

# *Tulle*

*Volume 21 Number 3  
August 2003*



**ALFRED DUDLEY DUNK circa 1900**  
In Australian Army Uniform at the time of the Boer War

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

**MEETING DATES**  
**2003**

Saturday May 17, 2003  
Saturday August 16, 2003  
Saturday, November 15, 2003

**Donbank Cottage**  
**6 Napier Street, North Sydney**  
**Meeting Time 1.00**

**NEXT MEETING**

**Saturday, August 16 2003**

featuring

*Some Stories of the Saywell Saga*

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK.

Dear Friends.

Winter is really with us but I hope that you have escaped the worst of the winter colds and 'flu germs.

At our last meeting several issues were raised that have been niggling at my conscience for some time. There have been great efforts made in raising our profile in the wider community so that people delving into their family history, are made aware that there is a society that has a special interest in families who have descended from lacemakers with connections with Nottingham and Calais. Happily we have welcomed many new faces and some members have discovered a new batch of relatives to flesh out parts of their family story. I mention the Saywell family as an example.

There are many lacemaker descendents who live interstate and in parts of New South Wales where it would be difficult to make regular contact at meetings. *Tulle* does a marvellous job of keeping everyone in touch but I have been concerned that there are people who live in or near Sydney whom we have not had the pleasure of welcoming to our regular quarterly gatherings. In May we discussed ways that we could encourage more people to join in and share some of their family research and perhaps solve an intriguing gap in their knowledge. It can be daunting to take the first step in joining a group as an 'outsider'.

So, in this edition of *Tulle* is a list of names and contact phone numbers of some members who have offered to be contact persons for anyone joining us for the first time. You may like to call someone from the list to arrange an early introduction if you have been hesitant about finding your way to Donbank Cottage at North Sydney to meet other lacemaker families and friends. Do think about making contact and joining us at our next meeting at Donbank Cottage on Saturday 16 August 2003 beginning at 1.00pm when some of the Saywell family will be entertaining us with their connections.

**Elizabeth Bolton**  
**President.**

## AND THE SECRETARY'S

I will not be at the August meeting because I will be recuperating following the replacement of my right hip with a prosthetic device. Before undergoing surgery I began wondering how our forebears would have fared had they faced similar pain caused by osteo-arthritis.

Of all the orthopaedic reconstructive procedures, arthroplasty or the construction of new artificial, movable joints was one of the first proposed and a surgeon called Charles White had replaced a femur in 1770 – but only on a cadaver! It wasn't until 1938 (90 years too late for our forebears) that John Wiles developed the first total hip replacement using a stainless steel prosthetic.

Hip replacements really only became possible after a lot of medical advances. For example, massive surgery like this requires sophisticated anaesthetic. In 1844 Horace Wells used nitrous oxide to pull one of his own teeth painlessly and in 1846 William Morton used ether as an anaesthetic for the first time. By 1847 James Young Simpson had used chloroform to relieve the pain of childbirth.

Even titanium, from which my hip prosthesis has largely been made, wasn't isolated until 1887, nearly a century after the element had been discovered in 1791. It was discovered in gunpowder-like sand at Menachan Valley in Cornwall, by clergyman and amateur chemist William Gregor. The metal remained a laboratory curiosity until 1946, the year I was born, when William Justin Kroll, of Luxembourg, first showed how titanium could be produced commercially.

Blood transfusions are required in such surgery. International Red Cross was not founded until 1864. In 1896 Scipione Riva-Rocci invented a device for measuring blood pressure.

The four major blood groups (A, O, B and AB) weren't identified until 1900 and the first direct blood transfusion wasn't carried out till 1905. The world's first blood bank was established at the Mayo Clinic in 1935 and Karl Landsteiner only discovered the Rhesus factor in blood in 1940 – all a bit late for our 1848 travellers!

Of course, to survive surgery requires the very best of disinfectants, pain killers and medical equipment. It wasn't until 1865 that Joseph Lister introduced phenol as a disinfectant during surgery and not till 1874 that Louis Pasteur suggested that boiling water could be used as a way of sterilizing medical instruments. Even penicillin wasn't discovered by Alexander Fleming until 1928 and it took a century of pain after our ancestors reached Australia before Philip Hench discovered that cortisone could give relief to those suffering from rheumatoid arthritis. Thankfully, aspirin had been introduced in 1899.

Without private insurance or state run medical schemes, hip replacement would be beyond the capacity of an individual. The prosthetic used in my own operation alone cost more than \$12,500. The world's first medical insurance scheme was established in Britain in 1911 but it was as late as 1942 that the idea of a National Health Service in Britain started to gain strength.

I can only conclude that had I been on the "Harpley" in 1848 and had I developed a dicky hip, I would have had to grin and bear it.

We have much to be thankful for and I say hooray for all the surgeons, scientists and engineers who have made these advances (and my own hip replacement) possible. Hooray indeed!

**Hip hip hooray!**  
**Richard Lander**

## **AND FINALLY THE EDITOR'S**

This is an unbalanced edition of *Tulle*! Over the thirteen years of this editorship there has been a tradition of attempting to maintain balance between history, geography and genealogy across England, France and Australia.

This *Tulle* breaks that tradition by being unashamedly about people. Collections of snippets about people that don't always fit anywhere deserve their own space - now is the time for them to see print - sometimes for the first time since the 1840s and earlier.

It also introduces a new feature - **STOP PRESS, NOTTINGHAM.** This is a collection of references to the lace trade, our lacemakers and Calais that have been gleaned by Barry Holland over many years of research in the Nottingham papers. His knowledge of the Lacemaker families that came to Australia and Calais is invaluable to us. He, in his research, records items of interest, and is now forwarding them to us.

It is quite surprising how much interest Nottingham people took in the doings of the new Lacemker colonials, and it is stunning to be able to solve some long standing mysteries such as what happened to John Martin and John Bath (*Fairlie & Agincourt*) from such distances in time and location. Enjoy the introduction to Barry and the first Stop Press, Nottingham!

It also includes two pieces of family story written quite a long time ago, neither author being still alive. The first is about Frederick Archer's (*Agincourt*) father - and shows how much can be discovered about a generation of folk long gone.

The second is about part of the Dunk family - and shows how family secrets of the day can really mask the truth. Today's openness of sexuality at least allows folk to enjoy their birth rights - for better or for worse!

Finally - the discovery of convict relatives - and the wealth of information available through Government sources Perhaps this *Tulle* will inspire people to tell the little bits and pieces about their families!

