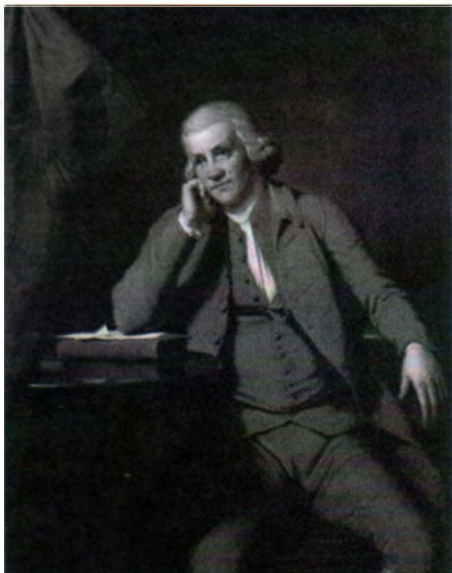


# TULLE

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*The Journal of Australian Society of the Lacemakers of Calais Inc.*





# TULLE

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# President's Message

It has been another successful year for our Society. Our meetings have been well attended and we have welcomed new members throughout the year. I am grateful to everyone who has been so supportive of my year as President, especially the members of the Committee and other office-bearers. At the start of 2015, our future was uncertain but it is now clear to me that there is a desire to see our Society grow and evolve. We have tried some new approaches, including taking advantage of technology that wasn't available when our Society began. As we have about 25% of our members attend our quarterly meetings, providing opportunities for everyone to engage and participate in ASLC is important for our longevity.

*Tulle* is, and will continue to be, our main communication method to all members. This edition is Richard's last one after eight years in his role as Editor. We have all learned a great deal from the informative articles he has sourced. Richard has continuously held a role with our society over the past 20 years – thank you Richard for your service to all of us.

With the AGM rapidly approaching, please consider taking on a role within ASLC. Regular changes within the committee are important to keep us going for the long term. A detailed handover and ongoing support will be provided to you.

Finally, thank you for your continued support of ASLC. I encourage you all to talk to your family members about our common history and try to bring our next generation of members into the fold. So many people are discovering the joy of learning about their family heritage, thanks to shows like *Who Do You Think You Are?* As we heard at our last meeting, there are many interesting tales to be told of our Lacemakers and their descendants. Let's share those stories! They are the hooks that will catch more members. Our incoming Editor will be thrilled to receive your submissions.

Megan Fox

President

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FEB 2016

# Secretary's Report

This meeting was permeated by the presence of technology. Firstly a new member joined us who had found us via Facebook, Kingsley Ireland joined the whole meeting by Skype; Jim Longmire, our incoming Editor discussed the possibility of an online version of *Tulle*. Following the meeting preparations were begun for the building of a new website. There was a frisson throughout the meeting that our Society is well and truly alive and moving on to an exciting future.

The visit via Skype by Kingsley has made us consider the idea that we meet up with other members via this medium and get to know all those in far flung locations. We look forward to that possibility.

Instead of a guest speaker at the meeting, members shared little snippets of their forebears' lives. It is amazing what knowledge is held by our members about the history of our country and the part our Lacemakers played in this. No doubt you'll read about these stories when they make it to *Tulle*.

We look forward to our AGM where we hope to have a new Secretary. It is very important that we all share the running of our little Society. New people bring new ideas and fresh perspectives to our work.

Keep gathering your family stories. Write them down. We love to hear them either at meetings, via Skype or when you write for *Tulle*.

Our meeting ended with a lovely Christmas afternoon tea in the courtyard of Don Bank.

Carolyn Broadhead  
Secretary

## Editor's Comment

The world's most expensive printed book is one printed in 1640. It sold at a Sotheby's auction for US\$14.2 million on 26 November 2013. The *Bay Psalm Book* (top right) was the first book printed in what was later to become the United States. The copy which was sold was previously owned by the Old South Church in Boston. This church still has another copy which will not be sold. At one time this church owned five copies of the psalm book. The world's most expensive paper document is Leonardo da Vinci's journal, *Codex Leicester*, which sold for \$30.8 million in 1994. Two pages of this journal are shown to the bottom right.



The books/documents above may be the most **expensive** ever produced. No-one questions that. However I believe that the most **valuable** book you can leave your family is the one containing your own ideas and knowledge of your family – your family history; your aspirations; your comments on life in general; your thoughts on things or events which impacted you or your family greatly; and your philosophy on life. As a keen family historian I know how to source the easy things – births, deaths, marriages. These are the skeletons of family history. What I have found hardest to discover is the flesh and blood – the things which made my ancestors tick the way they did. Start a journal today before it is all too late.

My thanks to members Cheryl Williss, Bob Wilson & David Groves for the wonderful articles which they have written for you and which are published in this issue. This is my final edition as Editor of *Tulle* – a position I have enjoyed immensely. I thank all members for entrusting me with this responsibility for thirty-two issues and, in particular, those members who have contributed material to *Tulle* under my editorship. I hope that our new Editor gains as much satisfaction from the role as have I and I wish Jim Longmire every success in his endeavours. I feel confident that I am leaving *Tulle* in capable hands.

Richard Lander,  
Editor

# Notice of 34th AGM

**AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF THE LACEMAKERS OF CALAIS INC.  
TO BE HELD AT DON BANK COTTAGE, NORTH SYDNEY  
20 FEBRUARY 2016 COMMENCING AT 1.00PM**

## **BUSINESS:**

- To confirm a quorum is in attendance & to announce any apologies
- To confirm the Minutes of the previous AGM
- To receive and consider the statements of the financial position of the Society for the year ending 31 December 2015 (refer pp 6-7)
- To receive from the committee reports on the activities of the Society during the preceding financial year
- To elect the office bearers in the Society
  - President; Secretary; Treasurer; Editor; Publicity Officer; and Fellowship Officer

ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO THE AGM AND ARE ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE.

**Following the AGM there will be general discussion during which members will be invited to make suggestions to the incoming Committee.**

## **VALE: SHEILA MARY TESS ROGERS (ROE FAMILY)**



We were recently advised that Sheila Rogers, a foundation member of our Society and the sole Society member representing the Roe Family of the *Agincourt*, passed away on 9 December 2014 after a short illness. We extend our sincere condolences to her husband, Jim, and his family and apologise for this late notice of her death.

**Australian Society of the Lacemakers of Calais**  
**Income & Expenditure as at 31 December 2015**

	This Financial Year 2015 (\$)	Last Financial Year 2014 (\$)	Prior Financial Year 2013 (\$)
<b>INCOME</b>			
Subscriptions	3496	2,740	3,115
New Subscriptions	430	60	230
Book Sales			40
Interest	7	14	11
Sundries	1	86	122
Donations	66	81	10
Sale of "The Lacemakers" DVD	33	1,552	0
Reimbursement of Tulle expense	44		
Seed funding for new website	600		
	4,677	4,533	3,528
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Rent	96	128	192
Sundries	425	200	240
RAHS Insurance/Subs	352	475	424
Catering	126		50
Bank Charges	5	12	
Stationery	36	198	27
Postage	665	764	578
Tulle – Printing/Artwork	1,175	1,102	1,023
Subs renewal form printing	22	48	48
Cost of "The Lacemaker" DVD		1,113	
RAHS Affiliation Membership	119	119	
Fair Trading	53	52	196
Subs/Membership – Family History Soc	75		
	3,149	4,211	2,778
<b>Net Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year</b>	1,528	322	750

**Bank Reconciliation as at 31 December 2015**

Cashbook Reconciliation for year ended 31 December	2015 (\$)	2014 (\$)	2013 (\$)
Opening balance as at 1 January 2015	4,555	4,233	3,483
Add receipts for the year	4,677	4,533	3,528
Transfer from investment account	-	-	-
Less payments for the year	3,149	4,211	2,778
Transfer to investment account	-	-	-
<b>Cashbook Closing Balance 31 December</b>	<b>6,083</b>	<b>4,555</b>	<b>4,233</b>



## Bank Reconciliation as at 31 December 2015 (Cont.)

Bank Reconciliation for year ended 31 December	2015 (\$)	2014 (\$)	2013 (\$)
Bank Statement balance as at 31 December	6,083	4,555	4,233
Add outstanding deposits			
Less Outstanding Cheques			
<b>Adjusted Bank Balance as at 31 December</b>	<b>6,083</b>	<b>4,555</b>	<b>4,233</b>

## Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2015

	This Financial Year 2015 (\$)	Last Financial Year 2014 (\$)	Prior Year 2013 (\$)
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Cash on Hand			
Cash at Bank	6,083	4,555	4,233
Investments			
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>6,083</b>	<b>4,555</b>	<b>4,233</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade Creditors			
Bank Overdraft			
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>6,083</b>	<b>4,555</b>	<b>4,233</b>
<b>MEMBERS EQUITY</b>			
Opening Balance	4,555	4,233	3,483
Net Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	1,528	322	750
	<b>6,083</b>	<b>4,555</b>	<b>4,233</b>

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES.** This financial report is a special report in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirement of the Associations Incorporation Act 1984 (NSW). The Committee has determined that the Australian Society of the Lacemakers of Calais Inc. is not a reporting entity. No accounting standards have been applied to this financial report and it has been prepared on a cash basis.

