

TULLE

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

Australian Society of the Lacemakers of Calais Inc.

Meeting Times & Place:

ASLC meets at Don Bank Cottage, 6 Napier Street, North Sydney, NSW, on the third Saturday in February (AGM), May, August & November each year. All meetings commence at 1pm. You are invited to bring a plate to share with other members at afternoon tea and fellowship which follows.

Future Meetings: Saturday, 19 November 2016
Annual General Meeting Saturday, 18 February 2017
Saturday, 20 May 2017
Saturday, 19 August 2017

ASLC Website: www.angelfire.com/al/aslc

Want to Join or Membership Subscription Due? Contact Hon. Secretary ASLC
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Cover: La Rue de Thermes, Calais, Carte Postale 1900

Coming Meeting: Saturday, 19 November 2016, 1.00pm
Christmas Meeting: Our November Meeting will be a Christmas celebration. Also Sally and Dean FARROW who are building the new website will be attending to launch it. See page 18.

Tulle is published by the Australian Society of the Lacemakers of Calais Inc. (ASLC), a non-profit entity. *Tulle* is released in February, May, August and November each year. Our journal is designed to foster family history and camaraderie amongst members and others. Original and creative content is encouraged. Secondary material must be cited. Use the author-date method as in this or recent issues. With permission of the author(s) lengthy articles may be made available online to members in digital form with excerpts published in *Tulle*. Please submit all contributions to the Editor. We want to publish your stories and research in *Tulle*. All styles will be accepted and modified for consistency. Photographs and various other art forms are most welcome. Please submit your stories for the sake of all readers of *Tulle* and for posterity. ASLC associates with like societies.



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President's Message

It was my great pleasure to announce at the August meeting that we were successful with our Arts NSW Cultural Grant application. We were awarded \$2000, which will allow us to have all 132 editions of *Tulle* professionally digitized in a fully searchable format.



I was also proud to represent our Society at the NSW/ACT Association of Family History Societies' annual conference at Camden in early September. On the Sunday morning we were the centre of attention, with Gillian KELLY sharing the story of our Lacemakers with the 200 delegates present. Thank you Gillian, you did us all proud!

Many of the conference delegates commented about the great story that surrounds our Lacemakers of Calais. Shauna HICKS, a professional genealogist who attended the conference at Camden in September wrote this about our Lacemaker ancestors: "*although I don't have any ... I was left feeling a little jealous, a bit like not having a convict in the tree when others have them.*"

The future of our Society depends on our ability to share our story and engage the next generations. I encourage you to help keep the story alive. This may be by sharing a new discovery at a meeting, submitting to *Tulle*, identifying opportunities for speaking engagements, letting us know about family history events coming up or submitting articles elsewhere – every little bit will help.

Thank you for your support throughout 2016. Best wishes for the festive season and here's to a safe and healthy 2017 for us all!



Megan Fox, President



Secretary's Report

A large group of members attended the August Meeting. It is pleasing to see how alive our Society is as it continues to develop and grow.

Dianne BILSHEN from Maitland NSW Family History Group showed us how she has overlaid satellite maps and old hand-drawn maps to find where our forebears may have resided in the Hunter /Maitland area. The marriage of the old and new was very interesting. Diane must be a woman of incredible patience to undertake this.



Congratulations Megan and Gillian for winning a \$2000 grant to be used to digitise *Tulle*. Volunteers from the Society will then begin the task of indexing all issues to enable research. We are very grateful for their hard work which will make our history more accessible to future generations. These digitised versions eventually will be on our new website too.

Another success has been the sale of the tea towels with our Lacemaker names and ships printed on them. They are a great reminder and conversation starter for visitors to our homes (that's if you still dry dishes!)

Our November meeting will be the last for the year and we look forward to celebrating Christmas with all our Lacemaker friends. We do hope you can join us at Don Bank.

We wish you a wonderful Christmas and happy New Year.

Carolyn Broadhead, Secretary



Editor's Comment



The closing of our year is a time for reflection, as well as a time for ringing in the New Year and looking ahead. This issue of *Tulle* contains some articles of reflection, notably by Kingsley IRELAND and Aileen TRINDER. Both show how far they have brought us along from their early days of research.

I live within earshot of the sounds of bells. The somewhat clunky old Post Office bell rings on the hour and generally is on time. The second sounds heard less regularly are the peals of the bells of the two cathedrals in Goulburn NSW. These are more distant but they really have life and melody and are great to hear.

These sounds of bells make me wonder what sounds our ancestors heard during their lives. Was it the peal of the bells? Whose death was announced by toll of the single bell? Was it the bell in the factory signifying end of a shift? Was it the bell of the ship ringing the watch? This leads to a wider question about their lives? What various other sights and sounds were witnessed and how were our ancestors affected by these?

What would they think about life today? One thing is for sure. Our ancestors would be very proud of our Society. The fact that their stories continue to be told in various ways is a tribute to all who do so. Thank you to all contributors to *Tulle*. Thanks also to our printers *Fine Impressions* of Pymble NSW who do a wonderful job.

Merry Christmas and a very happy and fulfilling New Year.

Jim Longmire, Editor



Christmas in Calais

This article summarises some of the main events that will occur in or near Calais in the coming festive season.

Calais Christmas Extravaganza

Each year, the people of Calais eagerly await the *Sommets de Noël* (Christmas Extravaganza.) The celebration includes street entertainment and a market that is packed with stalls selling various arts and crafts. One of the highlights of the festival is the Grand Parade where turkeys are paraded through town as guests of honour before roasting them a few days later. The festival starts at 7:00 pm on the last day of November when the Mayor of Calais switches on the lights of the town hall (30 November to 6 January.)



Calais Christmas Market / Parade

Calais annual Christmas market cum parade, which extends from the theatre square to the shopping streets of the city centre, is organized with much fondness. Nearly 100 stands display various artefacts and local dishes such as Saint Nicolas biscuits (12 - 14 December.)



Christmas Shop Window Contest

When it's Christmas in Calais, shopaholics live their shopping dreams. Shopkeepers try their best to attract customers to their stores by participating in the Best Christmas Shop Window contest.

They decorate the interiors of their shops with snowflakes, Santa's, and fancy good displays. With so many customers visiting the shops



during the seasonal rush, it is obvious that they get to decide which store wins (1 - 24 December.)

Calais Christmas Parade

Christmas Parade in Calais starts with Father Christmas on his reindeer-driven sleigh, roaming around the main streets of Calais. The Parade starts mid-afternoon from Place de la Nation, running through the main streets and ending at Place d'Armes (14 December.)

Calais Christmas Lights

As a celebration of lights, all the main displays, shopping streets and malls, monuments and the whole city centre are lit up with bulbs to welcome Christmas.

The lighting is truly worth observing and appreciating (12 - 14 December.)



Fête de la Dinde (Turkey Festival)

The turkeys of Licques are famous in France and before slaughtering them for Christmas, they are paraded through the town with an award



for the best bird. The town also produces a peculiar alcoholic drink called 'Licquoise' from which the city derives its name. This liqueur is offered to the visitors before the turkey parade (13-15 December.)

Source: www.calais.com/v/festivals



My Early Days of Family History

Kingsley Ireland

(Interviewed by Jim LONGMIRE, 28 May 2015,
Paddington, NSW)



Kingsley IRELAND is a long-term member of the Australian Society of Lacemakers of Calais and for five decades has been a family historian/genealogist and a keen supporter of local history and heritage groups.

Q: You have written eight family history books and made numerous presentations here and abroad in the field of family history and genealogy and the like. As well you have actively encouraged others in this profession. When and where did it all start?

KI. Well it began in 1965 when we were married in Saddleworth, South Australia. Lynley (née BLATCHFORD) and I were given a wedding album that had a place in which you could adhere a copy of the invitation and list the names of the guests of the wedding. But also it had a *pro forma* family tree of parents, grandparents and great grandparents of each for the bride and the groom. Lynley had three grandparents still living and was easily able to ask them for the next-oldest generation's names and to fill it in.



I was not going to be beaten by that. I had only one grandparent alive during my lifetime and he died when I was fourteen. I decided that I had to do some real research to uncover the



names because my father was the youngest of thirteen. My mother was the fifth out of seven. So I began to ask elderly cousins and relatives questions about the family.

Q: Where were you were living then?

KI: We were living at Waterloo, east of Clare, in the Mid North of South Australia about 80 miles north of Adelaide. My grandfather was one of twelve. Luckily just one of his brothers was alive so I visited him. Great Uncle Ern IRELAND had a handbag that had been brought purportedly on the ship that conveyed his parents to South Australia in 1854. In the bag was a copy of documents of the emigrant's baptism in 1833 in Somerset and his marriage in 1852 near Glastonbury, Somerset. Also in it were documents of the baptism of the infant son who came with them. Also the bag contained a response to an application for an assisted passage to South Australia. That started the ball rolling in being able to find records about my IRELAND forebears in Somerset England.

Q: Your first family history book was completed in 1969 which was only four years after your initial pursuit of your family history. That was possibly one of the earliest family history books written in Australia containing some descendants of Lacemakers of Calais.

KI: Yes. My mother was Jean Kathleen IRELAND (née CAVENETT). Her mother was Lillian Maud CAVENETT (née LONGMIRE). Lillian was the youngest child of Henry LONGMIRE and Ellen Martha (née FROST). Henry was the oldest son of Hiram and Ann LONGMIRE and would have spent about 5 years living in St Pierre-les-Calais from age 7 to 12. So my mother was a great granddaughter of the lacemaker family Hiram and Ann LONGMIRE.

Q: In 1965 what was the first thing you did to compile that history?

KI: Well I began to ask my mother and father for the names of their cousins and uncles and aunts in chronological order as much as they could. Then I recorded the children. The next step was to find addresses of those living and to hand write letters to them. I asked them for cooperation, help and guidance in constructing a family history. All correspondence was by post.

Q: There were no personal computers at that time so how did you keep your records?

KI: I started with a manila folder for each of the twelve children of the emigrant couple. I put the replies into the relevant folders.

Q: No doubt there were many queries that came out of that. What other searching was involved?

KI: I went to the State Library of South Australia to check the annual directories that gave names. They were called the *Post Office Directories* that began in the 1870s. I could find where great grandfather IRELAND was working then. He was working from a western suburb of Adelaide as a carrier or carter with wagons moving freight around Adelaide. Then he moved to Auburn about 70-80 miles north of Adelaide and took up 80 acres of land there.

I went to the local council office of Auburn to find his name in their records as well. He applied for land when sheep stations were being resumed from pastoral lease and the land was being sold to settlers. It was offered for sale on a credit arrangement under the Strangways Act where the State Government was the vendor of the land. The people who bought the land were able to pay it off over time under a reasonable credit arrangement. The records and documents of ownership were available at the Auburn Council Office.