**Gillian Kelly**  
Editor

## **PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE**

ASLC meetings are held on the third Saturday in February, May, August and November. Future meetings should be as follows:-

16/ 08/ 03	21/ 02/ 04	19/ 02/ 05	18/ 02/ 06
15/ 11/ 03	15/ 05/ 04	21/ 05/ 05	20/ 05/ 06
	21/ 08/ 04	20/ 08/ 05	19/ 08/ 06
	20/ 11/ 04	19/ 11/ 05	18/ 11/ 06

## **FAMILY WELCOME REGISTER**

### **Making new members welcome to the Society**

ASLC has commenced a register of folks who would like to represent their families - and from the last meeting of the Society a great start has been made:

<b>Branson</b>	Gillian Kelly	PO Box 1277 Queanbeyan 2620		dentell @alrax.net.au
<b>Gascoigne</b>	Elizabeth Bolton		02 9481 0008	eabolton@bigpond.com
<b>Goldfinch</b>	Margo Wagner			petmar@tpg.com.au
<b>Goldfinch</b>	Lionel Goldfinch		02 9605 3838	
<b>Lander</b>	Richard Lander			richardlander@ozemail.com.au
<b>Nutt</b>	Carolyn Broadhead		02 9653 1278	beachous@acr.net
<b>Plummer</b>	Lionel Goldfinch		02 9605 3838	
<b>Saywell</b>	Craig Williams	PO Box 209, Terrey Hills 2084	02 9451 7982	
<b>Saywell</b>	June Howarth	16 McLeod Ave, Roseville	02 9416 8922	
<b>Saywell</b>	Marjorie Brown		02 9958 7678	
<b>Saywell, J</b>	Pamela Coull		02 9449 4148	
<b>Stevens</b>	Robyn Gordon	53 Hill Street, Belmont 2280		tolgaplytd@bigpond.com
<b>W Brown</b>	Carol Bailey	PO Box 39 Hazlebrook 2779		bailey_carol@hotmail.com
<b>West</b>	Tom Halls	187 Princes Highway, StPeters 2044		th@s.o55.aone.net.au
<b>Woodforth</b>	Jean Campbell			jeancampbell@optusnet.com.au

the please add your name to the list by contacting

**The Secretary ASLC**  
**17 McIntyre St**  
**Gordon 2072**

or on email at  
richardlander@ozemail.com.au



# STOP PRESS NOTTINGHAM

Introducing our researcher, Barry Holland:

## **A LITTLE BIT ABOUT ME**

Well, I was born in Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, far more years ago than I usually care to think about! When I was 19, I went to live in Nottingham, and I lived and worked there till I was 30. I did have an interest in genealogy even then, and did some work on my own family, but not nearly enough. In 1979 I moved down to London to work at the Royal Opera House. No, I was not a singer. I worked backstage on the costumes, a skill I had picked up from my long association with amateur theatre. I worked there till 1988 when I left to live in Spain, where I resided for just under five years, with one long break in 1990 when I was in England for about 10 months.

During the months I spent in England in 1990 I was based in Nottingham and to pass the time I began to visit the Central Library. One day I came across a short reference to a lady called Sarah Barber, who in 1851, had been found guilty of murdering her husband with arsenic. She was sentenced to death, and they actually built the gallows, but then she was reprieved and sentenced to life transportation. She eventually went to Tasmania.

I have a whole book about this woman now, but then I could not find very much information, so I decided to have a look at the microfilms of the newspapers of the time. Not only did I find information about her, I also discovered some fascinating stories about other people who had been sentenced to be transported. Since I had the time, and the interest, I decided to make an index of all those who I found in the newspapers. This took months, but I thoroughly enjoyed every minute of it.

At the end of my time in Nottingham I was able to spend two weeks in London mostly at the public Records Office. This enabled me to make an index of those who actually left the country and to cross reference it with my original notes. These notes were stored away until I came back to England in 1993. Then I really began to do research in earnest. The index (*Across the Ocean Wide*) was published by the Notts. Family

History Society in 1996. It is still available on fiche. I have a second edition nearly ready, which is packed with corrections, additions, and new details and am considering putting it onto CD to sell.

So, this Transportation Index, that I started way back in 1990, is still very much ongoing. I now have a huge amount of information on over 3,000 people! I would certainly be interested in any information at all about Nottinghamshire convicts.

As far as I am aware I am not related to any of the Holland's who were transported from Nottinghamshire, and there are quite a few! But, since I have not done nearly enough research into my own family as I should have done I cannot say for certain. I would love it if some of them, or indeed all of them, were mine! Cousins in Australia yet!

**Barry Holland**  
**Mapperley, Notts**

## STOP PRESS NOTTINGHAM

A number of Nottm. mechanics, who have recently returned from France, and have since been on a visit to their friends, left our station on Monday morning last for Liverpool, and it was expected they would embark the following day for Australia.

Nottingham & Newark Mercury 9th June 1848

The Monday immediately preceding this date was Monday June 5; the *Agincourt* sailed June 6

**Distressing Sight** - During the past week, a number of men and women (turn-out framework knitters, we believe, from Bulwell) yoked to a wagon, in which their children were placed, have been parading the streets of Nottingham, singing hymns, and soliciting contributions from the public. Their haggard looks and miserable apparel called forth universal expressions of pity, but the diminished resources of the trades people, combined with the fearfully arguemented, and still arguementing burthens, in the shape of local and poor-rates, render it impossible for them to relieve the most distressing cases.

Nottingham & Newark Mercury 11 August 1843

Son of Edward  
Lander, per  
*Harpley*

On Monday week, aged 9, Edward, son of Mr. E. LEANDER, (sic) Basville, France, and late of New Basford. He was drowned while playing with his brother near St. Pierre Bridge.  
Nottingham Review 31 March 1843

Police Office, Nottm. George Knowles HUDDLESTON, 50. Neglecting to support a wife. Lace-maker of Paradise Street. He was charged by Mr. HARRISON, the master of the Union Workhouse, with allowing his wife to become chargeable to the parish of St. Mary's. The defendant stated that some years back he, and his present wife's father, resided in Calais, but on the marriage being agreed to they crossed over to Dover, where it was celebrated. Some time after [line missing, crease in paper] ...unfaithful to him and he therefore came back to Nottingham. His wife had since followed him, but owing to her former conduct he declined to have anything to do with her. The wife denied this altogether and positively declared that it was her husband who deserted them. The case was eventually withdrawn on the man's promise to take the woman out of the house and pay her for the future regularly 2s 6d. a week.

Nottingham Review 3rd January 1851

George  
Knowles  
Huddlestone  
married  
Frances  
Richards on  
January 17,  
1820 at  
Radford. He  
was the son  
of Elizabeth  
Knowles and  
William  
Huddlestone.

There is no record in NSW Births, Deaths & Marriages of these deaths - but both men disappear from about this time. There were heavy rains on the Turon at the end of 1851 and reports of flooding and deaths of miners.

Australia. We learn, from a letter received by Mr. Alfred BATH, of Grosvenor - place, that John BATH and John MARTIN, two of the Nottingham emigrants from Calais, have been found dead at the Turin (sic) gold fields.

Nottingham Review 18 June 1852

Death Notice. Sydney, Australia. At the latter end of 1851, Mrs. VICKERS, wife of William VICKERS, formerly of Calais.

