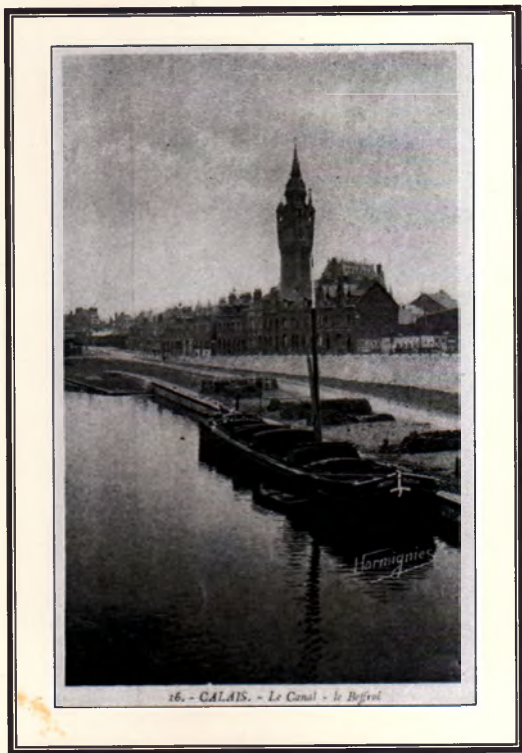


TULLE

Volume 25 No 3

August 2007



Calais – the belltower from the canal

The Journal of The Australian Society of the Lacemakers of Calais

**MEETING
DATES**

**Saturday August 18, 2007
Saturday November 17, 2007**

**Donbank Cottage
6 Napier St
North Sydney
Meeting Time : 1pm**

GUEST SPEAKER

Mrs. June Vile, a resident of Tenambit, a village near Maitland in the Hunter Valley. Mrs. Vile is a retired solicitor who was the first woman outside Sydney to commence, from scratch her own legal practice. Her family has been in the Hunter Valley since 1825. June is a keen student and researcher of history, particularly that of the Hunter Valley & has been involved, among other matters historical, in a fight to save from the demolisher's ball & hammer historic *Eckford House* in Maitland. Among June's treasures is an account of Hunter Valley history, *Dawn in the Valley*, written by her uncle, W.Allan WOOD — now out of print but available sometimes in research libraries – a rich source of research material from Mr. Wood's first hand, in depth knowledge of his many years in the Hunter Valley.

Looking for us on the net? www.angelfire.com/al/aslc/

Want to join?

Membership due?

Annual Fees \$30

**Membership Secretary
190 Shaftesbury Rd
EASTWOOD NSW 2122**



Tulle

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

The month of June has been quite disastrous weatherwise for Newcastle, Lake Macquarie, the Hunter Valley & the NSW Central Coast. As seen on the news reports from Friday 8th June & throughout the weekend that followed, all those areas were bombarded by cyclonic winds & torrential rain, freak weather, never before experienced, which caused absolute havoc – flooding & flash flooding in parts of these regions that had never before been flooded – loss of lives & homes.

Mother Nature showed us once again that she is in charge. Newcastle's Nobby's Beach became home to the Pasha Bulka, a 250 metre long coal freighter which was blown into Nobbys & there she stayed, stuck fast, like an enormous orange beached whale, on our beach, for more than three weeks.

We adopted the *Pasha*; the locals wrote songs about her, the newspapers, radio & TV were daily full of the progress & endeavours to free her from Nobbys Beach. Her presence brought to Newcastle, crowds of people, locals & tourists, their numbers rivalling only those seen when the Queen visits or the Knights football team wins a Grand Final. The Newcastle Tourist Bureau is wondering what to do to keep the tourists coming now the *Pasha* has gone.

To all or any of our members & families who suffered personal losses in these freak & awful floods we offer our condolences. We hope the clean-up, repairs & effort to remedy the damage is as swift & as painless as possible, to enable all to get back to normal in their homes, their businesses & life in general.

The descendants of the Lacemakers who came to Maitland could tell tales of continual disastrous floods over many years. My STEVENS lacemaker family who had, for two generations in

Maitland, run a successful Manchester & General Goods store called “Central House”, were finally forced to abandon the business after yet again another terrible flood around of the end of the 19th Century – it wiped their stock away, damaged their premises & home above the shop & that was just one flood too many. The STEVENS family shut up shop for good.

Our guest speaker for August is Mrs. June Vile, a resident of Tenambit, a village near Maitland in the Hunter Valley. Mrs. Vile is a retired solicitor who was the first woman outside Sydney to commence, from scratch her own legal practice. Her family has been in the Hunter Valley since 1825. June is a keen student and researcher of history, particularly that of the Hunter Valley & has been involved, among other matters historical, in a fight to save from the demolisher’s ball & hammer historic *Eckford House* in Maitland. Among June’s treasures is an account of Hunter Valley history, *Dawn in the Valley*, written by her uncle, W.Allan WOOD — now out of print but available sometimes in research libraries – a rich source of research material from Mr. Wood’s first hand, in depth knowledge of his many years in the Hunter Valley.

Mrs Vile has chosen to speak to us about Early Maitland. For our members whose people settled in that area & environs, & anyone who knows the area or is interested in rural & town development, June will tell us of Maitland of yesteryear, with its rich architectural history, its changing commercial, rural & ecological fortunes.

Our August meeting should see the winter cold banished & everyone’s winter ills, colds & sniffles gone. As we welcome the warmer weather, I am really looking forward to welcoming lots of our Lacemaker families at Don Bank on the 18th August 2007.

