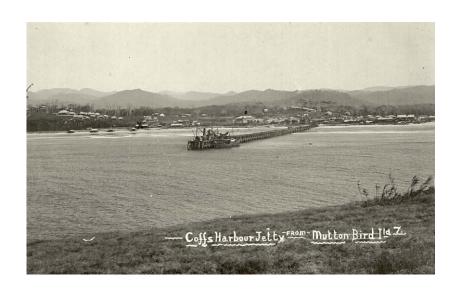


Journal of Coffs Harbour District Family History Society Inc.



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COFFS HARBOUR DISTRICT FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.

Mail: PO Box 2057, COFFS HARBOUR, 2450

New Location: Coffs Community Village (behind Coles) Block C, Rooms 1 & 2

Phone: (02) 6648 3605. Email: coffsgenie@gmail.com Website: https://www.coffsharbourfamilyhistory.com

Hon. Solicitor: Adam Todd



ABN NO: 22 081 981 363

OFFICE BEARERS:

President: Fiona Hulbert Treasurer: Ruth Doward Vice President: Robyn Little Public Officer: Fiona Hulbert

Secretary: Cheryl dal Pozzo

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Exchange Journals Officer: Lyn Brotherton Seminar/W'shop Co-ordinators: Cheryl dal Pozzo/Fiona Hulbert

Journal Editor: Sharon Ingersole DNA Group Co-ordinator: Vacant Workshop/Seminar IT & Sound: Membership Secretary: Jim Holmes **Bev Salter** Monitors' Co-ordinator: Kerry Meagher Research Co-ordinator: Bill Buckler Fiona Hulbert Resources/Library Officer: Equipment Officer: Vacant Ted Mitchell Webmaster: Leonie Baker Publicity Officer:

Special Projects Co-ordinator: Stephen Goundry

MEMBERSHIP FEES:

Joint (2 persons at same address)..... \$70.00

A fee of \$10 will be charged if you would like your "Genie-Allergy" posted.

RESEARCH:

Library Hours: Tuesday to Thursday 10.00am – 12.00pm then 1.00pm – 3.00pm

Saturday: 10.00am – 12.00pm then 1.00pm – 3.00pm (except 4th Saturday of the month)

Library Fees: Members - free on production of current membership card. Visitors - \$10 for half day or

\$20 for whole day. Duty Monitors are available for advice and assistance.

Library Rules: * Current membership cards are to be worn in the rooms.

* Attendance Book to be signed on arrival and departure.

* Bags to be left in area indicated by Monitor.

* Pencils only to be used in Library.

* Photocopies available through duty Monitor and will be charged according to price schedule.

* One microfische only (do not remove plastic sleeve) to be removed from drawer.

Correspondence Inquiries: Research will be undertaken for a fee of \$30.00 per hour

For more information, email coffsgenie@gmail.com

Workshops: are held on 4th Saturday of each month or as otherwise advertised.

RECIPROCAL RIGHTS – Reciprocal rights are offered to members of all family history societies who visit our rooms to do research. Proof of current membership is required.

The Society does not hold itself responsible for statements made or opinions expressed by authors of the articles published in "Genie-Allergy". All care is taken to be accurate, however the Editor reserves the right to publish abridged articles/special features due to space constraints.

Contact Persons: President – Fiona Hulbert 6653 3866 Secretary – Cheryl dal Pozzo 6652 5145

Vice President - Robyn Little 6651 2529 Treasurer - Ruth Doward 0413 841 911

Please contact Fiona or Cheryl if you are interested in filling the vacant positions on the Committee

Our President's report.....



Hello Everyone,

We have made it through another busy period of research and discovery. Hopefully your research is progressing well.

Our March Workshop was informative with the representative from Grafton Library. The Nola Mackie Archive is a treasure trove of the early history of the Grafton area. If you are interested in visiting the Archive, please contact Grafton Library on 6641 0100 to make a booking, Monday to Thursday.

The April workshop with local Indigenous Elder Tony Perkins was well attended. He gave us some insight into the importance of some of the ceremonies, place and language to the First Nations people. Tony is a published co-author of the book "Singing the Coast". An interesting read for anyone who wants a deeper understanding of Indigenous peoples relationship to country.

CHDFHS celebrates its 40th anniversary in 2024 and we would like members to be involved in the decision of how we will celebrate this milestone. Please email our Secretary, Cheryl, with your suggestions. So far only two have come in. If we want to do something local ie. luncheon, morning tea etc., we will need to make a booking soon to ensure we don't miss out.

Organisation for the Bowraville/Macksville bus trip is well underway (see Cheryl's email of 15 April), so don't forget to register and check the menu (pre-orders taken).

Finally, registration for the May seminar is now open and we hope to see as many for you there as possible.

In November the Society will be having a stall at the Harbourside Markets. An indication of those wishing to contribute would be appreciated. Craft items would be most welcome. Unfortunately, we are unable to sell food stuffs of any description.

Happy researching,

Fiona

FEE INCREASE - From July 1, 2023, our membership fees will increase to: Single \$50 Family \$70 We have attempted to keep the increase to a minimum.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS



A warm welcome to our new and re-joining members. We hope you will make yourself at home and find us to be a friendly and helpful group. Don't be afraid to ask the Monitors on duty for help – they will do their best to steer you in the right direction with your research.

CAROLYN CAMERON CASS CROCKER DENISE GATENBY DOROTHY POYNTER

1.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS, CONTACT DETAILS ETC.

Memberships are due for renewal on 1st JULY 2023

From now on you will be issued with a membership badge replacing the current membership cards. Badges will display your name and membership number and if required prior to the renewal of your membership, they will be available for \$6.50 with a pin or \$7.50 with a magnet. If you are interested, please let Bev Salter or Fiona Hulbert know.

When renewing your Membership:

- 1. A completed membership form MUST be completed for all payments made. Be sure to complete Section 2 with your Membership type, how you would like to receive your quarterly journal, sign the form and show the method of payment. Note: The completed form is used to ensure our records are kept up to date and therefore it is vital we receive a form to cover all membership payments.
- 2. As from 1 July 2023, membership will now be \$50 a single and \$70 a double. Journals will no longer be available for collection but will be emailed to you. If you have an email address, it is preferable that we email the magazine to you. If you would prefer to have the "Genie Allergy" posted to you each Quarter, then you need to add \$10.
- 3. Payment methods:
- (a) Cash is payable only in person at our Research Room.
- (b) Cheque is payable in person at our Research Room or by mail to PO Box 2057, Coffs Harbour 2450.
- (c) EFT/Direct Deposit: BSB, Account No., etc. as details on our membership form and you must quote your member number and/or name at the time of payment.
 - (i) Online through your financial institution; OR
 - (ii) In Person at a BCU branch (Banana Coast Credit Union).