Nottingham Review 18 June

Mrs William Vickers was Sarah Hiskey, daughter of Robert Hiskey and Mary Ann Burrows, who was running a boarding house in Calais in 1841. Sarah's brother was on the *Harpley* in Adelaide. This article was in the same paper as the previous item and there is no registration of the death which probably occurred on the goldfields.

Inquests before M. Browne, Esq. [Nottingham Town] Coroner.

On Monday last, at the house of Mr. William Pick, the sign of the Leopard, Toll-house-hill, on view of the body of Ann Lichfield. - Mary Jackson, wife of James Jackson, of Calais, in France, lace maker, said Mrs. Lichfield was her mother. Witness had been confined about a fortnight, and her mother was in the room with her the previous night, about ten o'clock, sitting smoking her pipe, and nodding over it, as though asleep. She asked her to put the bay into bed to her; she said she would in a minute, but she must go down stairs. She got up to go downstairs, and appeared in a hurry. She did not stay to get a light. Heard her fall at the bottom of the first flight of steps, and then got out of bed, and called to her. Deceased gave no answer; Witness went down with a light, and found her lying against the bottom of the stairs, quite dead. Mr. Darby, surgeon, was fetched, who attempted to take some blood away, but none would flow. Her neck was broken, and her face swollen and discoloured a great deal about the lips. Verdict - "Accidental death by falling down stairs."

Nottingham Review 18 November 1842

At Courbevoier, near Paris, on the 4th ult, aged 66, Samuel WIDDOWSON, lace manufacturer, late of Nottingham.

Nottingham Review 1 July 1853

William TOPHAM married Maria WEST in Calais.

Nottingham Review 31 March 1854

## FRANCIS ARCHER 1782-1869

Francis Archer, the father of Frederick Francis Archer, a passenger on the *Agincourt*, was born in Back Lane, Nottingham to Francis Archer and Ann Tetley in 1782. His father was a framework knitter.

Frederick married Ann Wilkins on July 30, 1808. Together they had at least six children:

Jane, baptised 26 October 1810 at South Muskham

James, baptised 20 October 1811 at St Peters, Nottingham and who died shortly after birth

James, baptised 24 October 1813 at St Marys

Henry baptised 6 February 1815

Frederick, baptised 29 December 1816

Charles, baptised 2 December 1818

While living in Harvey Yard, on April 6, 1812, Francis Archer and his neighbour Henry Dodsley were appointed as special police constables to the Nottingham Ward and Watch, which was an honorary civilian service - its responsibility being the watching and guarding of the town by night and day. Part of the duties was to ring a bell as a curfew for all fires and lights to be extinguished at a specific hour in the evening, fixed by regulation, after which citizens were not allowed abroad.

Henry Dodsley was also a framework knitter, and his son William was about 14 when he was apprenticed on December 17, 1816 to Francis Archer for a period of seven years. The usual fee was £5, but because of the friendship between the two men, the fee charged was only one penny. Francis was then listed as a sinkermaker and a twist bobbin carriage and comb maker - quite an accomplished mechanic in a blossoming trade. Francis' business was thriving and over the next few years he apprenticed several other young lads:

James Butley 1817

John Beal 1823

William Butley 1824

(A master was only allowed apprentice three youngsters at a time.)

His wife Ann died in 1827 when 43 years old and she was buried in the burial ground of St Peters Radford - still only a village on the west of the city of Nottingham.

Fifteen months after Ann's death Frederick was the father of Elizabeth Seymour's son William, born on 26 November 1828 in the Parish of St Mary's Nottingham. As a result, he was ordered to pay to the church wardens and overseers of the poorhouse for that parish, the sum of 2/- per week. Elizabeth Seymour was ordered to pay 6d per week because she would not nurse and take care of the child herself.

In 1866 Francis was living at 18 Union Street with his son Charles and family. By then he described himself as a blacksmith. Francis lived until 1869, when he died aged 87 and was buried on November 14 in the burial ground of St Peters, Radford.

Of his other children: Jane married Benjamin Selby at Radford in 1828 and had a daughter Mary Ann in 1829. Mary Ann married John Wragg in 1848 and arrived on the *Harbinger* in 1849 as a late part of the Lacemakers' immigration. With them was William Bown and his wife Mathilda Wragg, John's sister.

James, was baptised 20 October 1811 at St Peters, Nottingham and died shortly after birth; Nothing further is known of James, baptised 24 October 1813 at St Marys .

Henry baptised 6 February 1815 became a bobbin carriage maker like his father. He married Mary Glover, a lace embroiderer in 1835. In 1851 they were living in Dean Street, Bellar Gate with their children Mary, Eliza and Alfred. Neither Mary nor Alfred married and in 1881 they were living with their parents at 25 Hollow Stone. Eliza had married and had a child, Clara Minfet in 1874.

Charles, baptised 2 December 1818 became a cordwainer and married Charlotte. In 1851 he was living in Union Street in Nottingham and 1881 he and Charlotte, with son Charles lived at 11 Bancroft Lane.

Frederick, alone, had the wanderlust and came to Australia in the *Agincourt*. **Bert Archer, 1980 and Notes from ASLC records**

## THE NET THAT CAUGHT NOTTINGHAM

*This article is based on a paper written by Pamela Sharpe, University of Bristol and Stanley Chapman, University of Nottingham:*

***Women's Employment and Industrial Organisation: commercial lace embroidery in early nineteenth century Ireland and England.***

*Their interest lies with the work of women in that period, but matter is of interest to the Lacemakers of Calais as it assists the understanding of the enormity of the lace industry and its spread beyond the world of Nottingham.*

Nottingham is undeniably and richly deservedly known as the lace city of England. What isn't so readily recognised is that Nottingham net was the basis for other named laces and that the employment of women and children in the trade reached a great deal further than the Midland counties.

The beginning of the nineteenth century introduced two major changes to the lace industry. The first, in 1808, was the invention by Heathcoat of his machine that made the tulle or net onto which lace patterns were embroidered, allowing lace to be partially machine made. The second was the huge shift to the Jacquarded Leavers machines about the middle of the century, allowing the almost total production of machine made lace.

The period between these developments saw an enormous industry of net embroiderers explode across the Midlands. There it developed in the established traditional manner of the framework knitting industry – as a cottage industry with 'baggers' who delivered the net from the factories and collected the embroidered lace when it was finished.

The embroidering of lace-like fabrics was not new to Nottingham. Towards the end of the 1700s the framework knitting industry used embroiderers to decorate the 'clocks' (ankle turnings on stockings) and when the first point net was made on the stocking machines, this industry took a great leap forward. The net was embroidered in two ways: first, with a running stitch that outlined and infilled delicate patterns in thread of various weights, second by tambouring, a

technique of crocheting chain stitch patterns to the outlines and infilling with a variations of the simple chain.

Heathcoat's machine of 1808 and its subsequent improved models, produced a width of fast ( meaning it could be cut and wouldn't unravel) net ground in great quantities. Now, for the first time, lace fabric was available in widths that were not possible with hand made pillow lace, or needle point laces. For the first time it was possible to produce dresses made wholly of lace, veils, shawls and furnishing fabrics. Lace had become a yardage fabric rather than a strip of trimming and the demand for skilled workers to embroider it blossomed.

