

The Journal of the Australian Society of the Lacemakers of Calais



Tulle

*Volume 16 Number 4
November 1998*

MEETING DATES 1999

Saturday, February 20, 1999
Saturday, May 15, 1999
Saturday, August 21 1999
Saturday, November 29, 1999

Donbank Cottage
6 Napier Street, North Sydney

Meeting Time 1.00

Train to North Sydney or bus from Wynard

NEXT MEETING
Saturday, February 20, 1999

Annual General Meeting
and
The Cavalcade of History and Fashion Inc

presents

The Allure of Lace

The cover: In the garden of Campbell's store, Morpeth, October 1998. Annette and Don Barker (Smiths), with Motern Kingsmill of Maitland in the foreground and members of the Stevens family in the background.

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ISSN. No. 0815-3442



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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Three years ago we began planning for a year of activities to celebrate an act of courage, adventure and challenge. We probably recognised that it would be a busy year and hoped that it would be a successful one in terms of getting together, perhaps gaining some new members and publishing another book about our folk so that others might know about them. We gathered a committee together and set off, much as our forebears, into the wilderness of the future with high hopes and a lot of determination. As we travelled, we learnt and enjoyed and achieved, and learnt some more.

I think I can fairly say that never in our wildest dreams did we think we would have the success we have had this year. Each time I sit to write to you I find myself using more expressive language to relate the achievement of the last event. I have decided to let someone else do it this time. These are words taken from a letter I received two days ago; I hope its author will forgive me .

To each and every one of you, who contributed so much time - years not days! - so much enthusiasm and such devotion to making the 150th anniversary so very special, just let me say "Thank you and well done. "

The Thanksgiving Service at St Peter's Church was a splendid occasion. We joined a warm, welcoming community for the Morning Service and shared a beautiful liturgy that expressed the thanks our folk felt for safe arrival, the hopes they had for the future and the sense of heritage that we their descendants felt as we gathered in this unique group of people. We were invited to be an active part of the service, reading from the scriptures, telling our story and addressing the community.

We thank Tom Halls and the people of his parish for making us so welcome and allowing us to enjoy not only their historic church, their friendly welcome but also the churchyard (among the tombstones) for a great sharing picnic lunch. It was a perfect Sydney



Rev Tom Halls

spring day! We met many members who had travelled long miles to attend, and this was the icing on the cake.



Eryn & Adele Scott, Jennifer Ewing and Robbie Gordon of the Stevens family

The year came to a glorious close the next weekend with a re-enactment of the landing of passengers of the *Agincourt* from the Hunter steamer at Morpeth on their way to Maitland.

Robbie Gordon had been the instigator of this, and we owe her great appreciation. In 1848 these people landed and walked the three miles into Maitland through a heavy rain storm. This year the rain wasn't quite so heavy, but rain it did. There was an eerie feeling, trudging up the hill, a little forlornly, to the welcome shelter of the verandah of Campbell's Store.

There we were welcomed and led to further speeches and ultimately, lunch. Those who dressed in period costume added to the day and the feeling that our forbears had more to contend with than most of us recognise; all the ladies went home with a deep ring of mud on their hems. I couldn't help musing as I walked up the hill that most of the travellers had been on board ship for many months and were used to the movement of the sea under them. Terra firma must have rendered them rather 'wonky', just to add to their 'joys'!

And so as we draw the year to a close it remains only to thank everyone who has worked for the huge success it has been. To name people would run to pages, and then I run the risk of leaving someone out. I thank all the organisers, all the participants, all the travellers, all those who made a special effort to attend, all those who enjoyed the events and so helped others to enjoy also, all those who encouraged, and especially all those who supported us.

Without ALL of you, the year would not have been the resounding success it has been. I have often been aware of someone looking over my shoulder, a little hint here, a chuckle there but always with a very positive air. My imagination? Perhaps, but I prefer to think that our folk have been watching closely. I hope so.

It is now November, and time to wish you all a Happy Christmas, a safe and peaceful holiday with all that you hope coming true, and the very best wishes for the year to come, the last of this millennium.

Claire Loneragan
President

FROM THE SECRETARY

St Peters was the scene of our most wonderful Thanksgiving Service on the Anniversary of the arrival of of forebears in Australia . At least 100 people attended and partook in an uplifting service led by the Rev Tom Halls.

Highlights included an insight into shipboard life by Richard and Lyndall Lander, appropriate Bible Readings by Elizabeth and me, beautiful music, and talks by Gillian Kelly and Claire Loneragan. After the service we were royally entertained by the congregation of St Peters. They provided a magnificent morning tea, prepared the grounds before our arrival and had set up the church for our convenience. Our thanks have been conveyed to them.

Sales of the book continue steadily. Don't forget what good Christmas presents they will make. Everybody likes a good news story and that

is what Gillian has managed to achieve in this book. It appeals to others as well as the Lacemakers. Lapel pins which proved very popular are still available.

Many people have joined our Society this year. Please keep encouraging your relatives to join especially the young people. Their interest will grow over time as they read more about their history in *Tulle*. We must continue to sow the seeds of interest.

We will not meet again until February next year. This will be our Annual General Meeting. Please send any nominations for positions to me arriving by the middle of January 1999. The current executive have worked hard and have had great satisfaction from their terms in office. We do hope that others will take the opportunity to be elected to one of the positions

Carolyn Broadhead
Secretary

AND THE EDITOR

Probably one of the most exciting facets of 1998 has been the discovery of lost families. The folk who went to Adelaide have always been hard to trace. The ships' lists that have survived are patchy, and the public access records, in the past, have been hard to follow and so many of the *Harpley* travellers have remained mysteries.

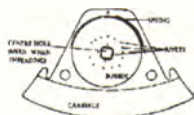
But 1998 has found for us the families of John Davis, signatory to the petition, and Joseph Clarke, also a signatory to the petition. It has uncovered the families of Thomas Street and Samuel Strong and disclosed even more family links than previously suspected.