Following payment by EFT/Direct Deposit, IT IS ESSENTIAL that a copy of the completed membership form be emailed, mailed or delivered to our Research Room. Renewed membership badges will be placed in the Badge Box on the Admin Desk in our Research Room for your collection if you haven't included a stamped addressed envelope with your renewal.

Membership forms are available on our website https://www.coffsharbourfamilyhistory.com

MEMBER'S ENTITLEMENTS

Use of Society's resources including books, microfilms, microfiche, computer system, etc Receive quarterly Journal Genie-Allergy
Attend meetings and monthly workshops
Guidance with research in our library
Resource borrowing scheme
Free entries in Member's Interests Directory
2 hours free research per year for members who are resident 50km or more from Coffs Harbour.

EXCHANGE JOURNALS

As exchange journals are no longer being printed, they will now be available for viewing by members from the Admin. desktop at our rooms. Monitors can access these journals and you can download them onto a USB. If anybody would like particular journals emailed to them, please contact Lyn via email at lynette.brotherton@gmail.com



I am sure that your research has provided you with a story to tell and those stories are needed to add interest to our Journal. Without them, the "Genie-Allergy" will cease to exist.

- · Perhaps you have a problem that someone else can help you with?
- · Perhaps you do have skeletons in the cupboard which makes life interesting?
- Díd you have a convict in your family and what was his/her crime?
- Do you have nobility, aristocracy, or royalty in your tree?
- Do you have an interesting story or an article to share? Include photos if you have them they always add interest.
- You may want to share humble origins, or a grand adventure, wars, marriages, or even why you became interested in Family History in the first place.

If you do have a story, I would love to hear from you. Please email me on shaz@ingersole.com

Artícles need to be received by the deadline to be included in the next available issue. The closing date for the September Issue is 1st August 2023.

Thank you so much to those members who have contributed their stories to this Genie-Allergy. It certainly adds interest to the journal.

Please keep them coming. Sharon

Workshops coming up June 24th - Back to Basics with Fiona

July 22nd - Tell us the story behind your heirloom

August 26th – Bus trip to Bowraville & Macksville

Please advise our Secretary, Cheryl, know that you will be there.

Grandma and the Family Tree

There's been a change in Grandma, we've noticed her of late, she's always reading history or jotting down some date, She's tracking back the family, we'll all have pedigrees, Grandma has a hobby – she's climbing family trees!

Poor Grandpa does the cooking now, or so he states, but the worst of all is that he has to wash the cups & dinner plates Grandma can't be bothered, she's busy as a bee, compiling Genealogy for the family tree

She goes down to the courthouse and studies family lore We know more about our forebears than we ever did before The books are old and dusty, they make poor Grandma sneeze A minor irritation when you're climbing family trees

The mail is all for Grandma and comes from near and far Last week she got the proof that she needs to join the DAR A worthwhile avocation, to that we all agree, but a monumental project to climb the family tree

Now some folks came from Scotland and some from Galway Bay Some were French as pastry and some German all the way Some went on to stake their claim, some stayed nearby the sea Grandma hopes to find them all as she climbs the family tree

She wanders the graveyards in search of a date or name The poor, the rich, the in between, all sleeping there the same She pauses now and then to rest, fanned by a gentle breeze that blows above the fathers of all our family trees

There were pioneers and patriots mixed in our kith and kin Who blazed the path of wilderness and fought through thick and thin But none more staunch than Grandma, whose eyes light up with glee Each time she finds a missing branch on that family tree

Their skills were wide and varied, from carpenter to cook And one, alas, the records show, was hopelessly a crook Blacksmith, weaver, farmer, judge, some tutored for a fee Long lost in time, now recorded in the family tree

To some its just a hobby, to Grandma it's so much more She knows the joys and heartaches of those who went before The loved, they lost, they laughed, they wept and now for you and me They live again in spirit around the family tree

At last she's nearly finished and we are all exposed
Life will be the same again, this we all suppose
Grandma will cook and sew and serve cookies with our tea
We'll all be fat, just as before that wretched tea

Sad to relate, the Preacher called and visited for a spell We talked about the Gospel and other things as well The heathen folk, the poor and then t'was fate, it had to be Somehow the conversation turned to Grandma's family tree

We tried to change the subject, we talked of everything But then in Grandma's voice we heard the old familiar ring She told him all about the past, and soon it was plain to see The Preacher too was nearly snared by Grandma's family tree

He never knew his Grandpa, his mother's name was Clark He and Grandma talked and talked, outside it grew quite dark We'd hoped our fears were groundless, but just like some disease Grandma has become an addict – she's hooked on the family tree

Our souls were filled with sorrow and our hearts sank with dismay Our ears could scarce believe the words we heard our Grandma say "It sure is a lucky thing you came to me, I know exactly how its done I'll climb your family tree".

Author unknown

Submitted by Maureen Joyce, member 1853



Do you need some help? Have you hit the proverbial brick wall? If you have, please send your query/questions/problem to the Editor for publication in the Journal. Someone may have already encountered this or a similar problem previously and may have an answer for you.

They could also have some suggestions for you.

Help needer

Every family has a story – Write yours now!

2023 E.M. Fletcher Writing Competition The Award is named in honour of Society Fellow Eunice Fletcher

- 1500 to 2000 words on a family history theme
- Prizes of \$1,000 for best short story, \$500 for runner up (UTAS), and a prize for FHACT members.
- Open to individuals over 18 years.
- Entry fee of \$20.00 for FHACT members and \$30.00 for non-members. No limit on the number of entries.
 - Terms & Conditions and Entry Form available at familyhistoryact.org.au or by email from writingcompetition@familyhistoryact.org.au Competition closes 15th July 2023

Judges for the 2023 competition:

- Heather Garnsey Heather is best known for her 35 years working with the Society of Australian Genealogists (SAG). She is an Honorary Member and Fellow of the SAG, an Honorary Fellow of Family History ACT and an Associate Fellow of the Society of Genealogists in London.
- Jenny Higgins Jenny has been researching family history for over forty years, is a long time FHACT member and is currently employed as a family history researcher at the Australian Dictionary of Biography at Australian National University.
- Bernadette Thakur- Bernadette's interest in her family history goes back many years. In 2021, Bernadette was awarded the T.T. Reed Family History Book Award for her book Irish Settlers in South Australia: the Hayes and O'Toole families.

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Clarence and Richmond Examiner and New England Advertiser (Grafton, NSW

(1859 - 1889), Tuesday 11 August 1885, page 2

MURDER AT COFF'S HARBOUR.

FULL PARTICULARS.

