per name we will provide you with the register details plus a transcription of the head stone if there is one.

Please send a SSAE with your enquiry to:

The Research Officers, P.O. Box 767, Morwell, 3840

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Mid Gippsland Family History Society Inc.

Writing Competition – 2007

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE CRAZY, BUT.....

A REPORT ON THE MENTAL STATE OF BOB JONES

Written by Bob Jones

I often ponder as to how I came to become involved in this crazy past time. It must be more than thirty years now. It was my eldest daughter's fault and she has turned forty-three. I distinctly remember her coming home from primary school with some homework. She was to prepare a family tree and when my Wife promptly flick-passed this one on to me, I realised that I knew very little about my roots. So I began thinking. I have a naturally enquiring mind, which means that when the answers didn't immediately pop into my head, I had to delve and dig to find the answers. Unfortunately, knowing as little as I did about my ancestors, lots of delving and digging was going to be needed.

And so the seed was sown. Little did I know that the very daughter, who inspired my quest, along with her brother, younger sister, Mother, and almost every other member of my extended family, would, from this point forth, treat me as a leper. I only had to mention the word "family" or "genealogy" and the room filled with loving off-spring, siblings and the like, would empty quicker than an explosives factory in a bomb scare. From this point on I was considered a "weirdo".

But nobody told me this. And so I commenced my quest. The information of which I was aware was very scant. I knew that my father came out to Australia from England in 1912 with his parents and siblings. I knew that grandfather had served in the British Army in India and in the Boer War and had also served in the Australian Army during the First World War. I knew he had a sister, who married an Australian soldier during his term in England, and that they both returned to Sydney to live. There were a few other snippets of irrelevancy stored in the back of my deluded brain, all of which would make it so easy to re-construct grandfather's family. But the pinnacle of my whole escapade would be to discover my relations in New South Wales. This would be the "coup de gras". Unknowingly it also became my obsession.

Early in the quest I made reasonable progress, taking into account that there were no computer records or databases to consult. Frequent visits to the State Library to consult the G.R.O Indexes, produced positive, albeit slow, results. Certificates were not just requested over the Internet. "Snail-Mail" dictated that a six-week wait was considered a very quick response. But generally I was buoyed by my progress into thinking, "How easy is this?" Little did I know.

Functions to which relatives tend to gather were infrequent in my extended family, consequently the opportunity to intensely grill the more senior members were extremely limited. Deathbeds and/or funerals were deemed to be not the appropriate time to stick a tape recorder under the ailing relatives nose, or to fill in a ten-page proforma questionnaire. So I was left with the results of my research, and the very occasional meeting to guide me.

Did I mention that the surname I am researching is Jones? With their English base being Middlesex? How hopeless is that? Experience has taught me that there are more Jones' in Middlesex than there are Irish in Dublin. Maybe I am crazy!

I must admit there were some whoppers of family rumours and I have, over the years, been able to sort some of those out. I can distinctly remember my Grandmother saying to me when I joined the Police Force, "You must have got this from brother Jack. He was an Inspector in Scotland Yard." "Brother Jack" was, I discovered, Grandfather's eldest brother. I had been given some details of him when I applied to a registry office for my grandfather and grandmother's marriage extract. A note came back with the certificate, penned by a most thoughtful and amiable clerk, that I should also apply for another certificate, which he quoted, as it would be of significant interest to me. I have not since been the subject of, or have heard of any other person being the subject of, such helpful and unqualified kindness as shown by the clerk who sent me the note.

He must have known how close to the edge of insanity I was. I took this persons advice and as a result discovered two more brothers and wives of my grandfather, one being "Brother Jack". The certificate told me he was in fact a policeman. This opened up avenues of research eventually resulting in sufficient information with which I was able to record a significant précis of his life. But in amassing his progress through life I succeeded in blowing the family rumour right out of the water. Far from being an "Inspector at Scotland Yard", he managed, over a period of 23 years from joining as a constable to retire as a constable, hardly a memorable example of achievement. I noted with disparagement that not one skerrick of information towards the identity of the sister who migrated to Sydney had surfaced.

So over the years in a spasmodic approach I gradually pieced together my grandfather's family, his Mother, Father, and some brothers and sisters. I was spurred into action by each snippet of information I discovered. Each discovery would fill me with new energy, new hope, and the belief that the revelation of the identity of the missing sister in Sydney was just around the corner.