There were no digitised newspapers then as we have today. However, the State Library of South Australia had old newspapers bound in chronological order. I tried to find records of the deaths of ancestors to see if I could find an obituary or other information about the individual.

Q: You have gathered a lot of family photographs and family memorabilia. How did this affect your search for family history?

KI: I became an avid searcher of as many ancestral photographs as I could. To do this I needed to be visiting those cousins I spoke about previously. However some of those were in their eighties and at that time they felt that the photographs were not highly-valued. They felt that when they died the collection of photographs would just be lost. So they offered for me to be the custodian of the photographs. I bought a secondhand leather album which was made in the 19th Century but empty. That album became my treasured collection of ancestral photographs.

Note: Kingsley's family history books provide detailed and accurate family trees and much about the ancestors themselves. As well they contain many photographs, around 150 in Ireland (1972), for example, mainly old portraits.

Q: When did you start obtaining information about family baptisms and so on from overseas?

KI: What Uncle Ern gave me contained copies of births deaths and marriages certificates from Somerset. So I knew that there must be some way of finding records of both Mum and Dad's side of the family. I was beginning to think that I was boringly British and had no other ancestral lines from different countries.

I began to read what I could. I remember reading an article in a *Reader's Digest* in a waiting room telling about the Society of Genealogists in London and what its collections and aims were. In 1966 I applied for membership of the Society and was accepted. I have been a member ever since. Members received a guide book and articles in the quarterly magazine. Because of my address being given in the membership lists published in the magazine I received a business card from a man in England who worked in insurance. But on the side he had a little business called *The Surname Archives*. His name was Francis LEESON and he later became editor of that English *Genealogists Magazine*. He lived on the south coast of England but he offered to do professional research. I began writing to him and asked him to do checks in the repository for births, marriages and deaths in London to get the certificates of those who were born married or died in the period from 1837 when registration began to the time of emigration to Australia.

Q: What special breakthroughs did you have then?

KI: The exciting one was finding the birth of the brother of my great grandfather. Hiram LONGMIRE Junior was born in 1838 in Nottingham. This gave his father's name as Hiram LONGMIRE, lacemaker, and his mother's name as Ann née WHILDON. That opened up a completely new chapter for research.

Q: When did you learn of the Calais connection?

KI: The Calais connection came later. I asked my mother and her sister in about 1966 from where the LONGMIREs had come and my aunt said well I think they came from France. I said "Well the name doesn't sound French." So I asked if they knew from what part but they had no idea.

I received the birth certificate of Hiram Jr (1838) and later that of his sister Mary LONGMIRE (1841) and information that they were children of lacemakers in Nottingham. Also from other sources I was able to work out

that the couple who came to South Australia had five children with them. Initially I could only find evidence about the eldest three children: Henry, Hiram Jr and Mary.



There should have been two more according to the personal stories of the old cousins in South Australia I had contacted. They knew of a great uncle Walter LONGMIRE who went to Katanning in Western Australia and another called Elizabeth who married a Mr Hector STEWART in South Australia. Eventually I got to know the likely year of birth of these two.

So I wondered where Walter and Elizabeth had been born. Since Hiram and Ann had been living in England and had their three elder children in Nottingham, where were the younger two born? If in France you could not just check at a central location like London. There was no master index to check in Paris in search of the births of Walter (1846) and Elizabeth (1844).

Being ignorant about the lace industry and France more generally I learnt that you had to write to a Department or Canton area for the possible birth certificates. So I began writing to those centres of France where hand-made lace was made. I was unaware of the fact that Hiram was a machine lacemaker. I wrote letters to relevant authorities in various French cities asking 'Do you have the record of



Elizabeth LONGMIRE born 1844 and Walter LONGMIRE born 1846?' Back would come the reply written in French saying no I do not have the records of those two children. And so I would write to Valencierre, Lyons and other places just to persist.

Finally I went to the State Library of South Australia in North Terrace, Adelaide and found a wonderful book by William FELKIN (1876). This is well-known now to members of our Lacemakers Society in Australia. But in the late 1960s it was unknown to me and colleagues. No historian or genealogist I had met mentioned it to me. Felkin told the story of the machine-lace industry in Calais.

So I wrote the same letter to Calais asking for the births of Elizabeth and Walter and back came the photocopies of their birth registrations. When I opened the envelope I jumped up and nearly punched the ceiling. This was like getting a hole-in-one as a golfer. Even though I am not a golfer I felt a similar exhilaration.

References

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IRELAND, Kingsley. 1972. *The Family History of Hiram LONGMIRE*. self-published: Adelaide.

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 Elizabeth Longmire (No. 121)
 1844, 3rd May, 9 o'clock in the morning. I, Louis Joseph Fougere, deputy mayor, acting as registrar for the Mayor at St. Pierre-les-Calais, Calais district, Pas-des-Calais area, welcomed Mr. Hiram Longmire, aged 30, textile worker, of Saint Pierre-les-Calais, who presented me a female child, born at home 'rue des quatre coins' - 4 corners st., Fr. section, No. 72, on 2nd May, at 3 o'clock in the morning. Mr. LONGMIRE declared that the child was born to him and to Ann Wildon, his spouse, aged 33, and that it should be named Elizabeth. This declaration was done in front of Mr. John Daykin, aged 36, textile worker, and Henry Butler, aged 36, greengrocer, both of Saint-Pierre-les-Calais. The father and witnesses as well as myself have signed the present certificate after it had been read aloud.
 Hiram Longmire
 Butler Henry
 John Daykin
 C. T. Fougere

Photocopy of Elizabeth's birth registration from Archives du Pas-de-Calais.