As early as 1812 there were 20 000 women and children in Nottingham and its environs working in the business of embroidering the net ground to produce lace that was affordable to more than the very rich. (Blackner). With John Leaver's masterly machines, which he didn't patent, and the end of Heathcoat's patent in the early 1820s, a riotous market developed and by 1831 there were about 110 000 women and children employed as embroiderers in the trade in the Midlands,(Felkin) and probably 150 000 across England, Scotland and Ireland.

The embroiders were either 'lace runners' or 'tambourers' In each case the patterns were first stamped onto the tulle which was then stretched on a rectangular frame which allowed several girls to work at the one piece at a time. The lace runners used a needle and a darning like stitch to outline the pattern. A variety of stitches would be used to infill the design, and a variety of weights of thread used to create the outlines.

The term tambour came from the frame, originally round like a drum, with the net fabric stretched taughtly over it. In the workshop situation it was more productive to use the long, rectangular frames .. The pattern was usually printed onto the net from wooden blocks, but sometimes a paper pattern would be attached under the net. The thread, wound onto a reel revolving on a spindle attached to the frame was held in the left hand and brought from the underside of the net with a short



barbed hook held in the right hand, and the design outlined in chain stitch and elaborated at will.. The centres of flowers and other parts of the design were sometimes infilled with running stitches, The work was rapidly done by experienced tambourers and was used mainly on veils, scarves and shawls. After the embroidery was completed, the lace fabric was then bleached and finished .

In the mid 1820s Heathcoat stated that the cost of tambouring and lace running added 10% to the production cost, so there was always a market for cheap labour. To keep costs down, mistresses ran workshops in their own homes and there was a vested interest in employing paupers from the workhouses.

Andrew Ure, the supporter of the factory system, in his *The Philosophy of Manufactures* (1835) found that lacemakers had an aversion to the control of the factory, and a pride in the 'spurious gentility, or affectation of lady rank' they acquired from working at home on lace embroidery. Here, the respectability aspect of lacemaking is emphasised. Comparing homework to factory work in 1833, a Nottingham lacemaker said, 'I like it much better than the factory. We have our liberty, at home, and get our meals comfortable such as they are'

In the 1833 Sadler Commission Alfred Power called Nottingham lace runners 'The most skilful, the hardest worked and the worst paid of all operatives connected with,the lace trade'

*The Penny Magazine* of March 1843 said, 'It is sad to see how continuously these poor females must labour before they can earn a small pittance...the earnings of the lace runners do not , on an average, much exceed a half-penny an hour; for the weekly earnings for any long day's work are not much above 3d and are frequently below it.

Girls started at 'spotting' (sewing dots in rows onto the plain net ) when at 6 or 7, and later move on to the more delicate technique of running. The agents were generally women. There were between 80 and 100 mistresses in Nottingham who took lace to embroider from the manufacturers and they employed young women in houses in the villages around the city, on average from 5 to 10 women each.

These women, in turn, employed children and sometimes delivered the lace to others so it passed through three or four hands, each of them taking a cut of the profits. The mistresses were described as ‘a swarm of locusts hovering between us and the manufacturers, ready to devour one half of our hire.’

It was maintained that Nottingham workers only received one half of the warehouse price and were constantly in penury. “It is no wonder that misery enters our dwellings – that we are in the depths of poverty, that our children are crying for bread – it is not enough that we have to compete with machines, which in many cases, supersede needlework, but we are also robbed..’ they said in 1843.

And yet this trade attracted others. As early as 1802, William Hayne was smuggling huge quantities of point net off the modified stocking frame into France to be embroidered in the French manner – the Haynes brothers were amongst the largest producers of net lace in Nottingham but one of their sample books showed

*‘...the net ground is as perfect and regular as machinery or hand has ever produced. There are rose trees with stems as straight and bare as a hop-pole; masses of cloth with hideous Hindoo or Chinese configurations, without the slightest approach to a flowing line in a leaf or a bud or stalk. In a word, they prove the absence of all knowledge of art or design.’ (Felkin)*

It can be argued then, that the reason for establishing the industry in Calais, with British operatives controlling the net production, was to produce lace with French design done by French embroiderers and that could be properly sold as French lace. In the early years the embroiders were all French women and the design rooms were secret places.

The move to other centres, however, did not come from the by the Midlands, even though they relied on Nottingham’s staple: bobbin net.

The traditional worsted industry of Essex was boosted by the long wars with France and collapsed when they were over. One of the last clothing companies, Johnson & Rudkin of Coggeshall, shifted its

industry to weave fancy silks in 1816. As part of this shift, Thomas Johnson imported a French-Belgian lacemaker, a Mr Drago, with his two daughters to set up a lace tambouring workshop as part of his company.

Johnson's contacts with London provided him with French patterns and sales outlets and the Dragos trained Essex women and girls in the art of tambouring. Johnson bought his net, at first, from Heathcoat's Tiverton mill and later from Nottingham and used his own silk yarn for the embroidery. The workers of Coggeshall traditionally only used the tambour chain stitch and always put their paper pattern beneath the net.

Two of Thomas Johnson's daughters married two brothers by the name of Spurge. Hannah Spurge employed a hundred hands in her tambouring business, while Judith Spurge built a special room attached to her house, but with outside access, to accommodate fifty child workers.

At the same time, the Children's Employment Commission found tambouring being carried on in labourer's homes in the villages around Coggeshall, but in general in the town they worked in rooms with up to fifty children in them. The children began work at 8 or 9 and in one place 100 children were crowded into two or three small rooms in a cottage. Other employees, however, did not employ children until they were twelve because they spoiled their work!

One of the Coggeshall silk manufacturers said he could not get workers for his factory because it was considered more genteel for the children to work in the cottages at embroidering and yet he had seen children in cottages working fifteen and sixteen hours a day.

Coggeshall, with its large cottage industry provided a half way system between the uncontrolled system of Nottingham and the factory system of Limerick using Nottingham net as its base and locally thrown silk to embroider.

It is not surprising then that the first mention in the lace trade of a man called Charles Walker is in the Parish records of Wanstead in Essex when he sought six parish apprentices to train as tambour workers.

Walker was from Oxford but had married the daughter of a successful lace merchant from Essex. In 1829, with the view of setting up an industry with cheap labour, he toured Ireland and settled on Limerick as an appropriate venue for his venture. He settled twenty four women in a factory in a new area of Limerick. The women were skilled tambour workers and seem to have come from Coggeshall and Nottingham and they trained Irish girls in the trade.

To begin with they followed the traditional Coggeshall techniques, but quickly developed their own style, combining needle run and the tambour, and stamping the pattern on the net with wooden blocks. Limerick Lace was born!



