

# Camden Calling



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**Normal Membership Subscriptions:** Single A\$30.00 Couples A\$35.00  
**Pensioner/Concession Membership Subscription:** Single A\$25.00 Couples A\$30.00

### W E B S I T E

[www.cafhs.org.au](http://www.cafhs.org.au)

### RESEARCH FEES

Non- members use of Resources- \$10.00 per session.  
Written enquires \$30.00 — provides up to fifteen printed or photocopied pages.  
A4 size stamped addressed envelope to be included with your enquiry.

### RESEARCH CENTRE

Family History Room  
Camden Library/Museum Complex.  
John Street. Camden. NSW 2570  
Thursday 10.00am— 3.00pm  
Friday 10:00am— 3.00pm  
Saturday 9:30am— 12 noon  
(Closed late December to late January)

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Camden Area Family History Society Inc. is held on the first Tuesday of August each year, immediately following the general meeting.

The Society meets on the first Tuesday of each month (except January) at 7.30pm in the Community Meeting Room of the Camden Library/Museum Complex

**40 JOHN STREET CAMDEN.**

**MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBERS ALL WELCOME**

## Camden Calling

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**Camden Calling is the Journal of the Camden Area Family History Society Inc. published twice a year in May and November, it is free to members and \$2.00 for non-members.**

Articles for inclusion are to be handed to the Editor no later than the meetings of April and October. Unless an article is marked copyright, Family History Organisations have permission to reprint from this Journal, providing that the source is acknowledged and it is used only for the purpose of family history research. Copyright remains the property of the submitter. This Society does not accept responsibility for information contained or opinions expressed by authors in this Journal.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

C.A.F.H.S. Inc. Membership falls due on the **1<sup>st</sup> July each year,** and the prompt renewal of your membership is appreciated. To ensure all your details are current, e.g. telephone number and email addresses, please complete a Members Information Update form if your details have changed or notify the Membership Officer.

**Normal Membership:** Single \$30.00 Couple \$35.00

**Pensioners/Concession Membership:** Single \$25.00 Couple \$30.00

**We welcome new members from Australia and Overseas.**

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

What a hectic six months it has been since my report late last year.

A lot of time has been spent by members of the committee in planning for the State Conference in September, many a meeting either in the evening or at breakfast have achieved a lot and I would like to thank those who have contributed their time. With the work to date we have a list of speakers, booked the Civic Centre and established a website for the conference. Like all events the job is not done until after the event is completed.

At our September meeting we will be calling for volunteers to help at the conference and to man our stand, if you can only spend an hour or two this would be of great help. A roster will be drawn up so you can attend any of the talks.

Requests for assistance on research have increased in general with new requests coming in every month which are being handled by our research team and if you are interested, they can always use any assistance from our members.

The move to the new room seems to be settling in OK, I have used the room on a number of occasions to chase up family and to research local men and women who fought in the First World War. From the information I have obtained it will provide more data to be added to our records

We now have a new sign to show where we are, thanks to the Library.

With the decommissioning of books in the Library we will be adding some of them to our collection.

Did you attend Camden High School? A reunion, is planned so watch the Camden Valley Voice for more information and Contact details.

On Saturday the 25 th June the society held a Barbecue at Bunnings, we raised over **\$1500** and I would like to thank all who assisted on the day. Yes we run out of sausages and had to dash out and get more. But a great day.

**Ray Herbert, President**

## **EDITORIAL**

With all the work being put in for a successful NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies Conference in September, this Journal has been a little delayed. Please accept my apologies for this delay and I hope to get the next one in November out in a more timely manner.

