

# TULLE

Volume 25 No 2  
May 2007



The Mikron Theatre Company of West Yorkshire Presents

## THE LACEMAKERS

APRIL 2007

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

## **MEETING DATES**

**Saturday May 19, 2007  
Saturday August 18, 2007  
Saturday November 17, 2007**

**Donbank Cottage  
6 Napier St  
North Sydney  
Meeting Time : 1pm**

**GUEST SPEAKER May 19, 2007**

**JOHN FLUIT MB, BS, Dip RACOG**

We are excited to welcome Dr John Fluit as our guest speaker at the May Meeting.

Dr Fluit is aGP who has worked for 22 years in a General Practice founded in 1908. Until recently the founding doctor's desk, examining table, side table and instrument cupboard were still in everyday use. When the oldest doctor in the practice died in 1985, her old equipment was thrown outside to go to the tip. Dr Fluit rescued it and started his own collection.

He now has a museum of over a thousand pieces of General Practice paraphenalia which Doctors and students come to look at. His passion for medical history is obvious and his willingness to share his knowledge with us will lead to a fascinating afternoon. Please join us and discover what ailments plagued our forebears, what killed them and how the world of medicine dealt with it.

Looking for us on the net? [www.angelfire.com/al/aslc/](http://www.angelfire.com/al/aslc/)

**Want to join?**

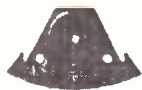
**Membership due?**

**Annual Fees \$30**

**Membership Secretary**

**190 Shaftesbury Rd**

**EASTWOOD NSW 2122**



# Tulle

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*Volume 25 Number 2, May 2007*

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

I've been pondering upon the need to cast our net, as it were, to find more of "our flock" & to increase our active membership. We need our members to encourage more of their families to become part of the Society. It would be a shame for us to lose contact with the next generation of our Lacemaker families.

Let's work at making sure we can continue by seeing who in our families are the ones interested in joining us and bring them along. We'd love to meet more of your families & hear yet more of those wonderful stories.

We have still some 20+ people/families of whom we have either no knowledge or with some, there may have a tiny hint of where they may have gone & then ...a blank, one of those terrible "brick walls" which genealogists absolutely dread.

Here they are with their wives, which may give some ideas for people to follow.

**BANNISTER**, James married to Maria Bacon ( *Agincourt*)  
**BRADBURY**, William, married to Sarah nee Towlson ( *Agincourt*)  
**COOPER**, Elizabeth nee Brown nursemaid to Nutts (*Agincourt*)  
**BOWN**, John married to Sarah Paling (*Harpley*)  
**BOWN**, William(son of above)married to Mathilda Wragg (*Harbinger*)  
**CROWDER**, Cornelius married to Hannah Savage (*Harpley*)  
**HAROLD**, William married to Catherine East (*Harpley*)  
**HAYWOOD**, Joseph married to Sarah Topham ( *Agincourt*)  
**HEMINGWAY**, John married to Christiana Cunliffe (*Harpley*)  
**HUSBAND**, Richard married to Laura Clarke ( *Agincourt*)  
**LOWE**, Oliver married to Eliza Fox or Friend (*Agincourt*)  
**MATTHEWS** Matthew married to Anne Russ (*Harpley*)  
**MARTIN**, John married to Mary Roberts (*Fairlie*)  
**MOON**, John married to Eliza Asling ( *Agincourt*)  
**NICHOLLS**, William married to Mary Anne Worthington ( *Agincourt*)  
**REID**, Archibald married to Margaret Wood (*Fairlie*)  
**REVEL** John married to Anne Walkland (*Harpley*)

**RICHMOND** Charles married to Elizabeth Corniche (*Harpley*)  
**ROBINSON**, Richard married to Mary Anne Duckworth ( *Agincourt*)  
**SANSOM** John married to Mary Stubbs (*Harpley*)  
**VICKERS**, William married to Sarah Hiskey( *Agincourt*)  
**WARD**, William married to Elizabeth Kendrick ( *Agincourt*)  
**MARTIN**, John married to Mary Roberts (*Fairlie*)

The need to find more of our families has always been a challenge. One by one, over the years, have we found & documented all the lovely stories & histories. The challenge is still there. These names, I hope, may spark someone's memory . Do please help the Lacemakers find these lost souls. If you know or find out anything which can help, please follow any lead you can or if you've exhausted every path, please pass any information to one of the Committee for discussion or help.

Our guest speaker for this next, the May meeting will see a return visit from the ever popular, Doctor John FLUIT. Dr Fluit, a General Practitioner from Newcastle, is a most entertaining speaker. He is an expert on "Matters Medical & Historical" and when he previously visited us, had us enthralled with his stories & explanations of old fashioned medical treatments, explained old fashioned medical terms, & causes of death.

From his vast collection of Medical Museum of Memorabilia he will bring for our viewing a selection of medical equipment & instruments from yesteryear. His Power point presentation should not be missed. Please feel free to bring along a guest who may like to hear Dr. Fluit's address. They would be most welcome.

I really look forward to seeing as many members as possible at our next meeting on May 19<sup>th</sup> at Don Bank Cottage.

**Robin Gordon**

## **SECRETARY'S COMMENT**

At our February meeting we were delighted to welcome Mrs. Robin Gordon as our new President. Robbie has always been a keen member and we can now look forward to her sense of energy and enthusiasm as she guides us in new directions.

The challenges facing our Society are largely those faced by all similar groups. We have an enthusiastic membership base; we have volunteers willing to show leadership in the various responsible but not onerous roles such as minute recording and money collecting; we have researched and recorded much of our history and genealogy thanks to our hard-working editor, Gillian; we are willingly fed and watered meeting after meeting by our often unrecognized back-room ladies (especially Claire); and we have speakers like Elizabeth willing to venture out on cold nights to spread the word of our special group to others with skill and alacrity.

We are known in other parts of the world. For example, as I write, the Charnwood Museum at Loughborough in Leicestershire is holding an exhibition called *The Lacemaker's Story: Loughborough, Luddites and Long Journeys*.

The latter focus of this exhibition is about our folk, the lacemakers who sailed to new lives in France and Australia, and the story we have all become familiar with.

Our challenge, and thus Robbie's challenge lies in rectifying our one shortcoming. We lack new, fresh, young members with a thirst for their own sense of place in history. Without these our future is limited.

**Richard Lander**

## AND THE EDITOR

This year our Society is twenty five years old – quite a milestone for a specialised interest group. It is serendipitous then that this year our story has been reflected in a glorious way where it all began in Loughborough in 1808 when Heathcoat patented his marvellous Old Loughborough lace net machine.

Last week, the Charnwood Museum in Loughborough opened a new exhibition, : *The Lacemakers' Story: Loughborough, Luddites and Long Journeys*. . It tracks the story of Heathcoat and his workers from Loughborough, through the infamous Luddite attacks on his factory and the subsequent transfer to Tiverton in Devon. It tells of the incursions into France - Heathcoat also had French interests at St Quentin and many Calais laceworkers had been in Heathcoat's employ - and of the migration of the Lacemakers to Australia.

Our story is reflected by the journey of George & Sarah Stubbs from Quorndon, who were *Fairlie* passengers, with research provided by their descendant Judith Griffiths. *Well Suited to the Colony* was used as a research tool for this exhibition

The development of the exhibition aroused the interest of the Micron Theatre Company who have produced a musical play that tells the story of a fictitious couple caught up in highs and lows of the lace trade. Again, the writer, Mike Lucas, used *Well Suited to the Colony* to assist his story writing.

Wouldn't it be marvellous if Scottie could beam us there for just a couple of nights?

**Gillian Kelly**



## **The LIFE of HENRY & SARAH LEE**

Sarah and Henry gazed quietly down at their little boy sleeping peacefully in his cot; what did the future hold for John Henry? Where would they go?

Throughout Europe at this time there is unrest and upheaval. Crop failures, economic hardship, lack of food, unemployment, abject poverty, the spread of disease. For Sarah and Henry, living in the lace making district of Calais, 1848 had heralded the beginning of great uncertainty, heightened when the King was forced to abdicate. Again this country is in the grip of revolutionary fervour. Times had been hard for several years, but now the situation was critical. Although Sarah had been born in Calais and lived her entire life here, she was English; so too were Henry and their child.

Henry Lee was the second son of Thomas Lee and Sarah Straw both of whom were born in Carlton, Nottinghamshire. Both Henry's grandfather Thomas and his father Thomas were framework knitters and stocking manufacturers. Henry then, was the third generation of Lees involved in the Nottingham Industry, he himself being a stocking manufacturer working in Calais.

But what about life for Henry, his father and grandfather prior to Calais? The knitting machines were huge, heavy and very noisy. The knitters worked 14 hours a day in cramped conditions; they rented their machines and space and were paid a piece rate so they worked as fast as they could, knitting about 46 rows a minute. It was heavy work, they developed abnormally large thumbs and well muscled upper bodies. The noise of the closely spaced machines working together resulted in deafness.

They worked in workshops, an advance supposedly on the cottage industry, where rented machines were in the cottage and all members of the family worked. Young children wound the



yarn from skeins onto bobbins; at about 11 or 12 the boys went on the machines (6 months to learn to use of the wide frame; 6 years to master the narrow lace making machines). The women took the shaped, knitted fabric and hand sewed the seams. Yarn varied from cotton, silk to fine wool.

Thomas Lee<sup>1</sup> variously listed as a framework knitter and a stocking manufacturer, was in the 1850's listed as a framework smith, meaning that he made the machine parts and put them together. The workshop had various luxuries: toilets, an oven to make bread and a wash house complete with an early washing machine and wringer. These facilities made the lives of these hard workers a little more comfortable.

Sarah Jane Woolcock was born in Calais and baptised in St Mary the Virgin Dover, England on 22 Feb.1829. This beautiful church has been in existence since the 12th century and beneath it are Roman ruins from the 1st to 3rd Centuries. In the 16th Century it was given to the people of Dover by Henry VIII.

Sarah's father was Richard Woolcock, a Customs Officer stationed at Calais and her mother was Mary Ladd. Henry and Sarah were married at St Mary the Virgin on 22 Sept.1846 and John Henry their first child was born on 4 Jan.1847 in Calais.

A general antipathy towards foreigners in France had developed, particularly towards the English. Demand for lace was practically non existent as it was a luxury item, therefore lacemaking machines no longer operated and the owners had returned to England. Sarah and Henry could not expect their French friends and neighbours to support them with food and shelter.

The alternatives were bleak; in Nottingham, where Henry's family lived and worked, the crops had also failed, no

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<sup>1</sup> my great great great grandfather

employment was available and they would surely be destined for the workhouse.. However, Sarah Jane and Henry Lee and their small son John Henry were not the only English family facing this plight.

In the lace-making district of St. Pierre in Calais, a significant number of English families lived and worked. In 1824 the English Government had repealed the Act which prevented emigration. The French were eager to make use of the expertise of lace makers from Nottingham; thus began a steady movement of these families across the channel. Life was comfortable and work plentiful. But as the years passed, the French gained the skills, opened their own businesses and a gradual decline in the market for English lace began. With the depression which descended upon Europe in the 1840's came also the crisis which ended the English lacemaking trade in St.Pierre.

So it was that the British Government was petitioned for assistance to make possible the emigration of the lacemakers of Calais to the British Colony of South Australia. This decision had been reached at a meeting of the lacemakers held on 21st March 1848 at the English church in St. Pierre. South Australia was the preferred option for two reasons. It was a British colony and it had recently been advertising for . The colony was only 12 years old. Free passage was requested by the petitioners, for they either had no money due to the prolonged depression years, or if they did they could not access it due to the closure of the banks in France. The petition was successful, the costs being contributed to significantly by the Nottingham City as over half of the petitioners came from there.

Henry, Sarah and John Henry sailed on the *Harpley*; the only vessel of the three commissioned to carry the lacemakers, which actually went to South Australia. The *Harpley* was a barque, a three masted ship with square sails (not unlike the *Polly Woodside*), built in Tasmania on the Tamar river. Completed

early in 1847, this would be her first voyage from London to Australia. The ship sailed from Deptford (London) on the 12th May 1848 carrying 254 passengers. The lacemakers never set foot on English soil, the steamer from Calais drew alongside the *Harpley* and the emigrants were transferred directly on board along with the few possessions they were allowed to take (the rest having been sold for whatever they could get for them prior to leaving Calais).

Henry, Sarah and John Henry would spend the next 113 days at sea, in dormitory style accommodation.. The *Harpley* sighted land only twice in that time. They had their share of bad weather, including a fierce gale on the final night of the voyage which prevented the *Harpley* from reaching Adelaide; it had to anchor instead in Holdfast Bay until the storm abated, finally docking in Port Adelaide on 2nd September.

Upon arrival the emigrants were allowed to stay onboard for up to 2 weeks, whilst they searched for employment and accommodation. Although employment was difficult to find the *Harpley* had arrived at a good time: only 4 ships had arrived in a two month period. Adelaide, 8 miles away, was the main focus, the only mode of transport being an open cart drawn by 2 horses<sup>2</sup>.

The village of Thebarton was the home of mechanics and labourers; here they cultivated small gardens, raised a pig or two and some poultry, whilst they worked for the surrounding farmers. Thebarton also had a steam flour mill, a tannery and a number of brick works'. Henry must have found work here, probably as a gardener for it was here that two of his daughters, Terrais (1850-1853) and Mary Ann (1852-1854) were born.

Quite a number of the lacemakers settled in Thebarton; in some ways it was reminiscent of St. Pierre. The narrow streets, single storeyed cottages and chapel would have seemed vaguely

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<sup>2</sup> Known as a Port Cart

familiar. Land was cheaper than the other villages and so too was rent. Henry, Sarah and their family would now have experienced a period of relative stability. But not for long!

The discovery of gold in Victoria caused a mass exodus from South Australia. So bad was it, that there were even rumours that only one man remained in Thebarton! The Lee family now made another big change and headed for Victoria. Initially they settled in Golden Square Bendigo where on 16th February 1855 William Henry was born. Not long after they moved to Campbell's Creek near Castlemaine where they remained for many years. Henry became a miner and here Henry and Sarah added another 9 children to their family: In all Sarah gave birth to 13 children.

On the 27th June 1897 Sarah paused. She was now 69 and she was about to sign her Last Will and Testament. Many memories must have come flooding back - Calais France, Thebarton South Australia, Campbell's Creek and now Bath St., St Kilda. Sarah left her Estate in equal parts to her 4 children: John Henry, William, James and Helen, nine of her children having already predeceased her with eight dying in infancy.

So much continuing sadness for she and Henry. Perhaps an even more devastating blow was to come. Edwin, the baby of the family died in 1892; he was 18 years old. The Inquest into Edwin's death states that he and a number of friends had been on a picnic near Dandenong Creek. In the afternoon they were kicking a football (Aussie rules for sure) when Edwin, according to this witness, quite suddenly said "*...he wanted to lie down. He could not stand. I got a cushion and put it under him and put a rug over him. I went back to the game. About half or three quarters of an hour after he was in the same state and he was put in the waggon and taken to the Alfred Hospital. None of us knew that he was dead. We all thought that he had taken a little too much to drink.*" The Coroner found that "*Deceased was dead on admission. The cause of death was slow suffocation from the*

*blocking up of the windpipe with mucus which had come from the stomach after vomiting. It was due to natural causes."* The pain of this senseless accident must have been overwhelming for Sarah and Henry.

The family were now living in Melbourne, their home being in St. Kilda. Sarah's address, when she made her Will and that of her daughter-in-law Isabella, who witnessed the Will, was 30 Bath Street. Isabella was the wife of John Henry, the small child who had accompanied his parents in all their adventures since his birth in Calais 50 years earlier.

Life was not easy for Sarah and Henry after the death of Edwin. Henry must have been feeling poorly, or it may be that he took family advice because on 16th April 1896 he made his will, leaving his estate to Sarah and making her executrix; it was witnessed by John Henry and James. Ten days later Henry was committed to Kew Lunatic Asylum under the Lunacy Statute of 1867. The order was signed by William and accompanied by the required 2 medical certificates. William stated this was Henry's first attack, that it had lasted 11 weeks, was caused by intense heat and that Henry was suicidal. The major facts cited by the 2 medical practitioners pertain to Henry's irrational fears: that he was wanted by the police, had committed the unpardonable sin, had injured all his family, that he couldn't sleep for fear of the morning, that he noticed smells of sulphur as if arising from Hell, he refused to eat, refused to go out, that he should be in prison and that he often expressed a wish to do away with himself.

Little can be gleaned from the Case Book notes on Henry after his admission. He was diagnosed as suffering from Melancholia (a functional mental disease characterized by extreme depression of spirits). The cause was supposedly extreme heat and he was deemed to be suicidal. On admission he was noted as being markedly depressed, suffering some enfeeblement and defective memory. Initially he refused food but by early May he was

accusing his sons of committing all sorts of crimes and in June he suffered liver congestion. