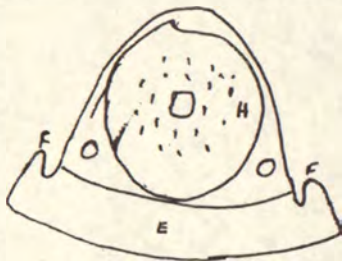


THE

A.S.L.C.



The Australian Society of the Lacemakers of Calais meets downstairs in the Meeting Room of the N.S.W. State Archives, 2 Globe Street, Sydney. The Executive meets from 12.00 to 1.00pm (all interested members welcome) and the main meeting commences at 1.00pm. Tea and coffee from 3.00pm.

THE MEETING DATES for 1985/86 are:

Saturday, 2nd November, 1985

Saturday, 8th February, 1986

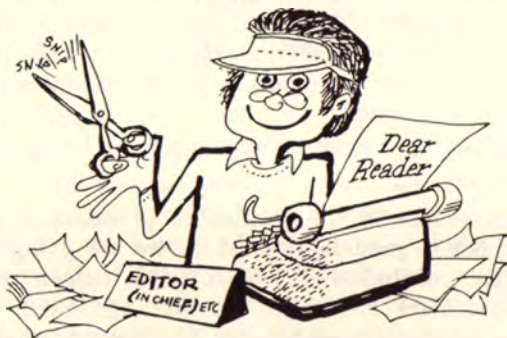
Saturday, 3rd May, 1986

Saturday, 2nd August, 1986

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, 1st November, 1986

Cover: Framework Knitters Arms set on Nottingham  
Lace from the Bransen  
Family.  
ISSN NO 0815-3442



My first opening words of this editorial are ones of apology to those members who were present at the last meeting. Apart from the absence of large numbers of the society from the meeting due to sickness, travel commitments and the death of family members, I blew in to the meeting like an ill-mannered whirlwind, said my bit and blew out again in less than five minutes. I am sorry and hope it will not happen again.

I would like to offer Gillian Kelly and Mariane Waterford and their families, our sympathy and support on the occasion of their mothers' sudden death in May. My aunt had been hospitalized suffering the effect of brain damage for almost ten years. Although her death was a gentle release for her from the unwelcome prison of a body that could not respond to what the mind demanded, her death was sudden and came as a shock to us all.

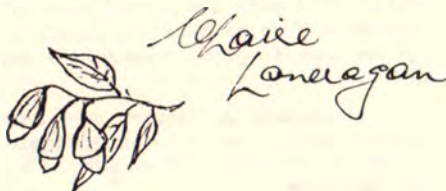
This edition of Tulle includes an important article that is probably better seen in the light of a document to be considered seriously in view of the continued existence of our society. As you will all by now be aware, this society often suffers from the crippling ravages of 'lack of time', 'other commitments', 'forgetfulness' and 'lack of members'; and yet it bravely soldiers on, encouraged by those faithful members who never miss a meeting. It is to those members we owe the survival of the society.

On his acceptance of the position of president, Bruce Goodwin took a good look at where we are going and came to the conclusion that we need to tighten up many of our procedures and make the meetings more attractive. These changes cannot just happen; they depend largely on the active support of you who make up the society. I feel a certain *déjà vu* while writing this editorial as it echoes my continual plea for members to feel welcome to play an active part in the running of the society. I am loath to accept the suggestion that members are happy to sit back and let others do all the work. If that was the case, why do you all work so hard at your family histories? Why did you all work so hard to establish this society in the first place?

Please take this opportunity to read Bruce's outline critically, with a view to what you want this society to achieve. Those who work well with long-term outlines are as welcome as those who would rather look only as far as the end of the year. We all need some idea of where we are going. I urge you to speak up at our August meeting, honestly and constructively even critically, but for goodness sake come and speak up. Bruce has taken the time and shown the interest to give us his thoughts, now it's our turn.

We have heard from Elizabeth. Linsay is probably the best one to give us that news, but rest assured we will meet her and catch up with all her English and French news.

Marjorie has a plea which springs from the bottom of the heart to all you hoarders of interesting tit-bits. She is in great need of three or four (or even six or seven line) fillers for the bottom of pages. I don't know if you all realize it, but if Marjorie (alias MFB) was not the dedicated member/typist/researcher/communicator that she is, you would not get the great Tulle we all so enjoy. It is entirely due to her work that it comes out at all sometimes.



#### FRECKLES

*The following lotion is often efficacious in removing freckles from the skin:-*

*Grate fresh horseradish root and put it in sour milk; set it in a warm place for an hour, then put it away until next day. Wash the face with this two or three times a day, also once at night-time. Be careful not to get it into the eyes. It should not be used if any irritation of the skin arises.*

*---from a book c. 1912.*

## President's Report

After giving some thought to the future of our Society, it would appear that we need to establish some guidelines as to our aims and also our obligations to our members.

Our aims are broadly to provide a forum for members to develop a greater understanding and knowledge of their ancestors activities; to support and help each other in research and the compilation of a family history; to publish a quarterly Journal called "Tulle"; to provide a meeting spot and social contact for people with a common interest in a special group of immigrants. Of course, this is a very brief outline of our role and I know you can all think of many other worthwhile aims; however our main objective should be to involve our members in the process and joy of discovery and to this end we must make the formal part of our meetings as streamlined as as brief as possible and devote the rest of the time to group research or arranged talks or activities.

I believe we require some changes to our present format, and I list some suggestions which may stimulate a greater interest and assist us to improve and expand our research.

I would like to see a ship leader elected. The leader would be responsible for encouraging his ship's group to pool all general information they may have gathered relating to that ship, and to make this information freely available to all those interested. When sufficient progress has been made we may be able to print the assembled material so that new members could obtain a copy of the "HARPLEY", "FAIRLIE", or "AGINCOURT" journal.

The various ship leaders could also hold informal discussions with their group after the meetings, and keeping all members of their group informed about group research, and also make welcome new members belonging to

their ship group.

When we complete our register of Society research material now held by various members the ship groups can explore this material to gain a more complete picture of each ship. The information so gained could be published in "Tulle" and eventually could be combined and printed in a separate journal with provision for additional information to be added as it comes to hand.

In most cases our ancestors were linked by the common bond of lacemaking - Nottingham - Calais - and the very brave decision to travel half-way around the world in a small sailing ship. The bonds of our ancestors are our binding force - let us keep this heritage alive.

It must be realised that many of the present problems we have are created by the lapse of time between our meetings. Miss out on one meeting, and the delay becomes six-months.



## GUIDELINES FOR CONDUCTING THE BUSINESS OF

### THE AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF THE LACEMAKERS OF

#### CALAIS

1. *Correctly maintained Roll of Members. The Roll to be kept by the Secretary, and should show name and address of member, name of Lacemaker Family, boat of arrival and a record of annual fees. Where fees are three months overdue a reminder notice should be sent to the member by the Secretary.*

*For the Secretary to carry out the above function successfully, any member receiving an application for membership must inform the Secretary A.S.A.P.*

2. *It is important that the Secretary should receive correspondence, where a member receives a direct approach for information about the Society and wishes to reply personally, it would still be desirable to give the Secretary copies of both the request and the reply.*

*If the member does not wish to enter into correspondence, then any requests should be forwarded to the Secretary so that she can deal with the matter.*

3. *When applications for membership are received by the Secretary, she will acknowledge the application and inform the Treasurer, and the editor of 'Tulle'.*

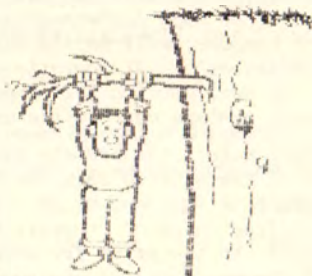
*As we appear to have some surplus 'Tulle', it would be appropriate for new members to receive all four 'Tulle' for the year they join the Society.*

4. *All monies received on behalf of the Society to be handed to the Treasurer or, in his absence, to the Secretary or President. Likewise members requiring re-imburement should present their claim to the Treasurer.*



5. At each A.G.M. we allot to the editor of 'Tulle' a sum of money sufficient to print that journal for 12 months; and, before each A.G.M. the Editor will present the Treasurer with a statement relating to the 'Tulle' account.
6. At each A.G.M. we allot to the Secretary an amount of money sufficient to supply her with Petty Cash for the coming year. The Secretary to give a Statement of Petty Cash to the Secretary.
7. All Society assets and research material to be listed in a register which describes type of material, date and signature of member who has material on loan, and as far as possible, the material to be circulated from meeting to meeting.
8. That the executives of the Society as far as possible complete all routine business before the commencement of our full meeting. This will allow more time for members to exchange information and to establish a more social and communicative atmosphere.

The above are just basic guidelines which may help us to make our Meeting more efficient and pleasurable.



Family roots - got you  
All up in the air



## Secretary's Report

At the last meeting we were fortunate to receive a letter from Philip Simpson offering us a share of his and Elizabeth's booth (at no cost to us) at the Family History Congress, for any publicity items we would like to display. This we gratefully accepted as we had ascertained that the free display space at the centre, which we hoped we might qualify for, was only available to those who had already paid for booths. The cost of these being \$88. and entrance to such, being restricted to the delegates attending the Conference, we had decided that for a small Society and ailing bank account, this was proportionally too big an out lay for such a limited viewing public--as our main objective was to attract new members. We thought a professional poster advertising our Society should be the first priority.

Philip also requested some information sheets which he could hand out to any A.S.L.C. enquiries. Elizabeth and Philip will be selling "Nottingham Lace" souvenirs. We thank them for letting us share their booth.

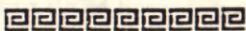
At this point I would like to mention that since last meeting, and after much correspondence to and fro, that Sunday, 16th October, will be the day that we will be meeting with Elizabeth. All details will have to be finalised at the next meeting (6th August), so we hope to see as many members as possible at it.

Re the Lace Panels: the Society decided to purchase 25 each of the sailing ship and St. Mary's. On enquiring, Elizabeth informed me that they had bought all the sailing ships at present in stock, to sell on their stall and the price for these could not be discounted. She would see if she could get the St. Mary's panel for me. I have not heard further about these.

Our Publicity Officer, Lindsay Watts reported she had approached the editor of "Spectrum", Saturday's Sydney Morning Herald, to ascertain whether the history of our lacemakers would be of interest as a feature article. After an enthusiastic acceptance on his part and a promise to assign a reporter to write it, Lindsay has heard nothing more from him, and is having trouble trying to contact him. She is now going to see if he will publish it if our members write it.

Lindsay, in an endeavour to attract new members, asked in the Sunday Herald and Telegraph "Help Wanted" for anyone whose ancestors had arrived in Australia in 1848 on the Fairlie, Agincourt or Harpley to contact her. She received some replies but no new members.

A raffle, donated by Mss Amy Mann and Beth Williams, netted \$18. for Society funds. Thank you.



H E L P

This is the LAST meeting when we will be able to meet at the State Archives. We have been advised that the hire of the Archives Meeting Room in future will be ONE HUNDRED & FIFTY DOLLARS! per Saturday. Yes, that's right -- \$150.00.

We need a meeting room in a central position -- close to good public transport -- where cars can be parked close by and easily. Hopefully the Room will have facilities for our usual 'cuppa'. If you know of such a room please let our President or Secretary know.

## *Macquarie Woods*

Half way between Bathurst and Orange, 664 hectares of land has been set aside for a unique historical memorial. A grove of trees, that will eventually grow up to be a wood, has been planted by of the local community to honour Lachlan Macquarie. The Macquarie Woods includes an Arboreum, the Heritage Grove which shows examples of the trees grown by the early settlers, a Demonstration Pine Plantation, and Farm Tree Plantings, where the visitor can see where many different trees should be grown on the farm.

The area has not been cleared of all natural timber. The plantings have been carefully placed to blend with our native trees and the whole area set aside for the community to enjoy.

Bill Brownlow (Brownlow Family) was one of the representatives of the pioneer families to plant a tree. The forethought shown by the early settlers is appreciated today in the beautiful colours of autumn and the beauty of the more formal shape of the European trees common in the Bathurst-Orange area. Bill has many lovely examples of these trees on his own property outside Bathurst, planted by the Lacemaker pioneers remembering home.



\*



THE VENUE:

*At the time of going to the Printer,*

*The venue had not been finalised.*

*However, full details will be given in  
in the next "Tulle" --- including how  
to find the place --- including, if  
possible, timetable, etc.*

*A plate of food for afternoon tea would be nice.*

# Harpley

## 1848

### THE BURGESS FAMILY.

Following a lead from Kingsley Ireland, Richard Lander recently wrote to a Dr R.J. Burgess (Bob) in Hobart and has subsequently received correspondence from him. The contact with Bob Burgess is exciting and significant in at least two respects:

1. His ancestor was William Burgess, listed as a passenger emigrant aboard the "Harpley", and he was able to give Richard further details regarding the names of William's wife and three of his four children - these being previously unknown to us! The Burgess family consisted of William Burgess, aged 36; his wife, Mary Ann (nee Lee), aged 28; and children, Aaron (aged 9), Albert (6), Adam (4), and a fourth child whose age and sex is still not known by Bob. William had been christened at Snodland, Kent whilst his children were all christened at Halling (pronounced 'Hawling', Kent).
2. To the best of our knowledge, Bob is the first contact we have made with one of the non-lacemaker emigrant families. You will recall that only six non-lacemaking families arrived aboard the 'Harpley' so Bob is a real find. To use his words - "the Burgesses were the odd ones out, having nothing to do with lacemakers but coming instead from labouring stock in Halling, Kent."

William and Mary Ann subsequently had a further four children in South Australia: Rebecca (born in 1852); Elizabeth (born 14/6/1849 at Buckland Park, SA); Martha (born 29/9/1854 at Adelaide; and Robert (born 16/5/1857 at Mount Barker, SA). Aaron, Adam, Albert, Rebecca, Martha and Robert are all mentioned in the will of William Burgess, who died on 13th June, 1860 in the Bugle Ranges in South Australia.

The fourth child has no baptismal record in the "normal" parish records and therefore Bob has concluded that the child must have been born just prior to leaving England (perhaps even on board the "Harpley") and died sometime between 1848 and 1860 (the year of the will). Richard doesn't think the child was born aboard as the Davis child and Lander child (Adelaide) are specifically listed by Adelaide papers of the day as having been born at sea whilst Charlotte Parsons (aged 3 months) is likewise listed as having died at sea.

After arriving at Adelaide, William and his family first lived at Port Gawler (also called Buckland Park). In about 1851 they moved to the Bugle Ranges near Mt. Barker on an 80 acre farm they called "Kent Farm" in memory of the old country. William died at the age of 47 as the result of a liver disease.

Adam Burgess, William's son and Dr. Bob Burgess' grandfather, moved north to near Mt. Remarkable where he and his wife raised a large family. In 1886 he moved to Broken Hill and it was here that Bob Burgess' father was born. The family subsequently returned to Adelaide

Aaron Burgess and his son (also Aaron) farmed the Strathalbyn district, Aaron jnr. dying as recently as 1945.

Information courtesy of Dr. R.J. Burgess



Uncovered any family secrets lately?

FROM THE BURGESS FAMILY NEWSLETTER:

(Vol. 1. No. 1. January, 1988)

Dr Bob Burgess, a non-lacemaker descendant of 'Harpley' emigrants, William and Mary Ann Burgess and their son, Adam - who was four when the 'Harpley' sailed - has carried out valuable and enlightening research into the 'Harpley' in Tasmania. Some of his information was discovered in a file known as the "Miss Wayne File" within the State Library of Tasmania. I am indebted to him for supplying me with a copy of his newsletter. Some extracts from this follow.