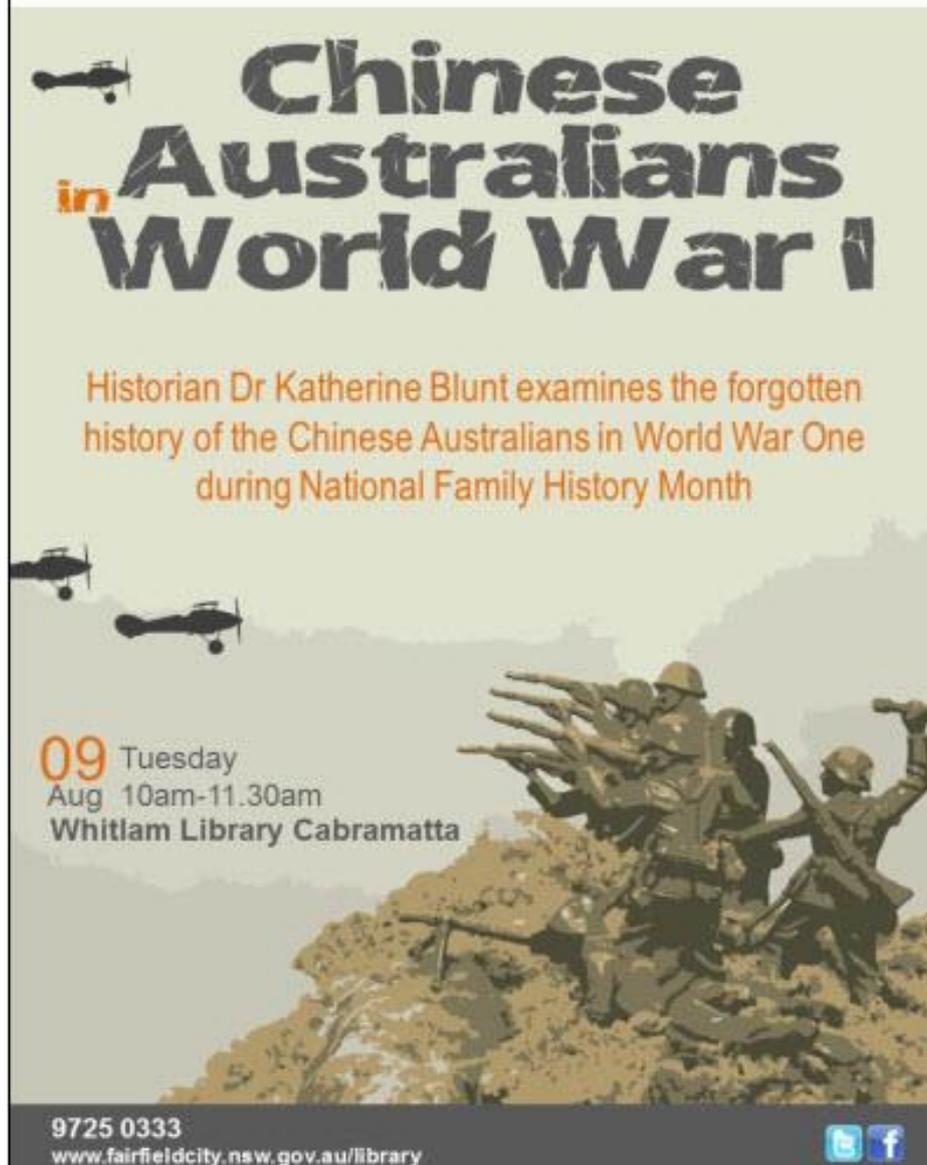
This Journal we look at our own Library Co-ordinators search for his Colby Family roots and details of Cemetery Tours at St Pauls Anglican Church Cobbitty arranged to coincide with the State Conference.

Along with the usual New Acquisitions and Items for Sale, I have also included the latest NSWBDM newsletter and some Genealogy humour and interesting facts from the 1881 British Census.

A great time was had by all who attended our recent night out at 'Upstairs at Fred's', I believe all who attended had a good time, the food was excellent and Steve Wisby looked after us very well with Sample paddles of Local Boutique beers and local Pear Cider which was very well received by the ladies present. Most agreed they would like to do this again.

I hope there is something for everyone in this edition of Camden Calling but as usual I would plead for additional articles from members concerning any and all aspects of Family History that others may enjoy reading about.

**Warren Sims, Editor**



**Chinese  
in  
Australians  
World War I**

Historian Dr Katherine Blunt examines the forgotten history of the Chinese Australians in World War One during National Family History Month

**09** Tuesday  
Aug 10am-11.30am  
Whitlam Library Cabramatta

9725 0333  
[www.fairfieldcity.nsw.gov.au/library](http://www.fairfieldcity.nsw.gov.au/library)

Fairfield City Council are holding a talk at Cabramatta Library in August on Chinese Australians in WWI.