On Saturday last we gave a brief notice stating that a murder had been committed at Coffs Harbour, and that the murderer had confessed to the crime. We are now in a position to give fuller details of this horrible offence, upon perusal of which it will be seen that a most atrocious crime has been committed in that hitherto quiet and undisturbed settlement. According to the statement of the prisoner, who is a man advanced in life, there does not seem to be much provocation nor inducement to cause him to commit this terrible crime, and one almost feels at a loss at which to ascribe the motive that incited him to so foully and treacherously slaughter his fellow countryman in the manner he did. Both men are Russian Finns, were five years in the country, and could speak English fairly well, particularly the murdered man. The latter was 26 years of age, while it is alleged the murderer is 67. The young man was unmarried, but the accused has a wife and family, none of whom, however, are residing in the colony. They were sailors originally, accused in particular, of having followed a seafaring life for a long time. They were living together at Coffs Harbour, working for another selector. About three years ago they arranged to take up selection, which was selected in the name of the accused. Since that time, they have resided together and appeared to act as partners in all transactions, and it is believed a will was made to the effect that on the demise of one the property was bequeathed to the other. The name of the victim is MATTESON, and that of the accused, Matthew FRISKE

Clarence and Richmond Examiner and New England Advertiser (Grafton, NSW: 1859 - 1889), Saturday 17 October 1885, page 4

MURDER

Matthew FRISKE was then arraigned that he did, on the 29th day of July, 1885, at Coffs Harbour, kill one Mat MATSON. Accused was defended by Mr. Gibson, instructed by Mr. F. Norrie, and pleaded not guilty.

Jury: The following were empanelled after a long list of challenges: C. Everingham (foreman), K.Gillies, Joseph Bailey, J. Laing, H. Gillett, S. Ayres, W. Watkins, John O'Brien, W. Hanna, R. Barnier, and Thomas Layton. The Crown Prosecutor having stated the charge brought against the prisoner was the serious one of murder, then detailed the nature of the evidence to be adduced in support of it and called. Constable MAY, who stated he is stationed at Boat Harbour, within 30 miles of Coffs Harbour. In August received certain information, and went to Coffs Harbour on the 4th, which was a Tuesday. It was about 8 p.m. when I got there. Next morning went to prisoner's selection, in company with Messrs. T. MARTIN, W. LEWIS, T. CUNNINGHAM, W. RAWORTH, and several others. Saw prisoner at the hut. Said to him, "What has become of your mate?" He replied, "He has gone away." Asked him when he had gone. He said, "Last Wednesday. "Looked about the place, and went into the hut, prisoner following me in. Behind the door of the hut saw and American axe, now produced. Took it outside to the light and prisoner followed him. Asked him what is this on the axe, showing him two large marks on each side of the axe. He said, "that must be rust." Remarked, "it looks very much like blood, to which he made no reply. Found a shirt (produced) hanging on the bed, took it out, and asked whose it was. He said, "Mine." Showed him the blood on the sleeve and asked him how it came there. He replied, "I don't know," but afterwards said, "I must have got it on the shirt when I killed a pig about two months ago. Went over with others to where we saw a big tree, which had been burnt down, the stump and trunk were both burning. One of the party named MARTIN commenced to poke in the ashes of the hole, and stirred up a piece of bone. Witness went into the ashes, and found a considerable number of bones, which he put into his cap. Produced in a small paper box (marked A) the bones found. Handed the bones to Dr. PURDIE, and they were boxed up, as now, in my presence, and handed to Sergeant McCORMICK.

When they were found, prisoner was standing looking on. Heard him remark they were native dog's bones. Took the axe, shirt, and bones away, and went to the hotel, about 1½ miles away. The other parties went with me but prisoner remained. After dinner, in about an hour and a half, went back to the stump in company with W. LEWIS. Went through the scrub and made further search. Then found six teeth (produced), portions of which were very much burnt, and also shirt buttons, very much burnt. The latter were whole but have since crumbled up. Found another piece of bone (produced.) They are all very brittle. Went over then to the prisoner's hut, about 4 p.m. in company with Lewis, and there saw prisoner. Told him "I arrest you on suspicion of murdering your mate, Mat MATSON, on 2th July last." He replied, I no murder him." Then handcuffed him, searched him and found in his trouser pocket a purse (produced.) Inside it were five £1 notes, one sovereign, and three shillings Purse produced the money, the money was handed to the gaoler. We started towards the public house, and went a few yards, when a man came and told me something, and I followed him. We went, taking prisoner, a distance of a mile or a mile from the hut, to an old road. There saw the leg of a human being lying on the road. It had a man's sock on the foot. Said to prisoner, "What is that?" He replied, "it looks like the foot of a man. Picked it up and saw it had been chopped off above the knee. Said to him, "Look, it has been chopped off with an axe here," pointing to the place. He replied, "I know nothing about it." (Sock produced.) took the leg to the hotel and got a pair of boots which I had brought from the hut, and prisoner said they belonged to Mat MATSON. Compared the right boot with the foot, and it appeared as if it would fit the foot. The leg looked fresh, and as if it had been done about a week. Measured the foot, which was 934 inches, used a foot rule, and measured from heel to toe. Rolled it up and kept it, and sent for the shoemaker, who said he made the boots. Buried the leg after the Coroner's inquiry, at Coffs Harbour, in the bush. Got instructions to exhume it and did so. The foot was in the same condition. Put it in a box and handed it to Dr. PURDIE on the 21st August. Prisoner was put into a room at the hotel, where I remained with him.

Next morning, on Thursday, August 26, prisoner complained about being very cold. Noticed he was shivering, as it was a very cold morning. He asked for a little brandy, which I got and gave him. About ¼ of an hour afterwards prisoner said, in the presence of T. MARTIN, LEWIS, and others, "I see you are a Christian, and I want to be a Christian too. Don't trouble any more about it.

Council interposed to ask questions to show evidence would be inadmissible. Permission given.

By Mr. GIBSON. I was in uniform during the night I had prisoner in custody. Many people came in, backward and forward, to see me during the night. They were smoking, but very little talking was indulged in. They had a little drink, but I had none. Prisoner gave me his age as 67 years. Do not know he was sick that day. He is a strong, robust man. It was after he got the brandy that the prisoner made the statements. I warned him. He had something to eat afterwards, bread and butter, meat, and a cup of tea. It was between the time of getting the brandy and breakfast that he made the statement. Am sure it was not rum, but brandy, that he got. Did not offer him more than the one glass, nor did he refuse, nor did he say what he had had gone to his head. Prisoner is a Russian Finn, and I understand what he says. He says he has been 40 years at sea among European people. Allowed him tobacco to chew when arrested, as he said he would be ill without it. He was a stranger to me until I arrested him. When prisoner was cautioned that anything he might say might be used against him but did not repeat that caution in the morning.