From: Launceston Examiner

LAUNCH

Mr Raven's splendid ship will be launched on Tuesday next, and the steamer will proceed to Spring Bay with passengers, an opportunity is afforded of witnessing a spectacle never before presented on this side of the colony - the vessel we believe is the largest and the finest built in any of the Australian Colonies. The steamer will leave Launceston at 8 o'clock in the morning, and return at 2 P.M, as she is engaged to tow a vessel down in the evening, but such as desire to visit after that hour will have an opportunity of returning in the evening, by paying an extra fee. The fare to the Bay and back is five shillings.

From: Launceston Examiner, Wed. 3rd February, 1847

On Tuesday morning the Gipsy started from town, with between two and three hundred passengers for Spring Bay, to witness the launch of Mr Raven's ship. A portion of the band of the 11<sup>th</sup> (Regiment) accompanied the steamer, and played several enlivening airs during the trip down. The launch was effected without delay, in a most skilful manner; but the tide having ebbed about six inches, she grounded within a few feet of the shore. Mrs Raven performed the ceremony of christening the ship, to which the name "Harpley" was given, she is 544 tons new register. The Swan was stationed in the Bay, where the spirited owner entertained a large



wide waters, and bear to distant climes, the proud evidence of his intelligence and enterprise.

Many minutes elapsed before the cheers subsided; and Mr Raven, evidently affected by the kind manner evinced by his friends, then rose to return his kind thanks.

## TO PASSENGERS FOR LONDON

The fine new ship "Harpley", 547 tons, Thomas Buckland, commander, being under engagement to H.M. Government, will leave Launceston on Monday, the 5th April, and Hobart Town on Tuesday, the 13th April. Her cabin accommodations are very complete, and she carries an experienced surgeon. For terms of passage apply to:-

JAMES RAVEN  
SYDNEY PLACE, LAUNCESTON  
March 24.

Bob Burgess questions just how complete the cabin accommodations actually were in light of the next notice from the Launceston Examiner on 7th April, 1847.

The "Harpley" - This vessel was towed down the river on Tuesday evening; she is as yet unfinished, and carpenters are still employed on board, some we understand will accompany the vessel to Hobart Town to complete the fittings. She will not leave the heads before the end of the week. In our next we shall more fully notice this splendid vessel.

The "Harpley" duly left for London via Hobart Town on 6th April, 1847, laden with 2000 trenails (wooden pins used in ship-building), 250 planks, 748 pieces of kentledge (pig iron ballast) belonging to James Raven, bags of wheat and wool, casks of tallow, bags of bark, flour, 3 butt hides, one case natural specimens (Breton), one garden seat (Spicer).

A note in the paper on 14th April noted that the "Harpley" was still at George Town on the mouth of the Tamar.

number of guests; in the evening she was towed up by the steamer. The Harpley is as fine a ship of her class as was ever built in the world; her model is considered excellent, while the work is admirable, and reflects the highest credit upon Mr. Patterson the builder. Wherever she goes, the fact of such a vessel having been built on the banks of the Tamar, will excite astonishment, and must tend to raise the capabilities of our port in the estimation of all.

From: Launceston Examiner, Wed., 10th February, 1847

**FITTING HER OUT:-** The "Harpley" - this splendid vessel now lies beyond the shipping, over the bar, Mr Raven has erected a blacksmith's shop and other buildings on the swamp, near the water's edge, where the iron work necessary for completing the vessel will be prepared.

From: Launceston Examiner, 6th March, 1847.

**WHEAT:-** Mr Raven advertises for tenders for 20,000 bushels of wheat, to be delivered at his stores before the 31st March, instant.

The "Harpley" was advertised as "loading for London" in the Shipping Intelligence from 17th March until 3rd April, 1847.

From: Launceston Examiner, Sat., 20th March, 1847.