Extract from the birth's register for the township of St. Pierre-le-Calais, 1844.

Elizabeth LONGMIRE (legitimate) No. 121.

1844, 3rd May, 9 o'clock in the morning. I, Louis Joseph Fougere, deputy mayor, acting as registrar for the Mayor at St. Pierre-les-Calais, Calais district, Pas-des-Calais area, welcomed Mr. Hiram Longmire, aged 30, textile worker, of Saint Pierre-les-Calais, who presented me a female child, born at home 'rue des quatre coins' - 4 corners st., Fr. section, No. 72, on 2nd May, at 3 o'clock in the morning. Mr. LONGMIRE declared that the child was born to him and to Ann Wildon, his spouse, aged 33, and that it should be named Elizabeth. This declaration was done in front of Mr. John Daykin, aged 36, textile worker, and Henry Butler, aged 36, greengrocer, both of Saint-Pierre-les-Calais. The father and witnesses as well as myself have signed the present certificate after it had been read aloud.

Hiram LONGMIRE

John DAYKIN

BUTLER Henry

C. T. Fougere

Translation of the birth registration.

Example of a Birth Certificate from St Pierre-les-Calais obtained by Kingsley IRELAND via the post in the late 1960s



**Pioneering Grandsons of Lacemaker Hiram LONGMIRE at East Katanning, Western Australia 1901, Courtesy IRELAND (1972, p. 37)
Top Photo (l to r): Malcolm L, Walter L, Agricultural agent (unknown)
Bottom Photo: Malcolm L holding reins of six-horse team**



Lucy BATES, Member ASLC wins Volunteer Award

Robin Gordon, OAM

Well done “our Lucy.”

Announced early in October 2016, in the Newcastle Herald and on local Newcastle TV News, were recipients of the annual awards for volunteers across the Hunter Region, NSW.

Lacemaker Member Lucy BATES was named as “Senior Volunteer 2016” for her volunteering work with disabled athletes managing the Hunter Boccia Club and President of Boccia NSW. She was nominated by the Cerebral Palsy Alliance.

Lucy is a respected and experienced Boccia Referee and co-wrote the “Boccia National Referees Course”. She continues to referee at local, state, interstate, National and International competitions.

For those who may suspect, Lucy is a daughter of Lindsay WATTS.

Lindsay and Lucy are among five members of our Society from the BROMHEAD family. Lindsay, a founding member of ASLC, is mother to Lucy and two other daughters plus a granddaughter, all members. Lindsay can proudly claim another five grandchildren and now ten great grandchildren.

The photo right shows Lucy, with her husband Phil and mother Lindsay at the Awards Presentation.



Bell Ringing in Nottinghamshire

The ancient art of bell ringing is alive and well in Nottinghamshire. Perhaps this is because of the many churches in the county with sufficient bells to ring extremely melodic and complicated peals.



**Bell Tower, St
Mary, Nottingham**

Many of our lacemaker ancestors were baptised, married and occasionally attended various churches of Nottingham with their fine bells. These are regularly rung today by keen bell ringers.

The Southwell and Nottingham Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers (or antecedents) has been active since the end of World War II although the history of bell ringers in the city spans many centuries.

The aims of the Guild are: (1) ringing for divine service, (2) recruiting and training ringers, (3) encouraging the art of bell ringing (4) helping ringers to improve their standard of ringing and (5) assisting in the care and restoration of bells and their fittings. For more details see [www.southwelldg.org.uk]



For the history of the bells of churches of St Mary and of St Peter in Nottingham see [www.nottinghamchurches.org/music/bells/]. The first reference to bells at St Mary goes back to 1394. Today there are twelve bells in the ring. The Church of St Peter dates back 900 years and today there are 13 bells in the ring.

For an interesting perspective on the link between some pubs in Nottingham named after bells of churches nearby see [www.nottinghamdrinker.co.uk/features/ring-changes].



Coming Don Bank Meeting, 1pm, Saturday 19 November 2016

As well as the usual Christmas Celebrations at our final meeting for 2016, Sally and Dean FARROW will be attending to launch our new website www.lacemakersofcalais.com.au. They will take us through its main features and will demonstrate its future potential for our Society and members.



On behalf of ASLC Paul WAND AM accepts the award of \$2000 to digitise *Tulle* presented by Associate Professor Carol LISTON, President RAHS
Photo: Christine WAND



Photo of Plaque Submitted by Richard LANDER
The plaque and obelisk denotes the very spot where the flagstaff stood when Governor Macquarie christened the town "Bathurst" on 7 May 1815, over 200 years ago



Keen interest in ASLC at the September 2016 Camden Conference



Calais in the News

Calais has been very much in the news in recent times. Spare a thought for locals who have had a refugee camp of about ten thousand people on the edge of their city, termed *The Jungle*. Spare a thought for the refugees who have lived in it. At the time of this issue going to press the French Government was in the process of moving people out of *The Jungle* to other locations. The clearing of the camp with bulldozers was imminent. How this will be resolved overall is for the future.

Another recent news story is how a counter-agent codenamed *Garbo* (a male named Juan Pujol GARCIA) helped lead the Germans to believe that the D-Day invasion in 1944 would be at Calais when in fact it was at Normandy. See the article by Ian COBAIN, *The Guardian*, Wednesday 28 September 2016.