**INCOME TAX.** The Committee has self-assessed the organisation to be exempt from income tax under Section 50-45 of the Income Tax Act.

## Henri Hénon – (continued from *Tulle*, November 2015)

**1824:** According to a very detailed survey of the number of machines built in Calais during 1824, six circular-bolt machines had been added to the production capability. At the same time, Messrs Saily and Jenny imported into France to Saint-Pierre another advanced circular-bolt machine of which they left the job of assembling and commissioning to Mr S. Ferguson.

Shortly after this the first Leavers machine was introduced to Saint-Pierre les Calais and the advantages afforded by this new system led to much happier results. This innovation decided the future of manufacturing which from that time underwent very rapid development. The machines built at this time were only 56-inches wide and operated very slowly. One hadn't been able up until that time, to produce designs with complicated motifs on the plain net. Undoubtedly, this took place in Lyon when M. Colas and M. Delonpré managed to perfect this for the first time by applying the Jacquard system to a small and modest Mechlin machine.

Two sets of statistics relating to manufacturing in Calais and Saint-Pierre in November 1824 reveal particular data on the number, the quality and the value of lace production in the two districts. We have extracted from these the following details:

- In Saint-Pierre
  - 20 manufacturers, 45 machines, employing 620 people, 68 of whom were men and 552 of whom were women.
  - The annual average salary of the workers was f3600. The annual salary for the women employed in repair and embroidery was f315.
  - The average price of bobbin lace was f22 per "aune"<sup>1</sup> for full-width lace and f10 per aune for Mechlin lace.
  - The estimated production of lace products was 40,000 aune of full-width lace; very little Mechlin tulle
  - Gross value of all lace products f850,000
- In Calais
  - 12 manufacturers, 40 machines, of which 26 were for bobbin-net and 14 for Mechlin net; 69 workmen and 346 women

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<sup>1</sup> An old French unit of measure for fabrics, equivalent to about 47 inches (119 cm).

- Salary for the men was from f10 to f15 per day; for the women f1.25 per day
- Price per aune for 44 inch wide basic net f17; for embroidered lace 44 inches wide f26; for Mechlin lace f9 unembroidered; embroidered Mechlin f13.50.
- Production 37,600 aunes; value f785,000

**1825:** In the course of the few preceding years a large number of circular-bolt machines with English interiors (chariots and bobbins) brought in illegally as usual were sent to other areas in France, notably Paris, Lyon, St Quentin, Grand Courenne, Douai, Cambrai, etc. It was only at the beginning of 1825 that the interior components, necessary for the complete construction of machines destined to make bobbin lace were able to be built entirely in Calais. A considerable advantage was thus realised for the local industry.

*“The machines (‘mécaniques’) built in the local area” states a contemporary report (LSL: this was the name given to the first lace machines, i.e. ‘mécaniques’ rather than the later ‘métiers’) “are now entirely assembled by the workmen who commenced constructing them, and their construction as a rule being meticulously carried out, leave nothing to be desired such as is often not the case when the machines arrive from England completely assembled”.*

The Pusher machines were selling for about f13,000; the Circular- Bolt machines came next for a price of f10,000 and the Warp machines so despised and discredited in England were still worth in France in the region of f2,500 to f3,000.

A royal decree on 19 January 1825 authorised the establishment of a *Conseil de Prud’homms (an Industrial Tribunal but with wider administrative and advisory powers)* in the town of Calais. This tribunal was to have as its mission to give rulings on all disputes relating to the manufacture of *tulle* and could intervene in differences between the manufacturers and their workmen.

Article 1 of this decree stated that the Council would be composed of seven members, four of whom were chosen by the merchants/manufacturers of *tulle* and *dentelle*; and the three others from the *chefs d’atelier* (the factory managers), the *contremaîtres* (the foremen) and the *ouvriers patentés* (licenced working men) in these two branches of the industry. According to Article 3 it is stated that the

jurisdiction of the Tribunal was to extend to cover all merchants, lacemakers, foremen, managers and other lace workers including apprentices working in the industry in the town of Calais and its environs wherever they may live. The superiority of Saint-Pierre over Calais insofar as it related to the lace industry manifested itself in a very obvious way on 27 August 1825.

Madame la Duchesse de Berry, before entering the town of Calais, stopped at Saint-Pierre and visited the hospice. Upon leaving this establishment the princess expressed the desire to see a tulle manufacturing factory. She was taken to the one belonging to Mr Webster where she spent an hour, interesting herself in the most exacting details of the manufacturing process and asking the founder of the lace industry in the Calais dialect many questions which demonstrated the broad interest which she took in this ingenious and detailed work. To commemorate this visit, Mr Webster sent, through administrative channels, several pieces of tulle to his royal visitor.

In France and in England as well, the sale of tulle had risen dramatically. A great number of lace manufacturers migrated *chez nous* (to France) and each brought with them a new enthusiasm to perfect the mechanics of the lace machines. (To be continued?). The translation is by Lyndall Lander.



**VALE: ELAINE CALLAWAY  
(ARCHER FAMILY)**

We were recently made aware that Elaine Lillian Callaway, a member of our Society since May 1995 and one of our members representing the Archer Family of the *Agincourt*, passed away on 26 September 2015 after a short illness. She and her husband Ron (who suffered a stroke in about June 2015) were living at the Carrington Nursing Home at Camden, NSW at the time of her death. Elaine and Ron were a close couple and always attended ASLC meetings together. We extend our sincere condolences to Ron and his family.

# Harpley Connections -

## The Goldfinch and Crowder families

My partner, Colin Routley and I have been together for eight years and have both long held a keen interest in our families' histories. I first learnt that I was a Lacemaker descendant as a teenager in the 1970s, but now Colin has discovered he too has Lacemaker descent. Our forebears came to Adelaide on the *Harpley*.

I am a descendant of Richard GOLDFINCH and his wife Eugenie née De SOMBRE, and their third son William. William was born in Calais in 1844. William and his wife Margaret's marriage certificate of 12 July 1864 shows him working as a labourer and living in suburban Thebarton. Although his parents and siblings spent the rest of their lives in Adelaide, William turned first to fishing – at what was at the time the port of Glenelg – and then to farming; near the Yorke Peninsula town of Port Vincent. Their son Clement married Ruth, daughter of neighbouring farmers Eli and Elizabeth Hart. Their daughter Clementina married William Staker – my maternal grandparents.

Colin is a descendant of *Harpley* passengers Cornelius and Hannah CROWDER, and their second daughter Emma. Emma married George Clarke in 1851. Emma and George's daughter Mary married Edwin Button; and their daughter Emily married Edgar Dalling – Colin's maternal grandparents. Colin's Lacemaker family tree branched out from the Barossa area just north of Adelaide to the farming regions further up in the mid-north, about 150 km away from my family. Colin grew up on the former Dalling farm near the mid-north town of Port Broughton; and I grew up near suburban Glenelg. We met here in Adelaide.

As an aside to this story: I have also long known that from both parents' sides I am also descended from some of the first families who came to the fledgling Colony in the 1830s (the Province of South Australia was proclaimed on 28 December 1836). Then, about a year ago, Colin discovered that he too has a 'pioneer' ancestor! (My g-g grandfather William GOLDFINCH was also the grandfather of Driver Albert Ernest Goldfinch and Private William Charles Goldfinch, as reported on p11 in the February 2015 Tulle article Lacemaker Descendants who died in the Great War.)