**DINNER TO MR RAVEN:-** On Tuesday last, a public dinner was given to our esteemed townsman, James Raven, Esq., on the occasion of his temporary departure from this colony. Dr Gaunt (Chairman) had enjoyed his (Mr Raven's) acquaintanceship for many years, and had witnessed his actions during times of most perilous mercantile depression, and he felt he could pay Mr Raven no higher compliment, than to assert that he was entitled to rank as a fine exemplification of that noble character - a high minded and honourable British merchant. Mr Raven had done more to develop the mercantile resources of the Island than any other man on the northern side of the colony, and the last and greatest of his works, the construction of the Harpley would float gaily on the

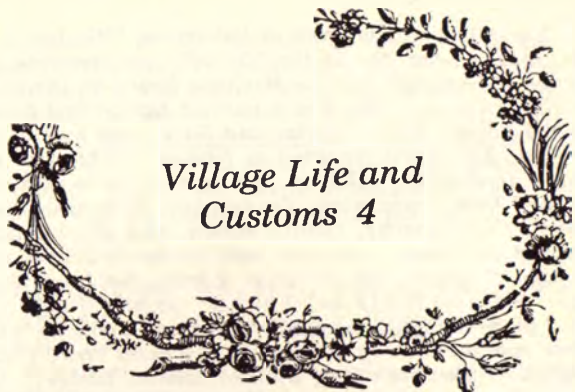
The "Harpley" arrived in Hobart on 17th April, 1847, on the same day as the "David", but somehow avoided the attention of the Maritime Board as there is no official entry. The Press noticed her arrival however, and the Hobart Town Courier and Gazette of Wednesday morning, 21st April reported as follows: "This fine new colonial-built ship, 547 tons, has arrived here with wheat and wool from Launceston, for London, to take up fifty soldiers (pensioners), twenty women, and forty children, from the garrison. She was built by Mr Paterson, at his yard at Exeter, on the river Tamar, for James Raven, Esq. Her keel is 113 feet 7 inches; depth of hold 19 feet 2 inches. She has a splendid poop; and the panels of her spacious cuddy are entirely of Huon Pine, French polished. She is entirely built of colonial timber. She has attracted much admiration from those skilled in naval architecture."

## QUESTION

*Are we to have a History of the  
Lacemakers of Calais this year?*

- We have:*
- 1. an introduction,*
  - 2. a conclusion,*
  - 3. the immigrants to  
Maitland from Lindsay,*
  - 4. promises of family  
stories,*
  - 5. the means to desk-top  
publish.*

*Now all we need,(desperately) are your  
promises fulfilled.....PLEASE.*



## Village Life and Customs 4

Of all the crafts practiced perhaps the loveliest was that of lace making. In some districts almost everyone took a hand in it, and there were special Lace Schools where children were taught the art. It was a common sight to see a woman seated at her cottage door, with her lace pillow, mounted on a stand before her, her busy fingers rapidly moving bobbins to and fro, over a pattern marked out with brass pins. The bobbins were small pieces of wood, bone, ivory or brass, to which the threads were attached. The lace was made by jumping them one over the other, and thus weaving the threads into the design. They were often elaborately carved and perhaps adorned with mottoes; and some had red, white, and blue beads, known as jingles attached to a wire loop at one end. The simpler ones were made at home or by the village turner. They were often given as presents, especially by young men, who made them for their girls, with such mottoes as: "A present for my true love", or "I love you as birds love cress", carved upon them.

Most of the work was, of course, done in the daytime, but sometimes, if a special order was to be finished in a given time it was necessary to work at night. Then to save the cost of many candles, a lacemaker's light was used. This was a large glass globe fitted into a leaden cylinder, which stood on the table with a lighted

candle placed near it in such a way that the rays were reflected by the glass directly onto the work. A number of bottles, filled with water, and suitably positioned near a candle were also used.

The lace schools were closed after the Education Acts of 1870, and with changes of fashion. People came to prefer heavy foreign laces to the light and lovely English work, so this lovely craft has now, 1934, almost completely disappeared.

An Elizabethan parson called William Lee invented a machine for knitting stockings, and it was due to that invention that stocking trade flourished. Although Lee made no money from the invention, and it was eventually developed in France.

This frame was the most amazingly complete invention ever to be devised in a single operation, was the first machine to produce looped or knitted fabric and was the beginning of the great hosiery and lacemaking industries of Nottingham.