More trips to Melbourne. More poring over microfiche screens, and film readers. I spent that much time at the LDS library people would be forgiven for thinking that I had become a member. After every fruitful discovery came the let down. My enthusiasm, rampant with confidence after a recent significant discovery, slowly but surely eroded and diminished until I plunged into the depths of despair by the negative returns and fruitless results after hours of wasted time. I was going crazy. I could be doing so much more with my time, something beneficial. But no. The thirst for the identity of the missing sister was still unquenched.

Further significant results were discovered, sufficiently significant to just keep my appetite whetted. And then a marvellous thing happened. Computers arrived on the scene and all these records became available. I looked into the 1891 Census of London and there she was. First Christian name, initial for the second Christian name. Age was right. Address was right. The feeling of joy, the feeling of satisfaction. My years of effort were finally about to be rewarded. The rest was going to be a cakewalk. So I thought. Now my problems really started.

I don't think I had ever felt as frustrated before in my life. Her Christian name, even with the surname of Jones, did not appear to me to be a common combination. Was I in for a shock when I started on the G.R.O BDM's again. There were hundreds of the combinations of her names. I recalled at some stage being given three surnames as possibilities for her husband. Once again another trip to Melbourne and back into the State Library. Just another point. The State Library was not just around the corner either. It was 143 kilometres away! My strategy this time was to record every marriage over a logical ten year period where the sister's name appeared married to a person of one of the three surnames that had been supplied to me. I would then search the surname section of that marriage until I found the same reference. This gave me the Christian name of the bridegroom. I then had a full name with which I could search the AIF Nominal Roll. If I found a matching name I then researched the Attestation Papers of the soldier in a bid to identify him as the man to whom my grandfathers' sister was married.

I spent weeks on this tactic. I have lost count of the number of soldiers whose Attestation papers I have scanned, hopefully, looking for the slightest of a nexus to my grandfather's sister. Alas, all in vain.

Admittedly, I have learned a lot about my grandfather's family since I first began my hobby. But as for my "coup de gras" - I am no closer today to discovering the identity of this woman that I was over thirty years ago.

You don't have to be crazy, but.....

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA
<http://www.nla.gov.au/ndp/>
AUSTRALIAN NEWSPAPERS DIGITISATION PROGRAM
<http://ndpbeta.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/home>
To search Historic Australian Newspapers, 1803 to 1954



'ROSES FROM THE HEART'
<http://www.christinahenri.com.au/>

Updated information
<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~mgfhs/convictbonnets.htm>

Convict Bonnets Project

The aim of Christina Henri's project is to commemorate convict woman. These women until now have been shunned by society as a shame. Someone to be hidden away, when in actual fact many of these women were the backbone of modern Australian society. To represent these women Ms Henri is asking for 25,566 bonnets to be made. A big ask but already over 11'000 have been completed. MGFHS members have already sent in 13 bonnets, more are needed.

Available to members of MGFHS, who don't sew, are a number of already made spare bonnets.

Call into the MGFHS research room on any Wednesday afternoon and pick up a bonnet*. Place your convict woman's name on one side of the rim and on the other, place the Ship's name and year of arrival into Australia. Put your name and relationship to the convict inside the bonnet. Most gel markers are archival safe. If you don't or haven't yet found your own convict ancestor, why not adopt one.



*Bonnets made by Lorraine Shaw
for members of MGFHS*

All the bonnets will eventually be displayed in Perspex boxes equalling the number of ships these women came to Australia on. Ms Henri's aim is to use the bonnets to empathise just how vast a number those women actually were. The expected venue of the completed display will be the Cascades Female Factory site in Hobart. www.femalefactory.com.au/

Make a bonnet? If you would like a pattern to make a bonnet then email Kaye at [macore{at} tadaust.org.au](mailto:macore@tadaust.org.au)

***Use a spare bonnet?** A small fee will be charged to cover costs.

Adopting? The Tasmanian Convicts CD in our holdings, has a complete list of people sent to Tasmania, gathered from original records. Or visit the Cascades Female Factory site at <http://www.femalefactory.com.au/> and check the drop down list under "research" click on "Database" and travel down the page to "Records In the Database", click on your letter of choice. They are pdf files but I had no trouble opening them using dialup. If you happen to have a large page loading WAIT for it to FULLY LOAD before accessing the page.