Cheryl Williss

# What was happening in 1816 – 200 years ago?

- In late 1816, three Nottingham lace men, CLARK, WEBSTER and BONNINGTON, smuggled several lace machines into Calais, the parts of which were mixed with scrap iron to avoid detection. The lace industry in Calais commenced about this time.
- There were Luddite riots in Nottingham, Lancashire and Yorkshire.
- After Luddites destroyed 56 of his machines on 28 June 1816, John HEATHCOAT moved his entire operation to Tiverton in Devon.
- Four ex-Heathcoat workers, THOMASIN, CORBETT, BLACK and CUTTS, took a lace machine to Douai in France (125km to the south-east of Calais) in February 1816.
- John BLACKENER, the Nottingham historian, died at the Rancliffe Arms Hotel in Sussex St, Nottingham, aged 47. He was the hotel's landlord.
- In 1816, Calais had a population of only 15,000. It is currently in excess of 125,000.
- Nottingham and framework knitters in particular, were facing depressed conditions in trade which lasted until 1820.
- George Bryan "Beau" BRUMMELL, the "dandy", fled to Calais to escape debtor's prison.
- Frederick Francis ARCHER, *Agincourt*, was baptised 29 Dec 1816 at St Mary's, Nottingham.
- Charles BROWN, a single man aboard *Agincourt*, was born at Loughborough, Leicestershire.
- William BROWN(E), *Agincourt*, later married to Lydia ELNOR, was born at Ilkeston, Derbyshire.
- James HARRISON, son of Thomas and Elizabeth, was born at Nottingham.
- John HEMINGWAY, *Harpley*, was born.
- George LAMB, *Andromache*, was born at Nottingham.
- William (MATTHEW?) MATTHEWS, *Harpley*, was born.
- Robert PARKES, *General Hewett*, was born at Brussels.
- Harriet ROGERS (nee Hazeldine), *Walmer Castle*, was born at Basford, Nottingham.
- Samuel ROSE of the *Fairlie* was born at Mt. Sorrell in Leicestershire.
- Eliza STEVENS (nee PLACE), *Agincourt*, was also born at Mt. Sorrel in Leicestershire.
- John SAYWELL, *Agincourt*, was born.
- Marie Françoise Adélaïde SHORE (nee Bouclet), *Agincourt*, was born in Calais.
- Mary WALKER (nee PETIT), *Agincourt*, was born in Calais.
- The Governor of NSW in 1816 was Lachlan MACQUARIE.
- René LAENNEC invented the stethoscope in 1816.
- A rail capable of supporting a heavy locomotive was developed on 30 March 1816.
- Francis GREENWAY was appointed as the government's Civil Architect.

# Major Innovations – Then and Now

If you were to make a list of your favourite inventions and gadgets, there is a pretty fair chance that most of them would have been developed since the 1960s or 1970s. For example, mine would include my laptop computer (the first personal computer was released on 12 August 1981), my DSLR camera (first developed late 1980s), Stelvin screw-caps on my wine collection (1970s), my simple safety razor with its stainless-steel blade (1965), the Internet and email (about 1993), my fax machine (1985), Google search engine (4 September 1998), Google Maps (February 2005), my electronic calculator (1961), the remote control for our TV (1973) and the sat-nav GPS system in my car (1995). The more 'hip' amongst you might list your mobile phone (3 April 1973), Sony Walkman (1978), BlackBerry (1999), iPad (1993), iPod (1998) or Apps (10 July 2008) as more important. Food and wine lovers might list their electric toaster (1909), their corkscrew (1681), electric kettle (1893), countertop microwave oven (1967), coffee percolator (1865) or apple peeler/slicer (1864). Those who had overindulged or lost their way may include portable bathroom scales, the push-bike (1817), retractable tape measures (early 1900s) or the magnetic compass (very early).

Note that none of the above had been invented by 1848 with the exception of the magnetic compass and the corkscrew. The former was used in Song Dynasty, China, by the military for navigational orienteering by 1040-1044, and was used for maritime navigation by 1111 to 1117. It would perhaps be easy to deduce that nothing exciting was invented during the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century to make our lacemaker forebear's lives more comfortable, interesting or exciting. However, nothing could be further from the truth.

The 19<sup>th</sup> century gave birth to the professional scientist. The word scientist was first used in 1833 by William Whewell, a man who possibly could be connected with the lacemaker family which came to Australia aboard the *Harpley* in 1848. The invention of useable electricity, steel, and petroleum products during the 19<sup>th</sup> century lead to a second industrial revolution from 1865 to 1900 which featured the growth of railways and steam ships, faster and wider means of communication, and inventions with names we all know today. This was the early age of machine tools – machines

which made parts for other machines. It was also the time the assembly line was invented. The industrial revolution brought about huge improvements in transportation, communications and technology – but also engendered some new problems including pollution, a hugely increased need for sources of power and a growing depersonalisation of human spirit through the growth of the factory system. Some of the inventions of the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century which may have had either a direct or indirect effect on our forebear's lives included the following.

- 1801: The Jacquard loom: Joseph Marie Jacquard
- 1801: The battery: Count Alessandro Volta
- 1804: Gas lighting: Fredrich Winzer
- 1804: The first steam-powered locomotive: Richard Trevithick
- 1805: The first modern, self-igniting match: Jean Chancel
- 1805: Submarine *Nautilus*: Robert Fulton
- 1807: Steamboat *Clermont*: also Robert Fulton
- 1808: Bandsaw: William Newberry
- 1809: Arc lamp: Humphry Davy
- 1810: Improved printing process: Frederick Koenig
- 1814: Steam locomotive: Blücher
- 1814: First plastic surgery performed in England
- 1816: Miner's safety lamp: Humphry Davy
- 1816: Stirling engine: Robert Stirling
- 1816: Stethoscope: Rene Theophile Hyacinthe Laennec
- 1817: Draisine or velocipede (two-wheeled bicycle): Karl Drais
- 1817: Kaleidoscope: David Brewster
- 1821: Electric motor: Michael Faraday
- 1823: Electromagnet: William Sturgeon
- 1823: Gas Lighter: Johann Wolfgang Döbereiner
- 1824: Portland cement: William Aspdin
- 1825: The world's earliest surviving photographic artifact: Joseph Nicéphore Niépce
- 1826: Internal combustion engine: Samuel Morey
- 1827: Friction match: John Walker
- 1827: Fountain-pen: Petrache Poenaru
- 1829: Steam locomotive: George Stephenson
- 1830: Thermostat: Andrew Ure



1830: Stenotype on punched paper strip: Karl Drais  
1831: Multiple coil magnet: Joseph Henry  
1831: Magnetic acoustic telegraph: also Joseph Henry (patented 1837)  
1831: Reaper: Cyrus McCormick  
1831: Electrical generator/dynamo: Michael Faraday, Ányos Jedlik  
1832: Electric Motor: William Sturgeon  
1834: The Hansom cab is patented: Joseph Hansom  
1834: Louis Braille perfects his Braille system  
1834: Combine harvester: Hiram Moore  
1834: Refrigerator/ether ice machine: Jacob Perkins  
1835: Revolver: Samuel Colt  
1835: Electromechanical Relay: Joseph Henry  
1835: Incandescent light bulb: James Bowman Lindsay  
1835: The propeller: Francis Pettit Smith and John Ericsson  
1836: Sewing machine: Josef Madersperger  
1837: US electric printing press patented: Thomas Davenport (February 25)  
1837: Steel plough: John Deere  
1837: Standard diving dress: Augustus Siebe  
1837: Camera zoom lens: Jozef Maximilián Petzval  
1837: Magnetic telegraph: Samuel Morse  
1837: Postage stamp: English schoolmaster, Rowland Hill  
1838: Electric telegraph: Charles Wheatstone (also Samuel Morse)  
1838: Closed diving suit with a helmet: Augustus Siebe  
1839: Vulcanization of rubber: Charles Goodyear  
1840: Artificial fertilizer: Justus von Liebig  
1841: Saxophone: Adolphe Sax  
1841: The stapler: Samuel Slocum  
1842: Superphosphate fertilizer: John Bennett Lawes  
1842: Anaesthesia: Crawford Long  
1843: Typewriter: Charles Thurber  
1843: "Electric Printing Telegraph": Alexander Bain (forerunner of the fax machine)  
1843: Ice cream maker (hand-cranked): Nancy Johnson of Philadelphia  
1843: Steam powered pile driver: James Nasmyth  
1844: The safety match: Gustaf Erik Pasch

1844: Pulp wood for papermaking: Charles Fenerty (Nova Scotia, Canada), and F.G. Keller (Germany)

1845: Pneumatic tyre: Robert Thomson (inventor)

1846: Sewing machine: Elias Howe (see also 1836)

1846: Rotary printing press: Richard M. Hoe (see *Tulle* editorial, November 2014)

1849: Safety pin: Walter Hunt

1849: Francis turbine: James B. Francis

1849: Telephone: Antonio Meucci

It was not until James Bonsack invented the cigarette-making machine in 1881 that cigarette smoking became widespread. However, by the 1800s many people had begun using small amounts of tobacco. Some chewed it. Others smoked it occasionally in a pipe, or they hand-rolled a cigarette or cigar. On the average, people smoked about 40 cigarettes a year. The first commercial cigarettes were made in 1865 by Washington Duke on his 300-acre farm in Raleigh, North Carolina. His hand-rolled cigarettes were sold to soldiers at the end of the American Civil War.

During the first years of the Napoleonic Wars, the French government offered a hefty cash award of 12,000 francs to any inventor who could devise a cheap and effective method of preserving large amounts of food. The larger armies of the period required increased and regular supplies of quality food. Nicolas Appert suggested canning, and the process was first proven in 1806 in tests conducted by the French navy. Appert was awarded the prize in 1810 by Count Montelivert, a French Minister of the Interior. However, it was to take another 50 years before the can opener was invented. Until then users were instructed to "Cut round the top near the outer edge with a chisel and hammer." (RJL)

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*Never let your sense of morals get in the way of doing what's right.*

-Isaac Asimov, scientist and writer (1920-1992)

# The Churches of Nottingham

In 1844 there were seven Church of England episcopal places of worship in Nottingham, three of which, viz., St Mary's, St Peter's and St Nicholas's, were the parish churches; three were district parochial churches within the parish of St Mary (St Paul's, Trinity and St John Baptist's; and one, St James's Church on Standard Hill, was an extra parochial (i.e. parish) district. From the latter half of the seventeenth century, in England if your religious beliefs differed from the Church of England, then you were termed non-conformist – unless of course you were a follower of the Roman Catholic faith, in which case you were termed a Recusant and were liable to prosecution.