The more romantic story about the invention was that Lee, nearly 400 years ago, was courting a lady, who infuriated him by continuing to knit while he paid his addresses. In exasperation he gave up the care of his Parish to invent the knitting machine, taking it to Queen Elizabeth, who refused to grant him a patent, because it only made woollen stockings. Lee then made another frame to produce silk stockings, but the Queen again refused a patent, in case it threw the hand knitters out of work. In 1934 there were still hand knitters in the cottages of Calverton, recognizable by the wide windows where globes of water hang to catch the light.

The ancient town of Nottingham stood on a sandstone buff, which rose steeply from the river flats of the Trent. In 1815, the town was bounded on the north by a plateau: formerly covered by the forest trees of Sherwood, this had become the site of the town's thirty windmills, impressive landmarks for the traveller approaching from that direction. Below, the area between the foot of the cliff and the river was meadow land and running through it was the river Leen.

In his history of Nottingham (1814), John Blackner, the self-educated framework knitter, said: these meadows situated within the borough boundary, each spring were covered by a mass of brilliant crocuses. They were a source of beauty and enjoyment for the town dweller who would hear, if he paused there a moment, on one side,

"A confused sound arising from the voice of conversing thousands and the motion of their feet: and on the other ... a hollow murmur, occasioned by the rolling of the Trent."

The conversing thousands to whom Blackner referred were the townspeople busying themselves in and around the town's market place, whose size and splendour were almost unrivalled throughout the whole of England. Standing on nearby Parliament Street, facing the Derby Road, it was possible in the appropriate season to watch harvesters, as they toiled making hay, or see cattle grazing in the fields, while birdsong competed with the thump and running click of the stocking frames.

Blackner said: 'so much is this town dependent upon the stocking frame and its appendant machines that if it stood still, all other business must stand still also'. Indeed, with well over half the population working frames to produce hosiery or lace net, Blackner's claim was hardly an exaggeration. For closely allied to these activities were the dyers, bleachers, finishers, and merchants, who handled hosiery and lace produced in the town and also in the villages scattered within a circle of ten miles radius. Nottingham was also famous for its framesmiths, needlemakers, and setters up of hosiery and lace frames.

Some of our early ancestors would have probably lived in rural villages close-by Nottingham. Families in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries usually lived in the same small village for generations. Even when the railways spread over England and had driven the coaches off the road, they served few of the smaller places.

Research into the daily lives of our ancestors paints a picture of resourceful, loyal, family orientated people, and it is not surprising that so many, who

brought these attributes to Australia, used them to cope successfully in their new land.

To most people around the world Nottingham is known for its close relationship with Robin Hood and the legends of Sherwood Forest. Legends about Robin Hood and his fellow outlaws were popular even in the middle ages; but no historian has been able to prove that he actually existed, nevertheless the stories are a valid commentary on the rich and poor of medieval England, and on the unpopularity of laws with a class bias.

The poor sandy soils of central Nottinghamshire, thinly settled and difficult to get a living from, was used for hunting by the men of the Shire (Shire-wood), the Norman kings took it over for a royal hunting ground, defining its boundaries carefully and building a hunting lodge. Within this vast area, special courts administered special laws to preserve the beasts of chase and the forest undergrowth in which they flourished. Land was cleared only by royal concession.

There is little left of the original forest which must have been a region of glades and open tracts rather than a dense woodland, most of the oaks have gone, used for building castles, abbeys, churches, ships or burned for charcoal. There are still some remains of the old Sherwood Forest near Edwinstone. This area contains a wealth of beech and silver birch also the "Major Oak" reputed to be over a thousand years old, probably the biggest oak in Britain. It has a hollow trunk thirty feet (9.2 metres) round, inside, which it is reported seven people once ate breakfast. Three kilometres from this oak is another called "Robin's Larder" in which Robin Hood is said to have hung his game. Those who believe in Robin Hood will also believe that he married Maid Marion in the twelfth to thirteenth century Church at Edwinstowe.