Robin Gordon, President

Saturday November 17, 2007

marks a special occasion in the life of the
Australian Society of the Lacemakers of Calais

The Society will be 25 years old
and we are celebrating with a Christmas lunch and
our very special guest and speaker
Mrs Rosie Wileman

Rosie is from Leicestershire and is of Anglo/French descent'
She is a descendant of the lacemaking family the Mathers, part
of which migrated to Adelaide on the *Baboo*

Rosie's fascination with the story of the English lacemakers in
Calais is as profound as ours - her thesis for her Advanced
Certificate in Local History at The University of Nottingham in
1997 was *A little Nottingham beyond the Seas*. Rosie is a prime
mover in developing links between Calais and the English
Midlands and has made frequent visits to St Pierre and the lace
district. Recently she was part of a Leicestershire group that
met with M Martine Fosse, curator of Calais' lace museum, to
discuss English participation in the Calais Museum.

Your invitation to this special event will be
posted in September

An invitation

**LINEN & LACE
SINGLETON**

**Saturday 6th October 10am-4pm &
Sunday 7th October 2pm-4pm**

To honour the memory of the Calais Lacemakers transported from England to the Hunter Valley in 1848 a special exhibition of lace treasures of the Upper Hunter will take place in the

Convent of Mercy, Singleton

Participants will be the Embroiders Guilds of Muswellbrook, Scone & Singleton, the Sisters of St Joseph Lochinvar and the Sisters of Mercy, Singleton

As members have already expressed interest in attending, President Robbie has the intention to tentatively make a booking at a Singleton Motel from Friday 5th or Sat 6th Oct 2007 overnight so we can all be together & make a weekend of it. She has enquired about price & quality of accommodation in the town & as usual most places are country prices & should delight Sydney members!!! If you would like to join the group, please let Robbie Gordon know at

her home phone no: **(02) 49454382**

or email
tolgaptyltd@internode.on.net

or post
to 53 Hill St Belmont NSW 2280

SEE YOU THERE!

LIFE AND MEDICINE IN THE 1800s

Address by Dr John Fluit at our May Meeting

Dr Fluit operates a surgery and a medical museum at Lambton in Newcastle and he was our guest speaker at the May meeting. Thanks go to my wife, Lyndall, for taking notes during Dr Fluit's interesting address.

Life in the early 1800s was hard. Mortality was high, especially amongst children and funerals were a daily occurrence. In the cities there were few laws relating to the handling of foodstuffs. Sewerage and rubbish was dumped in the streets where it eventually found its way into the rivers and streams which formed the water supply for the community.



A rural general practice c.1880

Typhoid, scarlet fever, diphtheria and influenza spread rapidly and accounted for 25% of all deaths. Life expectancy was in the forties, but many didn't survive childhood. Medical care was rudimentary at best. Those in country areas were faced with the additional problems of increased isolation, fewer doctors and the difficulty of transportation when this was needed.

Only utter hopelessness or intense suffering would bring someone to seek surgical treatment. The typical sounds accompanying surgery were the screams of the hapless victim and the grunts of the assistants as they attempted to restrain the patient and avoid having bits of their own bodies amputated. Robert Liston (1794 -

1847) was a pioneering Scottish surgeon. He was likely the best surgeon of his day, noted for his skill and his speed in an era prior to anesthetics. He was able to complete operations in a matter of seconds, at a time when speed was essential to reduce pain and improve the odds of survival of a patient; he is said to have been able to perform the removal of a limb in an amputation in roughly 30 seconds.

There are stories of occasions when his operations went wrong due to the speed at which he attempted them. The two most notable examples of this were when he amputated a man's testicles along with his leg by mistake and another operation where the patient died of infection, he cut off the fingers of his assistant (who also died due to infection) and slashed the coat of a spectator who died of fright. Robert Liston is the only surgeon in known history to have performed an operation with a 300% mortality rate. There is, however, apparently no precise source for these stories, so they might well just be regarded as urban legends.

Anaesthesia consisted of a good soaking of the internal organs with brandy and opium (both often shared by the assistants) and occasionally a cigar was inserted rectally for muscle relaxation



An original "theatre"

In hospitals, surgery took place in a room with spectators sitting on benches rising in a semi-circle above the operating table, hence the origin of the phrase "operating theatre". If the surgery didn't kill the already weak patient, subsequent bleeding or infection normally did.

All sorts of cures and dubious practises threatened the health of the population even further. Phlebotomy (the cutting of a vein) was a logical remedy when one considered the theory of the four bodily humours was in vogue at the time. From Hippocrates onward, the humour theory was the most commonly held view of the human body among Europeans until the nineteenth century and the understanding of the circulation of blood. Essentially, it holds that the human body is filled with four basic substances, called Four humours, which are held in balance when a person is healthy.

All diseases and disabilities result from an excess or deficit in one of these four humors. These four humors were black bile, yellow bile, phlegm, and blood. Even as early as the 5th Century surgeons and barbers practised blood letting and this led to the “barber’s pole”. Red for blood and white representing the tourniquet. George Washington, the father of the USA, died after having 9 pints of blood drained from him to try and relieve him of a throat infection!

Various instruments were used to get rid of bad humour (or to put someone in it!). These included lancets (a simple blade); a fleam (a selection of blades in a brass or horn sheath which was hit with a fleam stick); spring lancets (a spring loaded single blade); and scarifiers (the epitome of sophisticated and efficient bleeding – an instrument with multiple, spring-loaded blades).



A Fleam

Cupping was also used (as it is sometimes today). It involves a heated cup being applied to the skin. As the air around it cools, a vacuum is created leading to engorgement of the flesh. Wet cupping added the thrill of blood letting by first scarifying the skin

– an act that was guaranteed to make the patient forget about their original complaint.

Leeches were nature's answer to the mania for letting blood. Until the early 1900s these could be purchased from a pharmacist. Leeches were useful for removing blood from confined spaces like the larynx; the trachea; or around the eyes, rectum or vagina.

Because of the great obsession, especially in Europe and the UK to cure absolutely everything by flushing all the noxious substances from the body, enemas also found widespread use.

Trepanning (the drilling of holes in skulls) was also a popular treatment, sometimes for legitimate reasons such as depressed fractures, but sometimes for more dubious reasons such as to relieve headaches or to release evil spirits.