Calais Ruins World War II

Chris ROGERS Retires from First-Class Cricket

At the end of this year's County Cricket season in England, Chris ROGERS (*Walmer Castle*) announced his retirement from first-class cricket. He went out in a blaze of runs, scoring centuries for Somerset in both innings to defeat Nottinghamshire at Taunton, UK. Overall he scored 25,470 runs at an average of 49.55 including 76 hundreds in first-class games. Congratulations for such a wonderful career.



See <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-09-23/chris-rogers-retires-from-first-class-cricket/7871164>



Employment and Dispersal Lists: Assisted Passengers Arriving 1848 to 1854

Aileen Trinder , Genealogist and Co-Founder of Pastkeys



Introduction

Aileen TRINDER has been compiling very valuable information on migration to colonial Australia for at least the past thirty years together with colleague Pat FEARNLEY (formerly STEMP). They took up the challenge of gathering data from various sources, matching it and patching it and making it available in a much more useful form. They founded Pastkeys, an entity which provided them the flexibility to get the job done. They have made a major contribution to the history of migration to colonial Australia.

We were privileged to have Aileen as guest speaker at the May 2016 Meeting of our Society at Don Bank Cottage, North Sydney. The



topic overlaps with the year of the arrival of our lacemaker ancestors so is highly relevant to many but not all in our Society. The information covers migration to New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland but does not include South Australia nor Western Australia. If your ancestors were emigrants to the states covered the lists presented may help you learn more about your ancestors' travel to

Australia and life after arrival. By accessing the Compact Disk of the Assisted Passenger Lists you may discover things you never knew about your lacemaker ancestors and other ancestral lines too.



President Megan FOX obtained the CD (cover below) from Pastkeys and was very satisfied with what she learnt about her family. She searched very successfully for her ancestors and found out interesting details of their employment.

How It All Started

Aileen started out on migration lists in the early 1980s in search of information on her Irish ancestor. She had acquired indexes on Irish migration by 1984, all being on microfiche. She came to

learn that her ancestor, an orphan girl from Ireland, arrived in the colony of NSW in 1850, and later married in 1858. Aileen was keen to learn more. She heard about quarterly despatches that were sent by the governor of each colony to the Colonial Office in London, including details of the ship's journey and what happened to the immigrants upon arrival in NSW. Copies of these were in the State Library of NSW in microfilm form. So she sought to search the relevant despatches to learn about her ancestor and the ship on whom she emigrated, the *Tippoo Saib*. Aileen found the NSW Governor's despatch with 10 ships including the one of interest but none of the lists for those had survived.

However, while searching, she read some other surviving lists. She considered family history researchers would benefit tremendously from access to that information. Her professional judgement was that these records should not only be indexed but fully transcribed and published for widespread use in a searchable format.

British Administration of Emigration

The British Government was heavily involved in administering emigration to various colonies during the 1830s and 1840s. This is



was part of the State Library of NSW research program on immigration.

Comparisons with Other Historical Information and Reconciling Differences

The ship returns have been matched against other information available. Other information Pastkeys has compiled includes (State Library of NSW 2015):

- NSW Immigration Deposit Journals 1853-1900 (more recently published as the NSW Immigration Deposits Combined Index 1853-1900)
- Unassisted Arrivals into Sydney 1842-1857
- Deane index Re-indexed (Settler's Letters) 1823-1840
- Convicts & Employers Index 1828-1844
- Wages Paid to Orphans 1849-1851.

Other information has been added to combine information all on one CD. Overall more than 300,000 records exist. All sorts of combinations can be searched using the databases. Where possible, differences have been reconciled using professional methods of genealogy and history.

Some Interesting Findings and Conundrums

Aileen spoke of many instances where information from various sources was incompatible. Occupations were not always correctly reported. Ages were often misreported. She found one 21 year-old girl reported as 12. Was this a dyslexic clerical error or was it a deliberate lie on the 21 year old's behalf for some reason? Or was the girl genuinely innumerate? Illegible writing of records was found to be common too (as might be expected given general literacy levels then.)

Where people were living and working was not always correctly recorded too. Often families did not stay together with children taking work as nursemaids or young apprentices away from their parent's abode. Often fathers moved to new opportunities without

taking their families at first, as happened with the new goldfields or moving further out with sheep and cattle. This happened with Eugenie GOLDFINCH (as told in Gillian KELLY's article in *Tulle* 132) although her case was recorded after being admitted to a home for the destitute in Adelaide.

Many variants of names and aliases of names were found. Many ways of spelling names were found. Fake marriage certificates were found, some people doubled up with an extra fake name (was this to have a cleanskin name to present to authorities?) By contrast sometimes two people used just the one name (was this immigration deposit evasion or just a case of helping a stowaway?)

Aileen also reported that some passenger lists in old newspapers contain only paying passengers. As well some online data confuses unassisted passengers with assisted ones.

These are some of the pitfalls we all need to know when searching for reliable information about our ancestors. Often the skill of the genealogist is needed to resolve the thorny issues. *Who do we think we are* may have more to it than first meets the eye on the computer screen. Thanks Aileen for digging deep in old documents and for making the data available to a wide set of potential users. Thank you for your very thorough research and presentation.

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State Library of NSW. 2015. *Interview Genealogist Aileen TRINDER*. Immigration Research. [www.sl.nsw.gov.au/blogs/] (at blogs » click on the topic *family history* » then scroll down to find Aileen)



Tough Times for Lace Factories in Calais This Year

Michel Rose, Calais, France

Extracted from Reuters World News 21 March, 2016

A Monet painting inspired the field of red poppies embroidered onto the delicate lace at Gerard DEZOTEUX's 126-year-old lace factory in Calais, northern France.

The samples at *Desseilles Laces*, supplier to lingerie brands such as *La Perla*, *Ralph Lauren* and *Victoria's Secret*, may never make the shop floor as the company is on the brink of collapse.

Competition from Asian rivals has squeezed the region's lace industry so DEZOTEUX cut jobs to save money. But a court overturned the decision, a costly blow that may force the company to shut.

'This was my own masterpiece,' DEZOTEUX said, holding up the red fabric on the factory floor where 'tullists' still adjust threads by hand on clattering machines that are even older than the factory.

There were over 300 lace factories in Calais at the beginning of the 20th century, and the town has a museum celebrating the industry. Now there are three.

There will only be two lace factories left if *Desseilles* closes as a result of the December 2016 court order to rehire five of the workers it laid off in 2013, pay two-and-a-half years of salary arrears, plus an amount of compensation that has yet to be set.

DEZOTEUX estimated it could cost at least 750,000 euros (\$US 850,000) overall, more than the company's loss for the whole of 2015 and about 10 percent of its turnover.



The Nottingham Reel: Fishing Tackle Manufacturers

Brian Binns

My 2 x great grandfather Levi LEE was a fishing tackle manufacturer in Nottingham from around 1860 until 1880. He combined this occupation with that of a hairdresser, having taken over from his father-in-law, Charles EAGLESFIELD, who came to Nottingham from Leicester via Quorn, having

previously fought at The Battle of Waterloo. Charles ran his business from Coalpit Lane before moving to Lister Gate, during the period from 1828 until his death in 1860. Levi's shop was on Drury Hill but later in his life he concentrated on his other main business, that of a Taxidermist, from shops on Ilkeston Road and St Peter's Street, Radford.

In the trade directories of this period there are quite a few people who have the dual occupation of Fishing Tackle Manufacturer and Hairdresser which has always fascinated me. Why combine these two occupations. Did they use the hair to make fishing flies?

Anyway, to my immense surprise, I have just found on eBay a fishing reel made by Levi LEE with his name engraved on it. It would appear that old wooden and brass fishing reels are collectors' items, but the seller is asking nearly £400 for this item. Much as I would love to own it, the price is a bit steep. I'm not a fisherman. However, I have done a bit more research and found the following which shows that there was a particular style of fishing reel which became known as the "Nottingham Reel" and am passing it on as it may be of interest to other researchers.



Nottingham Fishing Reels

The first wooden reel was designed in the late 1790s in Nottingham, England. This became known as the Nottingham Reel. By the early 1800s the simple effective wooden reel design was being copied all over England and across the Atlantic in America. The name Nottingham stuck. The Nottingham Reel had:

- Simple wooden spool design. Much like a spool for thread. Polished and often shellacked for weather resistance.
- 5 to 10 inches in diameter.
- A wood or brass handle. The handle was attached with a single screw. Some handles turned for easier use. The cheaper one did not.
- Wide arbour. The arbour of the reel is the centre between the edges where the spool of fishing line sits. The wider the arbour the more flat the line lays on the spool. This makes it much harder to tangle and strip the line. A godsend while fishing
- Reels inward only. The wooden Nottingham reel did not cast out. It spun without locking. This meant that a fisherman could only drop the line down with a weight attached.

Extracted from Notts Surname List

<http://homepages.ihug.co.nz/~hughw/notts.html>



Uses and Customs of Church Bells in England

Extracted from Walters (1908)

Traditionally church bells had three uses: religious, superstitious and social. An ancient rhyme of the monks (recited in latin) sums up the ancient uses of a bells as follows:



*I praise the true God, I call the people, I assemble the clergy;
I mourn the departed, I put to flight pestilence, I honour
festivals;
I knoll for burials, I break the power of the lightning, I mark
the sabbaths;
I rouse the sluggard, I disperse the winds, I calm the
bloodthirsty.*

The principal use of the bells (or bell in smaller churches) was to call people to service and to remind them of their christian responsibilities.

An early rule of the church was that every place of worship within the realm of the Church of England should have at least one bell. Ordinarily, where there were more than two bells, they were chimed for periods varying from ten minutes to half an hour on sundays, while on week-days a single bell sufficed, tolled haply by the parson himself. In many places it was the custom to toll the largest bell for the last few minutes before service begins. This is known as the 'sermon bell'. The use of a sermon bell is said to date from before the Reformation.

Another 'sunday use' is the ringing of a bell after services to signify a later service that day. However it was known in some places as the 'pudding bell', intended to warn housewives to get ready the sunday dinner!



The ringing of bells on festivals is more particularly associated with Christmas and the New Year, though the latter is a secular rather than a religious occasion. The Christmas bells have been a favourite theme with artists and poets. So have the New Year bells. For example, from TENNYSON's *In Memoria*:



*'Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,
The flying cloud, the frosty light:
The year is dying in the night;
Ring out, wild bells and let him die.*

*Ring out the old, ring in the new,
Ring, happy bells, across the snow;
The year is going, let him go;
Ring out the false, ring in the true.'*

Ringling has always been customary - at least since the Reformation - on secular anniversaries, such as the birthday or coronation day of the sovereign or on the occasion of great victories. It was also very common at one time on Restoration Day (29 May), and Guy Fawkes Day (5 November). On New Year's Eve sometimes one bell only is tolled until the clock strikes twelve and then a peal of bells is rung.