It would seem that there was a link between the Streets and the Holmes, and perhaps the Peets; it is most certain that there was a link between the Clarkes and the Shepherds, and therefore, probably the Wests. Is there any end to the relationships between our families - and did they come together because of their relationships, or were their

relationships forged by the trade?

Did any family stand alone? and if not, I plaintively ask, to whom were the Bransons related?

Gillian Kelly
Editor



Would you like to own a bobbin that has been beautifully prepared to hang on your wall?

The bobbin from the Levers machine is our logo and in Australia has become synonymous with the Australian Society of the Lacemakers of Calais. As a finale to our 1998 celebrations, one such bobbin from Nottingham has been framed into a highly attractive and eye catching piece and members and friends have the opportunity to win it.

The bobbin, made by Spowage, is a six centimetre disk of brass and sits in its steel carriage. Both have been highly polished and are set on a heavy navy lace, double mounted in slate blue and gold and framed in a gilt frame. The finished frame is 35cms x 31cms.

Details of how to enter this simple competition are on page 18.



Douglas Branson Webster

1.1.20-11.11.98

On the 11th of the 11th 1998 Doug reached the end of his time with us. For twelve months he had borne the knowledge that he had an inoperable growth that would eventually claim his life.

Doug had a passion for history. He was a great grandson of William and Miriam Branson, Lacemakers, and was delighted by the fact that he was also a descendant of Private John Bray who arrived in Sydney in 1790 on board the infamous *Neptune*.

Doug was a teacher and had had a lifetime fascination with the correctness and rhythm of languages. He taught in the south eastern areas of NSW before settling in Canberra and ending his career there. He taught English, German and Latin and was fascinated by their structures, rules and vocabulary. In his retirement he translated from German, the Australian diaries of Archduke Ferdinand, heir to the Austrian throne. (Ferdinand made a hunting journey to Australia around 1909.)

He entered the army during WWII and by the time of his retrenchment he had attained the rank of Captain and was working in the Psychology Unit.

Doug had been a member of ASLC since Bert Archer ran his first little query in *Descent* in the early 1980s and was one of the very first people to recognise the story we had. An article he wrote for *Descent* about William Branson was the first published work about the Lacemakers.

From the Society's beginning, he travelled to Sydney each quarter to attend meetings, missing only the meetings of 1998. He was Secretary of the Association from 1993 to 1996 and a prodigious writer and critique for *Tulle*, usually under a simple DBW. Doug made enduring friendships with the members of the Society and his quiet manner and his way with words will be greatly missed.

Auf wiedersehen, freund.

SO YOUR FOREBEARS THOUGHT OF EMIGRATING?



Getting the berth numbers C.J Staniland

The first impression on getting on board an emigrant ship at Gravesend is that of hopeless confusion. The ships are lumbered with everything that can be conceived- boats, cables, spars, hen coops, deal planks, boxes, chests, bedding and children everywhere they should not, without end.

Sailors busy in their special pursuits are intermingled with carpenters hammering away at partitions (it is very odd, but on immigrant ships the carpenters never seem to have finished until they are under weigh), and the men passengers running about with a sort of helpless activity, breaking their shins and losing their temper, while the women mope about on the poops looking dirty, dowdy and uncomfortable like hens on a wet afternoon.

Descending to the lower deck we come upon a hive full of cells, in which the swarming bees, no drones, are to dwell for a four months voyage; to shore-going eyes, a long, low, narrow and rather dark

gallery, the centre occupied by a table, and at either end the berths - that is, a series of shelves, in width after the rate of three feet to each passenger, closed in on the £21 scale by latticed doors, and open on the steerage system.

To describe them would be useless, if not impossible; but there was a capitol picture in the *Illustrated News* a short time since. To a sailor's eye, and with a sailor's arrangements the space is ample compared with the herring-like packing on board the American timber ships.- it is quite a drawing room; while experience tells us that thousands have voyaged in health and comfort to and from Australia under these arrangements; never the less it must be owned that to a country party who has never seen the sea before, there is something very fearful in being so 'cribber, cabined and confined'.

Under the system now universally adopted, the married couples occupy the centre, the single women a partition at the stern, and the single men at the bows. A hospital is provided for both sexes. Altogether the arrangements, which are subjected to the inspection of a government naval officer, are excellent, as is proved by the very low average of deaths on the Australian voyage.

The characters of the immigrants were displayed thus early. Some were actively engaged in arranging their berths, knocking nails and hooks, and placing packages so as to be had at a moment's warning. The London mechanics and shopkeepers seem to be best at this work - active, conceited and full of talk. Some seemed lost in confusion, not knowing where to begin.

We saw one fellow, with a wife and large brood of children, take packet after packet, evidently overwhelmed by the idea of packing the weedings of his farmhouse in the space of a moderate corn chest. A few were wasting time in smoking and drinking. Those with



children had no idle moments, what with feeding them and hunting them up, and snatching them out of mischief.

One pale worn man, very poorly clad, with a harassed-looking wife and three thin children from thirteen downwards, was giving a lesson on writing on slates to his two eldest. He was from Leicestershire, a specimen of peasantry that is not bold; from his complexion and garb he had either been in the work house or very near it; his two eldest sons only had the tanned faces of field life. Altogether it was impossible to imagine a group of more wretched appearance; but they were happy, perhaps one of the happiest parties on the ship.

Earl Howe, a peer better known for his benevolence than for his wealth, had subscribed £50; the parish had given £10, and others had enough for the passage, £55, and outfit; in all £65. This party had everything to hope and nothing to regret.

England is to them a place of hard work, scanty food, scanty fuel, and thin raiment. The man seemed to much broken to enjoy life - a poor cringing hapless creature. But we should like to trace the career of the children, who, in five years will scorn the wages and food which in England their parents received with grateful thanks.