In 1878 and 1879, British inventor Joseph Swan and American inventor Thomas Edison simultaneously developed the carbon-filament lamp. By 1885 electric trains were operating in both the UK and in Germany and soon both conventional doctors and quacks got into the act by producing a wide variety of electrical devices. The principle used was that if moribund people were in need of stimulation and a sub-lethal (usually) electric shock had them leaping in the air, why bother with messy bloodletting?

With the Industrial Revolution of the 1830s, more women than ever were working and so the need for artificial feeders grew proportionately. Before



1845 the only teats available for bottles were made from cotton rags, old linen, or sponge; or those from pickled cow teats. It wasn't until 1845 that the first rubber teat was invented. In 1860 the Mather Bottle was introduced. This was a glass bottle to which was attached a long rubber tube leading to a teat. The rubber tube couldn't be sterilised so it was soon nicknamed the "death bottle". Although banned in the UK in 1890, it wasn't banned in progressive Australia until 1908!



Despite many advances in medicine in the 19th Century, these were mostly in the area of disease diagnosis rather than the treatment of same. People had become tired of doctors who seemed weighed down with their self-importance and who thrived on the dignity and mystery of their ancient profession who seemed to do little other than murmur "There is no cure for this disease" as they took their hefty fees. In an age which enshrined free enterprise and at a time when it was far from clear as to whom could practise medicine, the stage was set for the most outrageous and unethical quack practices which most cruelly exploited human suffering.

Whenever there was a demand, someone would come up with a product to meet it and quack cures were pedalled from door to door all over the country and for the modest fee of £1 you could even have a consultation by mail. One newspaper in the 1880s contained advertisements for 54 medicines, 15 quack cures and 12 abortionists. Practitioners with bogus qualifications from bogus establishments made outrageous claims with little regard for the truth or their customers. Testimonials were bought or faked. The modus operandi of the so-called specialists was to first terrify the patient with a list of ominous symptoms and then to guarantee a cure for a price. Perhaps not much has changed!

Many cures did little harm. Many gave at least temporary relief because of their alcoholic or narcotic content. The "Womans Tonic" illustrated contained 16.8% alcohol. Mrs Winslow's Soothing Syrup for babies contained opium. The more the infant cried, the more he got until...he stopped! By 1880 most big-time charlatans operated from capital cities where it was easier to set up a medical institute; you could treat by correspondence; it saved the need to travel; and reduced the risk of being beaten up by expatrients (who had less trouble tracking you down in a country town).

Household medical books also proliferated in the 1880s. These were often major philosophical works with chapters on rearing children, house building, veterinary problems, courtship and marriage, all sorts of dubious cures and treatments. However, many did give valuable advice which greatly helped those living in isolated areas. Most families had one on their bookshelves.

From the mid-1800s some genuine, world-changing events occurred in medicine.

In 1845, Horace Wells discovered that nitrous oxide could be used as an anaesthetic. He had a fellow dentist remove one of his teeth while Wells was rendered unconscious by the drug. In January 1848, Wells self-experimented with chloroform for a week. He became addicted and increasingly deranged. One day, delirious, Wells rushed out into the street and threw sulphuric acid over the clothing of two prostitutes. He was committed to New York's infamous Tombs Prison. As the influence of the drug waned, Wells' mind started to clear. In despair, he realised the horror of what he had done. Wells then committed suicide, slitting an artery in his leg with a razor after inhaling an analgesic dose of chloroform to blot out the pain, thus becoming the first recorded anaesthetic death!

The typical hospital operation of the early 1800s took place in a dirty room on any available surface – usually a rarely washed wooden bench. Instruments were at best cleaned by being wiped on the surgeon's operating coat (which was even more rarely washed). In 1846, A brilliant, driven, nineteenth century Hungarian obstetrician called Ignas Semmelweis roamed the wards of Vienna's famed obstetrics hospital. Its maternal mortality rate was, unfortunately, horrendous, the number of women dying from infection and puerperal fever following childbirth exceeding that of many of today's developing countries.

He noted that women delivered by nurse midwives were far less likely to die than those delivered by physicians and physicians-in-training. He further noted that the difference lay not in the level of obstetrical skill—but in the fact that nurses wore spotless starched uniforms and were fanatical about washing before assisting at delivery. Physicians, in contrast, wore gore-covered smocks to the delivery room and rarely, if ever, washed, even when coming directly from the autopsy room. But all his attempts to revolutionise his hospital and to spread the word were in vain. After years of fighting his cause he died in an asylum, age 47. Cause of death was an infected cut sustained at his last operation.

At this time it was believed that miasmas (vile gases such as found in swamps) hung over hospitals and it was these which got into wounds and caused putrefaction. In 1863, Louis Pasteur was first to see living creatures under his microscope. His experiments confirmed the germ theory of disease, and he created the first vaccine for rabies. He is best known to the general public for showing how to stop milk and wine from going sour - this process came to be called *pasteurization*. He is regarded as one of the three main founders of bacteriology, together with Ferdinand Cohn and Robert Koch.

Joseph Lister, a British surgeon, also doubted the miasma explanation. For many years he had explored the inflammation of wounds. His observations had led him to consider that infection was not due to bad air alone, and that 'wound sepsis' was a form of decomposition. He used carbolic acid soaked dressings to operate and to act as filters and to keep microbes in the air out of wounds. He carried out a radical mastectomy on his own sister who healed without infection and survived. This was virtually a miracle at the time. Lister started on insisting all those taking part in an operation wash their hands and their instruments in carbolic and that the operating theatre and all its occupants be covered with a carbolic mist.

The discovery of bacteria and the application of the principles of hygiene was a drawn out process but probably the single greatest contributor to the improvement in the health of mankind.