The patterns used were of French origin and Walker was willing to back the quality of the work of a hundred of his Irish girls against the best France had to offer. The net base used in this venture was from Nottingham. William Felkin said, in 1833, that the wages of the lace embroiderers in Nottingham had fallen because so much was sent abroad. This was the period of a great deal of smuggling of the Nottingham net into Calais to be embroidered and, it would seem, a great deal legally sent to Ireland.

Whereas Walker's motives were commercial then, the lace factories were seen to be of vast benefit to the population. His obituary stressed,

"what myriads of young, innocent feeble, friendless females have been, by his means, rescued from ruin and wretchedness". The Poor Law Commission of 1836 reported that the lace manufactory, appears and, deserves to prosper 'as these, poor girls may otherwise pass a very different description of life Scarcely any other meriting the name of a manufactory exists here. '

Walker seemed to have faced so many problems with work discipline and the need to keep lace clean that there was no hope of most of the production taking place outside of the factory. Lord Manners commented 'There is no danger of the Limerick girls working themselves to death in their own cottages, if restricted from working more than ten hours a day in the factories.' By setting his employees to work in factories, rather than in domestic settings or workshops, Walker could, ensure high standards of quality.

The main reasons for the success of the Limerick lace were the low wages, but more interestingly because the manufacture was undertaken in manufactories rather than as outwork. This guaranteed a high standard of quality and clean work. It also cut out the middlemen in the process. The extent of trade that evolved from the embroidery cannot be over estimated. There were, as well, darners, menders, washers, finishers and framers and often these workers became the main financial supporters of their entire families.

Walker's motives, like most of the ex patriots of Nottingham, were purely financial, but his lace factories did benefit the population in strict contrast to what was happening in Nottingham where the female population undertook the same trades with the same net and equipment.

Three lace centres – Calais, Coggeshill and Limerick all produced lace from the Nottingham tulle. Each developed its own recognisable style of lace. The impact of the embroidering industry on these communities from 1810 to 1850 is immeasurable in terms of wealth and poverty, sickness and health caused by the hours of work and physical demands and the social development of a community where women and girls did n't learn the traditional patterns of domestic life.

## **JAMES HUTCHINSON 1720-1813**

An eccentric framework knitter, named James Hutchinson, died this day, aged 93 years. He was never more than seven miles from Nottingham, never drank a cup of tea in the course of his life, and for fourteen years never tasted ale. His principle food for more than thirty years was milk, which he liked best when thick and sour, and which he boiled till it coagulated, and then called it cheesecake. He usually had fourteen pennyworths of milk standing in a row, which he made use of in order, always taking the most ancient, that he might have it as sour as possible. He had worked in the frame 76 years, during 56 of which he was employed by one firm, that of Messrs. Rawson; and for 29 years he worked by the light of one window, during which time his frame never was moved. He died at the house of his granddaughter in Narrow-marsh, leaving more than thirty descendants. Nottingham Review

## **WILLIAM DUNK & FAMILY**

William was born in Adelaide on 16th November, 1848, less than two months after the arrival of his parents and elder siblings in Australia. He married Emily Hayward at St Lukes Church in Adelaide on 24th November, 1872.

His occupation is variously shown on records as a labourer or a carpenter. It is thought he was principally employed at the Adelaide abattoirs as were several other family members.

William and Emily had a family of three children. The eldest of these was Florence Emily, born on 12th March, 1873 At Hilton in Adelaide. The second child, Lilian, arrived on 24th February, 1875, while the third of their children, Alfred Dudley was born in 1879.

William survived the birth of his youngest child by less than three years. He was drowned in Lake Torrens some time between 11.00am on Wednesday 26th July, 1882, and the morning of the following day when his body was seen floating In the river. William had been ill following a sunstroke suffered some five months previously which had

left him mentally unwell. Additionally, he was unemployed and unable to obtain suitable employment. The inquest, held on Friday, 28th July, brought down a verdict of death by drowning.

Left with three young children, aged between 4 years and 10 years of age, Emily remarried on 20th July, 1883, to William James Dishley, a slaughterman who had been a fellow employee of William Dunk at the abattoirs. It is probable that Emily never quite recovered from the death of her first husband and may not have been happy in her second marriage.



William Dunk

She died on the eve of what would have been the third anniversary of her second marriage. An inquest held at Thebarton indicated that Emily died from alcoholic poisoning, but also rebuked her husband for a delay in obtaining medical attention for his wife.

Emily died on 21st July, 1885 at the abattoirs where they lived. Both Emily and her first husband are buried at West Torrens Cemetery. she was aged 37 years. Her second husband, William James Dishley lived until the age of 70 years, dying on 2nd April, 1927.

The tragedy of the early deaths of William Dunk and Emily was to continue down to two of their three children, both Florence and Alfred dying at the age of 33 years.

After the death of their mother, the children, Florence Emily, Lilian and Alfred Dudley, went to live with their mother's sister, Mary Ann, who had married Edwin Scown and lived at Birchip in Victoria. Apart from one photograph of the girls taken prior to the birth of Alfred and a group photograph of the three children, taken about 1888, we have no record of the early years of the children.



Lilian, Alfred and Florence Dunk

Some time in 1893 Florence formed an attachment with my grandfather, William Thomas Rowe. At that time William was married but obviously separated from his wife, Elizabeth Victoria (nee Meriton). On 4th October, 1894, Florence gave birth to a son, William Alfred, at 189 Drummond Street, Carlton.

The child was registered in her name at the Melbourne Registry Office on the 31st October and was most probably named for her father and brother. My Grandfather arranged for the child to be raised by family friends, Hugh Owen Hughes and his wife Amy, to whom he paid the amount of one pound weekly for his keep.

William Alfred was raised in his father's family name and was not aware of his registered name until he was over twenty years of age. At that time he had cause to obtain a birth certificate for insurance purposes. Unable to find his birth recorded under the name Rowe, he approached his Aunt Louisa Rowe, his father's only surviving sibling, from whom he learned the truth of his birth.

By this time the name "Rowe" had been firmly established by usage and was retained. We, his children, were never aware of the Dunk connection. I only learnt about our Grandmother Florence after I commenced research into the Rowe family genealogy late in 1989.

Shortly after the placement of my father with the Hughes family, William and Florence sailed for South Africa where William was employed as an overseer of native labour at one of the mines in the Johannesburg area. They lived together as man and wife in a de facto relationship with Florence taking the name Flora Rowe. She again became pregnant, this time with fatal consequences, as she died in childbirth in the Johannesburg hospital on 24th September, 1896. At the time of her death Florence was just 33 years of age.

Some time after the death of Florence, my Grandfather returned to Australia. He was never reconciled with his wife Elizabeth who had died at Port Melbourne in December 1899, and in 1910 he married a first cousin, Margaret Ann Kent, the daughter of his Aunt Elizabeth and William Kent.