MCKENNA, SUSAN

Duke of Cornwall

The above result is from the female factory data base and is for my 3rd great grandmother. Below is the result from Q Search, **The Tasmanian Convicts CD Rom**

Convict Number	50450	Arrival Date	27/10/1850
Surname	McKenna	Conduct Record	CON41/28
Given Name(s)	Susan	Indent	CON15/6
See Surname		Description List	CON19/9
See Given Name(s)		Muster Roll	
Ship Name	Duke of Cornwall	Other Records	
Departure Port	Kingston	Appropriation List	
Departure Date	8/07/1850		

Researching Convicts in Tasmania

Using the details from the Tasmanian Convicts CD Rom.

Send the details from your record search in an email to the Archives Office of Tasmania at archives.tasmania@education.tas.gov.au I was able to get my Grandmothers conduct record, description list and indent at a very reasonable cost of around \$20. An account is mailed with the records. B.D&M records from The Tasmanian Pioneer Index are also available thru the Tasmanian Archive office, you just pay for photocopying! A great saving.

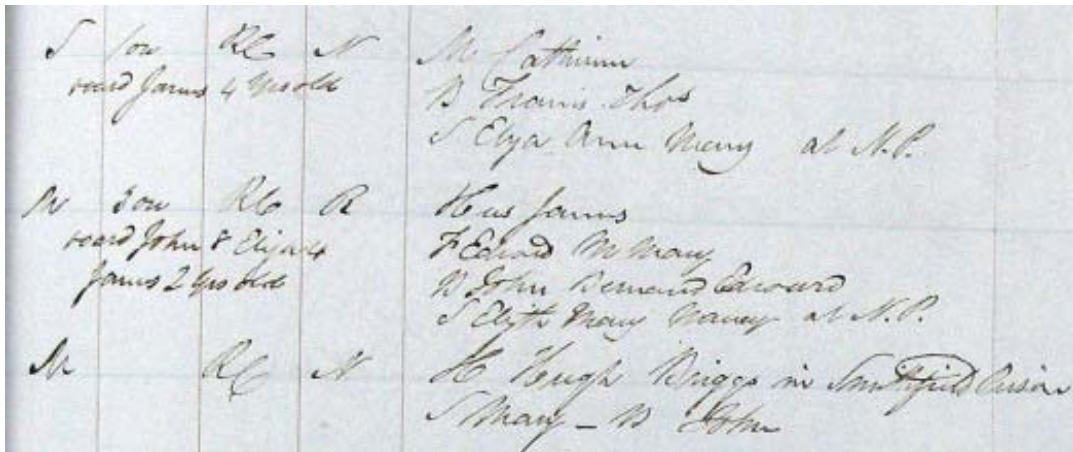
Conduct Record

This record will generally have the most revealing information for the family historian.

Name; Trial place, date & term; Embarkation place and date; Arrival date; Reason for Transportation, including prior offence/s; Married or single; In my record in this area was also "child on board". A description list is also included.

The Offences and Sentences section records events of concern to the authorities. i.e. Sept 5/54 Absconding, 15 days cells. Wilfully wasting rations, insulting language were a few of her other offences. You can also find dates with whom and where a person was stationed or assigned.

In my 3rd great grandmothers record was also "July 28/55 Delivered of an illegitimate male child at the Brickworks H Town". That is someone I hadn't know existed!



Relationship part of an indent record. <http://www.archives.tas.gov.au/>

Indent Record

This record shows Name; Height, Age; Trade or calling; Where tried; When tried; Sentence; Native place; Married or single; Children; Religion; Read or write; Relationships, apprenticeships, where last residing; Ship charter; Offences.

This is a must get record for family historians because in the relationships section you should find parents and siblings of the convict.

Researching Convicts in Tasmania

Go online to Archives Office of Tasmania <http://www.archives.tas.gov.au/>

Follow the links: Home > Names indexes > Tasmanian convicts > Search >

The record result will be similar to the Tasmanian convict's record previously described. BUT you might find your record online! Click on the data base number if it's a highlighted link. Again click on any highlighted record and you will be taken to the next page, hopefully you will get a message "View this record online". Using my Susan McKenna's name I was taken to a book of 207 pages. The book is arranged alphabetically by surname. I started my search at page 107 just to see where I was in the list. There was Kelly, Ellen, so I thought I wasn't too far away! Jump forward, then back, till you find your record. A word of warning here, don't wait for your pages to fully load after seeing your place in the book, if you do... "Well your time is your own!" Timesaver Hint: Keep the pages as set and do not enlarge till you get to your record. My record was eventually found on page 205. McManus was on page 203 so don't trust fully the alphabetical listing!

You have the option to print or save these records. If saving, right click and use the 'Save Picture As' option. That way you can adjust the photo's contrast and perhaps make the record easier to use.

Hint: Enlarge the picture before saving, you can always reduce it later.

A list of the ships with **Female Convict Conduct Records** available to view online at
Archives Office of Tasmania: <http://www.archives.tas.gov.au/>
01 Jan 1844 - 31 Dec 1853

Emma Eugenia (2)	30 Nov 1843	Lord Auckland (3)	11 Oct 1848
	02 Apr 1844		20 Jan 1849
Greenlaw	07 Mar 1844	Cadet (3)	17 Dec 1848
	02 Jul 1844		12 Apr 1849
Angelina	25 Apr 1844	Maria (2)	05 Apr 1849
	25 Aug 1844		23 Jul 1849
Tasmania (1)	08 Sep 1844	Stately	05 Jun 1849
	20 Dec 1844		02 Sep 1849
Phoebe	25 Sep 1844	Australasia	26 Jun 1849
	02 Jan 1845		29 Sep 1849
Tory (1)	23 Mar 1845	St Vincent (1)	19 Dec 1849
	04 Jul 1845		04 Apr 1850
Lloyds	29 Jul 1845	Earl Grey	17 Dec 1849
	07 Nov 1845		09 May 1850
Tasmania (2)	02 Sep 1845	Baretto Junior	13 Apr 1850
	03 Dec 1845		25 Jul 1850
Emma Eugenia (3)	10 Feb 1846	Duke of Cornwall	08 Jul 1850
	05 Jun 1846		27 Oct 1850
Sea Queen	12 May 1846	Emma Eugenia (4)	30 Oct 1850
	29 Aug 1846		07 Mar 1851
Elizabeth and Henry (2)	17 Sep 1846	Blackfriar	24 Jan 1851
	04 Jan 1847		29 May 1851
Arabian	12 Oct 1846	Aurora (2)	27 Apr 1851
	25 Feb 1847		10 Aug 1851
Asia (7)	23 Mar 1847	Anna Maria (2)	07 Oct 1851
	21 Jul 1847		26 Jan 1852
Waverley (3)	19 Jul 1847	John William Dare	28 Dec 1851
	25 Oct 1847		22 May 1852
Cadet (2)	09 Sep 1847	Sir Robert Seppings	18 Mar 1852
	02 Jan 1848		08 Jul 1852
John Calvin	24 Jan 1848	Martin Luther	08 Jun 1852
	18 May 1848		01 Sep 1852
Elizabeth and Henry (3)	13 Feb 1848	Midlothian	17 Nov 1852
	30 Jun 1848		24 Feb 1853
Tory (3)	30 Apr 1848	Duchess of	27 Nov 1852
	06 Aug 1848	Northumberland (2)	21 Apr 1853
Kinnear (2)	16 Jun 1848		
	07 Oct 1848		

Some Indent records are also available to view online

Convict records – Explanation of frequently used abbreviations

T.L. - Ticket of Leave	P.W. - Public Works	Hus - Husband
C.P. - Conditional Pardon	disobce - Disobedience	Jas. - James
abs - Absconded	sol/solity - Solitary	M.A. - Mary Anne
miscondt - Misconduct	hd lab - Hard labour	Wm - William
appd - Approved	with - without	Geo - George
mos - Months	impt - Imprisonment	Jno - John
b & w - Bread and Water	N.P. - Native Place	Hy - Henry
n.p. - Native Place	F - Father	Jos - Joseph
cas - Cascades	M - Mother	Elizth - Elizabeth
P.B. - Prisoners' Barracks	S - Sister	Saml - Samuel
conf - Confinement	B - Brother	Margt - Margaret
Pr - Prosecutor	W - Wife	
convtd - Convicted	H - Husband	

For a full list of explanations and abbreviations got to:
<http://www.archives.tas.gov.au/guides/list/bg020>



**WELCOME
NEW MEMBER
LES BARTLETT**

<http://www.oldbaileyonline.org/index.jsp>

The Proceedings of the Old Bailey, London's central criminal court 1674-1913
A fully searchable edition of the largest body of texts detailing the lives of non-elite people ever published,
containing 197,745 criminal trials held at London's central criminal court.

FULLY SEARCHABLE DATA BASE

Trials between November 1834 and April 1913 and the Ordinary of Newgate's Accounts between 1690 and
1772 have now been added



**Gormandale Cenotaph
Inscriptions**

**Erected
By the residents of
Gormandale & District
In Grateful Memory Of
Our Men Who Served In
The Great War**

**GREAT WAR
Supreme Sacrifice**

Aubrey, G.	Missen, H.	Power, R.
Chester, C.	Morley, G.	Richardson, A.
Dove, A.	Morley, R.	Somers, A.
Manders, J.	Morley, E.	

**GREAT WAR
1914 - 1919
Volunteered**

Dove, E.
Graham, R. J.
Jenkins, C. F.
Morley, A.
Morley, I.
Pearce, A.
Power, Jr. W. A.
Williamson, E.
Wykes, W.
Missen, F.

**SUPREME SACRIFICE
SECOND WORLD WAR**
Timbs, M. J.
Cramling, W. H.

RETURNED

Davey, S.
Davey, A.
Dossett, E.
Dossett, W.
Field, C.
Graham, A.
Hair, A.
Hair, H.
King, W.
Lane, T.
Lane, W.
Lane, G.
Macreadie, W.
Missen, A.
Missen, C.
Missen, J.

Missen, E. H.
Morgan, H.
Morley, A. C.
Morley, C.
O'Connor, T. E.
Redpath, W. A.
Richardson, P.
Richardson, A.
Richardson, W.
Richardson, Jas.
Steward, F.
Steward, M.
Timbs, A.
Timbs, E.
Wilson, V.
Wilson, A.

Publications for sale by Mid Gippsland Family History Society Inc. (MGFHS)

Address ALL enquiries regarding publications to 'The Secretary', Mid Gippsland Family History Soc. Inc.
PO Box 767 Morwell Victoria 3840 ALL checks to be made payable to Mid Gippsland F.H.S. Inc.

Books (postage cost on application)

Boolarra Cemetery Register 1887 - 1998,	plus Transcriptions	- 2005	\$16.50
Childers - Thorpdale Cemetery Register	plus Transcriptions	1879- 2008	\$ 6. 00
Gippsland Crematorium Register		1985- 1995	\$16.50
Gippsland Crematorium Transcriptions		1985- 1995	\$16.50
Gormandale Cemetery Transcriptions		-2007	\$10.00
Hazelwood Cemetery Transcriptions	2 Volumes	1879- 1995	\$40.00
Moe Cemetery Register		1891- 1996	\$22.00
Moe Cemetery Transcriptions	2 Volumes	1881- 1997	\$40.00
Narracan Cemetery Transcriptions		-2002	\$ 7. 50
Toongabbie Cemetery Register		1872- 1995	\$16.50
Toongabbie Cemetery Transcriptions		1873- 1994	\$16.50
Trafalgar Cemetery Register		1887- 1995	\$16.50
Trafalgar Cemetery Transcriptions		1886- 1994	\$22.00
Traralgon Cemetery Transcriptions	2 Volumes	1872- 1994	\$60.00
Walhalla Cemetery Transcriptions	Updated 2005	1869- 2004	\$16.50
Willow Grove Cemetery Register	plus Transcriptions	1898- 1993	\$16.50
Yallourn Cemetery Transcriptions		1930- 2000	\$50.00

Microfiche and CD'S are also Available

<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~mgfhs/publications.htm>

“Articles for this newsletter are accepted in good faith and while every effort is made to ensure accuracy, the editor and committee of Mid Gippsland Family History Society Inc., take no responsibility for submitted items.”



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