Reported by Richard Lander

THE BEGINNING OF THE END – 1846

London Times June 27, 1846 p 6 Col F

The manufacture of lace by machinery, in every part of Europe, is at the present time in a very precarious condition. In England, it is not merely depressed, but in some parts, particularly the midland counties of Leicestershire and Derby, it has become nearly non-existent. In the town of Nottingham, the grand depot for the sale of lace made in Devon and Somerset, the trade is in a half stagnant state. The Isle of Wight seems to be the only place where the manufacture is in a tolerable state, owing to a superior quality of lace being made from a peculiar description of machinery.

Two sorts of lace machinery are used in England; namely the bobbin and warp machinery; the former twists the threads around each other; and the latter, which is a modification of the stocking machine, loops them.

Plain nets are principally made in the west of England, and figured laces in the midland counties; but the stamina of these elegant articles being found very deficient, is considered a cause in occasioning the present stagnation in their demand. In many parts of England this manufacture was carried out extensively in the 1830s, but it has now become nearly extinct; the loss of machinery alone being computed at £3 000000 sterling, and the number of working machines to have decreased nearly three-fifths.

The bobbin net trade was introduced into in 1816, where it flourished under the prohibitory system for several years.; but in 1834 a reverse took place and little trade was carried on. A more vigorous prohibition of nets being enforced, and the relaxation of the restrictions upon threads taking place, the lace trade again revived, and it has since so much increased, that the French have a preponderance in the market, and a greater number of machines than we have in England; and it is a fact, notwithstanding the superiority of our machinery, as well as the skill and industry of our workmen, the French are become exporters of bobbin lace to Germany and to London itself.

The principal seats of this manufacture are Calais, Lille, Douai, St Quentin and the vicinity of Cambrai; the attempts to introduce it into Normandy have been a failure, though there are a few factories near Rouen and Caen. In Lower Picardy, as at Beauvais and in Paris, it is a decided failure. There is a small remnant in Boulogne, Ardres and Dunkirk; but in the city of Lyons, which is considered the rival of Nottingham, nothing.

THE EXTREME CLIPPER SHIP

RED JACKET

AND THOMAS AND LOUISE SELBY



The 251' *Red Jacket*, built in Maine and launched in November, 1853, was named for the Seneca Indian chief *Red Jacket* who habitually wore a red jacket given to him by the British.

The *Red Jacket's* figurehead was a life-size carving of the Chief presented with beaded buckskins, a red jacket, and a feather head-dress. The maiden voyage of the *Red Jacket* is one of the most famous in clipper ship annals. Captain Asa Eldridge, was in command and she left New York on January 11, 1854, bound for Liverpool.

Through the fearsome winter gales of the North Atlantic with snow, hail or rain every day, the *Red Jacket* tore along carrying

every bit of canvas she could wear. Exactly 13 days, 1 hour and 25 minutes later she dropped her hook in Liverpool Harbor, a record-smashing run that remains unbroken.

This passage was of significant interest in that stirring contest between the fastest ships of sail and the early ships of steam. A Collins Line steamer, which left New York two days before the *Red Jacket*, arrived in Liverpool on Sunday afternoon and brought news that a Yankee clipper was just astern. When the news sped along the Liverpool waterfront people rushed in thousands to the docks, every point of vantage was black with spectators awaiting the arrival of this incredible racer.

Outside the port tugs had offered to tow the clipper, but she was going so fast they never could have kept their hawsers taut. She shot ahead, leaving them wallowing in her wake. The *Red Jacket* swept into the Mersey with everything drawing, presenting a spectacle of surpassing grandeur. Cheers burst from the thousands on shore.

Then Captain Asa Eldridge gave them a thrill they least expected – he took in his kites, his skysails, royals and topgallants, hung his courses or lower sails, in their gear, ignored the tugs that caught up, and, throwing the *Red Jacket* into the wind, helm hard down, he backed her long side of the berth without aid, while the crew took in sail with a celerity that seemed like magic to the spectators – a superb piece of seamanship.

The *Red Jacket* was held in such favorable esteem in Liverpool that she was soon chartered her for a round voyage to Melbourne and was immediately fitted out to accommodate a large number of emigrants for the passage to Australia.

Running down her easting aboard the *Red Jacket*, Captain Reid navigated a Great Circle Sailing course that would take his clipper

down to 52° S. into the regions of ice and snow where he would find the winds that he so desired. His crew was hard-pressed to stay on top of everything and passengers were exposed to the harsh southern winter as the ship was covered with ice and snow, but the *Red Jacket* made phenomenally good time as her log from June 26th to July 12th bears this out. The *Red Jacket* reached Port Phillip Heads on July 12th with a record-breaking passage from Rock Light of 69 days, 11 hours and 15 minutes covering a distance of 13,880 miles. The *Mermaid* arrived on July 17th after a voyage of 74 1/2 days.

The *Red Jacket* was a classy ship - a long way from the humble little *Harpley* that brought Thomas and Louisa Selby to Adelaide in 1848. By 1855 Thomas and Louisa wanted to go home. It is not known how they earned a living but they were in Melbourne by 1855 and returned to Liverpool on the *Red Jacket's* first voyage back from Melbourne.

Louise was French – a Calaisienne whose father was said to be a carrier. Thomas was a Nottingham man with a sister Eliza and brother George. Thomas and Eliza did not have children.

Thomas Selby married Louise De Zombre at Dover in 1841. Louise's cousin Eugene had married Richard Goldfinch the year before and the Goldfinches came to Adelaide on the *Harpley* with the Selbys

In 1855 Eugene Goldfinch and her children were in the Destitute Asylum in Adelaide – her husband apparently was on the Victorian goldfields – and perhaps this is how Thomas Selby found the money to return to Europe.

The Selbys do not appear in the 1861 English census but by 1871 they have returned and are living in Eldon St Radford next door to Samuel and Eliza Comery – Thomas' sister. Thomas described

himself to be a retired lace manufacturer. Louise is now a British subject, born in Calais. In 1873 Thomas died in Radford.