Grandfather was born at Long Gully in the Bendigo district on 2nd April, 1860 and died at Brunswick on 10th December. 1927. He was buried at the Fawkner Cemetery. (13th December)

My father was trained in his father's trade of blacksmithing and was employed at this trade until the 9th March, 1915, when he enlisted in the Australian Armed Services and was posted to the 8th Field Company Engineers. He served with this unit in Egypt and France and, while on leave in London in 1916, met his future wife, Edith Winifred Siggers, whom he married on the 17th February, 1917, at the Registry Office, Southwark, London.

The second child of William Dunk and Emily, Lilian, was married circa 1896 to Hurtle George Scown, the son of Edwin Graham Scown and Mary Ann Hayward. Mary Ann was the sister of Emily Dunk. The family lived in the Lake Boga district near Swan Hill in Victoria and raised five children, born between 1897 and 1911. Both Lilian and Hurtle George died at Lake Boga and were buried in the local cemetery, Lilian on 29th July 1967 and Hurtle some twenty four years earlier on the 18th February, 1943.

Alfred Dudley, the youngest of the three Dunk Children, was born in 1879. He never married. It is known that he joined the Australian Army to fight in the Boer War but the war had ended before he reached South Africa.

**Harold Rowe**

## **CAROLINE LONGMIRE FORMERLY WARD NEE BOWN**

Caroline Bown, born 12 January 1835 arrived on the *Harpley* with her parents John and Sarah. In 1856 she married Thomas Ward at either Sheok Log or Gawler, moving to Kadina in 1862. Thomas bought land at 1 Taylor Street and built a house on it. They had four children - George Thomas born 1855 Sheoak Log, died 1857, Sarah Anne born 1858 Sheoak Log, died Kadina 1867, William born 1861 Sheoak Log, died Adelaide 1941 and Thomas Latchford in 1863.

Thomas senior died unexpectedly in 1864 aged only 30 and left the house to Caroline. In 1869 she married Hiram Longmire, also a Harpley passenger who had been widowed in 1863, Hiram was quite a lot older than Caroline and he died in 1880 aged 64. Caroline lived until 1916, having had one son, Hiram with Hiram Longmire.

The house in Taylor Street was inherited by William, the only remaining child of Caroline and her first husband, Thomas.

**Laurel Ward,  
Kadina**

## **DANIEL SMEATON - CONVICT**

When William Rogers arrived on the *Walmer Castle*, with his new wife Mary Haslam, he said he had a relative in the colony - and he very nearly did. Daniel Smeaton was his first wife's uncle. What William hadn't mentioned was that Daniel had arrived as a convict in 1821.

Daniel Smeaton (Smeeton) was tried in Nottingham in 1820 and sentenced to 7 years in New South Wales. He departed England on the ship *Dick* on November 4, 1820 and 140 days later reached Port Jackson on 12 March 1821. He appears to have been sent to work in the lumber yard in Sydney, living in the Hyde Park Barracks.

In January 1822 he was a signatory to an address from the prisoners in Hyde Park Barracks expressing concern at the charges made by one Charles Ellis against Major George Druitt and the hope that his innocence would be proved. As punishment for this he was sent to Emu Plains and was returned to Sydney in February of 1823.

Daniel gained his freedom in 1827 but did not return to England - nor does he seem to have married.

There is evidence of Daniel Smeeton on the docks in Sydney in 1827. William Hunt, Private in the Royal Veteran Company for NSW, wrote from Sydney to Samuel Preston of Nottingham, saying

*The first man who spoke to me was a Nottingham man to ask me if we had any one from Nottingham with our corps; his heart leapt for joy when I told him I was from Nottingham and while we were talking, John Sinter's son came up so they helped me with my boxes and luggage; the man's name was Daniel Smeeton; he was 14<sup>1</sup> when he left Nottingham and was for seven years; he is a free man this month; he was the same trade<sup>2</sup> as me but has learned stone cutting since he has been in Sidney(sic), and was getting two pound a week set wages when I saw him. We went to old Jack Slater's the next day and had a jovial carouse.*

*Slater is a prisoner for life but he has got a ticket of leave, so that he does no Government work as long as he gets into no trouble; they are doing very well. His wife has had a son since she arrived in Sidney so that they have two sons and two daughters; the eldest son is as tall as his father. Sarah the eldest is at home with the others; the other daughter is in service, in the same place as she went to when she first came into the colony.*

*I can assure you, by being eye-witness, a prisoner in these colonies is no joke, for they work twelve hours a day for Government, five days in the week and they have only Saturday for themselves, so that it is not now as it used to be. We were at Sidney three weeks when our company were ordered for this place where we arrived in seventeen days. It is 700 miles from Sidney and that nearer to England. ! I saw and drank with John Slater at Sidney; his wife and family are with him, doing very well; they keep a shop, and sell almost every thing, not forgetting a "drop of the creature", but I think the old man drinks most of the profits.*

*William Hunt*

After he gained his freedom Daniel's life seems to have become obscure - he died in 1848 without ever knowing that his nephew-by-marriage was sailing towards the colony that he had made his home.

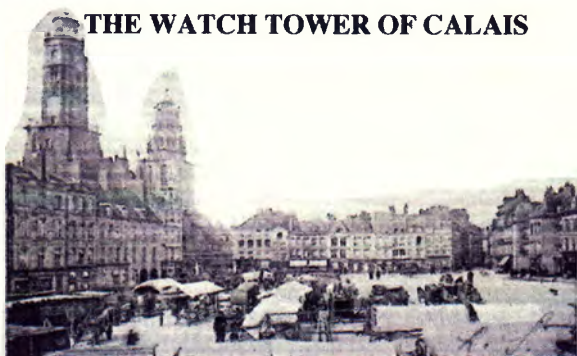
**Gillian Kelly**

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<sup>1</sup> He was actually 20

<sup>2</sup> Framework knitter

## THE WATCH TOWER OF CALAIS



La Place d'Armes

La Place d'Armes was remodelled after its destruction in World War 2. It was once the heart of Calais - the place where the sad scenes of the siege of 1346 took place. It was a market place on Wednesdays and Saturdays, and twice a year it was a fairground. There is little left today - except for the watch tower that has witnessed all.

No one is really sure of its age. Some believe that it was one of the towers that Charlemagne built to protect the coast from invasion from Normandy around 810. Others make it younger, thinking it was part of the fortifications that Philippe le Hurepel, Count of Boulogne, had built.

In 1346 Edward III of England laid siege to Calais because it was a launching place for attacks on ships in the Channel. It was a terrible siege and eventually Calais' Governor Jean de Vienne told Edward III that he would surrender if everyone was given a pardon. Edward accepted this on the grounds that six of Calais most respected brought him the keys, begging for mercy and with bare feet and ropes around their necks and it was from the Watch Tower that de Vienne told his people of the conditions imposed on them by Edward.

In 1580 an earthquake severely damaged the building and when it was rebuilt it was connected to a building that was to serve as a covered

market for the stall holders of the town. Then in 1658, when Louis XIV fell gravely ill in Calais, the market hall was used as temporary Royal stables and a stable hand accidentally caused a fire that not only severely damaged the building, but the Watch Tower too.