The use of bells at the time of death was universal. According to WALTERS, the 'passing bell' originally sounded as a summons to the faithful to pray for a soul just passing out of the world. It is one of the oldest of all uses of bells, and is said to have been rung for St Hilda, of Whitby, in 680 AD.

In the churchwarden accounts of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries there are often long lists given every year of money received from parishioners 'for the knell.' The sum paid was



fourpence usually. The 67th Canon directs that the passing bell shall be tolled 'and the minister shall not then slack to do his last duty.'

Except in the case of royalty, bells seldom were rung to usher a child into the world. But they have always been associated with the rejoicing of a wedding ceremony.



Moulds at Bell Foundry

Church bells were largely used in mediaeval times to mark the hours of the day, well before the introduction of clocks. In the monasteries they were naturally rung at the canonical hours of twelve, three, six, and nine.

One of the best known uses of bells for announcing time is the curfew, an evening bell which was often accompanied by a corresponding bell in the early morning. The ringing of daily bells, especially at night, is often accounted for by stories of people who found their way when lost, or were delivered from nocturnal dangers, by hearing the bell of some church. Traditionally in some places in cases of fire the church bells would be rung backwards.

Reference

WALTERS, H.B. 1908. '*Church bells*'. Part 2 in DEARNER, Percy (ed.) *The Arts of the Church*. London: A.R. Mowbray & Coy Ltd [www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/46273]



Will the wreck of Lacemaker Ship *Baboo* ever be found?

Jim Longmire

Background

The Guardian (WATSON 2016) reported two months ago that the remains of *HMS Terror* were found recently in the arctic waters of Nunavut Canada, in pristine condition. She was one of the two sailing ships in the tragic Sir John FRANKLIN Expedition. The other ship was *HMS Erebus* whose wreck was found in Nunavut in September 2014. This is brilliant research and searching by the Canadians.



HMS Erebus

The Franklin Expedition including 129 men over-wintered in 1845-1846 at Beechey Island on the south-western tip of Devon Island, Nunavut. This was on the edge of the permanent sea ice. When the ice melted they sailed on to explore the Northwest Passage and to their doom. The two ships became trapped on ice as the next winter set in. All perished in grisly circumstances in the bitter Arctic cold.

The *Baboo* Connection: Ommaney Expedition 1850-51

Our lacemaker ship *Baboo* had a second life after her merchant career. This was as an arctic research and discovery vessel in the British navy. *Baboo* was sold by Thomas KINCAID to the British Government in 1850, fitted out for arctic exploration and renamed *HMS Assistance*. With a red bear as a figurehead in 1850 she sailed for the Canadian Arctic from England as a sister ship of *HMS Resolute* another arctic explorer ship - in search of the missing Franklin Expedition. The *Resolute* had a white bear as figurehead. Captain Erasmus OMMANEY commanded the 1850 expedition on the flagship *Resolute* and Thomas AUSTIN captained the *Assistance*.

They found evidence of the Franklin Expedition on Beechey Island but were not able to confirm what happened beyond that. The



Ommaney Expedition used sled teams to search various areas and documented much about weather, ice and so on. They returned to England in 1851 with whatever evidence was found but not the whereabouts of the Franklin Expedition nor *Erebus* and *Terror*.

The British Government had already sent other ships in search of Franklin's expedition, including the *HMS Investigator* captained by Frederick MCLURE (not the *Investigator* sailed by Matthew FLINDERS.) McLure sailed via the Pacific into the North West Passage. Eventually *Investigator* became beset on ice near Banks Island. She was abandoned there not far from the entrance to the Passage.

Baboo Connection: Belcher Expedition 1852-54

Another major arctic expedition was sent in search of the Franklin expedition under the overall command of Sir Edward BELCHER. This time the flagship was *Assistance* and the sister ship was *Resolute*, under Captain Henry KELLETT. This Arctic squadron is depicted in the painting below. Besides the two arctic discovery ships



Arctic Squadron Quitting the Nore April 1852 by Vincent BROOKS

The four most prominent vessels are (l to r): *HMS Resolute*, *HMS Assistance*, *Steam Tug African* and *Steam Tender Pioneer*

Source: BELCHER (1855, Vol I frontispiece)



steam tenders and other smaller tenders made up the convoy. Beechey Island was chosen as home base by BELCHER because it was not frozen in like the waters to the west and north. He posted recovery tenders there and re-supply vessels were directed there also.

BELCHER and KELLETT had crews who were expected to travel far and wide by foot, snowshoe and sled in search of FRANKLIN's expedition and for general exploration. Search teams travelled and learnt much even though the ships were locked in ice for many months. From Beechey Island *Resolute* sailed west with the tender *Intrepid* reaching as far as Dealey Island, near the southeastern coast of Melville Island, overwintering there in 1852-53. Meanwhile *Assistance* sailed north with tender *Pioneer* along Wellington Strait between Devon Island and Cornwallis Island. Later while returning *Assistance* and her tender became stuck on ice just west of Devon Island.

After many exploratory journeys using sleds and teams on foot, some new information was found about the Franklin Expedition. This suggested that *Erebus* and *Terror* had headed south but nothing substantial was found. The teams from *HMS Resolute* had a major find though. They came across teams from MCLURE's *Investigator* who were very relieved to be found. The officers and crew of *Investigator* were moved overland to the *Resolute* given supplies on the former were running low.