By this time the Dezombre family in Calais owned a factory that housed almost fifty machines, and in 1873 four of these were listed as belonging to Thomas Salby (sic). It is reasonable to assume that this was Louise's husband and these machines were his source of income.

Louise does not appear on the 1881 or th 1891 British census. This is not to say she wasn't living in England and just happened to be away at the time of the census.

By 1901 she again appears in Nottingham, boarding with William Brown, a lace curtain manufacturer. She is living on her own means.

Louise died in Nottingham in 1903. despite the small interlude in Australia and she spent her life in the lace trade – and got to sail on the what was arguably the world's fastest and most extreme clipper the *Red Jacket*.

A CURIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE

Dover, June 29 1835

A curious circumstance happened yesterday to a passenger who arrived by the *Firefly* packet from Calais. In his haste to land he left his boat cloak behind, which upon being taken to the Custom-house was thought to be suspicious, and on searching, there were found 120 black lace veils neatly sewn up in it.

London Times,

Thursday July 2nd, 1835

THE CHILDREN OF JOHN AND ADELAIDE SHORE:

Adelaide Australia Shore 1851-1919

Barbara Manchester recently wrote the story of the life of John and Adelaide's eldest daughter Marie Selina, here is a little about the life of their second youngest daughter and my great-grandmother, Adelaide Australia Shore.

Life was probably pretty OK for the Shores in the summer of 1851 in Kelso. John and Adelaide had two toddlers and young Adelaide had just arrived. She was born on 26 January 1851. However the death of his wife, while giving birth to their fourth child Isabella in 1852, left John with four young children to look after. He married Sarah Keenan, a widow, about 8 months later. In 1838 Sarah was Matron of the Female Factory and her husband Thomas was Gaoler of Bathurst Gaol. Thomas died in 1843 leaving her with two surviving infants Mary and John. When Sarah married John Shore she had been a widow for about 10 years.

In 1854 Sarah had her children from her first marriage - Mary 15 and John 12; she was stepmother to John's four - Mary Selina 7, Eugene 5, Adelaide 3, Isabella 2; and now a mother to John and Sarah's own baby, Caroline. We know little about the children growing up in and around the Golden Lion hotel in George St Bathurst where John was publican, but it is possible that John had started drinking - maybe a little too much.

In 1869 three of John's daughters left home. Adelaide married Jacob Vickery in Forbes in 5 January 1869 just before her 18th birthday; Isabella married Francis Gressier the son of a fellow publican, in Bathurst in July just before her 17th birthday; and

Marie Selina at 22 married Thomas Watts in August. All three gave birth to children within the first year of marriage. Eugene married in 1880 and Caroline in 1885.

Adelaide was working as a servant in Forbes at the time of her marriage and her husband Jacob was a labourer. He was the son of Robert and Phoebe Vickery of Forbes who had emigrated from Somersetshire England in 1849 and had first lived at Carcoar (where Jacob was born) eventually settling in Forbes. In the first year of their marriage Jacob died of heart disease on 26 October 1869 and their first child Adelaide died.

Sometime after Jacob's death, Adelaide formed a relationship with Philip Foran. The Foran family was an Irish farming family from the Oberon and Kings Creek area. Philip's brother John had been involved in bushranging and Phillip had been in trouble with the law.

Adelaide and Phillip had two girls; Ellen Frances Vickery b 1872 at Bathurst and Adelaide Mary Vickery b 1874 at Kings Creek. They are registered as Vickery with no father, however Adelaide Mary's baptismal record and Ellen's marriage certificate show Philip Foran was their father. Adelaide and Ellen were raised by the Foran family.

In 1849 John and Janet Turnbull and their infant son Robert arrived from Glasgow as immigrants. They settled in the Davys Creek, Cow Flat area near Bathurst. In August 1868 Robert married Annie Macrae the daughter of a local farmer, Alexander Macrae.

Robert and Annie had five children before 1878. The family stories say that Adelaide met this good-looking Scotsman, Robert Turnbull, before each of them married and that Robert's marriage

to Annie was unhappy resulting in Adelaide and Robert re-establishing their friendship some years later.

By 1878 Robert was working both at Cow Flat and Bourke and around this time Robert and Adelaide's relationship gets off the ground. On the 2nd July 1879 Adelaide gives birth to another daughter, Josephine Australia in Bathurst - registered in the name of Shore and father's name not given. Adelaide moved to Bourke and lived there with Robert who worked as a sawyer.

At Bourke another five sons were born: Randolph Bertie (1885), twins Dudley John and Norman Robert (1887) (Norman died in infancy), Walter Charles (1889) and Thomas Henry (1891). All were registered as illegitimate, but later on all the children took the name of Turnbull and acknowledged Robert as their father. Kenneth John (Jock) (b1884) was also believed to be Robert's child however no birth certificate appears to exist for him.

In the late 1890's Robert established a sawpit at *Stonehenge* a property between Bourke and Brewarrina then round 1900 Robert became manager of a neighbouring station *Yambacoona* where he and Adelaide lived for about 20 years until they moved to Brewarrina.

In Brewarrina they lived in an extension on the side of 'Bellevue' the house of their son Tommy which had been built by Jock Turnbull. From various reports, Robert was a great concertina player and used to organise dances on the clay pans at *Yambacoona*. He was apparently 6foot 6inches and a big bloke. We know very little about Adelaide after the birth of her children.

In 1904 Josephine married John Edward Richardson, a fettle on the railway being built from Nyngan to Brewarrina. At her wedding Josephine was given away by her uncle, Les Shore, who



Yambacoona Outstation – a far cry from the streets of Calais

also held the reception at his residence. The newspaper notice mentions Robert Turnbull as her father, but Adelaide was not mentioned.