There was another interesting personage, a young matron, also with five children, going to join her husband in Australia, the victim of our cancerous system of Chancery, reduced from independence to literal beggary, saved from actual starvation by the benevolent and beneficent exertions of those who, without rancour wealth, in deeds of charity out vie us all, gentle and simple. The lately suffering lady, for whom, with her husband, a comfortable career had been prepared in Australia, seemed stupefied by her new position. To her, too, there could be few regrets in leaving a country associated with scenes of such distress and degradation as are the inevitable lot of destitution in crowded cities.

...an orphan of seventeen left perfectly destitute, and sent out by the instrumentality of a few friends, was overwhelmed with grief at the idea of leaving her native country. Her imagination could not realise the pangs of poverty, and the ship, with its narrow berth, was to be the first visible sign of having fallen from the rank of a lady to the

level of her companions - frugal cooks, and housemaids, hastening out in hopes of marrying gentlemen squatters, and securing at one blow a husband, a house, and a riding horse, the three great objects of their vaulting ambition.

Bathurst Free Press
from *Sydney's Emigration Journal*
27 October 1849



Celebrating the *Harpley*

From those forlorn dock side scenes, the *Harpley* contingent began its journey to Australia, and at the August meeting Richard and Lyndall Lander shared with us a superb presentation to give some idea of those sea voyages.

It was a bleak August day with the wind soaring around Donbank and rain spattering against the windows and forty of us were cosy in a space about half the size of the *Harpley*. Richard used today's technology to present a most effective slide show, accompanied by a clever dialogue between he and Lyndall. This was followed by a dramatic clip of very old film showing one man's experiences of sailing around the Horn at the turn of the century. By the end, we were truly at sea!

Later, at St Peter's, this dynamic duo shared with us again a briefer version of their dialogue. For the pleasure of those who couldn't attend either event, we invite you to share:

LIFE ABOARD AN EMIGRANT SHIP



The great majority of our lacemaker ancestors came to Australia aboard one of three vessels. The Agincourt and the Fairlie carried our folk to Sydney, the Harpley to Adelaide. Others, however, came in smaller numbers aboard other vessels. These included the Walmer Castle, the Emperor, General Hewitt, Harbinger and Nelson. A typical emigrant ship was about 550 tons new register, had two decks, a square stern and three masts on which she was "ship rigged". The Agincourt and the Harpley fit this description to a tee. They were about the length of eight Holden Commodores parked bumper to bumper. They were about the width of four Commodores parked wing-mirror to wing-mirror. The Fairlie was slightly larger. In this confined space, approximately 265 emigrants, ten officers and 24 seamen tried to coexist in harmony for a voyage lasting about 16 weeks.

Lyndall and I have been asked to give you some idea of the sort of shipboard life that our forebears experienced aboard these vessels.

*The crews quarters on our ships were in the bow. The First Class or Cabin passengers had cabins in a quarterdeck which was raised above the main deck at the stem of the ship. Below the main deck there were double-deck timber bunks, each 6 feet 3 feet, which ran down each side of the ship. Each bunk was divided from the next by stout planks. Married couples shared a top bunk, the*J/young children shared the bunk below. The single men and youths had single bunks 6 feet feet in a partitioned area between the crew's quarters and the family quarters. Single females were partitioned off at the rear of the vessel below the cabins of the First Class passengers and abaft of the family~ quarters. Two females were expected to share each 6 feet x 3 feet bunk.*



Down the centre of the ship, between the double row of bunks and running the entire length of the ship were tables with fixed seats on

each side of them. Similar seats were also fixed at the end of each bed space. Plates and breakers containing the daily allowance of water were stored below the tables. Much of the emigrants time was spent sitting at these tables, especially during poor weather, for meals, and so forth.

The emigrants dietary scale was carefully pre-determined by the Government Emigration Office. Their food allowance included biscuits, flour, water, raisins, suet, tea, coffee, sugar, peas, rice, preserved potatoes and butter and preserved meat.

Because there was insufficient room for each emigrant to draw and prepare their rations individually, they were divided into messes of six to eight adults. Two children counted as one adult. Each mess elected its own captain who was responsible for ensuring that his mess received its fair share of food. Single women were not permitted near the galley. Cooking was a man's job and it was considered best that men and single women were kept as far apart as possible. Joints of meat were allocated to a mess then thrown together into a boiler and left to stew until dinner time.

Journals abound with description of dishes prepared by steerage passengers - some results comic, some pathetic. The single men undoubtedly prepared the greatest range of botched dishes. One wrote to his mother soon after his arrival as follows. "I asked an Irishman who had just put some dough in a tin to be baked whether he had greased the tin. When he said 'No' I said you must do so or the cake will stick. Would you believe, in perfect ignorance, the fellow actually greased the outside of the tin, instead of the inside."

The ships carried quite an ark of animals. The sheep, hogs, sucking pigs, chooks, ducks and geese meant that they sometimes had eggs and, now and again, milk and fresh meat.. A goat or two were often carried as well. They proved good sailors and could even consume the carpenter's shavings. When becalmed, the emigrants fished. Fresh produce made a very welcome change.



Loading the live stock

What were their other impressions of shipboard life?

Seasickness. Spilt food. The singing of the sailors. The creaking and groaning of the ship's timbers. In gale force conditions, the howl of the wind in the rigging and the terrifying magnitude and power of the ocean swell. Aboard a sailing ship in such weather it was impossible to keep the below deck living quarters dry. No matter how well caulked the decks were, they eventually developed leaks after being continuously washed by heavy seas. An opened hatch could allow many gallons of sea-water to enter in a moment. A ship that had ankle-deep water sloshing about was still considered a dry ship. In the early days of the trip, this constantly moving body of slushy, slimy water, not only consisted of seawater but also contained a goodly selection of other things, the least objectionable being spilt food.

Their journals also inevitably refer to the ship's water supply.

The water was crook. Adults were only allowed three quarts or about 3 1/2 litres per day for all their washing, drinking, cooking and other

uses. Children under 14 received half this allowance. They regularly had to add lime juice to make it palatable. Consequently any downpour of rain brought our emigrants streaming onto deck with tubs and dishes. Although this rainwater had a flavour of canvas from the sails, it was much to be preferred to the ship's water, even for drinking. Clothes were mostly washed in sea-water and the men had the freedom to bathe in a sail-bath or to swim in the ocean if the ship was becalmed. Women were never afforded these luxuries.

What else caused them discomfort?

Rats. A passenger aboard the Harpley" wrote, "I kicked two off my bed last night. They had eaten through my counterpane and two blankets. They had put a hole through the toe of one of my boots. "

What did our ancestors do on board to fill in those endless days which must have inflicted tedium beyond belief? Nothing but sea and sky day after day!

They had their time broadly structured by the ship's routine. When they got up, when they cleaned their quarters, when lights were extinguished at night were all pre-determined, as were meal-times. Naturally, there was a Sunday church service, led by the Ships' Surgeon, which was held on deck, provided the weather was reasonable.

Most ships were well supplied with books. Teachers were appointed from among the passengers and many migrants learnt to read and write during their 4 months at sea. Many travellers kept journals. Physical exercise, ball games, drilling, boxing, skipping, dancing and music were all encouraged. Grand concerts were organised. Lotteries were run on how long the voyage would take. They played chess and cards, draughts and backgammon. Some of the men helped the crew, even climbing a mast if called on to do so.

The greatest pleasure at sea was meeting a homebound ship. The occasion was not only exciting in itself, but also offered an opportunity to send letters home. As soon as was possible, the crews of the two vessels started communicating with each other using ten

flags according to a code. If both ships were English, the captains spoke to each other through 'speaking trumpets'. Once the Cape of Good Hope was astern, however, no ships bound for England or Europe were encountered, as their route lay eastwards around Cape Horn.



Burial at sea.

Don Charlwood in his interesting book called "The Long Farewell" states that excessively pious though the Victorians were, they showed less pretence when faced by death than we do today. Deaths at sea, however, on the way to an unknown country, were more than usually upsetting. The burial service on the open deck was stark. The body was usually wrapped in canvas, the Captain or the Ships Surgeon read the service, and the body was consigned to the sea while the ship ploughed steadily onwards. If a deceased person's next of kin had little money, it was usual for some of his other belongings to be auctioned and passengers were often generous in what they bid. Inevitably these auctions themselves were something of an entertainment.

Consumption of alcohol, especially among the bachelors, on some ships was prodigious. Because people were packed so closely, it was inevitable that occasional fights would break out. Aggressiveness increased with drinking but the fights themselves were often regarded as welcome diversions. Another welcome diversion was the celebration of Crossing the Line as all emigrants were doing so for the first time. These celebrations also helped to break the tedium of the Doldrums.

Despite the inescapable quarrels, most time was spent in reading, knitting and making plans. Undoubtedly, the chief pastime was endless yarning. People talked about their hopes and fears for what lay ahead. Many people developed friendships that lasted for the rest of their lives in their adopted country. Our interest in their lives, which ultimately have led to our own, is what has led us to our reunion here today. We are reaping the rewards of living in this marvellous country through the courage and foresight, the determination, tenacity and faith of our special ancestors, the Lacemakers of Calais.

Richard and Lyndall Lander
October 1998

MEMBERSHIP

Dues for 1999 are now payable.*

Please forward your remittance of \$25 to the Treasurer

Miss Barbara Kendrick
190 Shaftesbury Road
EASTWOOD NSW
2122

**** This does not apply to new members since June 1998***

Win a framed bobbin

see page 6 of this journal

A date has been randomly picked between

1 January 1848 & 31 December 1998

The date has been sealed into two envelopes and they will be opened at the meeting of ASLC on May 15, 1999. The winner of the beautifully presented bobbin will be the person who picks this date.*

Rules:

1. This competition is open to all members, guests and friends.
2. Each single date will cost 50c.
3. There is no limit to the number of dates a competitor can enter.
4. The competition will close half an hour before the envelopes are opened on Saturday May 15, 1999.

TO ENTER:

Simply pick dates between 1 January 1848 and 31 December 1998, record your dates on the enclosed forms, or on separate sheets that include the date, the month and the year, and the entrant's name and address. Post to the Treasurer, with your remittance - 50cents a date -

Miss Barbara Kendrick
190 Shaftesbury Rd
EASTWOOD NSW 2122

*If there is more than one contender, the winner will be drawn from these; if the exact date is not chosen, then the closest date will be deemed to be the winner; if more than one competitor chooses the date closest to the chosen date, then the winner will be drawn.



Why not make

Well Suited to the Colony

your family Christmas gift? All orders received before 19 December will be Christmas wrapped and despatched immediately. Simply mark the enclosed order form as Christmas gift.

Your ASLC pin is now available.



This small pin features a silvered carriage with brassed bobbin, - a little over 1cm across. Order yours now

\$5 posted

Aborigines in Nottingham in 1868

The framework knitters and lacemakers in both Nottingham and Calais enjoyed their games of cricket, but did you know that the first Australian side to play a match in Nottingham was Aboriginal?

Nottingham and Trent Bridge are well known in cricketing circles the world over. It was in 1838 that William Clarke, who had married the landlady of the inn at Trent Bridge, laid out a cricket ground there, and made it the head quarters of Nottingham cricket.

It was there on 3 and 4 of August 1868 that my grandfather, Alfred Fewkes, a lace manufacturer of New Basford, was the 'stumper' for the Nottingham Commercial Cricket Club XI which played against the Australian Aboriginal XI touring in England that summer.

The teams were:

NCCC

JBILLYEALD
S BRITTLE
W CLEMENTS
C F DAFT
A FEWKES
W T PALMER
G ROSSALL
G M ROYLE
R TOLLEY
J WEST
T WRIGHT
with A POYSER Umpire

THE ABORIGINES

ARRAHMUNIJARRIMUN
BALLRINJARRIMIN
BONNIBARNGEET
BRIMBUNYAH
BRIPPOKEI
BULLCHANACH
GRONGARRONG
JALLACHMURRIMIN
JUNGUNJINANUKE
MURRUMGUNARRIMAN
PRIPUMUARRAMAN
UNAARRIMIN
ZELLANACH
with
CHARLES LAWRENCE, Captain
and WILLIAM SHEPHERD, Umpire.

After the match the Aborigines delighted the crowd by giving an exhibition of boomerang throwing. The Australian team was organised, promoted, coached, managed and captained by Charles

Lawrence, an all-rounder, who was a member of the very first English cricket team to visit Australia in 1868-62, and had accepted an invitation to stay in Sydney to coach the local team. He became a hotel keeper and played for the newly formed Albert Club and for New South Wales.

The Aboriginal Touring Team played 47 matches in England between May and October 1868: 14 wins, 14 defeats and 19 draws. Unfortunately Brippokei died of tuberculosis on 24 June, and Ballrinjarrimin and Jallachmurrimin returned home in August. However, Brimbunyah and Bonnibarangeet played in each of the 47 matches, a record for any tour.

The Australian Kit was white flannels and red 'Garibaldi' shirts with blue sashes and neckties and a peak cap of the individual's own colour. During the tour they showed off their athleticism in running, hurdling, high jumping and pole vaulting as well as throwing their boomerangs and spears. During a cold summer they regularly attracted crowds of 5000. The Rochdale Observer called them 'stalwart men, of manly, dignified and confident gait and bearing'.

Only three Englishmen were able to score centuries against the Aboriginal bowling, one of whom was G M Royle who made 100 for the Nottingham Commercial Club.

In December 1984 a bronze plaque was erected at the Melbourne Cricket Ground to commemorate a great moment in Australian cricket history. It reads:

In honour of members of the Aboriginal cricket team, formed in Victoria in 1866. Two years later they became the first Australian cricket team to tour England, winning 14 matches and losing the same number.

Anne Fewkes
Nottingham

The Australian connection with Nottingham continues.

Anne's grandfather played against this team that Charles Lawrence led. Charles married Catherine Toohill. Catherine's sister had a daughter Margaret, who in later years was to be the grandmother of Lacemaker descendants Evol Watkins and Terry Mooney!

How did it Begin?

According to David Porter, (SMH 21 December 1984) in 1860 organised cricket was still in its infancy in England and Australia. In England, cricket had been a sport for the landed gentry and their servants.

In the early 1860s several young squatters in the Edenhope-Harrow area of western Victoria taught the game to their station hands, who included Aborigines. In 1865 a team of Aborigines defeated a team of Europeans at Bringalbert station near Edenhope.

On Boxing day a year later, the Aboriginal cricketers played before 10 000 people at the MCG against a team from the Melbourne Cricket Club. Although the Aborigines lost, they delighted the crowds with an exhibition of boomerang throwing and other athletic feats.

In 1867 a visit to Sydney resulted in financial failure and the death of several players from pneumonia. However, later that year, Charles Lawrence regrouped the team for a tour of England.

The thirteen Aborigines were not referred to by their real names but were given nick names: Mullagh, Dick-a-dick, King Cole, Cuzens, Peter, Sundown, Tiger, Redcap, Bullocky, Mosquito, Jim Crow, Tuppenny and Charles Dumas.

Nottingham - Settlement to City Duncan Grey

Australian Cricket 1803 - 1893 Jack Pollard

Sporting Life 28 October 1868

Cricket Rights for the Aborigines David Porter *Sydney Morning Herald* 21 December 1984

Items from the Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club library supplied by Peter Wynne-Thomas

Family Records supplied by Evol Watkins

HELENE DORMER GIBSON

George Dormer was an Irishman and in mid 1825 he married Judith Grey at St Marys in Nottingham. Their first child was born not too much later and baptised at the Catholic Church in Nottingham.

The Dormer family was amongst the earliest in Calais. George witnessed the birth of Thomas Parker's son in the January of 1832 and by 1841 he is listed as a lace maker living in rue Neuve with Judith and children Mary, Helene, Thomas, Juliane, George, Ester and James.



George Dormer

The Dormers were included on Bonham's original list for the *Harpley*, and there Helene's name became Anglicised to Ellen. George's first position in South Australia was with Lachlan McBean who had a smelting works at Albert Town. A trip to the gold fields provided the where-with-all to buy land at Bald Hills.

Way back in 1841, when the colony was a mere four years old, James and Prudence Gibson had arrived with their two children, Ann and Joshua, on the *Fairfield*. They came from Staffordshire where the Gibson family had worked in the potteries. James took up land at Inman Hills, with the Dormers as neighbours. In 1850 Joshua Gibson married Helene (having reverted her name to the French) Dormer and he, too, farmed.

Times were difficult on the land and when Victor Harbour grew to a town, Joshua saw a chance to open a butchering business there. In 1864 he built a stone house and shop on land he had purchased in Victoria Street. Such was his success that within three years he was able to build a two storeyed home at 2 Victoria Street.

From the balcony of this house Joshua would use a telescope to watch for in coming ships. He had built a steady business, which he shared with the town's other butcher, supplying the ships with fresh meat.

Joshua and Helen raised nine of eleven children, and in 1874 just when life seemed grand, Joshua, aged 49, died, leaving Helene with seven young children and her two eldest sons, Matthew and George who were able to carry on the business.

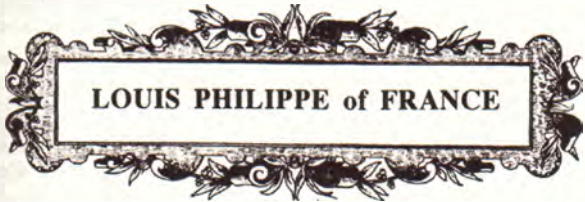
Helene is described as a small woman with dark, curly hair. She made much of her French heritage (and said she was born in Lille) drinking wine and enjoying a full social life. She had insisted on her home being two storeyed. She was a midwife and at least one child, Helene Dormer Gibson Whitbread, was named in recognition of Helene's services as nurse and midwife.