For anyone who has an interest in World War I history this promises to be an interesting discussion on a little known side of Australian Multiculturalism in the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

## **The Story of my Colby Family**

This is a short narrative of my Colby Family from c. 1841 till my mother Violet Minnie Jackson (nee Colby) marriage to Clifford Raymond John Jackson in 1945, there will be other family members alive still I am sure, but as yet I cannot confirm them.

The furthest I have so far is in my Colby Family is to a George Colby, according to the 1871 Census he is a Labourer aged 30 and was born in Lynn Norfolk in 1841, Lynn is now call Kings Lynn. Unfortunately after considerable research both online and a full day spent in the Norfolk Archives in Norwich I have not been able to find any further information for George. I cannot find him on the 1851 or the 1861 Censuses and he died on the 17<sup>th</sup> November 1879 in Walthamstow aged 39 years, this being before the next Census in 1881. George married Jane Staines on the 10<sup>th</sup> December 1864 in The Parish Church, Boringer, Essex; George is listed as a Railway Labourer and is aged 23 years which still ties into being born in 1841. According to the Marriage Certificate George's father was also George, of course this has not been confirmed yet. George and Jane had 8 children, Phoebe born 1865, George born 1867, Maria Jane born 1869, John James born 1871, Mary Louisa born 1873, Harry or Henry born 1875, Elizabeth born 1877 and Ellen born 1879.

Jane Staines was born on 15/5/1839 at Shelley, Essex but it seems that she was born 5 years after her father James died a sister Elizabeth was born in 1836 also illegitimate. Jane's Marriage Certificate lists her father's names as George Staines not James, the Shelley St. Peter's Church of England Parish Register list her as being the Illegitimate Daughter of Mary Staines Widow, note also that James Staines the Illegitimate Son of Jane's Daughter Maria was Baptised at the same time. Jane's mother was Mary Ann Barlow and she married James Staines on 16<sup>th</sup> April 1816 in St. Peter C of E Church Shelley, Essex and had 8 children before James died in June 1833.

Mary Ann married a George Burrell on 25<sup>th</sup> July 1841 at the Parish Church of Shelley, Essex, this is possibly the George on Jane's Marriage Certificate. There do not appear to be any legitimate children from this marriage.

Jane and George Colby's second child George was my Great Grandfather, he joined the Royal Navy initially as a boy Sailor 21<sup>st</sup> Jan 1883 at the age of nearly 16 years and as an Ordinary Seaman 31<sup>st</sup> March 1885 once he turned 18 years. When George completed his service on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1905 he was a Chief Petty Officer, the highest non commissioned rank. He was only 38 years when he left the Navy and is listed as a pensioner on his Naval Records. In the 1911 Census he is listed as a Messenger working for the Admiralty, this was most likely a pension job as he left with a Naval Pension. He died in 1919 in London aged 53 years.

My Grandfather Leonard Colby was born on 13<sup>th</sup> October 1899 and according to his Birth Certificate his father's name was George Colby, his mother's name was Ellen Colby formerly Staines and his father's occupation was listed as General Labourer, he was actually a Petty Officer in the Royal Navy. I have not been able to find a Marriage

between George Colby and Ellen Staines or any other information about Ellen and when the 1901 census came out I found Leonard as the Adopted Son of his Grandmother Jane Colby (nee Staines). When the 1911 census came out I found Leonard listed as the son of his Uncle John James Page Colby and his wife Frances, there is no birth of a Leonard to John & Frances Colby. My mother has confirmed that that she understood that her Grandfather was a sailor but knew no other details.

Leonard joined the London and North East Railway company, (which became part of British Rail), at the age of 15 where he worked as a Porter or a Ticket Collector for over 49 years, he was not allowed to work a couple of extra months to get 50 years service as he turn 65 years he had to retire. On retirement he was presented with a Mantle Clock see photo 1, the clock is held by my cousin Ann Little (nee Naisbitt). Because of his height 4 feet 9 ½ inches and being a Railway employee who were technically exempt he did not serve in either WW1 or WW2. Leonard married Minnie Emma Soall on 4<sup>th</sup> June 1927 at St. Mary's Parish Church Cheshunt, Hertfordshire, England, Leonard was 27 years of age and Minnie was 21 years of age, Leonard is listed as a Porter and Minnie as a Domestic Servant. They had 2 know children my mother Violet Minnie and June Gwendoline. There is a possibility according to my mother that there was 3<sup>rd</sup> child, a boy, most likely Stillborn as there are no birth records for another child, this will require further research.