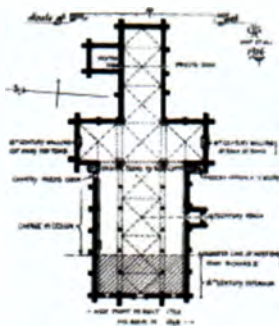
St Mary's parish was by far the largest of the three parish divisions in Nottingham. It encompassed 80% of both the population and the buildings of the town and county of Nottingham as well as 100% of the forest and burgess land.



St. Mary's, Nottingham.

At the beginning of 1844, St Mary's Church was the largest and most imposing building in Nottingham. Even at that time it had stood for nearly four hundred years like a giant among dwarfs. Glover states: *"This noble and venerable embattled Gothic edifice is built in the collegiate style, in the form of a Latin Cross, with a broad square embattled tower, terminated with pinnacles rising from the intersection"*. Although St Mary's is still the largest medieval church in Nottingham, today the Roman Catholic Cathedral Church of St Barnabas, on the corner of Derby Road and North Circus Street, is larger. Construction of this building was completed in late 1844.

I am aware that many members of the Society have visited the marvellous old church of St Mary's. For those who have not, the plan to the bottom right



above should be turned about 45° clockwise to correspond with the sketch of the church above the plan. The 14<sup>th</sup> century porch by which Lyndall and I entered the church during a visit in 2011 is about one-third of the way up from the base of the cross on the southern elevation.

St Mary's is mentioned in the Domesday Book (1086) and is believed to go back deep into Saxon times. The main body of the present building (which is at least the third on the site) dates from the end of the reign of Edward III in 1377. The entire nave and most of the remainder of the current building was completed before 1475. This is an extremely ancient building. However, the church was given a major restoration between 1844 and 1848 because the congregation was becoming alarmed that the church was in danger of imminent collapse. There was even talk that the church should be demolished. Thankfully, reason prevailed.



**Figure 1: Lyndall Lander entering St Mary's, Nottingham via the 14<sup>th</sup> century 'porch'**

Lacemaker baptisms at St Mary's, Nottingham include Mary Pedder (June 1828)<sup>2</sup>; George Benjamin Elliott (6 November 1797)<sup>3</sup>; a Bown child<sup>4</sup>; Sarah Maria O'Brien Calton (February 1829)<sup>5</sup>; children of Hayes Ingham and Harriett Rothwell including Nancy (7 October 1801)<sup>6</sup>; Hayes Frederick Ingham (1829)<sup>7</sup>; James Archer (24 October 1813)<sup>8</sup>; Frederick Francis Archer (29 December 1816)<sup>9</sup>; Sarah Bromhead (1824)<sup>10</sup>; Charles Potter (9 October 1825)<sup>11</sup>; and James Barnett (12 December 1801 – son of John Barnett, *Harpley*)<sup>12</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> *Tulle*, November 2002, p16

<sup>3</sup> *Tulle*, May 2000, p12

<sup>4</sup> *Tulle*, August 2000, p33

<sup>5</sup> *Tulle*, August 2001, p35

<sup>6</sup> *Tulle*, November 2001, p24

<sup>7</sup> *op cit*, p24

<sup>8</sup> *Tulle*, August 2003, p11

<sup>9</sup> *Tulle*, November 2002, p8

<sup>10</sup> *Tulle*, February 2003, p7

<sup>11</sup> *Tulle*, May 2006, p7

<sup>12</sup> *Tulle*, November 2007, p13

Lacemaker marriages include William Rogers<sup>13</sup> with Mary Haslam (1836); Liscombe Hall with Anne Lees (27 Sept 1808)<sup>14</sup>; Elizabeth Wand with Joseph Radford (1826)<sup>15</sup>; George Dormer with Judith Grey (mid-1825)<sup>16</sup>; George Benjamin Elliott with Ann Withers (1814)<sup>17</sup>; John Clarke (or Arthur John Clarke) with Ann Smedley (1839)<sup>18</sup>; and Sarah Bromhead with Joseph Baguley (3 June 1843)<sup>19</sup>. About 20,000 weddings have been recorded in the register of St Marys, Nottingham since its commencement in 1813<sup>20</sup>.

The second of the mediaeval parish churches in Nottingham is St Peter's. This church exhibits many traces of construction from about 1180 onwards. The original church on this site was destroyed by fire. St Peter's, which is much smaller than St Mary's Church, can be found near the intersection of St Peter's Gate, Wheeler Gate, Hounds Gate and Albert Street in Nottingham – a few hundred metres to the west of St Mary's. In 1835, Pigot<sup>21</sup> wrote: "St Peter's is an ancient edifice greatly altered by numerous repairs; the living is a Rectory in the patronage of the King, and incumbency of Rev Robert White Almond". Later on the same page Pigot writes: "The dissenters from the established church are very numerous in this town, and their places of worship are in proportion, there being no fewer than fifteen chapels for the various sects of Methodists, Baptists, Unitarians, Sandimanians, Huntlugtonians, and quakers besides which the Roman catholics have two chapels and the Jews a synagogue". Capitalisation shown is Pigot's.

Lacemaker baptisms at St Peter's, Nottingham include George Gaskin<sup>22</sup>.

#### References:

- Glover, Stephen, *The History and Directory of the Town and County of the Town of Nottingham*, Howitz, Nottingham, 1844, p.49ff.
- <http://www.stmarysnottingham.org/architecture.html>
- Pigot and Co.'s National Commercial Directory for 1828-9
- Various issues of *Tulle* – see footnotes
- Wikipedia – Nottingham Cathedral
- Wikipedia – St Mary's Church, Nottingham

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<sup>13</sup> *Tulle*, August 1996, p32

<sup>14</sup> *Tulle*, February 1998, p35

<sup>15</sup> *Tulle*, May 1998, p25

<sup>16</sup> *Tulle*, November 1998, p23

<sup>17</sup> *Tulle*, May 2000, p12

<sup>18</sup> *Tulle*, August 2001, p26

<sup>19</sup> *Tulle*, February 2003, p7

<sup>20</sup> *Tulle*, November 2013, p6

<sup>21</sup> Pigot and Co.'s National Commercial Directory for 1828-9, p.637

<sup>22</sup> *Tulle*, July 1984, p13

# To Reign or to Govern? That is the question.

One wonders how England survived the excesses of the Regency and the reign of George IV, or Sailor Bill for that matter when one reads Richard Lander's article on the monarchs.<sup>23</sup> It survived because it had an excellent governance system at the local as well as at the national level.

Nottingham had a strong borough council to manage the affairs of the town. It consisted of twelve burgesses and a mayor from as early as 1449. The council elected seven aldermen from its number, and they acted as Justices of the Peace for the Court of Quarter Sessions. The seven aldermen elected the mayor. The mayor, aldermen and council became very powerful and decided on all matters of government, law, and trade.

The council's activities included creating new burgesses; the grant of licences to trade in the town; organisation of the market; supervision of elected officers; and collection of taxes from the burgesses. Its officers were responsible for maintenance of town assets and public works. There was also a sheriff from 1449 onwards, who collected taxes for the king and maintained the gaols. The sheriff was also responsible for the arrest of debtors.<sup>24</sup>

By the time of the monarch's mentioned in Richard Lander's article in the August 2015 issue of *Tulle*, the English and later the British Parliament had limited the power of the English monarchy. The English Civil War, the Restoration of the monarchy in 1660, and the Glorious Revolution of 1688 had settled the principle of the supremacy of Parliament. British sovereigns were restricted to the role of constitutional monarchs.

The great steps forward in British history in the eighteenth and nineteenth century can be attributed to some outstanding parliamentarians. Names like Wilberforce, Pitt, Cobden, Peel, Grey, and Ashley-Cooper come to mind. The abolition of the slave trade in 1807, protection of children, poor law reforms, factory regulation, the gradual expansion of adult suffrage, the successful transition to the industrial age, the defence of Britain, and the progression to Britain's Golden Age by the 1850s were all down to the British governing body at Westminster.

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23 Richard Lander, 'Those who Reigned over our Lacemakers', *Tulle* 33/3 August 2015, pp. 5-8.