Josephine and Ted began married life at Nyngan in the railway gatehouse, Ted working on the railways and Josephine the crossing gatekeeper. Randolph (Bert) moved to south-west Queensland where he became a well borer; in 1914 he married Ruby Kranz at Roma and raised a large family. Of the twins, Norman died as a baby. Dudley was a fisherman at Brewarrina and a fettler on the railways; he never married. While duck shooting he tripped and accidentally shot himself, he was 54.

Walter (Wally) worked as a railway ganger. He married Isabella Milliken in 1910 at Kingswood and lived and worked in Byrock and Mooculta, before moving to Penrith around 1930. Thomas (Tommy) married Isabel McEntyre a nurse in 1912 in Sydney, they later lived in Brewarrina at 'Bellevue'. Tommy also worked as a railway fettler. He was a great swimmer and taught

the local kids to swim in the Barwon River. Jock (Kenneth) lived all his life in Brewarrina; he never married and to quote the locals '*hated dogs and women*', he worked as a carpenter and built several houses in Brewarrina.

Adelaide apparently never saw her two Foran daughters. Ellen married Patrick Macgonegal at Wisemans Creek in 1892 and had five children. In 1901 Ellen died in childbirth at Bathurst aged 29. Adelaide Mary married William Bottcher at Waterloo in 1909 - the second marriage for both. They lived at Smithfield and had one son. Adelaide died at Strathfield in 1958 aged 84.

Robert could never marry Adelaide, because his wife Annie was still alive - she outlived him by 4 years and divorce was probably not an option. Adelaide died on 8 April 1919 and is buried at Brewarrina next to Robert. She was buried as Adelaide Turnbull, her death certificate is registered as Vickery but the relationship is recognised by stating she was 'known as Adelaide Turnbull'. She had lived with Robert for almost forty years. This verse is on her grave:

*We never knew what pain she bore
We never saw her die
We only know she passed away
And never said goodbye*

Robert died 7 years later on 23 August 1926 aged 78.

Narelle Richardson

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Adelaide Australia SHORE and Jacob VICKERY

Adelaide E 1869 Forbes

Adelaide Australia VICKERY and Phillip FORAN

Ellen Frances 1872. (Vickery), Kelso

Adelaide Mary 1873, (Vickery), Kings Creek

Adelaide Australia VICKERY and Robert TURNBULL

Josephine Australia. 1879 (Shore), Bathurst

Randolph Bertie. 1885, (Vickery & Shore) East Bourke

Dudley John. 1887 (Turnbull), East Bourke

Norman Robert, 1887, (Turnbull) twins d1889 East Bourke

Walter Charles, 1889 (Turnbull), Bourke

Thomas Henry, 1892. (Vickery) Bourke

? Kenneth John 1884 d1975 Brewarrina, parentage unsure -no birth record

THE FRENCH LEGION OF HONOUR

Did you know that Switzerland does not award any Official Orders, Decorations or Medals? In addition there are strict rules applying to the acceptance of foreign awards. Members of the armed forces, government employees and parliamentarians are banned from receiving them under national legislation which was originally implemented under the **1848 Swiss Constitution** as a means of guaranteeing Switzerland's independence from foreign interests.

Before **1848**, the Swiss Confederation's biggest export was soldiers. To guarantee the loyalty of these mercenaries, foreign monarchs, especially the French, used to award them pensions, titles and medals. However, when Switzerland's first constitution was drawn up in 1848, the authorities wanted to guarantee the new state's independence so all mercenary service was abolished with the exception of the Vatican Guard, and strict guidelines for foreign awards were established.



Charles Turner 1/12/2005

Under modern legislation, parliamentarians, cantonal authorities and employees, federal employees, as well as citizens serving in the army are also banned from wearing foreign decorations. Gustave Ador, a federal minister at the end of the First World War and who was later twice appointed President of Switzerland (first term 1902; second term 1919), once caused a furore when he wore the French Legion of Honour Grand Cross, the highest possible French distinction.

Australian's are not limited in wearing foreign distinctions and once I worked at Comalco with Charles Turner who was also awarded the Legion of Honour Medal. He was one of ten Australian veterans selected to receive the honour on 6 June 2004, exactly 60 years after D-Day, to commemorate the contribution the Allies made to the liberation of France. Today I had lunch with Charles and other ex-Comalco friends and Charles proudly wore the award as well as the tie given to him at the time to commemorate the presentation.



The badge of the Legion, which was first presented by Napoleon Bonaparte in 1802, is a five-armed 'Maltese Asterisk' in silver for chevalier enameled white, with an enameled laurel and oak wreath between the arms. The obverse central disc is in gilt, featuring the head of Marianne, surrounded by the legend *République Française* on a blue enamel ring. The

reverse central disc is also in gilt, with a set of crossed tricolour, surrounded by the Legion's motto *Honneur et patrie* (Honour and Fatherland) and its foundation date on a blue enamel ring. The badge is suspended by a enameled laurel and oak wreath in turn suspended on a red moiré ribbon.

Richard Lander

ANOTHER BRANCH TO THE DONISTHORPE TREE

JOHN ROBERT PORTWINE (1810-1881) son of George and Susanna Portwine married Mary Ann Donisthorpe John Robert Portwine, also known as John Thistleton Portwine, was baptized Robert Portwine at Hythe, Kent, on January 14,1810.

He was the youngest son of George Portwine, a butcher, and his second wife Susanna, nee Thistleton. George died when John was only a baby and life must have been pretty difficult for John's mother Susanna as she struggled to raise her seven surviving children.

John was apprenticed to a butcher, following in the footsteps of his father and two elder brothers. Unlike his father and brothers John did not stay in Kent. He emigrated to Australia and arrived in South Australia in about 1848.

Family tradition is that the hot Australian summer made being a butcher unprofitable (no refrigeration) and so John became a bootmaker.