Council then made formal objections on the ground of undue influence and quoted from Russell on Crime.

His Honor said he saw no reason at present to reject the evidence. If he saw there had been any undue influence it would be different. The liquor was given out of humanity, and there was nothing wrong in what the constable did. The court adjourned at 1 p.m. until 1.30.

Constable may's evidence resumed. Almost half an hour after prisoner got the brandy, he said "I see you are a Christian man, and I want to be a Christian too. Don't trouble any more about that Mat MATSON you have found all you can find. I killed him. I said, "Stop a minute, and I will write down what you have to say." Prisoner continued and said "I killed him with the axe you got. I struck him in the spine or the back where I hit him. "He was standing over that big stump hole when I hit him. He fell down into the fire. I did

not think to hit him so hard for giving me the false cheque. The leg you showed me yesterday is Mat's leg? That leg was in the bush near to the fire where you found the bones. I watched you all go away and afterwards, shifted it as I was frightened. I killed him because he did me a wrong. Nobody had anything to do with it but myself. When he fell into the fire, one leg was out and I could not shove it in, and I chopped it off with that axe, and threw it away in the bush, and afterwards, I washed the axe with hot water. Said to him if you take me and show me where you killed him, and how you did it, and where you threw the leg. He said he would. It was then we had breakfast. He ate very hearty and did not see him ill. He made the statement quietly, and remarked he was much better after drinking it. We went over with MARTIN and others. Prisoner showed where deceased stood, and how he struck him, which was left handed (position shown by witness). The stump hole, as measured, was 8 feet across. He said deceased was stooping at the time, poking the fire, with his face towards it. He then showed the place where the leg stuck out saying "that is where I chopped the leg off," and pointed while he said "that in where I threw the leg." He said in throwing the leg away the boot fell off. I picked it up and threw it in the fire; I was very frightened. He showed where the leg had been lying, which was about 10 yards distant, among some dead timber and ferns, where he said he chopped the leg off, saw that the bark had been cut off. He Said, "I chopped the bark off because there was blood on it, and then threw it in the fire." On the day of the inquest, when the coroner and jury viewed the locality, myself and prisoner were present, he pointed out a stick close to the spot, burnt at one end and said that is the stick I poked up the body with, and made it burn. Cut it up for the convenience of carrying it. Before I arrested him asked him if he had a cheque, and he said "Yes," and handed me a blank cheque on the Commercial Bank (produced.) He said he gave Mat MATSON £8 for it; that he got it from DUNCAN. On the last occasion when JOHNSON was with us, the latter gave me some money, and said, "Here is some money prisoner gave me; I don't want to have anything to do with it." Prisoner said, "I never gave you any money." JOHNSON then said "About two nights ago I was sleeping in FRISKE's hut with him, and he awoke me up and said, "Here is some money." He was then trying to get something out from the roof of the hut. He then handed me £9, made up by four £1 notes, and one £5 note. Prisoner again said, "I never gave you no money." Johnson said a little time after, "FRISKE gave me that money, he gave me a bag containing £2 3s 4d in silver and copper." Some time subsequently, prisoner admitted to me that he gave the money to JOHNSON in answer to a question whether it was MATSON's money, when he said, "No, it was my own. I gave it to JOHNSON but did not want any one to know." Brought prisoner to Grafton. On the 26th of September, made a search in prisoner's hut, when Senior-constable STEELE was with me. No one was living in the hut, and it was apparently in the same state as when left. In digging down in the fireplace, found the bones now produced. Have since received a pair of boots from DUNCAN, now produced. Brought the bones with me and handed them over to Sergeant McCORMICK with the boots, to give to Dr. PURDIE. Produce the knuckle of the leg cut off.

Cross-examined by Mr. GIBSON: Prisoner said, while carrying the leg, he saw two men, and dropped it, because he was frightened. Prisoner did say "the reason I put the leg where found was to let you know little Mat was killed."

When arrested, prisoner had a rag on his hand, which he said he had burnt in moving the logs. Thomas MARTIN, contractor, residing at Coffs Harbour, remembered accompanying Constable MAY to prisoner's selection in the latter end of July on a Wednesday. Remember searching about and finding some bones in a stump hole about 200 yards from the house. (Witness detailed various particulars as already stated by Constable MAY, and also as to the purport of confession made by prisoner, as to his committal of the murder, and his motive for doing it.) Knew MATSON, who was a young man, and never heard anything against his character. Believed he always lived with prisoner.

By Mr. GIBSON: Have heard of deceased having rows with prisoner. Cannot say that I ever heard him treated him harshly. Have heard that MATSON threatened to knife the prisoner. Prisoner also said an additional reason for killing him was because he gave him a false cheque, and that MATSON did him a lot of wrong.

William LEWIS, Labourer at Coffs Harbour, gave evidence corroborative of the search at prisoner's residence, and the finding of the leg, and also prisoner's confession.

By Mr. GIBSON: Constable MAY told me prisoner had made a confession of the murder. Myself, MARTIN, prisoner, and the constable were the only ones in the room when the confession was made. Others stood outside the door. There was no drink on the table, or brought in at the time.

To His Honor: Believe prisoner had his breakfast at the time he made the confession.

Thomas DUNCAN, teamster at Coffs Harbour, who had been present on the occasion of the search, gave evidence corroborative of that of other witnesses. Two buts of cheques produced he believed were out of a cheque book of his: one is No. 4356 and the other 4357. The former had on it "Paid Out £8." The latter has not been tilled up. I must have tore it out with the other and given the two to Mat. The cheque was drawn on the Commercial Bank at Fernmount. Sometime before the bones were found prisoner asked me to give him £8 for it. Told him I had paid Mat, that if I had not I would have given it to him. He said that was Mat's cheque. and I said it was no good. He asked me to pay him for some conn, and I said I had bought it off little Mat would pay him when he came.

By Mr. GIBSON: Had one glass in the room where prisoner was did not hear the confession, as I got sick and had to leave. Was not sick all over the place as the consequences of a lot of drink.

James Arthur SHEPHERD, a little boy nine years of age, was called and appeared, but was not examined.

Robert WOODS, farmer and shoemaker, identified a pair of boots (produced) as made by him for MATSON. Remembered a leg being shown to him early in August last. The foot was the same size as MATSON's; the boots would have fitted it. The size of the foot was 9½ inches. Was subsequently shown another pair of boots (produced.) They were the last made for him, about three weeks before he was killed.

Charles JOHNSON stated he had been staying in FRISKE's place for three nights shortly before the latter's arrest. Prisoner gave him £9, and a bag containing some other money. The money was given to me the night before he was arrested. I am also a Russian Finn, the same countryman as prisoner. Heard the row between prisoner and MATSON. The last time heard prisoner say, "I took up the selection, and you promised to take half." That was about six weeks before the Coffs Harbour Races. They seemed quite friendly afterwards.