Helene was a strong willed woman and there is a story told of the marriage of her daughter Sarah to Joseph Ellis in 1878. The couple planned to elope because Helene disapproved. On hearing of their plans to catch the coach to Adelaide, Helene boarded it first to wait for them. The young couple were warned, and while Helene was on her way to Adelaide, they were married at home!

Her son Matthew died in 1880, and she never recovered from this. After settling his affairs, Helene died in 1881 after a fall down the stairs of her two storeyed house. After her death, an old friend, James Jolly, wrote that Helene

had considerable mental endowments and acquired knowledge. A frequent, willing, skilful and observant nurse at the bed of sick ones, she knew a great deal about disease and its treatment...Like most strong minded women she was inclined to be imperious and like most of her sex too she had intuitive insight of character, and therefore she was apt to treat the genus humbugorous with scant courtesy or respect. This was sincere, honest, but very indiscreet...In my lonely dwelling place I hear the morning wind and sea. My eyes are dim - my cheeks are wet.

from Dormer family files.



LOUIS PHILIPPE of FRANCE

Much has been said of the revolution of 1848 and of the collapse of the crown, but who was Louis Phillippe? In February 1848 the British Quarterly described this still-reigning monarch:

This remarkable man is in his 75th year. He has travelled much, he has seen much, and he has learned much; and perhaps there is no man in Europe, whether sovereign or subject, who has a greater commerce with, or experience of, men and things.

Without possessing any brilliant or showy talents, he is a person of great general information; of a calm and tranquil nature; of a naturally cold and reserved disposition in affairs of moment; distinguished alike in great things and small by prudence and perseverance. He is a man of immense labour, taking a pleasure in affairs and in the transaction and dispatch of business.

He examines himself, all important papers connected with the affairs of the state, reads the principal journals and attends even to the details of his own private fortune, and to the management of the affairs of his family and children. He is an excellent linguist, speaking with fluency, English, Italian, and German, and very lately he astonished the ambassadors of Bolivia by addressing them in the primitive language of Peru.

Though in public the King is an incessant and rather egotistical talker on ordinary matters of no moment yet he speaks but little at cabinet

councils, generally listening very attentively., Sometimes he interrupts, for the purpose of asking a question, and sometimes he interposes objections.

It very often happens that he knows practically more of a question than all his ministers, especially if it has reference to foreign affairs of diplomacy; and, should the council not agree with him, delay is generally interposed, where practicable, and in the meanwhile the monarch sets about to seriously carry his point. In this purpose, he is most frequently, by perseverance, successful, so that the *pensée immuable* is not a fiction.

To say that he is sincere, a fair dealing, or an honest man, would be impossible; to say that he is a superior man would be flattery; but he is a cold, calculating, reflecting man; resolute, prudent, unscrupulous, crafty and sagacious. He know the courts of Europe and the characters of the principal statesmen and ambassadors better than any man in his dominions. He very well understands, also, the feelings of the richer middle classes, commercial and landed of France, and on them he places his firm reliance.

But for the last three years he has, in endeavouring to aggrandise his family, made great mistakes, and descended to more than questionable subterfuges, unworthy of a politic king, and disgraceful to a gentleman and man of honour. His ministers have been, for the most part, his tools, and to their persons and principals he is utterly indifferent, otherwise than as they, to use a vulgar phrase, 'carry out' his personal system.

British Quarterly
February 1848.

SNIPPETT

In 1841, according to the census of Calais, Rachael Basford, née Stevens and the widowed mother of Sophie Wells, was living with her youngest son George, in the home of Thomas Goldfinch and his first wife, Anne Farley.

THE RANTERS IN SHELFORD, NOTTINGHAM

The Wesleyan Methodists had established their first society in Nottingham as early as 1743 and therefore were quite influential throughout the county by 1815, the year in which Primitive Methodism was first planted in Nottingham.

However, the Nottinghamshire Wesleyans, especially those in Nottingham itself, were, on the whole, of a middle class composition. Primitive Methodism, with its ranting and enthusiastic preaching and singing, held a much greater appeal for the working classes such as the framework knitters and the lacemakers who lived in the villages situated beside the River Trent.

One of these villages was Shelford where the Vickerstaff family lived at the beginning of the eighteenth century.

In 1818 the Ranters met in the cottage of Joseph Vickerstaff, which faced the Parish Church, and their service gave offence to the Anglicans. The Vickerstaffs, who lived in a 'tied' cottage, were served with a notice to quit by the Steward of the Earl of Chesterfield who was the Lord of the Manor and virtually 'owned' the whole village. Workmen were actually sent to pull down the cottage.

Another villager, Henry Fukes, then opened his house for the Primitive Methodists to hold their services, but this cottage was also tenanted from the Earl of Chesterfield and Fukes was threatened with the fate of Vickerstaff if he did not discontinue the services. Fukes did not comply and his house was pulled down on the excuse that the road needed widening.

The matter was finally resolved when a 'floating' chapel was obtained and anchored in the River Trent at Shelford and the local ranters' services were able to continue.

THE FUKES FAMILY

On 5 December 1785 at East Bridgeford Henry FUKES married Elizabeth STEMMITT and their children were all baptised at SHELFORD.
1793 17 March MARY

1795 30 March ELIZABETH
1797 19 February JOHN
1799 17 March ROBERT
1801 26 July SARAH
1804 28 March HENRY
1808 28 February HANNAH
1810 28 October REBECCA

William BRANSON was the son of Sarah VICKERSTAFFE of Shelford.

Anne Fewkes
Nottingham

Nottinghamshire Parish Registers

Primitive Methodism in Notts 1815-1932, Geoffrey MORRIS

In Every Generation (Methodism 1764-1978) Rowland C Swift



WHAT A DELIGHT IT WAS....

...to see so many folk celebrating the 150th anniversary!

From the great gatherings of the Saywells (from all over Australia) and the Wands, the Ducks, the Bromheads, the Stevens and the Smiths to the individual faces of Ruth Bradshaw (with her brilliant display of fabulous memorabilia), Jack Clifford and Professor Dutton, and all the others in between.