At night the Watchmen called the hour and half hour, and confirmed the safety of the city, heralded by a blast on a trumpet. Later a clock, found at the tower's base, was installed to mark the time.

In 1816 Abraham Chappe established, thirty nine metres above the ground, his telegraphic relay. This was used to transmit news for thirty two years and it is said that it carried the news of the death of Napoleon in 1821.

In 1818 it had an oil light fitted to it so it acted as a light house until October 1848 when a true light house was completed. As well, during the day the top was draped with flages of brilliant colours to indicate to the ships' captains when was the safe time to enter the Port.

During World War 1 it was used as a military observation post and was classed as an historic monument in 1931. Sadly it was severely damaged in World War 2 when the sea port of Calais was heavily hit by the Allies to render it safe for invasion.



## BATHURST GLIMPSES

The following little pictures of some of the Lacemakers who went to Bathurst are extracted from the *Bathurst Free Press and Mining Journal 1850-1860 Births, Deaths, Marriages, Funerals, Selected Notices and Inquests*, compiled with additional material by Lynne Foley, 2002. This excellent book is not all inclusive, but the following extracts demonstrate the depth of Ms Foley's work.

### NOTICE

7 January 1852: WILLIAM BRANSON, miller, and ADA BRANSON, his daughter, house servants, my hired servants having left their employment without permission, or receiving a discharger; anyone hiring them, will be prosecuted according to law.

HENRY H KATER  
Caluella

### MARRIED

28 July 1855: By special licence at Bathurst on the 24th inst, by the Rev. J.B. Laughton, St. Stephen's Church, Thomas Milne MACHATTIE Esq., of Wellingrove, New England, to Sarah Elizabeth, second daughter of Captain John Brown of Brownlea.

### DIED

25 August 1858 On the 24th instant, at her residence, George Street, Mrs CLARKE, mother of Mrs Domingo GRESSIER 15 March 1856.

### FUNERAL

25 August 1858 THE Funeral of the late Mrs. CLARKE will move from the RESIDENCE of Mr. Domingo GRESSIER, Waggoner's Arms, Durham-street. on Thursday next at 4P.M.

### JOHN SERGENT

10 October 1857: Who was in the employment of Mr. James Kinghorn of Bynglegumby on the Macquarie River in 1854 is requested to send his address to the undersigned. Any person who can prove the death or the handwriting of the said John Sergent will confer a favour by communicating with

JAMES STIRLING HOME

**ABSCONDED  
£5 REWARD**

Whereas two of my hired servants, John BARDEN and James L FOSTER, absconded from service on the 23rd February. Any person lodging them in any of Her Majesty's Gaols will receive the above reward.

**DESCRIPTION:-** of FOSTER, about 6 feet high, stout build; light hair; had on moleskin trousers, California hat, striped red and white guernsey shirt.

**DESCRIPTION:-** of BARDEN about 5 feet 8 inches, light hair and whiskers, had on moleskins, and blue guernsey.

**PETER MURRAY  
Gulga, Lachlan River**

**INQUEST**

5 September 1860: Yesterday another inquest was held by Dr Busby on the body of a child of Mr Archer, of Bathurst, late constable in the police force. The child had from its birth been in a weakly state and although three years old had never been able to walk. Verdict - died from natural causes.

**CAUTION**

14 July 1855: Cornelius JOHNSON, boot and shoe maker, having absconded from home on Monday 2nd July, I hereby caution any one against employing him or harbouring him, he being under age.

**Description**

Black belt; height 5 ft. 5 in; complexion brown; age 17; cabbage-tree hat, woollen cord trousers; dark square cut coat; Wellington boots, one of them patched. Anyone harbouring him after this notice will be prosecuted according to law.

THOMAS JOHNSON

**INQUEST**

23 February 1859 - Inquest - On Monday last an inquest was held before the Coroner of the District, Dr. Busby, and a jury, at the Black Bull, on the body of a male child, aged about five months old, the son of Mr. J. SERGEANT, storekeeper, of Howick-street.

Drs. MACHATTIE and CONNELL and Mrs. D. W. CRAIG were severally examined, and from their evidence it appeared that the child had been ailing ever since the date of its birth, but had been growing considerably worse during the last three weeks. Dr. Machattie had seen the child on the 2nd instant; it was then suffering from diarrhoea which he attributed to the illness from which the mother was then suffering. Dr. Machattie prescribed castor oil.

On Saturday morning last Mr. Sergeant sent to Dr. Machattie requesting his attendance, but he, under the impression that the message came from the house of Mr. Sergeant, the solicitor, where he was attending a patient, did not immediately obey the summons.

In the evening of the same day, Mrs. Sergeant took the infant to Dr. Connell, who described the child as being very much emaciated and suffering from disease in the bowels, for which he prescribed an anti-spasmodic medicine, which was administered, apparently without producing the slightest effect. The next morning he was called in to see the child about 6 o'clock a.m; it was then extremely ill, screaming with agony, and he again prescribed for it.

] On Monday morning, he again called at Mr. Sergeants and found that the child had died about 4 o'clock on the preceding evening.

It appears that Dr. Connell was labouring under the impression that no medical advice had been resorted to previous his being consulted, and reported the case, as 'one betraying culpable neglect, to Dr. Palmer, who ordered an enquiry to be made. A post mortem exam was on held on the body, and a verdict returned "Died by a visitation of God." [*Coroners' Inquests Roll 2921 gives name Edward SERGEANT and a verdict of death natural causes (dysentery.)*]

### SAMUEL PERCIVAL

13 February 1858: Having left his wife more than eighteen months ago, is earnestly requested to return. His wife and two children are now living in Bathurst.

This is the second advertisement that has been put in the paper, and if he does not answer it, his wife will consider him dead, and turn her hand to something else.



## DIED

28 October 1854: On the 21st September of the Measles at Nubrygan near Molong, Ann Caroline and James BRAZIER, the former aged four years and three months, the latter aged 1 year and four months.

## TO TIMOTHY RING

4 November 1854: THE undersigned who has just arrived in this colony from Ireland, is anxious to hear from her husband, Timothy Ring, of whom she has as yet failed to receive any specific intelligence. Should this meet his eye, he is requested to communciate with her forthwith. Any person giving information by letter or otherwiseto the Reverend Dean Grantas to his whereabouts will confer a lasting favour on

HELEN RING

Bathurst November 2, 1854

## GENEALOGIST'S PRAYER

Lord, help me dig into the past,  
And sift the sands of time,  
That I might find the roots that made  
This family tree of mine.

Lord, help me trace the ancient roads,  
On which my fathers trod,  
And led them through so many lands,  
To find our present sod.

Lord, help me find an ancient book,  
Or dusty manuscript,  
That's safely hidden now away,  
In some forgotten crypt.

Lord, let it bridge the gap that haunts  
My soul, when I can't find  
The missing link between some name  
That ends the same as mine.

Author Unknown

## OBITUARY

### Mrs E J Saywell

Anna Alvena Saywell who died in Grafton recently was born at Waldershausen in the Royal Dukey of Saxa Gotha on September 26, 1876. She came to Australia when 10 years old.