24 Nottingham County Council, 'Mediaeval Nottingham',  
<http://cms.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/home/leisure/archives/exhibitions/mediaevalnottingham/mediaevalnottinghamtown>

The British lacemakers experienced a different system when they crossed the Channel and established themselves from about 1816 in Calais.<sup>25</sup> The French had four levels of government, and still do. Starting at the lowest was the commune; above that was the department; then the prefect; and last of all was the national government and for most of the time a king.<sup>26</sup> The tendency of the French establishment to incline towards an absolutist monarchical form of government meant that the political situation at the top remained unstable during the lacemakers' time in Calais.

The commune level of government was a product of the French Revolution and was established from 1789. There are nearly 37,000 communes in France. It had a deliberative or decision-making body, the municipal council, and an executive, the mayor, who was elected by the municipal council. The councillors were elected for six years, and set municipal policy, adopted the budget, managed the municipal assets, and decided how the municipal administration operated. It also granted aid for job creation and assisting families in need. This was not that different from what the lacemakers had experienced back in Nottingham.

However, there were differences. The Mayor was the commune's chief executive and was also the state's representative on the commune. He was subordinate to the prefect when making decisions of state significance. As the state's representative, the Mayor was the registrar of births, marriages, and deaths. He also officiated at marriages and was an officer of the police judiciaire and so entitled to exercise special powers in connection with the repression of crime under the authority of the public prosecutor.

The departments were also established in 1789. They played a prominent role in health and social service. Department councils were elected for six years by the cantons, which were a type of electoral college. After 1800, there was a prefect who had executive power over the department. He was appointed by the government.

The government in France during the lacemakers' residence there from 1816 up to 1848 is a mixture of monarchies and republics. The European allies had defeated Napoleon in 1814 and placed the heir to the Bourbons Louis XVIII on the throne. He was no absolute monarch like his ancestors, but was appointed as a constitutional monarch somewhat

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25 Henri Hénon, *L'Industrie les Tulle & Dentelles Mécaniques dans le Département du Pas-de-Calais, 1815-1900*, trans. Lyndall Lander, cited in *Tulle* 33/3 August 2015, pp. 26-29.

26 These levels are discussed in *City Mayors Government 09*, [http://www.citymayors.com/france/france\\_gov.html](http://www.citymayors.com/france/france_gov.html)

similar to George III of Britain. Napoleon came back to power in 1815 for 100 days, and after the second defeat of Napoleon, Louis was reinstated as king.<sup>27</sup>

Louis was the third son of the Louis, Dauphin of France and Maria Josepha of Saxony. He was born Louis Stanislas Xavier on 17 November 1755 at the Palace of Versailles. Louis Stanislas was an intelligent boy and excelled in the classics. His education was designed for him to inherit the throne even though he was only fourth in line to the title, behind his father and his two elder brothers

The elder of Louis Stanislas's brothers Louis Joseph died in 1761, and their father the Dauphin died in 1765. The king Louis XV died nine years later and Louis Stanislas's older brother Louis Auguste succeeded his grandfather as King Louis XVI. Louis Stanislas was heir to the throne and given the title Count of Provence.

Louis Count of Provence had married Princess Maria Giuseppina of Savoy in May 1771. Louis was only fifteen at the time, but obese and waddled instead of walking. He did not exercise and consumed enormous amounts of food. This is not a pretty picture, but Louis was repulsed by his wife whom he considered to be ugly, tedious and ignorant of the customs of the court of Versailles.

The accession of his brother to the throne did not give Louis Stanislas any political power. The brothers often quarrelled and Louis Stanislas's attempts to gain admittance to the king's council in 1774 were rebuffed. He called his political limbo "a gap of 12 years in my political life".

The advent of the French Revolution led to the death of Louis XVI, his son, and the abolition of the monarchy. Louis Stanislas succeeded as Louis XVIII as titular king. He lived in exile in Prussia, Britain and Russia until the Allied powers defeated Napoleon.

At the Bourbon restoration, Louis XVIII established a progressive constitution, which created a chamber of deputies and chamber of peers, and guaranteed freedom of religion, some freedom for the press, and taxation to be voted on by the chambers. Eligibility for the deputies was for a person to pay over 1000 francs per year in tax and be over the age of forty.

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27 Most of the material on the French monarchy comes from Wikipedia.



Napoleon escaped from Elba and returned to France gathering supporters on the way. Louis XVIII was unable to resist Napoleon's advance on Paris and fled to Ghent in the Netherlands. Napoleon's rule lasted 100 days before his army was defeated at Waterloo by Wellington and Blücher. Louis XVIII was quick to return to France to the acclamation of the Paris crowds. He deputed much of the decision making to his council and his prime minister, and together they continued to reform the governance of the country. The king's reforming zeal was somewhat hampered by the election of ultra conservative royalists to the Chamber of Deputies. Louis continued to appoint centrist cabinets and continue with the reforms, but he was concerned that when he died his reactionary brother Charles would support an ultra-royalist autocracy, which would not be beneficial for France.

Louis XVIII died in September 1824 and was succeeded by his brother Charles X. Charles had been born in October 1757 at Versailles the youngest son of the Dauphin and Maria Josepha. He suffered exile like his brother Louis XVIII during the Revolution and Napoleon's reign. Unlike his brother, Charles did not understand that times had changed. He longed for the restoration of the *ancien régime* and set about achieving that.

Charles recompensed the nobility for the estates confiscated during the Revolution. This was at immense cost to the public purse. He remained unpopular with the public throughout his reign, and dismissed a series of prime ministers. From 1829 to March 1830 parliament was not recalled. When parliament did reconvene, it was not operating to Charles's liking so he suspended the constitution, suspended parliament, altered the electoral system and censored the press. Riots followed the publishing of the king's edicts and this quickly turned into what became known as the July Revolution. Charles abdicated on 2 August 1830. The deputies replaced him with Louis Philippe I a cousin of Louis XVIII and Charles X.

Louis Philippe I was from the cadet branch of the Bourbon family. He was born in October 1773 at the Palais-Royal in Paris, and was the son of Louis Philippe Joseph Duke of Chartres and Louise Marie Adélaïde de Bourbon. Louis Philippe's father became Duke of Orléans in 1785 and supported the French Revolution. Unfortunately, the Duke was a victim of the Reign of Terror and was executed. Louis Philippe who had served in the Republican Army fled into exile. He remained exiled from France from 1793 to 1815.

Louis Philippe supported liberal reform during the reigns of his two cousins. On his accession, he ruled in an unpretentious fashion, avoiding the pomp and lavish spending of his predecessors. Despite this outward appearance of simplicity, his support came from

the wealthy bourgeoisie. At first, he was much loved and called the "Citizen King" and the "bourgeois monarch", but his popularity suffered as his government was perceived to be increasingly conservative and monarchical. Under his management, the conditions of the working classes deteriorated, and the income gap widened considerably.

From the 1840s, France, Britain, and the United States entered a frenzied period of expansion. Thousands of miles of railway track were laid and the various stock markets entered a period of relentless growth fuelled by the popularity of railway stocks. Much of the investment was speculative and the inflated value of the stocks inevitably led to an economic crash which occurred in 1846 in Britain and 1847 in France.<sup>28</sup>

The French economy was less resilient than Britain's or that of the United States, and its industrialisation was still in its early stages. The economy relied on its rural outputs and even here there had been little modernisation. Harvests were also failing in the 1840s, as they had done as precursors to the revolutions of 1789 and 1830. The income gap in France exacerbated its economic problems, many unsound businesses collapsed, and unemployment rose. These circumstances led to the February Revolution of 1848, which is so familiar to all of our lacemaker historians. Louis Philippe abdicated on 24 February 1848.

The Second Republic was proclaimed by the Provisional Government, but there were disputes between the various factions as to how it would operate. Two great reforms were instituted: slavery was abolished and universal adult suffrage was proclaimed. In addition the unemployment issue was addressed. The unrest continued between the various parties and this culminated in the June Uprising. The Socialists were eventually defeated and a president, Louis Napoléon Bonaparte, and a prime minister, Jacques-Charles Dupont were elected. The Republic lasted until 1851 when Louis Napoléon instigated a coup. Louis Napoléon III became emperor.

There is no need to go any further in looking at French governance. The lacemakers in the main returned to a Westminster style of governance that had made a less volatile progress towards a government for the people. We can complain about the political shenanigans at local, state, and federal levels of government, but change has occurred without armed insurrection and consequent loss of life.

Bob Wilson

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28 Jesus Huerta de Soto, Money, Bank Credit and Economic Cycles, cited in Mises Institute, <https://mises.org/library/money-bank-credit-and-economic-cycles>

## Nottingham's weird and wonderful street names

*The following article was published in the Nottingham Post on 26 February 2014. Permission to republish this article in Tulle was kindly granted by the Editor of Nottingham Post (<http://www.nottinghampost.com/>), Mr. Mike Sassi.*

A Nottingham historian once wrote: "Street names belong to times when towns grew too slowly to need the services of borough engineers to plan new streets. Streets grew from lanes, lanes from footpaths and footpaths commenced as tracks, named by the people themselves." That, he suggested, was the origin of streets carrying names like Cliff, Brook and Ford, indicating certain landmarks along the route.