By winter of 1853-54, the *Investigator*, *Resolute*, and *Assistance* were all stuck in ice. Each had been a home base for sled teams but the mood of all was souring - particularly as there was no big breakthrough in the search for FRANKLIN's



HMS Assistance in the Ice 1853, by Thomas Sewell ROBINS, extract of painting at National Maritime Museum, Greenwich UK

expedition. Despite the pleadings of KELLETT, BELCHER decided to abandon the ships in the ice and to make for Beechey Island, and home to England on tenders and re-supply ships.

Assistance and *Pioneer* were abandoned less than 200 metres off the coast of Devon Island and about 50 miles (80 kilometres) north of Beechey Island (MCDUGALL, p.384 and p.406.) They were eventually abandoned there on 24 August 1854. The last reckoning of *Assistance* (75°31'N, 92°10'W) for August 1854 gives a similar location (Belcher 1855, Vol II Appendix F Tables of Meteorology p.334.)



HMS Assistance Blown over in Winter by Vincent BROOKS Source: BELCHER (1855 Vol I)

Upon arrival in England all returning learned the tragic fate of the Franklin expedition which had been uncovered by an overland team led by John MCRAE. However, he did not find the *Erebus* and *Terror*. He recovered notes and journals written by members of the Franklin expedition written before they died explaining some of the story. FRANKLIN died in 1847.

What of the Recent Discoveries in Canada?

The Canadian government is keen to demonstrate authority over their arctic. Consequently Canadian research effort has been boosted in the north for old wrecks, evidence of explorers, other archeological findings and the like. Some nations have expressed interest in using the Bering Strait and the North West Passage for trade and commerce between the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans. The retreat of Arctic ice is partly behind this interest. Because the Canadian research effort has been stepped up while the ice has been retreating, the wrecks of *Investigator*, *Erebus* and *Terror* have been found. Will the remains of *HMS Assistance* (formerly our lacemaker ship *Baboo*) be found one day?

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WATSON, Paul. 2016. Ship found in Arctic 168 years after doomed Northwest Passage attempt. *The Guardian*. Australian Online Edition. 13 September. [search online: hms-terror-wreck-found]



Errata: Catching up for the Year

1. On page 19 of *Tulle* 130 (Feb 2016), in paragraph one, Sarah BROMHEAD is reported to have married Joseph BAGULEY on 3 June 1843 at St Mary's, Nottingham. Stephen BLACK writes 'I was a little surprised to see that my ggg aunt Sarah Bromhead was married there. I know her parents Joseph BROMHEAD and Sarah GREENSMITH were married there in 1818. However Joseph BAGULEY and Sarah BROMHEAD were married in the Church of St. Mary the Virgin, in Dover Kent. The location of their marriage was not mentioned in the original source cited in the *Tulle* article. The brother of Sarah BAGULEY (née BROMHEAD), John BROMHEAD was married at the same church in Kent.'

2. Inside the front cover of *Tulle* 130 in describing the cover picture of Jedediah STRUTT, hosier and cotton pinner, Belper is stated to be in Nottinghamshire. Kingsley IRELAND points out that Belper is in Derbyshire. It is approximately 12 kilometres north of Derby.



3. Inside the front cover of *Tulle* 132 the painting of *HMS Assistance* (formerly *Baboo*) is attributed to Thomas Sewell ROBINS. This cover picture was extracted from a larger one depicting the expedition led by Sir Edward BELCHER 'Arctic Squadron Quitting the Nore' in April 1852 before heading north and sailing to the Canadian Arctic (see previous article.) The artist who painted the *HMS Assistance* on the cover of *Tulle* 132 was Vincent BROOKS.



The East Mill at Belper, Derbyshire Owned by Jedediah STRUTT. The tall smokestack chimney no longer exists.



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Australian Society of the Lacemakers of Calais Inc.

ASLC (Business Registration Y2651913)

Who are we?

Our Society was formed in 1982 with the aim of gathering a group of people whose ancestors were machine lacemakers of Calais who came to Australia in 1848. These 'Lacemakers' were mainly from the Midlands of England who undertook two migrations in the 1800s.

The first migration or 'exodus' was to leave the English Midlands and to move to Calais France. Our Lacemaker ancestors generally migrated there in the 1820s, 1830s and 1840s. There they helped develop a European hub for machine lace. Their skills were treasured. Many children were born in Calais or nearby and marriages with French people occurred. The future seemed assured but collapsed suddenly during the 1848 French Revolution.

Most Lacemakers and families decided that a future in a new land was preferable to returning to England's Midlands. So their second exodus with wife and children was in 1848 to colonies in Australia as assisted emigrants. They were sponsored by the Colonial Office of the British Government on the condition that they never manufacture lace 'down under.' They were well-suited to the colonies.

Most emigrants sailed from England to Australia aboard *Agincourt* (Sydney), *Fairlie* (Sydney) or *Harpley* (Adelaide.) Others came on the following vessels: *Andromache*, *Baboo*, *Bermondsey*, *Emperor*, *General Hewett*, *Harbinger*, *Navarino*, *Nelson* and *Walmer Castle*.

All descendants of lacemakers and others interested are invited to apply for membership. Members, families and others are invited to various activities of ASLC, to contribute to *Tulle* and to access our online material. We encourage you to enjoy our gatherings and contact. We engage actively with other like societies.