My mother Violet Minnie Colby was born on 15<sup>th</sup> April 1928 at 5 Bristol Park Road, Walthamstow, Essex. She attended the Holy Trinity C of E School at Tottenham and later the Green School Tottenham. When the Second World War stated Minnie, Violet and June Colby moved from Tottenham and stayed with Minnie's sister Violet Young (nee Soall) at Goffs Oak Cheshunt because of the fear of bombing, Leonard as he was working for the Railways stay in Walthamstow so that he was close to his work. This information came about from the 1939 Register which was used to produce Identity Cards and Rationing Coupons.

Unfortunately as a teenager Violet was hit by an Army Truck whilst riding her bike and has a large scar on her leg from this encounter, this has had a bearing on her health in later years.

Violet met Clifford Raymond John Jackson my father whilst working in a factory making parts for the De Havilland Mosquito aircraft. Clifford was conscripted into the British Army Royal Engineers Service No. 14061288 when he turned 18 years which was in 1945, but by the time he had finished his basic training the War was over. When he completed his training he was posted to the Occupation Force in Belgium and Germany. Before he left for Europe on the 29<sup>th</sup> September 1945 he married Violet Minnie Colby at the Ware Register Office with permission of his commanding Officer, Clifford was 18 years and Violet was 17 years. Six months later on the 23<sup>rd</sup> February 1946 their first child Enid Eileen Jackson was born, by this time Clifford was station in Europe. This story will be completed up to the present at a later date.

Tony Jackson

**NSW&ACT Association of Family History Societies 2016 State Conference**  
**Camden 9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> September**

The Conference is progressing well with Early Bird rate closing on the 21<sup>st</sup> July and final bookings closing on the 21<sup>st</sup> August, we look like we will have quite a reasonable number attending. We have 107 full registrations in, 9 one day registrations for Saturday and 2 one day registrations for the Sunday. We have 98 people booked in for the dinner on Saturday night and 94 booked in for the Meet & Greet on Friday night. So far 31 people have indicated that they wish to visit Wivenhoe house on the Sunday afternoon. These figures are as of the 12<sup>th</sup> July.

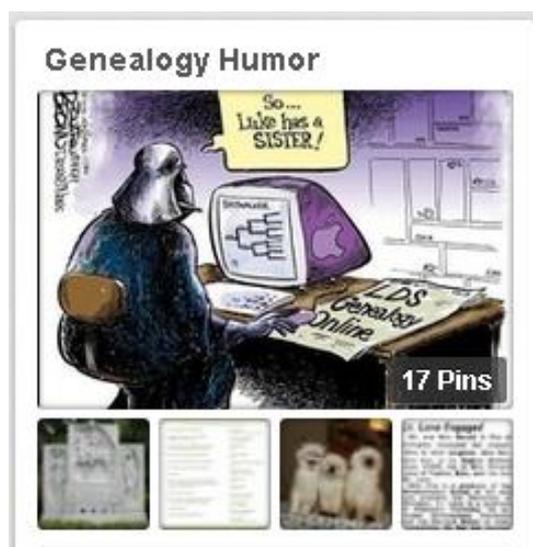
On the evening of Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September and the afternoon of Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September there will be a guided tour of St. Paul's Anglican Church Cobbitty's graveyard with brief talks on a number of interesting people buried there. The Thursday tour will commence at 4.30 pm and the Sunday at 3.00 pm, meet at the front entrance to the Church from the car park.

There has been quite a number of Exhibitor Table Bookings so far, we may have to put a limit on the number of Tables as we are unsure exactly how many we can fit in the Civic Centre, we may have to have some of them in the foyer area. We have been very well served by Major Sponsors, with Camden Council, Ancestry, Find My Past, NSW BDMs, Inside History Magazine, Joy Murrin, Marilyn Rowen and more. We are in the process of looking for local sponsorship for our Raffles, there is a letter drafted that can be taken to these local businesses asking for their support.