It was not until comparatively recent times that the naming of streets became the prerogative of the local authorities ... and they didn't always get it right. Nottingham, for instance, once had two Glasshouse Streets.

In the late 1700s, there was a glassworks near the modern Fisher Gate, owned by an Italian count, which would almost certainly have been the foundation for a Glasshouse Street in that part of Nottingham. Fisher Gate was where the men who fished the Trent and Leen made their homes; Pilcher Gate was the home of the pilchers, or furriers; and Fletcher Gate was so named through its association with butchers, or fleshers, although there are other theories associating it with arrow makers. Barker Gate was home to the tanners, so called because of their use of a by-product of oak bark called tannin, which was used in the tanning process.

Chapel Bar evolved from Bar Gate, another town gate, where a small chapel was built for passing travellers; Bridlesmith Gate from the makers of equine things like saddles and harnesses; Byard Lane probably takes its name from the word "byre", meaning huts where animals were kept ready for slaughter, and its proximity to Fletcher Gate seems to support that explanation. However, it is also French for collar, i.e. horse collar, and its proximity to Bridlesmith Gate adds weight to an alternative origin.

Streets surrounding the Old Market Square have, for the most part, names which have fairly obvious origins. Take Beastmarket Hill. This was where the cattle market was located. In early times, it had carried the name Friar Row as it formed one boundary of the friary occupied by the Carmelites, or White Friars as they were also known. It leads into Wheeler Gate which takes its name from the trade of wheel-making, although it had also changed its name from medieval times when it was known as Baxter Gate, presumably in honour of some prominent citizen.

Until the development of the Broadmarsh Centre, it was one of the most important thoroughfares in the city, carrying traffic to the southern exits from the Old Market Square. Sadly, many celebrated old buildings like the Oriental Cafe and the Moot Hall, which stood at the corner of Friar Gate, have been lost.

Angel Row was named after an inn now long demolished called the Angel and, 250 years ago, was considered one of the most fashionable addresses in Nottingham, the best surviving example being Bromley House, once owned by Sir George Smith of the famous banking family, and now home to the Bromley Library. The most prominent building on Angel Row however, is the Bell Inn, selected by TV's Time Team as the oldest in Nottingham.

Spaniel Row, which runs into Houndsgate, gives rise to a reasonable assumption that the Nottingham Castle kennels were located there. According to 17<sup>th</sup> century historian George Thoroton, the leading Quaker George Smith stayed in Spaniel Row around 1649, having been transferred from "a nasty, stinking" prison cell to the Sheriff's House, following his disruption of a service in St Mary's Church. Spaniel Row became a noted centre for Quakers thereafter.

Houndsgate is the location of the ancient Salutation Inn which competes with the Trip To Jerusalem and the Bell Inn, for the title of Nottingham's oldest. An important hostelry for centuries, it was the scene of a tragedy in 1820 when, in an attempt to rid the house of rats, a quantity of arsenic was brought in... but somehow it got mixed with the domestic supply of oatmeal, poisoning the whole household. It killed the landlord John Green.

Lister Gate is one of Nottingham's oldest thoroughfares, its origins stretching back more than 700 years and, apparently, gets its name from the dyers who congregated there because of its proximity to the River Leen, a lister being a dyer of textiles. Bridlesmith Gate reflects the importance of Nottingham as a royal garrison town where smiths would be kept busy making armour and weapons for the troops based in and around the castle. According to Thoroton, it became such an important thoroughfare the name was changed to Bond Street, after the major London road, but for some reason it reverted to Bridlesmith Gate soon after.

Market Street was once a yard, leading from Parliament Street to Long Row, and its origin is obvious. However, it did briefly carry the name Theatre Street but, for some reason, the town fathers didn't approve. Long Row clearly refers to the many shops and businesses which were established there, making it the commercial heart of the city. It is of particular interest to Bygones as it was the original address of the *Evening*

*Post*, launched by Thomas Forman in 1878. Not far from Long Row is Maypole Yard, which commemorates the old Maypole Inn, once an important coaching inn.

In 1825 the tragedy of the White Lady of Newstead took place. Sophia Pyatt was a mysterious, elderly woman with a fixation for the poet Byron, spending much of her time wandering alone among the gardens and ruins of Newstead Abbey. She was very deaf and, on 21 September 1825, while on a visit to Nottingham, she was knocked down and killed by a carrier's cart in Maypole Yard. She was buried in Hucknall Church as close as possible to the grave which held Lord Byron's remains.

Cheapside was originally known as Rotten Row and at one time was a thriving area of trade, hence the name "cheap", which is an antiquated term for barter. Smithy Row was the site of many blacksmiths' forges. Evidence of this was uncovered in 1853 when workmen excavating for a new sewage system struck concrete, made up of iron particles and sand, believed to be the sweepings from the smithies. The Poultry refers to another attraction of the Market Street although, according to the Thoroton Society archives, it was originally known as the Women's Market. We can only surmise as to how it got that particular name.

Bellar Gate splits opinion. It was certainly in use as far back as 1350 when it was known as Belwardgate; and by 1650 that had changed into Bellgeter Gate, before emerging as Bellar Gate. But how did it get the name? Some historians believe it refers to the industry of bell-founding which thrived in Nottingham in the Middle Ages. But there is a school that argues that Bellar is a corruption of Watchbell, indicating a point on or near the town gate where a watch could be mounted. There is a similar place in the town of Rye in Sussex called Watchbell Street.



**Figure 2: Bellar Gate 1919. An ancient "back-to-back". Women unpicking clothing. From PictureThePast collection.**

# The Changing Face of East Midlands Lace Manufacturing



The lace industry began in Long Eaton, Derbyshire, in the 1830s. The two photos above are both of the same small lace factory which dates from c.1850. The former photo was taken in about 1962, the latter in very recent times. This former lace workshop can be found on New Tythe Street in Long Eaton. It would have housed hand-operated machines and it represents the type of premises in which the lace industry operated in Long Eaton before the building of large tenement factories, which commenced in the 1870s. The lace industry at Long Eaton reached its peak between 1900 and 1910, when many new factories were built. Decline began with the war however, followed by the collapse of the cotton market in 1920, changes in fashion and the loss of overseas lace markets. Lace manufacture became greatly reduced and the factory buildings were put to other uses, in particular upholstery manufacture. This continues to be important today, along with a range of other industries.

The 1841 Census shows that the population of Long Eaton was 859, this population living in 174 inhabited houses.

The former photograph is courtesy of Dr David M. Smith and is part of the University of Nottingham's Manuscripts and Special Collections. The building is no longer used but bears a sign, *The Old Mill*.

## The Rogers, Castle and Groves Connection.

The Calais Lacemakers have contributed significantly to settlement and prosperity in Australia through their individual achievements and their extended families' energies and expertise as well.

Florence Groves (Castle) mother of the writer, often talked about her maternal grandfather Edmund Rogers who arrived in Sydney with his father William, step mother Harriet (Hazeldine) and siblings William, George and Eliza on the **Walmer Castle** on 30 December 1848. William's first wife Mary (Haslam) had died in Calais shortly after the death of her fifth child Ann in 1846, requiring William to look for a mother for his remaining four children and conform to the marriage regulations of the Emigration Commissioners (*Tulle* November 2013 p13). Consequently they arrived somewhat later than the main body of Lacemakers in *Agincourt*, *Harpley* and *Fairlie*. The revolution of 1848 in France and the chaos in commerce that it caused had led to the English workers in Calais losing their employment and requesting British Government help to migrate to Australia (*Tulle* May 2013 p28).

Many of the Lacemakers landed in Sydney were sent on to the Bathurst district. Being free settlers it was considered not desirable that they remained in Sydney to be corrupted by the prevalent lax morals of the town at that time. It was intended they would find work as shepherds and servants and many did, although the wages were low and most could not envisage achieving a prosperous living in the short or even the medium term. John Freestone (arrived *Harpley* 1848) wrote home to his family in Nottingham December 1848. "Wages are coming down" he said "and masters are making their flocks a third larger. It is a rather curious fact that the French Revolution, which was the principal cause of our coming, should be the ruin of several of the sheep farmers here .... for the price of wool has come down very low." (*Tulle* May 2014 p20).

Gold had been discovered near Wellington a few years before the Lacemakers arrival, although the news was suppressed to prevent a goldrush. But in May 1851 more gold was discovered nearer Bathurst at the Turon River then, in June, Dr Kerr's aboriginal shepherds unearthed a nugget on his property on high country between

the Macquarie River and Meroo Creek near Bathurst that weighed in at 106 pounds. (*Tulle* February 2014 p 20). Thousands converged on the most popular sites.