Her people had been settled here since the 1860s, first on the Southern Tablelands at Araluen, and finally at Emmaville, or Vegetable Creek as it was then called.

They prospered in the alluvial tin mines and in business, finally acquiring large holdings on the Severn River on the Glenn Innes Road.

Her people were a distinguished military family which participated in every British battle after George I became king of Great Britain.

Her great grandfather was with the cavalry under the Duke of Wellington at Waterloo in 1815. He was decorated on that battlefield for distinguished bravery which involved a display of swordsmanship.

She was also a cousin of the airman hero, Squadron Leader Charles Curnow Scherf, DSO, DFC and Bar, who died recently.

This fine young man was, on his mother's side, a lineal descendant, of the Admiral Sir Richard Grenville, the hero of the *Revenge's* fight with 53 Spanish ships in the reign of the first Elizabeth.

Mrs Saywell was represented in the First World War by her eldest son who carried the despatches for the great Australian advance on August 8, 1918 and was the only one of five despatch carriers to return to base.

In the Second World War her four sons and one grand daughter took part.

She was married at Emmaville on October 3, 1896 to E J Saywell of Sydney. He survives her with three sons (H B of Grafton, E J of Sydney, CH of Lismore) and one daughter (Mrs SG Wooster of Tyringham) Many grandchildren and great grand children also survive.

She had a splendid soprano voice

which was used freely on the concert platform for religious and charitable purposes in Emmaville. It blended with the contralto of her sister in many well-remembered duets.

In her younger days she ably helped her husband in public affairs, being secretary of the Ashfield (Sydney) P&C Association. She was a member of the Upper Orara, Coramba and Tyringham Red Cross branches.

At the time of her marriage she was a Sunday School teacher and a member of the choir of St Paul's Church of England, Emmaville. This choir made her wedding service a fully choral affair.

In recent years she had been confined to the house as a semi invalid, but as a tradesman remarked, a smile was never

absent from her face.

Like most of the Australian women she was a devoted wife and splendid mother. Two sons and two daughters predeceased her.

Many floral tributes covered her casket, which was born to her last resting place by her three sons and two sons-in-law.  
(undated)



## MR WILLIAM COPE

Mr William Cope, a highly esteemed old colonist, died at his residence, Falcon Avenue, West Adelaide on Saturday. He was 82 years of age. The deceased was well known in the western suburbs as he was for many years in business as a storekeeper in Torrensville. He represented Jervois Ward as a Councillor in the Thebarton Corporation for five years.

A native of Nottingham, he, when about four years of age, went to France with his parents. His father was in the lace trade.

The deceased attended school in France until the Revolution of 1848, when the family came to Adelaide and settled at Black Forest. In 1852 he went to the Victorian gold diggings. He subsequently opened a business with his brother at Ballarat as a hay and corn merchant. A few years later his health broke down and he returned to Adelaide and entered into storekeeping on the Henley Road. In 188 he went to England for a health trip.

**The Observer, Adelaide  
December 28, 1918**

## **HOW TO KNOW WHEN YOU ARE GROWING OLD**

1. Everything hurts - what doesn't hurt, doesn't work.
2. The gleam in your eye is the sun hitting your bifocals.
3. You feel like the morning after but you haven't been anywhere.
4. Your black book contains only names ending in M.D.
5. You get winded playing cards.
6. Your children begin to look middle aged.
7. You join a health club but don't go.
8. A dripping tap causes an uncontrollable urge.
9. You know all the answers but no-one asks the questions.
10. You look forward to a dull evening.
11. You need glasses to find glasses.
12. You turn lights out for economy instead of romance.
13. You sit in rocking chair and can't make it go.
14. Your knees buckle but your belt won't.
15. Your back goes out more than you do.
16. Your house is too big and your medicine chest is too small.
17. You sink your teeth into a steak and they stay there.
18. Your birthday cake collapses from the weight of the candles.

Do any of the above sound familiar? **Peter Burke**

## THE GENERAL

### BILL OF ALL CHRISTENINGS AND BURIALS AND CASUALTIES FROM Dec 15, 1719 to Dec 13, 1720

This excerpt was found by Lindy Newman, and while there is no indication of area, it is English.

#### **Christen'd**

Males 8877

Females 8602

In all 17479

#### **Bury'd**

Males 12713

Females 12741

Decrease this year 2893

#### **Causes of Death**

Abortive 132

Aged 2317

Ague 518

Apoplexy 82

Asthma 86

Bedridden 3

Bleeding 4

Bloody Flux 11

Bursten 6

Cancer 64

Childbed 260

Chin cough 10

Dropsy 1021

Evil 24

Fever 3910

Fistula 12

Flux 11

French Pox 108

Gangrene 5

Gout 30

Gravel 5

Grief 12

Griping in the guts 731

Head Mould Shot 66

Hooping cough 33

Horseshoe Head 46

Jaundice 107

Imposthume 47

Infants 14

Inflammation 6

Lethargy 6

Livergron 1

Looseness 45

Planet struck 1

Palsy 40

Plurisy 32

Rupture 20

St Anthonyms Fire 8

Scald head 2

Small Px 1440

Sores and Ulcers 32

Spleen 6

Spotted fever 66

Still born 562

Stone 59

Stop in stomach 125

Purples 16  
 Quinsy 7  
 Rash 10  
 Rheumatism 22  
 Rickets 84  
 Rising of the lights 22  
 Frighted  
 Head Mould Shot 66  
 Hooping cough 33  
 Vomiting 21  
 Water in the head 110  
 White swelling 1  
 Worms 75

<b>Casualties</b>	
Broken leg 2	Kill'd accidentally 47
Bruised 3	Kill'd by falls 13
Burnt 3	Kill'd with a sword 3
Smother'd 4	Murder'd 4
Drown'd 66	Overlaid 69
Excess drinking 18	Scalded 1
Executed 20	Shot 1
Found dead 21	Stabb'd 1
Frighted 1	Suffocated 3

### **SOME EXPLANATION:**

**Headmould shot:** an old name for the condition of the skull in which bones ride, or are shot over each other at the sutures.

**St Anthony's Fire:** Any of several inflammatory or gangrenous conditions

**Imposthume:** An abscess

**Rising of the Lights:** In the past 'lights' was a term for lungs so this suggests choking or breathlessness.

**Spotted fever:** An infection transmitted by ticks

**Ague:** A fit of shivering or chills

**Chin cough:** Whooping cough

**Quinsy:** An abscess between the back of the tonsil and the wall of the throat

**French Pox (or English Pox):** Syphilis

**Rickets:** Vitamin D deficiency

**Dropsy:** Oedema - swelling caused by fluids in any tissue

**Gravel:** term used to describe stones as in kidney or gall bladder

**Apoplexy:** bleeding into the brain - stroke

**Canker:** Shallow, painful sores in mouth - ulcers

**Bloody Flux:** Dysentery

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