By Mr. GIBSON: They used to have rows and make friends again. Only remember two rows. Never heard Mat threaten the old man, or of the old man having to sleep outside. The last time I was at the place he said he had been very bad.

By the Crown Prosecutor: MATSON was a man the same size as witness. On the day before prisoner was arrested, there was a piece of tobacco on the table, and he asked whose it was. He said it was not his. He said "You can smoke it: I don't believe Mat will ever come back again." PETERSON and Mat were bad friends and prisoner said "I believe PETERSON killed Mat." John WOODS remembered FRISKE coming to his place and saying he had left Mat in the place in the morning and had not seen him since. He said Mat was a man who did not care about work, as he went away and let him to crosscut by himself. Asked him where he had gone to. He said "The devil knows where he has gone. He is a funny sort of man; he goes walking about in the bush, and was lost for three days, and asked me not to say anything about it."

By Mr. GIBSON: Helped FRISKE to kill a pig a short time before. Mat and he quarrelled sometimes but generally happily together. Am a countryman of the prisoner.

Dr PURDIE, Government medical officer for Grafton, deposed: He was shown some bones by Constable MAY in August. To the best of his belief, they are human bones, but were very much charred. could identify some of the bones as those of a human being part of an upper jaw, one of the lower ribs and a molar tooth. Those produced were some of the bones. Have no doubt whatever they are portions of a human being. Was afterwards shown part of a leg and a foot, shown by Constable May. These portions were part of a human body. Recommended them to be placed in a tin case with spirits and soldered down.

Edward KING, formerly constable in the police force, and in charge of the lockup on August 8, when prisoner was brought in. He told me he was very tired, and his hand was very sore. Asked him what was the matter with his hand. He said, "That man bit my hand." I said "What man?" He replied "That man 1 killed. I put back my hand, and gave him one blow on the head with the axe, and he dropped into the fire." Never asked him any questions, only what happened his hand.

By Mr. GIBSON: Am quite sure he said he hit him on the head. This was the case for the Crown.

No evidence was called for the defence.

Prisoner then made a statement which was unintelligible and to a great extent inaudible. His Honor permitted Counsel to repeat and make intelligible what prisoner was saying. This was in effect as follows: "Mat said, 'Some papers have come from Sydney, you will have to sign them." Asked what they were, Mat Said, "Mr. DUNCAN says you must sign them." Wanted to know why I would have to sign them and ultimately refused to have anything to do in signing papers. Mat said, "You won't sign them, you old took me by the throat and knocked me down. Put his knee on my stomach and bit my hand. Mat picked up the stick (already produced), and tried to hit me with It. The stick was long, and I stooped my head, and the blow missed me, and as the weight of the stick and its impetus made him lose his balance, I reached for the axe, and hit him on the back, and he fell into the fire, his arm getting fast in the roots. I tried to pull him out but could not do so. I then got afraid.

The Police Magistrate, to whom the statement was made in gaol, repeated it also by consent of his Honor.

Council for the defence addressed the jury, laying great stress on the supposition that Constable MAY was no more able to understand prisoner's statement than the jury could that day, more particularly when the former occasion prisoner had a glass or spirits after a night with no rest and on an empty stomach. He put it to him that Constable MAY had simply misunderstood what had been told him. He asked the jury to believe the statement now of the prisoner, which compared in every particular but one, with that of the constable. At most it was only a case of manslaughter, and a question for them to consider if it was not justifiable at that.

His Honor summed up at considerable length, and the jury retired at 6:40, and in about 2½ hours had agreed their verdict, which was guilty. Sentence of death was then passed on the prisoner, and the Court adjourned until this morning.

The Judge referred the sentence to the Executive Council and this decision was received at Grafton on 8th December,1885. Meanwhile some concern amongst the local community prompted the Mayor to call a public meeting on 30th November, to which about 130 persons attended. (Clarence & Richmond River Examiner and New England Advertiser 1st December,1885 p.2) Those in attendance took a vote and the carrying out of the sentence was carried by a few votes.

Clarence and Richmond Examiner and New England Advertiser (Grafton, NSW:1859-1889), Saturday 12 December 1885, page 8

Execution of Matthew FRISKE

The extreme penalty of the law was carried out in the case of the condemned criminal Matthew FRISKE on Thursday last. It will be remembered that FRISKE was found guilty last August of the murder of his mate and countryman Mat MATSON, of Coffs Harbour. The prisoner when arrested confessed to killing Matson, and burning the body, but at the trial and since, the words taken down by the arresting constable have been disputed by him, and he thus asserted that what he said, and what conveyed the true facts of the unfortunate case, was, a quarrel and struggle took place in the field where they were burning off, and the murdered man having attacked him with a large pole, he struck him in the back with an axe. Matson fell into a burning stump hole, and being unable to pull him out became alarmed, and finally decided to

destroy the body by burning. To this statement he had adhered, and with the exception of some additional details, has given no other version of the occurrence, always maintaining that the murder was not premeditated. He has had the ministrations of the Venerable Archdeacon GREENWAY and the Rev. J. L. BOSWORTH, the former of whom has been very assiduous in his attention to the condemned man, who, he informs us, has given evidence of true penitence and contrition of heart. He acknowledged the justice of the sentence and stated his readiness to submit to his execution. The final decision of the Executive, in reply to the position sent down praying for a remission of the death penalty, was announced on Tuesday, and was to the effect that the sentence must take place as fixed. This the unfortunate man was in a measure prepared for he partook of the communion on Wednesday evening and seemed quite resigned. He passed a very restless night, and declined to take any breakfast, but was induced to have a little tea, kindly and thought fully made for him by Mrs. FREWIN, the gaoler's wife. He was visited at an early hour by Archdeacon Greenway and the Rev. JL BOSWORTH, who engaged with him in devotional exercises, and attended him to the scaffold.

Here again the Rev. Mr. BOSWORTH prayed fervently and FRISKE showing no wish to say anything himself, the white cap was drawn over his face by the executioner's assistant, shutting from sight what little of the world was left to him; and the other preliminaries being adjusted in a few seconds, the bolt was drawn before the unfortunate man could have realised his last moment had arrived, and as was subsequently ascertained, his neck was dislocated in the fall, and death must have been Instantaneous.

As already mentioned, he made, or left, no statement. His demeanour was perfectly calm and passive, and his appearance fully bore out the statements of the minister, that he was resigned and prepared to meet death. The execution was witnessed by the Under-Sheriff (Mr. C.E. MAYBURY), Dr. PURDIE (the Government medical officer), the gaol officials, members of the police force, and about ten of the public who had applied for admission, in addition to members of the Press, and was carried out with every decorum as well as in a manner to leave no room for exception in any respect. After death had been certified the body was placed in a shell, and a jury having been sworn in, the usual inquiry took place before the coroner, and evidence of a formal character was given by the Under Sheriff, the gaoler (Mr. FREWIN), and Dr. PURDIE, and a verdict in accordance with the evidence given. The body was subsequently interred in the cemetery, FRISKE was a native of Russian Fin about 5 feet 6 inches in height, and, for his size, a powerful man. Very little difference appeared to have taken place in him since the trial, save that he looked somewhat older. He was professedly an Evangelican Lutheran in religion, and those who had an opportunity of conversing with him state he was a very intelligent, well-informed man for his station of life. We understand he supposes his wife to be still living and two sons and a daughter, all of whom are in foreign countries; and his own wish was that no communication should be sent to them, and it is perhaps as well that they should remain in ignorance of the fact, which would bring to them each painful memories. He made disposal of his few personal effects, and left direction for the collection of debts due to him, and which has taken place in the district, we would express the hope that it may be long before the dread penalty has again to be executed. Victoria street opposite the gaol had a small crowd of about 30 or 40 people (men and boys), from the time fixed for the execution up to about 10 o'clock, when they gradually melted away and the street resumed its wonted appearance. Several unfounded reports, we understand, have got into circulation. One of these is to the effect that FRISKE had confessed to another murder. This is a pure fabrication.

THIS IS BELIEVED TO BE THE FIRST HANGING AT THE GRAFTON GOAL IN VICTORIA STREET.

Clarence and Richmond Examiner and New England Advertiser (Grafton, NSW:1859 - 1889), Saturday 16 January 1886, page 3

At the Police Court, West Kempsey, last week, the Registrar of the District Court sold under a writ of fi -fa issued from the Grafton Court the C.P. containing 60 acres, situate at Coffs Harbour, and lately the property of Matthew FRISKE. The purchaser was Thomas CAMPBELL, price £66. [portion 28, Parish Coff].

Submitted by Ian O'Hearn Member 1672

A Postcard from Missouri

During Covid lockdown, I spent time perusing my postcard collection thinking what a great resource for family historians. I counted 2175 Postcards (not as many as Ronnie Barker of 'Porridge' fame as he had 53,000 and sold them for £60,000). My collection is a social history of my family and the places I grew up in, where my large family went on holidays, sometimes to the same seaside resort for 20 years. The changes become evident as time goes by. My oldest postcards and special to our family are the embroidered silk postcards from the war years, best Birthday wish, Merry Christmas, and souvenir of France. Great Grandad was evidently romantic and missing his wife greatly. He had married the day before posting to the Middle East and did not return for 4 years. From his bolt hole in Tobruk, Egypt and Palestine and time spent in France, he sent home the various postcards.

Great Grandad x 2 in WW1 sent home a photograph postcard from France, of himself with a group of 7 soldiers in their uniforms, plus a family of 8 adults and a baby. The family story is that the soldiers were sent to help the family with the harvest. We have further discovered through regimental War diaries that he was in a village called Toutencourt, a Commune of France in the Somme in July 1915. Soldiers were rostered to help with the harvest as a break from the war on the front line. There is much information to be gained from this family postcard.

On a lighter note, my postcard categories cover a whole gamut of topics including the rude and risqué postcards which were sent home from the seaside holiday. These were a favourite of Ronnie Barker who used some of them in his sketches. I have 58 – he had thousands. My most mysterious postcard I chose to write about today is because it arrived at our house in the late 1950s from an Aunt Rebecca, sent from Missouri USA. Did I have an Aunt Rebecca? Answer No.! She sent the card to Nora McINTYRE. Was that my name? No! The correspondence continued over the years, mostly to my step-father by letter. A ps was added to father's letter from me thanking Aunt Rebecca for the US\$10 she sent me every Christmas. It was not until later in life that I decided to find out who she was. I remembered her address was in Sandford, Maine and I have gleaned the following story. She is not part of my family but an interesting sage.

Rebecca WILLEY (nee DAWSON) was born in my home town of Bradford England in September 1886. At 24, she migrated to the USA, arriving in Boston 29 September 1910 on the "Cymric". James WILLEY, Rebecca's husband arrived in the USA before his wife on 8 June 1906, landing in Portland, Maine on the shop "Dominion". He was on board with a Mr. DACOURIER and it seems he was his sponsor. His address was Jackson Street, Sandford, Maine, the address that Rebecca lived at all of her life. Rebecca arrived in 1910 with her 2 sons, William H (2) and Harold (7 months). The attraction to Sandford was the huge Plush Mill with 200 looms weaving plush mohair fabric. James was obviously well qualified, coming from the textile mills of Bradford. My step-father had a mohair dressing gown for many years – obviously a gift from the USA.

In the 1910 USA Census, besides Rebecca, James and their 2 sons, is another sponsored family, the GREENWOODs. Harry is 34, born in Bradford England in 1876. Sarah, his wife and Rebecca's sister born 29.9.1881. Their child Ophelia aged 1, born 1889. Every official document shows this child as a bride but she goes on to be a bride!

The 1920 Census is a bit of a surprise. Rebecca is 33 and a widow. Son William H is now 12 and Harold 10 years old. What happened to James WILLEY? Here we back-track to March 1915. James WILLEY reports in the local paper that his brother Alfred, No. 3 Company, Princess Pats (Canada) fighting in Europe was killed in action at Voormezeele, Ypres, Belgium. On 1 May 1914, James WILLEY started the British/America Naturalization Association in Sandford. Following his brother' Alfred's death, James WILLEY decides to travel back to England to join the West Yorkshire Regiment, Prince of Wales Own, leaving Rebecca and their two sone. James died on 27 September 1917 at Tyne Cot. After WW1 there is a great deal of information about Rebecca and her sons growing up in Sandford but I am still looking for

a connection from my step-father to Rebecca WILLEY. I have to wait until 1925 for more visitors to arrive at Jackson Street, Sandford Maine.

Fred and Florrie STEELE (nee DAWSON and another sister of Rebecca's) arrived in the USA. Florrie was born in 1884 and migrated in 1919. She had married Fred in Bradford, Yorkshire in 1911 and they did not have any children. Fred was a machinist in the Plush Mill in Sandford but the following year, 1920, he died in Bradford. The next mention of Florrie STEELE is in March 1940, when aged 54 she arrived in New York from Greenock Scotland on board the "Queen Elizabeth". It seems she is visiting her sister because in 1943, Florrie is back in Bradford and marrying John McINTYRE (my step-father). There goes the final connection between Rebecca and my step-father.