William was still in Sydney that he describes as “completely at a standstill” but he also knew conditions in Bathurst, probably through Lacemaker contacts. *Tulle* (November 2003) published a letter written by William to his father-in-law in Nottingham (printed in the *Nottingham Review* 28 August 1851). He said; “People have been flocking in from all quarters to go to the goldfield. The weather is rather against them at present, it being winter now and the abundance of rain that has fallen has almost washed the diggers and their huts away”. He knew of Dr. Kerr’s rich find and acknowledges a great quantity of gold had been won and adds; “I have not had a touch at the mines yet, but think I shall do so a few days from now”.

The irony of the situation would not be lost to Lacemaker descendants who know their forbears were in desperate financial straits on arrival in Australia. If any of them had been so fortunate from hard work in Calais to have had money in French banks, it was no longer available to them as, by order of the republican government, payments had been stopped (*Tulle* November 2013 p 10). On arrival in the colony their trades were also closed to them as they had not been allowed to bring their lace machines, and most had been sent to the interior of the country where they could find only the most menial work, the meanest housing and a bare subsistence living.

However, with the discovery of the new rich goldfield stretching over 150 miles and commencing right at their front door, the Bathurst Lacemakers were in a privileged position and even William Rogers in Sydney knew potential wealth was only 180 miles away albeit over rough and mountainous country. It is almost certain that many local people including the Lacemaker new arrivals would have taken advantage of this opportunity. We have little detail of William Rogers’ fortunes except that he died only six years later in Dungog aged 42 but it must be assumed that he got to the goldfields and managed to wrest something from them with which to establish his family because within a short time their situation had changed remarkably for the better.

We know that William’s sons William, George and Edmund 21, 19 and 14 at the time of his death were, shortly after, established in business in Sydney, William as a



publican (and Judy Gifford adds the enigmatic designation "Gentleman") while Edmund was a wheelwright and then hotel keeper and George a draper.

Researchers (*Tulle* May 2014 p18) express disappointment that although genealogical information is available, the aspirations and achievements of day to day life are largely unknown. It is here that oral traditions can help, particularly memories of family members.

William's first born William married Elizabeth Lawson in 1861 and Judy Gifford is William and Elizabeth's great granddaughter. Judy has collected significant documentation on William including a note showing he made a one hundred pound loan to both brothers George and Edmund in 1868.

How second son George became a draper is not known but he married Kezia Saunders in 1870. They had two girls Ada and Alice and two boys Robert and George in six years of marriage. George died in 1876 followed by Kezia only seven years later leaving their young children orphaned.

Third son Edmund was apprenticed to the wheelwrights Walker and Webber in Sydney when he turned 11 and he followed this trade until he was about 32. He married Eliza Saunders, Kezia's sister, in 1865 aged 24. Florence Groves (Castle) Edmund's granddaughter, informed by her mother Eliza Florence (Rogers), knew that Edmund and Eliza then cared for George and Kezia's children.

Edmund and Eliza had seven children of their own. George in 1868, Henry (1870), Arthur (1872), Eliza Florence (1874), Charles (1876), Ada (1879) and Hannah (1866) blessed their marriage one by one. With the adoption of Kezia's children they had eleven in all. It was fortunate that the family by then had their own hotel to live in, Edmund being the genial host of the White Horse Hotel in King Street Newtown from about 1871 until his death in 1898. (The building is now owned by the Anglican Church and accommodates Moore College students).

Florence contributed many legends gleaned from gatherings of her wider family. A favourite story was of her grandfather's trip to the goldfields. Edmund bought himself a six shot revolver (still in the writer's possession) and went off to the diggings, initially at Turon Creek near Bathurst, on his own account. A wheelwright would have been a very welcome tradesman in rough country where carts and drays

were being given hard service. Exactly when Edmund went, and for how long, is not known, but about the time of his marriage is most likely, and while he may have been a bit late to strike it rich he came back with at least one nugget that he had made into a brooch for his wife. This piece of jewellery in the form of an acorn and leaves remains within the family as well. The continuing existence of the pistol and brooch support the veracity of the story and his subsequent establishment as a publican in Newtown would suggest his was a profitable venture, augmenting any inheritance from his father, the one hundred pound loan from William and income from work as a wheelwright. He became lessee of the Somerset Hotel near Newtown Station and when the station was moved to the bridge purchased the White Horse Hotel in King Street almost opposite Forbes Street, demolished the old building and erected a new three story, 24-room establishment with bar, private meeting and dining rooms and kitchen with coach house at rear. The builder of his new business premises C.W.Coulton married Alice Rogers one of brother George's children in his care (and one of their descendants Dixie Coulton has served as Sydney's Deputy Lord Mayor).

It is very likely Edmund and Eliza's fourth child and oldest girl, Eliza Florence (Rogers), would have got to know James Castle the factory owner from over the road when he visited the White Horse for a pub lunch or three. James was well known for patronising local food businesses. Eliza's presence would not have been a discouragement.

James Edwin Castle (1868 – 1950) descended from a long line of James Castles and from the sound of London's Bow Bells, the eldest of nine children. After an exploratory visit to Sydney two years earlier he encouraged his father James John Castle to migrate to Australia in 1888, with the whole family, to commence an art metal, brass foundry business believing that in Sydney at that time they would be the first in the field. They began by displaying sample wares brought with them from England at rented property in George Street Sydney before moving to a weatherboard factory in King Street Newtown. Orders gradually came in and their work can still be seen around Sydney from memorial plaques on city buildings and bridges, ecclesiastical brass work in churches and the brass lions and unique one story lift in the InterContinental Hotel in Macquarie Street. The factory was rebuilt in brick and the facade at King Street Newtown with **J Castle and Sons** prominent still stands.

James Edwin married Eliza Florence (Rogers) 17 December 1902. She features as a very regal Queen Victoria like figure in many family photos from then on. Their two children were Florence Elsie May (26.6.1904 – 15.7.1995) born at Newtown and James Edmund (17.5.1908 – 10.1.1950) who arrived after the move to a new house in Wardell Road, Dulwich Hill. Florence was educated at Woodcourt College and Sydney Tech for cooking and sewing before helping her father with clerical work at his factory. She enjoyed a large circle of friends and activities at Dulwich Hill Baptist Church.

In 1906 Cyril Groves' (27.9.1903 – 5.7.1983) father, Jack, brought his two boys from Bradford in England to Bankstown in Sydney. Older brother Sapper Ralph Groves was killed in action in France in 1916. Cyril joined the Australian Navy at 14 and on completing ten years was introduced by a cousin to Florence at the Dulwich Hill Church. They married on 6 December 1930 to integrate yet another family into the Lacemaker connection. Eliza Florence died of breast cancer in 1940 and James Edwin of a stroke in 1950. Cyril, who had survived the influenza pandemic of 1919, succumbed in 1983 to pneumonia and Florence died in 1995 of heart failure. Seven Groves siblings have now managed to produce more than 100 children, grandchildren and great grandchildren in three more generations.

Inclusion is always stronger than exclusion. The story of the Nottingham Lacemakers is just one example of great strength being achieved as families unite and grow our nation around us.

David Groves OAM

On behalf of the members of ASLC, I have great pleasure in welcoming Colin Routley (Crowder family, *Harpley*) and Maxine Menyweather (Saywell family, *Agincourt*) to membership of our Society.

## Lace, Ancient and Modern<sup>29</sup>

The first machine for making net was invented by an Englishman named Hammond, a stocking-frame knitter who chanced one day to examine some lace in the possession of his wife, and conceived the idea of applying his machine to produce a similar fabric. He was successful, and the result was a lace made of one thread, with a ground like the Brussels. This was in 1768.

The net produced, however, was quite frail and if a thread broke it would all ravel out like knitting. Various inventors, therefore, went immediately to work to improve upon it. Robert Frost made a figured net in 1769 and in 1777 he obtained a patent for square net. Afterward he made a flowered and a spider net. In 1778 a Nottingham stocking maker named Flint invented what was called a point net machine, which produced a regular six-sided mesh. The man afterward died in the work-house, before he reaped the benefit of his invention.

This machine surpasses every other invention of the human brain, in the ingenuity of its machinery. A six-sided mesh is produced by the crossing and twisting of three separate sets of threads. One set works downwards in serpentine lines, a second from right to left, and a third from left to right, each in slanting directions.

There are six different systems of bobbinet machines – Heathcoat's patent, Brown's traverse warp, Morley's straight bolt, Morley's circular bolt, Clarke's pusher principle (single tier), and Leaver's machine (single tier).

Bobbinet is made of two cotton threads twisted into one, the sizes running from 180 to 250, and the beauty of the fabric depends greatly upon the quality and evenness of the thread, as well as the regularity of the mesh. The thread is singed to free it from fibres, and is wound upon a bobbin, which must not be larger around than the mesh. There are twenty to thirty warp threads to an inch. The bobbins fit in a carriage which fastens with a spring, thus preventing them from falling out, and also from giving off the thread unless a certain amount of friction is brought to bear upon them. The bobbins contain the weft threads. The weft threads in common weaving pass over and under the warp alternately and at right angles with them. In the production

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<sup>29</sup> The following article is Chapter XXXV, pp. 251-256 of BEEBE, C. D. Lace, Ancient and Modern: Containing a history of its origin and manufacture, with instructions concerning the manner of making it. New York, Sharp's Publishing Company, 1880.

of bobbinet there is a little twist at the time of crossing which winds the threads about each other.