We are starting to work on an advertising campaign in the local area for the Family History Fair on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September; this will take the form of posters that we will have displayed at local shopping centres and various other places around the Macarthur and Wollondilly areas, Newspaper article and we are looking at approaching the local schools to put in the school newsletters. We are also looking at putting articles in other magazines and newsletter in the area. Our program is close to being finalized, a preliminary program has been uploaded to our website, however we are still waiting on 2 replies but hope that to be able to finalise the program at our next meeting. We also have at least 2 standby speakers that are available should we need them and we will contact at a later date if required.

We are looking at various quotes for the Conference Bags and we will be finalising the designs and supplier at the next meeting, they will not be ordered for a little while yet and we have started working on the conference booklet, we have a couple of quotes so far based on last year's booklet, however the recent heavy flooding in Picton and the Wollondilly has damaged the facilities of our favoured printer so we may have to see what we can get done elsewhere. We are still hopeful that Ancestry will sponsor our Conference booklet as they have done for many previous years.

Tony Jackson



## ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH COBBITTY CEMETERY TOUR

In conjunction with the NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies 2016 State Conference and History Week we are organising a Cemetery Tour in conjunction with the Church Archivist of the St. Paul's Anglican Church Cobbitty Graveyard.

There will 2 tours one on evening of Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September starting at 4.30 pm, the other tour will be on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September starting at 3.00 pm,

If you wish to attend one of these tours please meet at the front entrance to the church, from the car park prior to the start time.

There will be a number short talk on some of the interesting people buried in this cemetery, like a former Miss Australia, A Test Cricketer, and prominent local Land Owner and more.\_

Just a thought.....

Some family trees have beautiful leaves, and some have just a bunch of nuts. Remember, it is the nuts that make the tree worth shaking.

~Author Unknown

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## A little Humour...



**SO MANY ANCESTORS.....SO LITTLE TIME!  
AND on the eighth day God said, "OK, Murphy, take over."**

## **Murphy's Laws of Genealogy**

**The records you need for your family history were in the courthouse that burned.**

**John, son of Thomas, the immigrant whom your relatives claim as immigrant ancestor, died on board ship at the age of twelve.**

**Your grandmother's maiden name for which you've searched for years was on an old letter in a box in the attic all the time.**

**The portion of the index you need is continued in the next issue, only the publisher died prior to publication.**

**Your great, great, grandfather's obituary states the he died, leaving no issue of record.**

**The spelling of your European ancestor's name bears no relationship to its current spelling or pronunciation.**

**That ancient photograph of four relatives, one of whom is your progenitor, carries the names of the other three.**

Copies of old newspapers have holes which occur only on last names.

The 37-volume, sixteen-thousand-page history of your country of origin ISN'T INDEXED.

The critical link in your family tree is named "Smith."- - - - -

Your families never had attics, much less Bibles or boxes full of photos.

The person sitting next to you at the research center is finding ancestors every five minutes...and telling you.

Alternate spellings and arcane names were your folks' favorite pasttimes.

Your ancestors only knew three names, and used them over and over in every collateral line.

The blot on the page of the census covers your grandmother's birthdate!

You finally find your ancestor's obituary in an old newspaper and all it says is "Died last week."

You finally get a day off from work to travel to a courthouse -- and when you get there it's closed for emergency plumbing repairs.

## A Stumbling Block or a Stepping Stone

Isn't it strange that Princes and Kings  
And clowns who caper in stardust rings,  
And common people like you and me  
Are builders for eternity?

Each is given a set of tools,  
A shapeless mass, and a book of rules,  
And each must make, ere life has flown,  
A stumbling block or a stepping stone.

(Author Unknown)

## **New Acquisitions to July 2016**

- AB 015      Black Pioneers – How Aboriginal and Islander People helped build Australia – Henry Reynolds**
- AB 016      When the Sky Fell Down – The Destruction of the Tribes of the Sydney Region 1788-1850s – Keith Willey**
- ARB 001-016 Australian Dictionary of Biographies 1788-1960**
- AU 068      The Forgotten Australian – The Non-Angle or Celtic Convicts and Exiles. - J.H. Donohoe**
- AU 070      The Women of Botany Bay – A reinterpretation of the role of women in the origins of Australian Society – Portia Robinson**
- AU 071      Rascals, Ruffians & Rebels of early Australia – Frank Clune**
- AU 072      1901 Our Future's Past – Documenting Australia's Federation – Raymond Evans, Clive Moore, Kay Saunders and Bryan Jamison**
- AU 073      History of the Australian Gold Rushes by Those Who were There – Nancy Keesing**
- AU 074      Convict Life in Australia an Illustrated History – Summit Books**
- AU 075      The First Settlement – The convict village that founded Australia 1788-90 – Jonathan King**
- AU 076      Fourth Fleet Families of Australia – C.J. Smee**
- AU 077      Caledonia Australis – Scottish Highlanders on the frontier of Australia – Don Watson**
- AU 078      History of Australia – Manning Clark**
- AU 079      Convicts & the Colonies – A Study of Penal Transportation from Great Britain &**

**Ireland to Australia & other parts of the British Empire – A.G.L. Shaw**

- AU 080      The Voyage of the First Fleet – Victor Crittenden**
- AU 081      The Hatch and Brood of Time – A study of the first generation of native-born white  
Australians 1788-1828 Vol 1 – Portia Robinson**
- AU 069      1788 The People of the First Fleet. – D. Chapman**
- NS 088      Squatting on Crown Land s in New South Wales. – J.F. Campbell**
- FA 122      The Rheinberger Story – John Rheinberger**
- FA 122A     Bega & Mudgee Rheinberger Families – Family**
- FA 123      Bellingham Family History – Greg Burns**
- RE 025      Deadly Details – A guide to causes of death listed on death certificates – P. Lay**
- WM 014     We Remember Them – First World War Volunteers from the Kurrajong, Colo &  
Associated District – Kurrajong – Comleroy HS**
- WM 015     Red Poppies and the White Waratah – Heroines of the Great War from  
Wollondilly. – Elizabeth Villy**
- WM 016     Burragorang Boys and Beyond in WW1. – The Oaks Historical Society.**

A few quotes on Genealogy...

*Genealogists never die, they just loose their roots.*

*Genealogy: A hay stack full of needles but it's the threads I need.*

*Genealogy: Where you confuse the dead and irritate the living.*

*I think my family tree is a few branches short of full bloom.*

*Research: What I'm doing, when I don't know what I'm doing.*

**ITEMS FOR SALE**

Camden Pioneer Register	Third Edition	\$35.00
Pioneers At Rest (Cawdor Cemetery)	Daphne Koob/CAFHS	\$20.00
St. Thomas C of E Parish Register CD	Transcript by CAFHS	\$20.00
We do but Sleep Camden & Menangle Anglican Parish Cemeteries	Janice Johnson	\$20.00
Camden General Cemetery + Index	Transcript by CAFHS	\$12.00
Camden Catholic Cemetery	Transcript by CAFHS	\$8.00
St. Paul's Cobbitty Cemetery	Transcript by CAFHS	\$15.00
St. Thomas's Narellan Cemetery	Transcript by CAFHS	\$15.00
Camden Council Rates Book	Transcript by CAFHS	\$25.00
CAFHS Cookbook	CAFHS Members	\$8.00
Camden	Alan Atkinson	\$40.00
History of Camden	CHS	\$10.00
Internet Family History	Cora Num	\$12.00
Irish Research on the Internet	Cora Num	\$12.00
The Old Razorback Road	Elizabeth Villy	\$35.00

If ordered by Post, the above items incur postage and handling fee depending on the item/s and quantities

Postage:	Australia	(Approx) \$8.00
	Overseas	Price on application

**Charts**

Ancestor Chart	9 Generations Large	\$4.00
Ancestor Chart	9 Generations Small	\$2.00
Tree Chart	7 Generations Coloured	\$5.00
Our Family Tree	6 Generations Reakes	\$2.00
Family Circle	9 Generations Wheel Chart	\$2.00
The Family Tree	6 Generations Bordered	\$2.00

**Miscellaneous**

Starter Kit	Genealogy Starter Kit	\$2.50
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Justice

Registry of Births  
Deaths & Marriages

## Family History Updates

### Device friendly website for Family History searches June 2016

The new device friendly website for family history searches has been released. You can now use your mobile phone or tablet to search for and order certificates.

### Reminder

To access the new Family History with all navigation features, you require at a minimum: Internet Explorer 10, Chrome or Firefox 10, or Java 7. Links are provided below to download the appropriate web browser:

- ✓ Mozilla Firefox works on both Windows and MAC. [Click to download and install.](#)
- ✓ Microsoft Internet Explorer works only on Windows PC. [Click here to download and install.](#)
- ✓ Google Chrome works on both Windows and MAC. [Click here to download and install.](#)
- ✓ [Click to download and install Java 7.](#)

### Surcharge on Credit Cards

As of 1 July 2016 a surcharge will apply to all credit card payments to the Registry. The applicable rates are Visa and MasterCard 0.4% and American Express 1.4%. Surcharge rates are based on cost-recovery only. A surcharge is not payable to other methods of payment including cheque, money order, cash or EFT. You may select one of these non-surcharge methods when you pay your monthly account. The increase in the total price of a certificate will be between 21 cents and 74 cents, depending on the type of credit card used. The expense was introduced two years ago and the Registry has carried this cost during that time.



Mary Gilmore, aged 83

### Dame Mary Gilmore

Mary Jean Cameron was born on 16 August 1865 at Cotta Walla near Goulburn, NSW. She campaigned for a wide range of social and economic reforms and became a prominent Australian socialist poet and journalist. In 1962 aged 97, Gilmore passed away and received the first state funeral for a writer since the death of Henry Lawson in 1922.

Her image appears in the Australian \$10 note, along with her portrait painted by the well-known Australian artist Sir William Dobell.

Ask a family history transcription agent

Family history transcription agents provide full and partial transcriptions, or verification of details. A good idea if you only need the facts, and not full certified copies of certificates.

**Some Interesting details discovered during the process of indexing the British 1881 Census. (Found in the Ensign magazine of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, March 1996, p. 58.)**

**The wife, mother, and daughter of James Christmas were all named Mary Christmas**

**Frank Guest was listed as a visitor**

**Harriet Goodhand was listed as a domestic servant**

**The families of William Lovegrove, Henry Dearlove, and William Darling all lived on the same block in Oxfordshire**

**A woman named Rose married Robert Garden**

**Emma Boatwright married a seaman**

**Mr. Thorn lived in Rose Cottage**

**Robert Speed, a bus driver and post runner**

**Phoebe Brain, a scholar**

**One woman's birthplace was listed as "in stage coach between Nottingham and Derby"**

**John Pounder, a blacksmith**

**William Scales, a piano maker**

**Herman Hamberger, born in Greece**

**Curious occupations: dirt refiner, hoveller, moleskin saver, piano puncher, sparable cutter, spittle maker, tingle maker, and whim driver**

**Twin four-year-olds named Peter the Great and William the Conqueror**

**Brothers named Seaman and Landsman**

**The occupation of three daughters was entered as "They toil not, neither do they spin"**

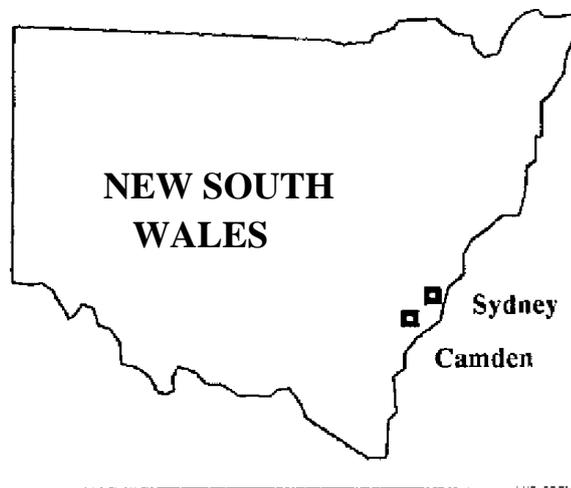
*What curious names or occupations have you seen?*

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