On 17 October 1848. at Gawler SA, John married Mary Ann Donisthorpe. Mary Ann was the daughter of a Nottinghamshire

lacemaker who had settled in Calais, an important lacemaking centre, then had to flee France at the time of 1848 revolution.

Mary Ann and her brother George Donisthorpe arrived in Adelaide in 1848 on board the *Harpley* one of three ships that brought some of those refugees to Australia.

John and Mary Ann lived in Gawler for six or eight years. Their five eldest children were born there. George Donisthorpe and his wife also settled in Gawler. George was a shoemaker and it may have been he who taught John the trade.

By 1857 John and Mary Ann were back in Adelaide and John was a butcher again. Elizabeth was born there before the family followed the gold-rush to Castlemaine, Victoria. The family settled at Barker's Creek, between Castlemaine and Harcourt. John did not make his fortune. In fact he did not even make a living: at one stage he was declared bankrupt.

There is a family tradition that they were so poor that the boys had to go out each morning and find enough gold to buy bread to feed the family that day. Four more children were born in Castlemaine.

The fact that all ten survived to adulthood in those days and tent or hut on the gold-fields was either good fortune or a great credit to Mary Ann's mothering.

John died suddenly of a heart attack, on 2 May 1881, at his home at Barker's Creek. Mary Ann lived another twenty years in Barker's Creek and Castlemaine until her death in April 1901. John and Mary Ann have many descendants in Castlemaine and in other parts of Victoria and Australia.

J.M.Trethewey
Jan 1997

THE PLIGHT OF THE FRAMEWORK KNITTERS - 1812

1812.March

Sir.

The United Committee of Frameworkknitters at Nottingham, with great surprise, received a letter of the 2d instant from a person in the Town, over which you hold jurisdiction, stating, that you had prohibited the framework-knitters in your town from meeting to discuss the nature of their grievances, and to prepare a petition to parliament.

You no doubt had your reasons for so doing; but whatever they were sane or otherwise is not material, because they were both unconstitutional and unjust, as well as extremely dangerous to the liberties of the subject.

Know you not, Sir, that the Act, commonly called "The Gagging Act" is long since dead of its own natural death ;therefore your opinion, as aMagistrate, is of no avail respecting the holding of a popular meeting.

But even were that not the case, is it an act of policy on the part of a Magistrate to prohibit men from meeting, in a peaceable manner, to state their grievances; when, by preventing them from venting their complaints in a constitutional way, they may be driven to the commission of crimes, for the purpose of exercising their vengeance, when they cannot exercise their rights.

How different were your conduct, on the occasion alluded to, to that shewn by the Magistrates of Hatton Garden, London, on a similar occasion they, when informed of the desire of the London

stocking-makers to hold a meeting, immediately afforded the men every facility in their power for the accomplishment of the design they sent an officer to attend the meeting, and presented the Resolutions agreed upon at such meeting to the secretary of State, along with a copy of the propositions sent from the Nottingham Committee.

This was a measure consistant with the constitutional duty of a Magistrate; and consistant with the wishes of every honest man. Then compare this conduct with your own ; and, if you are an Englishman, your punishment will be sentimentally complete.

Sir, you may perhaps conceal this letter from all eyes but your own ;but that will avail you nothing ;for other means, which you, to your own confusion, will hereafter be made acquainted with, will be resorted to, to make its contents public.

The men of Nottingham are acquainted with the laws of their Country; and, in common with every honest man, condemn the outrageous conduct of a few misguided individuals in their neighbourhood ; and they know, that the proper means to prevent those outrages are, for those in authority to act directly contrary to the manner in which you have acted.

Sir, the Nottingham Committee will again call upon their Tukesbury friends to have a meeting; the post-master may again open the letter directed to them ;and you may again exert an unconstitutional authority; but, if you do, legal means will be resorted to, to exhibiting [sic] your conduct in proper colours to the public.

Thos. Latham Secty.

FOR THE GENEALOGIST

JOSEPH DAVIS AND HIS CHILDREN

The family of Joseph Davis and his wife Ann nee Ingham travelled to Australia on the *Agincourt* in 1848 with four children recognised as those of Joseph, and Ann's son from an unknown liaison, Hayes Ingham.

Joseph's children were Mary Anne born in Nottingham in 1832, John born Nottingham in 1835, Joseph born Nottingham in 1839 and Harriette born in rue de la Redoute in Calais in 1844.

Joseph's marriage to Nancy is recorded in the registers of St Marys Nottingham as having occurred on February 19, 1838. The registration indicates that Joseph was a widower at the time of his marriage to Ann. It is reasonable to then ask if Mary Ann and John were Joseph's children from his first marriage and if this is the case – WHO was their mother?

ALBERT SOAR

THE SON OF HENRY SOAR & EMMA SOPHIE SAYWELL

Henry Soar was born in Calais in 1830 – the son of a lace family. In turn he married Emma Sophie Saywell, the daughter of William Saywell and Elizabeth Smith. This couple returned to Nottingham between 1852 and 1855 and the third child of this union was Albert Charles Soar, born 1856.

Albert Charles Soar married Fanny Cockayne and remained in the lace trade, following it to the Seekonk Lace Company Pawtucket Rhode Island, USA c 1885. On April 6th 1931 a notice issued to the employees of Albert Soar's factory recognised the high esteem in which their employee was held.

SEEKONK LACE COMPANY
 MANUFACTURED & FINISHED BY
 DRESS LACES
 OF EVERY DESCRIPTION

Pawtucket, R.I.
 April 6, 1931.

NOTICE.

On account of the death of our friend Mr. Albert Bear, this mill will close Tuesday April 7th at 12:00 o'clock and remain closed until Wednesday April 8th at the usual hour of starting.

SEEKONK LACE COMPANY.
Scott Hambsbottom
 TREASURER.