Throughout the 1930s, 40s, 50s and 60s, Rebecca lived a full life. The Sandford Tribune is full of her exploits, photographs, vocal solos and acting exploits. She was associated with the Victoria Lodge Independent Order, Daughters of St. George and she held English teas for British Relief during WW2.

Rebecca's son Harold WILLEY married Anna LEGERE and was a Warrant Officer as he had been well educated. His wedding photos are in the Sandford Tribune 30 May 1940 and a grandson James WILLEY is born so Harold survived the war unlike his father James.

Back to the Postcard from Missouri. We can learn so much from a single picture. We know now that Rebecca thought highly of my step-father and for his nursing of her sister with lung cancer. I also looked up the GREENWOOD family (her sister Sarah) and they had relocated to Missouri, hence the postcard from Rebecca's visit. Rebecca wrote often to my step-father ceasing on 27 August 1969 when she died in Sandford. The thread was lost but not the postcard.

Note: If anyone would like to see a particular place, I would be happy to help if I have a postcard of that area.

Submitted by Nora Clyde Member No. 1439

THE CONVICT BEAUMONT BROADBENT

I have a massive folder about this convict and have visited all of his places – from Armley near Leeds in England to his final resting place in Dhuroo in North Western NSW. He was the brother of my 3x Great Grandfather and I did not discover my convict ancestor until 2008 as no one in the UK ever mentioned him. I felt a time-line was the best way to illustrate his movements. Nora.

17 April 1814 - Baptised at Armley, Yorkshire

July 1837 York Assizes – Burglary commuted to 10 years transportation

August-September 1837 – on the Hulk "Justitia"

7 October 1837 – Convict ship "Neptune" left Sheerness, England

18 January 1838 "Neptune" arrived in Hobart, Tasmania

Police No. 2804B

Convict No. 7425

1838 Reference to Thomas GEE (Morven) CS049/1/7 page 205

30 March 1839 with Mr. Thomas GEE at Springs. Neglect of Duty – 14 days hard labour

Also, Louisa GEE, Licensee 'Australia & Tasmania Hotel' Wellington Street, Launceston HTG29

Richard GEE Licensee 'Bird in the Hand' Elizabeth Street, Launceston

Thomas GEE Licensee 'Sir William Wallace Hotel' Franklin Village

2 May 1839 - Misconduct - 14 days solitary confinement with bread and water

12 October 1839 – Returned to Government. In the employ of George Briscoe SKARDON JP.

14 February 1840 – Disobedience – 30 lashes and returned to Government

1841 Census – Beaumont BROADBENT convict with Mr. BURNETT, Launceston

18 July 1842 – Drunkenness – 4 hours exposure in the stocks

23 March 1843 – Ticket of Leave. Worked for wages.

19 June 1844 Conditional Pardon from Queen Victoria

23 July 1844 - Drunk - fined 5/-

5 November 1844 – drunk and disorderly – fined 10/-

July 1845 – Approved Conditional Pardon – Gazette

15 October 1846, Launceston – Beaumont BROADBENT, passenger of "City of Sydney" arrives in Sydney as an English labourer and settler

30 June 1851 – Sydney Post Office – an unclaimed letter for Beaumont BROADBENT, Liverpool Plains

A shepherd in the employ of Edward ASHBEE of Gammon Plains

A driver of a horse team for Mr. ALLISON near Cassilis

28 February 1853 – Advert for Beaumont BROADBENT to collect and pay for a horse from Merriwa pound

23 January 1855 – married Ann ANDERSON in the School Room, Tamworth

26 June 1858 – Reward offered by Beaumont BROADBENT for mare and foal stolen from Kickerbell, Liverpool plains. This is the same area as Black Creek and Phillips Creek mentioned on Annie's marriage certificate.

1861 – Stepdaughter Annie marries Thomas HAYDEN at Black Creek Station

June 1869 – in St. George, Queensland. Beaumont possibly working for someone with property in both locations – St. George and Liverpool Plains.

1871 – Beaumont's wife Ann is with daughter Mary in St. George whilst she was having a baby

1871 – Beaumont on his property at Dhuroo

20 June 1877 – Henry TUCKER, Grandson aged 7 months died at Dhuroo

1878 – Lawrence MOORE transferred the first of his two blocks to Beaumont

1878/79 - Beaumont worked on Brenda Station shearing and yard building

April 1882 - Dhuroo block surveyed

1885 – a two room house of slabs and bark had been added to the block as well as a slab and bark fowl house.

A fairy and pig stye also erected

9 April 1886 – Beaumont to attend Brewarrina Court House to prove he had been living on the land

4 December 1887 – John Beaumont MOOR died aged 3 months at Dhuroo

1888/89 - worked on Brenda Station

4 May 1889 - Ann BROADBENTdied of breast cancer aged 75. Buried at Dhuroo

July 1889 – Beaumont made he final payment for his land

3 May 1890 – appeared before TBC Benson JP at Brenda Station to sign a statutory declaration that he was the current owner

June 1892 – 3 years later received the Title Deed for his land

12 January 1896 Beaumont BROADBENT died aged 88 years. Buried at Dhuroo



Submitted by Nora Clyde Member 1439

ASS144/153 Indictment File of Beaumont BROADBENT

"Yorkshire to wit, The Jurors for our Lady the Queen upon their oath, present that James BINKS late of the Parish of Leeds in the County of York, Labourer, Joseph BURNALL late of the same place, Labourer, and Beaumont Broadbent late of the same place, Labourer, on 25th day of April in the seventh year of the reign of our late Sovereign Lord King William IV, about the hours of two in the night of the same day with force and arms at the Parish aforesaid in the County aforesaid, the dwelling house of James ALLINSON, there situate feloniously and burglariously did break and enter with intent the goods and chattels of the said James ALLINSON in the said dwelling house then and there being then and there feloniously and burglariously to steal, take and carry away and then and there one dozen knives of the value of ten shillings, one dozen dessert forks

of the value of ten shillings, one dozen German silver teaspoons of the value of ten shillings, one dozen other teaspoons of the value of ten shillings, two German silver dessert table spoons

of the value of two shillings, two other table spoons of the value of two shillings, one pair of German silver sugar tongs of the value of two shillings, one German silver caddy spoon of the value of two shillings, one other caddy spoon of the value of one shillings, two German silver salt spoons of the value of two shillings, two other salt spoons of the value of two shillings, five silver teaspoons of the value of ten shillings, one pair of silver sugar tongs of the value of ten shillings, two German silver table spoons of the value of five shillings, two silver plated table spoons of the value of five shillings, one cotton handkerchief of the value of one shilling, one pair of worsted stockings of the value of two shillings, one hat of the value of ten shillings, one cloth coat of the value of twenty shillings, one great coat to the value of forty shillings and two shawls of the value of forty shillings, of the goods and chattels of Mary Ann ALLINSON in the said dwelling house then and there also being one other silk dress of the value of twenty shillings of the goods at chattels of Mary COLBECK in the said dwelling house then and there also being (unclear) and one other hat of the value of ten shillings of the goods and chattels of William ALLINSON in the said dwelling house then and there also being feloniously and burglariously did steal take and carry away against the form of the statute in such case made and provided and against the peace of our said Lady the Queen, her Crown and dignity".