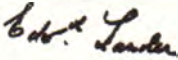
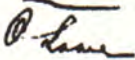
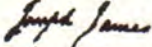


FOR THE GENEALOGIST

LACEMAKERS FOUND

1998 has been a great year for the discovery of families hitherto missing. The Society has gained new members from known families and they have added to the stories of their line. But there have been discoveries of families we have previously been unable to find, and with them come more stories and photographs and family links.

CLARKE: John Clarke was a signatory to the petition, and he and his wife Ann, with three sons, travelled on the *Harpley*. Ann Clarke born in Stapleford in 1817, the daughter of John Smedley and Miriam Shepherd.

DAVIS: John Davis was also a signatory on the petition and somewhere at sea on the *Harpley* Elizabeth, his wife, gave birth to their third son. He was baptised Harpley Davis.

The Signatories	
	Ed. Lander
	O Lowe
	Joseph James
	John Clarke
	John Davis

STREET: Thomas Street was born in Derby in 1809 and married Emma Holmes. Emma was the daughter of George Holmes and Hannah Wooley. Not long after their arrival in Adelaide, Thomas disappeared and his family apparently believed he had abandoned them. His descendants now believe he died on the Victorian gold fields not very long after his arrival there.

ROBINSON: Jane Robinson travelled on the *Fairlie* with the family of Archibald Reid. Jane took herself to Adelaide where she met and married William Riley in 1851. She was known as Ellen Sillery Collolo Riley. Her death certificate gives her name as Jane Collolo Riley and each of her children carried the Collolo.

HEMSLEY - DUNK: John Hemsley came to Adelaide with his cousins James and Caroline. He married Charlotte Dunk - a fellow traveller. John seems to have been orphaned in Calais, but it is still not clear who his parents were.

John Hemsley



LEE: Henry Lee and his wife Sarah Woolcock were aboard the Harpley with their small son John. John married Isabella Read in 1878, in Victoria.

STRONG: Samuel Strong was a Devonshire man from Tiverton where he undoubtedly became involved in Heathcoat's lace factory. He married Mary Louise Cooper who was the daughter of an English mariner and a French girl.



WERE YOUR FAMILY BAPTISTS?

The book *'The History of Friar Lane Baptist Church'* contains a number of pedigrees of families who were prominent members of the congregation there in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. It was published in 1903, and the Archives Office in Nottingham has a copy.

Some pedigrees included are:

Hazledene, Wells, Henson, Barber, Booth, Oldknow, Rogers, Smith, Vickers & Ward

ON THE NET

We are progressing towards having our own site; *Southern Cross Genealogy*, an Australian ISP for genealogists and historians, are carrying the story and the emigrant's names as part of their site.

Email addresses:

BROWN	Carol Bailey	bailey_carol@hotmail.com
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DUNK	Diana Ford	dianaford@ozemail.com.au
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PLUMMER	Vera Plummer	plummer@bell.dialix.com.au
WELLS	Claire Moore	cmoore@box.net.au
WEST	Bron King	bronking@pcug.org.au

DOVER MARRIAGES

The story of the Lacemakers has aroused some interest in Dover and a local historian has transcribed more of the marriage registers of St Mary the Virgin's. Dick Barton, of the Kent Family History Society forwarded the list to *Tulle*.

ofa = of full age

b = bachelor

sp = spinster

29 Nov 1837. Henry AUSTIN of Bulwark St.Lacemaker.b.ofa. to Susanna Jones MCKEEN of same address,sp,ofa, John AUSTIN, lacemaker, James MCKEEN, mariner. Wits: Henry MCKEEN, Mary MCKEEN.

1 Jul 1838. William SMITH of Council House St.Lacemaker.b.ofa. to Marianne WEST of same address,sp,ofa. James SMITH, lacemaker, Robert WEST, lacemaker ? Wits: Robert WEST, Mary Ann HOLMES, James SMITH.

15 Apr 1838. John GRUNDY of Council House St.Lacemaker.b.ofa. to Ann HAMMERSLEY of same address , wid. ofa. Samuel GRUNDY, Labourer. Joseph RAGSDALE, gardener. Wits: John BAKER. F N PENN.

29 Apr 1838. Francis COOPER of Union St.Lacemaker.wid.ofa. to Amelia SMITH of same address.wid.ofa. William COOPER,farrier. Samuel DAWSON, framework knitter. Wits: John BAKER. Elizabeth KING.

12 Jul 1838. Nathaniel POWELL of Divers Hotel.Lacemaker.b.ofa. to Emily Augusta PICKERING of same address.sp.ofa. John POWELL, stockingmaker. Thomas PICKERING.Lacemaker.

2 Oct 1838. George SELBY of Council House St.Lacemaker.ofa.b. to Mary HEMSLEY of same address.sp.ofa. John SELBY, Lacemaker. William HEMSLEY, Lacemaker.

5 Nov 1838. Samuel COMERY of Stroud St, Lacemaker.ofa.b. to Eliza SELBY of same address.sp.ofa. Samuel COMERY, Lacemaker. John SELBY, Lacemaker.

9 Mar 1840.William VICKERS of Limekiln St.Lacemaker.b.ofa. to Sarah Ann HISKEY a minor sp. Samuel VICKERS, Lacemaker. Robert HISKEY, Coachman. Wits: Samuel SOMES. A SOMES.

28 Mar 1840.Thomas SHORE of Stroud St.,Lacemaker.b.ofa. to Anne WEST of same address,sp.ofa. William SHORE,Lacemaker. George WEST, Lacemaker. Wits: George WEST. Sarah HOGBIN.

6 Jun 1840. Mathew MIDDLETON of Snargate St. Lacemaker. b. ofa. to Harriet AUSTICK of same address sp.of a. Isaac MIDDLETON, Lacemaker. George AUSTICK, Cutler. Wits: Richard MUGGERIDGE. Mary AUSTICK.