W/R

GEORGE STUBBS & WILLIAM STUBBS AND MARY GREEN – A CIRCUMSTANTIAL STORY

A William Stubbs married a Mary Green at Aylesbury in Buckinghamshire in 1791. This is a distance from Quorndon, where George Stubbs (*Fairlie*) was born to a William & Mary Stubbs, but a child Thomas was born to a William & Mary Stubbs in Aylesbury in 1793 and a Thomas Stubbs appears on the 1851 census for Quorndon, giving his birthplace as Aylesbury, Bucks. In 1841 he is in Leicestershire, but gives his county of birth as Leicestershire!

The 1841 census gives a William Stubbs, joiner, born c 1761 in Leicestershire, with his wife Mary born c 1764 not in Leics. The IGI gives a William Stubbs, born Quorndon to a Thomas Stubbs and Alice Pounder in 1761.

Is this the solution to the mystery of the parents of George Stubbs of Quorndon?



**Meeting
House,
Quorndon**

Bygone
Quorn in
Photographs

DEATHS IN CALAIS

The following records of families with lace trade connections are from the registers of Calais for the years 1831 to 1844 as filmed by the Church of the Latterday Saints.

Abbreviations:

lw – laceworker ie one who works in the industry

lm – lacemaker ie one who owns machinery and who manages the processing of the lace from start to finish. The smaller lacemakers were most likely to also be laceworkers, operating a machine but employing others to keep it going sometimes 24 hours a day.

NAME	DATE	Age	WITNESSES	NOTES
MURRAY, Sarah	6.6.1831	10	James Trees, 45, lw George Allen, 37, m	Born Nottingham, dau Charles Murray & Ann Gold, living rue Neuve
HARBER, Ezekiah	27.1.1831	26		Born Newport, laceworker, son John Harber & Ann Blake
DEZOMBRE, Adrienne		15		Dressmaker, Dau Antoine Dezombre & Adrienne Gelle,
MORY, William	4.1.1831	3	William Smith, 55 mechanic	Son Charles Mory & Ann Gould
ELLIS, Hamlet	20.2.1831	10 m		Son John Ellis & Jane Moody
WATTS, Sarah	20.2.1831	65	William Smith, 56 Menuisier	Widow, born London, husband & parents unknown, died at home of John Coggan
MOORE, Mary	28.2.1831	5hrs	James Barton, 31, lw John Moore 42, lw	Dau Isaac Moore, lw & Mary Woodcock
BOOT, John	30.6.1831	35	Thomas Boot 34 lm	Born Leicester, son John Boot (dec) & Elizabeth Popplewell at mother's home
WOOLEY, Martha	7.10.1831	23	Wm Smith 56, carpenter, Wm Daish 31 lw	Born Radford, dau John Wooley & Martha Story, died parents' home rue Neuve
SHAW, Eliza	18.1.1832	8m	John Meakin 34, lw & John Lakin 27, lw	Dau Isaac Shaw & Sarah Darsh
SMITH, Marie Louise called LALLEMAND	1.3.1832	61y2m		Lived alone, dau of James Smith & Mary J Pain, died in hospital
WOODTHORPE, Thomas	23.4.1832	51		Landlord, son of Thomas Woodthorpe, wife Mary Sarah Dorante, living in London

HUTCHINSON, Joseph	12.6.1832	5m		B Calais, son John Hutchinson & Mary Taylor, rue du Temple
BLAKE, Frederick John Jones			Police Commissioner & policeman witnessed this and the following registration. Children were first cousins	Born England, so Frederick John Crevanium Blake, British Naval Capt, & Caroline Jones
BLAKE, John Reynolds	4.7.1832	9		Born Dover, son of Barber Blake & Ann Steddy
CLARKE, Sarah	10.10.1833	30		Born Nottingham, eldest dau James Clarke & sarah, wife of Nathan Cooke, nmechanic
WALKER, Amos	10.3.1833	23		Laceworker bron Derby, son John Walker 7 Ann Walkendon, husband of Ann Gorely, living rue Neuve
RADFORD, THOMAS	3.4.1833	46	George Allen 39 & Joseph Whewell 34, mechanics	Born Nottingham, husband of Alice Shaw
ELLIOTT, Frederick	28.9.1833	27		Laceworker, born Nottingham son William Elliott, watchmaker & Mary Godwin. Wife's name inknown, but living at Hyson Green.
TAYLOR, George	1.2.1834	27	William Taylor, 25, brother	Born Wirksworth eldest son Joseph Taylor & Ann; wife Ann Ward living Nottingham

WALKER, John	11.2.1834	53	Ben Martin, 24, lw	Born Martin Derby son of James Walker, husband of Ann Walkendon, living Grande rue
LETTS, Thomas	6.12.1834	67	William Richardson, 23	Mechanic aged 67, son William Letts & Mary, husband of Elizabeth Baxter, living rue de la Vendee
GOLDFINCH, Suzanne	1834			Sister of Thomas who was born 1812
JENNINGS, Alice	28.9.1836	69		Born South Winfield, widow of Joseph Pass, died at the house of Joseph Wragg
HUTCHINSON, Frances Jane	4.4.1841	63	James Hutchinson, son aged 34	Born Gonalston, Notts, daughter of Thomas Hutchinson & Sarah, wife of George Fletcher
SLACK, ENOCH	1844	26		Son of George Slack (dec) & Elizabeth Hardstaff
WOOD, ANNE	7.10.1844	35		Born Beeston, laceworker, daughter of Samuel Wood (living Beeston) & Sarah Lowe (dec)
WEIGHTMAN, Henry	29.3.1844	5w	Lewis Allen & John Mountney	Son of Powdrill Wightman knife maker, & Sarah Hall, living rue Bien Venus
DEAN, Lucy Sarah	14.7.1844			Dau of William Dean & Lucy Sarah Petts
WALKER, William	6.6.1844	53		Born Bilborough, wife Sophie Whitby

WEST END TAILORS



Gentlemen's Tailors

Ladies Tailors

—••—
Boulevard Richelieu

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