Whatever the head scratching of the scholars, it might as well be admitted at once that, true - false - or not proven, the Robin Hood story is more important to the world at large than anything else to do with Nottingham. From Iceland to Brazil Robin Hood is recognized as an old friend, and readers can escape from their own

environment to the cooler forests of Sherwood and relive the daring exploits of Robin Hood. Robin was a well-known, well beloved character as early as 1377; as well as ballads about Robin there was also the Mummings' Plays, in which by the end of the middle ages Robin Hood and Maid Marion were leading characters. John Major in his history, published in 1521, said "his deeds are sung all over England - he was the prince of robbers and most humane". Maurice Keen says, "the secret of this character's immense popularity, he was essentially the people's hero, righting the wrongs inflicted by a harsh system and unjust men".

Is it so fanciful, then, to see in the Sherwood outlaw the first of a long line running through Nottingham history as a continuous thread of protest, round-heads, dissenters, Luddites, reformers, chartists and many more, ever varied in their views but consistent in their challenge to established order.

Byron, speaking up for the frame breakers in the House of Lords, was another, so was William Booth, the Salvationist; in our own century writers as different as D.H. Lawrence and Alan Sillitoe have been at least alike in their fidelity to this tradition.

Robin Hood, voicing an exultant cry as he bestrode the Sheriff's body in Nottingham Market Place, defied an unacceptable social system on the very spot where, century by century, those later rebels were constantly to renew the struggle. It was a portend of countless mass conflicts the same square would witness down the ages.



#### A TOILET RECIPE OF TWO CENTURIES AGO:

For Brows that have their Hair growing too thick or irregular: Take Ivy Gum, Emmets-Eggs, or Pincent Colophinie, Leeches burnt, half an ounce, grind and mingle them with the blood of a Frog, and anoint the superfluous Hair, and it will come off.



## FAMILY NOTABLES

What was the occupation taken up by your Lace-maker ancestor? Under what conditions did they labour? Why not tell us about it in future copies of 'Tulle'

*The Maitland Mercury's account of the arrival in that town of some of the "Agincourt's" immigrants tells us that many were employed as house servants and farm labourers, and young lads under the age of 14 being apprenticed. One lad of 15 to be taught a baker's trade and to act as a general servant, would receive board and lodgings and 3/- a week in his first year. There would be very little adjustment for these lads coming from an industrial environment they would come to terms quite easily with the rules and restrictions placed on them as apprentices. But what of the rural workers? What did they think of their complete change of life style? Perhaps they rejoiced in a new found freedom, released from the bondage of industrial toil. Or did they pine for town life and the close proximity of neighbours and friends?*

*The records show that ancestor Joseph Bromhead, aged 48, became a shopkeeper. His impact on the commercial life of Maitland must have been minimal, for no record concerning his business can be found. His son, John, aged 24 years, established a barber shop in the main street of Maitland.*

*How and where John learnt this extra skill we do not know, his immigration paper lists him as being F.W.K. and Hairdresser. Perhaps he just acquired his skill by practicing on neighbours and friends. Regardless of how he came to be a barber and hairdresser he must have worked hard and his business flourished. There were probably many ups and downs, but there is no doubt*

that the financial and social gains to his family far out-weighed anything he and his wife could have provided as lacemakers in Nottingham had they returned there in 1848.

So we have a shopkeeper, and a barber---what other occupations did our lacemaker forebears follow?

--- LINDSAY WATTS

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LIFE c. 1853 - SOUTH AUSTRALIA : Enid Bastick

The father planted his crop, then went to try his luck on the goldfields, leaving his wife and baby daughter to look after the farm. The "blacks" were partly civilised, and would come around to ask for a 'bit of baccy', and say 'Nice Piccanny'.

TRAVELLING S.A. TO VICTORIA c. 1870 in convoy  
with other Families.

It took three weeks to make the trip by bullock waggons laden with people and all their worldly possessions. It was the "highlight" in the lives of the children! The milking cows were driven; the hens were in coops, and the aboriginies watched as they passed - but kept their distance. When the day's journey was over, the hens were allowed to scratch round, and then were put back into the coops to roost.

---- Enid Bastick.

THE AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF THE LACEMAKERS OF  
CALAIS

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