8 Jun 1840. William UNDERWOOD of Council House St. Lacemaker. b. ofa. to Ann SMITH of same address sp. Thomas Wilding UNDERWOOD, Hosier. John SMITH, Victualler. Wits: George GLOVER. Ann UNDERWOOD.

30 Nov 1840. Richard GOLDFINCH of Worthington Lane, Lacemaker. b. ofa. to Eugenie Elizabeth DISCOMBRE of same address. sp. ofa. Richard GOLDFINCH, Painter. Auguste DISOMBRE, Carpenter. Wits: John Mathew GOLDFINCH

14 Dec 1840. George BURGIN of Council House St, Lacemaker. b. ofa. to Antoinette DELBARRE of same address. sp. ofa. Edward BURGIN, Lacemaker. Maximillian DELBARRE, Coachman. Wits: Thomas BROWNLOW. Mary Ann AUSTICK.

14 Dec 1840. Thomas BROWNLOW of Council House St. Lacemaker. b. ofa. to Mary Ann AUSTICK of same address. sp. ofa. John BROWNLOW, Papermaker¹. George AUSTICK, Cutler. Wits: George BURGIN. Antoinette DELBARRE.

15 Dec 1840. James HARRISON of Council House St. Lacemaker. ofa. b. to Mary Ann STEVENSON of same address. sp. ofa. Thomas HARRISON, Papermaker William STEVENSON, Bricklayer. Wits: J LAKIN, R ROBERTS.

28 Dec 1840. Edward FREEMAN of Seven Star St. Lacemaker. b. ofa to Ann Arnold GEORGE of same address. sp. ofa. John FREEMAN, Mariner. Thomas Brazier GEORGE, Farmer. Wits: E BAILES. Maria GEORGE.

12 Apr 1841. Frederick FARRANDS of Stroud St. Lacemaker. ofa. b. to Eliza LEPRETE of same address. sp. ofa. William FARRANDS, Lacemaker. Pierre LEPRETE, Ropemaker. Wits:

¹ papermaker: proably paper piercer - maker of patterns for jacquard

Auguste GORET? Emma FARRANDS.

17 May 1841. Thomas SELBY of Stroud St. Lacemaker, b. of a. to Louise DESOMBRE of same address, sp. minor. John SELBY, Lacemaker. Antione DESOMBRE, Carrier. Wits: Vache AMBROISE. Maria Louisa PUZLOR?

21 Jun 1841. Jesse HAZELDINE of Council House St, lacemaker. b. of a. to Ann Rebecca MIDDLETON of same address. sp. minor. Thomas HAZELDINE, Framework Knitter. John MIDDLETON, Mariner. Wits: Jno BAKER. Ann MIDDLETON.

8 Nov 1841. James KENT of Custom House Quay, Lacemaker. wid. of a. to Julie LEULIETTE of same address. sp. of a. Thomas KENT, Framework Knitter. Josef LEULIETTE, Gentleman

26 Jun 1842. Richard LEE of Council House St, Lacemaker. b. of a. to Clarissa Adelaide ROHART of same address. sp. minor. Thomas LEE, Lacemaker. Philippe Nicholas Marie ROHART, Merchant. Wits: Philippe Nas Marie ROHART. Emma SPICE.

27 Jun 1842. Ferdinand KEYTON of Commercial Quay, Lacemaker. wid. of a. to Sarah Coleman SMITH of same address. sp. of a. Richard KEYTON, bleacher. George SMITH, Cooper. Wits: Thomas SMITH. Elizabeth BEX.

1 Aug 1842. Francis BARKER of Council House St. Lacemaker. b. of a. to Mahala BANNISTER of same address, sp. minor. Francis BARKER, Lacemaker. John BANNISTER, Lacemaker. Wits: Thomas HOLMES. Mary Ann HOLMES.

2 Aug 1842. Adam PRINGLE of Great St, Lacemaker. wid. of a. to Eulalie Emma SIMONS of same address. sp. of a. James PRINGLE, Farmer. Antione SIMONS, Baker. Wits: William GRAVENER. Ann GRAVENER.

15 Sep 1842. John Martin BAYLEY of Snargate St. Lace manuf. of a. b. to Sarah STOKES of same address wid. of a. George BAYLEY, Mariner. George PARSONS, Mariner. Wits: Henry & Mary Ann PAY

27 Dec 1842. Phillipe MEYNS of Stroud St, Lacemaker. b.ofa. to Louisa TURNER of same address. sp. minor. Phillipe MEYNS, Lacemaker. Eli TURNER, Iron founder. Wits: E TURNER. M TURNER.

17 Jan 1843. Frederick FARRANDS of Stroud St. Lace manufact. b.ofa. to Ann PARSONS of same address, sp. minor. William FARRANDS, Lacemanufacturer. William PARSONS, Lacemanfac.

FROM THE 1881 CENSUS NOTTINGHAM:

Census Place: Radford Nottingham

Residence: 88 Ilkeston Rd

PEET, William, Head of household, 76 years old, Levers Lace Machinist; Born Long Eaton Derby.

PEET, Sarah A, wife, 56 years old, Lace mender; born Calais 1825.

HOLMES, Clara; daughter, 24 years old, Lace Jenner, born St-Pierre 1857

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BROMHEAD

Mrs Margaret Vaughan
8 Albert St
GREENWICH NSW 2065

DAVIS

Mr & Mrs R Davis
58 Teusner Drive
MORPHETT VALE SA 5162

LEE

Mr Howard Lee
96 Angas Rd
WESTBOURNE PARK SA 5041

SAYWELL

Margaret Tarrant
252 Queen St
GRAFTON NSW 2460

SAYWELL

Mrs D McLaren
47 Western Cr
BLACKTOWN NSW 2148

SAYWELL

Mrs Caroline Bourne
668 Tocal Rd
MINDARIBBA via MAITLAND NSW 2320

STRONG

Mr Ray Strong
35 Lockwood's Rd
BORONIA VIC 3155

STUBBS (George)

Mrs Judith Griffiths
5 Hart Close
QUEANBEYAN NSW 2620



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