HO17/106 Petitions for Clemency

Petition TX13

Beaumont BROADBENT, 22 York Summer Assizes 1837 Burglary Sentenced commuted to 10 years Transportation Gaoler's report: Idle, drunken and profligate "Justitia"

To the Right Honourable Baron Parke

My Lord

The humble petition of the undersigned Sarah BROADBENT and others, showeth, that the said Sarah Broadbent, widow is the mother of an unhappy youth named Beaumont BROADBENT, who, in an unfortunate hour of youthful indiscretion, got entangles in the company of unprincipled persons and has been drawn aside from the paths of virtue and is now a convicted criminal in the Castle of York. Your petitioners, seeing that this is the first offence with which he has (unhappily) been charged, they therefore beg leave humbly to intrude upon your notice, beseeching you to take this case into your most serious consideration, requesting that mercy may be extended to him, which your goodness and humanity may but suggest, and that if his case would have to be laid before her Most Gracious Majesty, our youthful and beloved Queen, or her Privy Council, your petitioners humbly hope you will exercise your prerogative in recommending him to the Royal Mercy and your condescension will convey a blessing to the heart of an afflicted parent and draw upon yourself the approval of heaven.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray and c....

14 signatures

Sarah Broadbent was my 4x Great Grandmother

Submitted by Nora Clyde Member 1439

The Power of the Letter

The year was 1985, Dr.HABGOOD was Archbishop of York and I was on my way back to England for a holiday to visit family and friends. Always on the lookout for family history information, I thought 'why not write to the Archbishop while I am here and ask if he is related'. I didn't really think much would come of it, but you never know.

When I finally arrived at my Uncle's in Gloucestershire, there was a letter from the Archbishop's office and even though no close link was found, there were 32 HABGOODS buried in the Church yard of St. John the Baptist, Latton. This is a tiny village on ermine Street, one of the most important Roman roads built during their occupation of Britain. Latton is only 4 miles from where my relatives lived – there has to be a link. That is another story to be sorted! Next morning with Uncle in tow, off we went to check out Latton Church yard. To my delight the Church was full of medieval architectural features, I period in history that I love and the graves of dozens of them. Inside the Church there were large stained glass windows, two in the chancel commemorating the HABGOODS. Could any of these be mine? I collected names, dates, photos and then rang the local Vicar to see what other information they might have. That's when it started to get interesting!

"How did you know those graves were in my Church yard" the Vicar asked. "The Archbishop of York" I replied. Well all I can say is that the Vicar was very excited – I could almost see him jumping up and down with the excitement of it all. The HABGOODS in his Church yard were related to the Archbishop!

Returning to Australia I left my Uncle with a good dinner time story. Then a year later, an invitation to him and his wife to Latton Church for a service as the Archbishop was coming.

Forward to 1993 and I am back in the UK and the 800 year old Latton Church has a new stone tiles roof, £90,000 had been raised for the job. Not a bad outcome for a letter and a little help from the Archbishop! A Thanksgiving service had been planned so Uncle and I are off to Church again. During the Service and much to my Uncle's embarrassment, the Vicar thanks him and his niece from Australia for the lovely new roof. To add to my excitement, I was also given full details of all the HABGOODS in the Church yard, the same that had been given to the Archbishop on his earlier visit.

I returned to Australia after this trip with a kneeler to stitch for the Church and lots of research to follow up. The kneeler is finished and now resides in Latton Church awaiting my next visit.

Who says family history can't be loads of fun and full of surprised. Submitted by Susan Habgood, Member 1197











HOW DID THE DNA CRAZE START?

In 1997, a Canadian of Ashkenazi (Jewish) parentage noticed that a Sephardic fellow congregant who was a Kohen like himself, had completely different physical features. According to Jewish tradition, all Kohanim are descended from the Priest Aaron who was the brother of Moses. This fellow reasoned that if all Kohanim were indeed the descendants of one man, they should have a common set of genetic markers and should perhaps preserve some family resemblance to each other.

Michael Hammer of the University of Arizona, a researcher in Molecular Genetics and a pioneer in Y-DNA chromosome research, obtained samples and carried out tests. He found that a particular marker was indeed more likely to be present in Jewish men from the priestly tradition than in the general Jewish population.

The first person to test the new method in general surname research was Bryan SYKES, a Molecular Biologist at Oxford University. His study of the SYKES surname obtained valid results by looking at 4 markers on the male chromosome. His work pointed the way to genetics becoming a valuable assistant in the service of Genealogy and history.

In 2001 SYKES' book "The Seven Daughters of Eve" was published which has his work on the origins of the Polynesians and other topics including that of the women in Europe being descendants of 7 'mothers' who migrated into Europe at different points in time. The initials of the names he gave these women have been adopted as the seven mtDNA haplogroups. For example, Helena became haplogroup H, the dominant group in Europe.

In the wake of the book's success, genetic genealogy as a field of research, grew rapidly. By 2003 in an article in *Nature Review Genetics* by Jobling and Tyler-Smith declared that the field of DNA testing of surname lines had officially 'arrived'.

In 2005, *National Geographic* in partnership with IBM for a five year research project, launched "The Genographic Project". While the goals of the project were to trace historic migrations around the globe, some 225,000 test kits were sold as of October 2007. The test was on 12 STR markers on the Y-DNA chromosomes or on the HVR1 region of the mtDNA. However, the project raised the visibility of genetic genealogy.

In December 2012, *National Geographic* embarked on Geno 2.0 which tests 150,000 markers across the whole genome including Y-DNA and mtDNA. The Laboratory testing was done for them by FTDNA.

There are now a number of companies offering DNA tests. Humans have 23 pairs of chromosomes, the last pair is the sex chromosomes. The other 22 pairs are called the autosomal chromosomes. Some companies only offer tests for the autosomal chromosomes; some offer tests for Y-DNA, mtDNA and autosomal. Some offer tests for paternity determination, others for ethnicity. Some keep your samples for 25 years whilst others do not. Some have been known to sell your results, others are poor value for money.

If you test with one company, you will only get a match if someone who matches you has done a test with that company. You may then have to transfer your results to another company. They are not always compatible but you can post your results on a number of internet sites that are independent of the testing companies.

You need to determine what you want from the DNA test, whether it be ethnicity, autosomal, Y-DNA, mtDNA etc. before you pay for the test which may not give you the result you want.

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