In common weaving the warp threads lie horizontally, but in bobbinet vertically, ascending from a beam in the lower part of the machine to the upper part. The bobbins go backward and forward among the warp threads, like so many pendulums, and are guided through the spaces in the warp threads by what is called a comb. The spaces between the teeth are called gates. The bobbins go some to the right and some to the left, in a sort of counter march, during which they are contorted and twisted around the warp to form the meshes. To one who is not familiar with this weaving, the whole thing looks like a piece of legerdmain.

The width of bobbinet varies from that of half an inch, which is called footing, to three and one half yards. A rack of the lace is a certain length of work counted perpendicularly, containing two hundred and forty two meshes or holes. The best quality has the meshes lengthened a little in the direction of the selvages. The rack was invented to settle disputes which often arose between the workmen and their employers, on account of the elasticity of the material, which prevented exact measurement.

The best net has small, regular meshes, the hexagons being perfectly regular.

Heathcoat carried on his manufactures very successfully until 1811, when an association of men, called the Luddites, entered his manufactory and destroyed twenty seven (sic) of his machines. He then settled in Tiverton, in Devonshire. When his patent expired, all Nottingham went to work to make bobbinet.

In 1837, a Mr Ferguson of Nottingham, conceived the plan of applying the Jacquard cards to the bobbinet machine. The Jacquard system had been used at Lyons (sic) in 1824 with the Mechlin frame, which suggested the idea to Mr Ferguson. In 1838 he removed to France and settled at Cambrai, where, in connection with Monsieur Jourdan, he set up a large manufactory. Here he brought out a black silk-figured net, in imitation of Chantilly lace and called it Cambrai lace. The pattern was woven and then outlined by hand with a thread of silk.

Since then, every kind of pillow lace has been imitated by the loom, and point also, though, so far, it has not been so perfect as the pillow imitations. France manufactures these laces in immense quantities, the finest of any produced, in silk, linen, cotton and wool. The principal manufactories are at Calais, though the industry

is carried on in many cities and towns. The first machine brought from England to France was in 1793, and in 1802 there were more in France than in England.

The best market for the early English machine laces was in Paris, so many manufacturers removed thither, eager to make the greatest profit upon their products. Aside from this, labour was somewhat cheaper. In 1815 a workman of Heathcoat's, named Cutts managed to import a bobbinet machine to Valenciennes, and thence to Douay, where in partnership with M. Thomassin, he began the manufacture of lace, and produced in 1816 the first bobbinet dress made in France. It was then embroidered and presented to the Duchesse d'Angoulême, as a sort of advertisement. In 1816 James Clark also brought, by the aid of sailors, a bobbinet machine to Calais, which he smuggled in in pieces, and afterwards set it up.

The first net machine was put up in Brussels in 1801, a bobbinet followed in 1817, another was put up in Ghent in 1828, and others followed. In 1934 a Mr. Washer set up several bobbinet machines in Brussels, paying particular attention to producing a fine mesh. He soon excelled both English and French manufacturers, and the net was seized upon and used as a foundation for point and pillow lace. It is called Brussels net, or Washer's machine net, and is made from very fine cotton thread.

Many varieties of net have been produced. The Mechlin was too elastic, and fell into disuse. Various styles and patterns have since been in fashion, many of them being patented by those who invented the design. One pattern is called the Grecian, another the spot or point d'esprit, and others bullet-hole, tatting and many others.

Machine lace has been made to some extent in the United States, more especially the curtain lace known as Nottingham. Though the industry is comparatively new to this country, it bids fair to become of considerable importance at no distant day.

While machine nets and laces have almost entirely superseded the cheaper productions of the pillow, they have only added to the value of the rarer kinds of both pillow and point.



It might help those who get confused  
On which is warp and which is weft.  
The warP goes uP and down the cloth.  
The weft goes right and left. (Michael Sharman, Ilkley, UK)

**Australian Society of the Lacemakers of Calais Inc.**  
***Office Bearers 2015-2016***

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# French Monarchs, Emperors, Presidents and Heads of State

- First Republic (1792–1804)
  - Napoleon Bonaparte, First Consul
- House of Bonaparte, First Empire (1804–1814)
  - Napoleon I, the Great (18 May 1804 – 11 April 1814)
- Capetian Dynasty (1814–1815)
  - House of Bourbon, Bourbon Restoration (1814–1815)
    - Louis XVIII, the Desired (11 April 1814–20 March 1815)
  - House of Bonaparte, First Empire (Hundred Days, 1815)
    - Napoleon I (20 March 1815 – 22 June 1815)
    - Napoleon II (22 June 1815 – 7 July 1815)
- Capetian Dynasty (1815–1848)
  - House of Bourbon (1815–1830)
    - Louis XVIII, the Desired (7 July 1815 – 16 September 1824)
    - Charles X (16 September 1824 – 2 August 1830)
  - House of Orléans, July Monarchy (1830–1848)
    - Louis-Philippe, the Citizen King (9 August 1830 – 24 February 1848)
- Second Republic (1848–1852)
  - Jacques-Charles Dupont de l'Eure, Head of State (24 February 1848 – 9 May 1849)
  - François Arago, 25<sup>th</sup> PM of France, (9 May 1848 – 24 June 1848)
  - Louis-Eugène Cavaignac, (28 June 1848 – 20 December 1848)
- House of Bonaparte, Second Empire (1852–1870)
  - Louis-Napoleon Bonaparte (2 December 1852 -4 September 1870)
- More Recently
  - Louis Jules Trochu, 32<sup>nd</sup> Prime Minister (4 Sept 1870 – 22 Jan 1871); Adolph Thiers, 2<sup>nd</sup> President of the French Republic (31 Aug 1871 – 24 May 1873); Patrice de MacMahon, 3<sup>rd</sup> President of France (24 May 1873 – 30 January 1879); Jules Grévy, 4<sup>th</sup> President, (30 January 1879 – 2 December 1887); Marie François Sadi Carnot, 5<sup>th</sup> President (3 Dec 1887 – 25 June 1894); Jean Casimir-Perier, 6<sup>th</sup> President (27 June 1894 – 16 Jan 1895); Félix Faure, 7<sup>th</sup> President (17 Jan 1895 – 16 Feb 1899); Émile Loubet, 8<sup>th</sup> President (18 Feb 1899 – 18 Feb 1906); Armand Fallières, 9<sup>th</sup> President (18 Feb 1906 – 18 Feb 1913); Raymond Poincaré, 10<sup>th</sup> President (18 Feb 1913 – 18 Feb 1920); Paul Deschanel, 11<sup>th</sup> President (18 Feb 1920 – 21 Sept 1920)
  - Alexandre Millerand, 12<sup>th</sup> President (23 Sept 1920 – 11 June 1924)
  - Gaston Doumergue, 13<sup>th</sup> President (13 June 1924 – 13 June 1931)
  - Paul Doumer, 14<sup>th</sup> President (13 June 1931 – 7 May 1932)
  - Albert Lebrun, 15<sup>th</sup> President (10 May 1932 – 11 July 1940)
  - Office of President of the French Republic did not exist from 1940 until 1947
  - Philippe Pétain, Chief of the French State (11 July 1940 – 20 Aug 1944)
  - Chairmen of the Provisional Government: Brigadier General Charles de Gaulle (3 June 1944 – 26 Jan 1946); Félix Gouin (26 Jan 1946 – 24 June 1946); Georges Bidault (24 June 1946 – 28 Nov 1946); Vincent Auriol (interim, 28 Nov 1946 – 16 Dec 1946); Léon Blum (16 Dec 1946 – 16 Jan 1947)
- Fourth French Republic
  - Vincent Auriol, 1<sup>st</sup> President of the Fourth Republic. 16 Jan 1947 – 16 Jan 1954
  - René Coty, 2<sup>nd</sup> President of the Fourth Republic. 16 Jan 1954 – 8 Jan 1959
- Fifth French Republic
  - Charles de Gaulle (8 Jan 1959 – 28 Apr 1969); Alain Poher (interim: 28 Apr 1969 – 20 June 1969); Georges Pompidou (20 June 1969 – 2 Apr 1974) ; Alain Poher (interim: 2 Apr 1974 – 27 May 1974) ; Valéry Giscard d'Estaing (27 May 1974 – 21 May 1981); François Mitterrand (21 May 1981 – 17 May 1995); Jacques Chirac (17 May 1995 – 16 May 2007); Nicolas Sarkozy (16 May 2007 – 15 May 2012); François Hollande (15 May 2007 - )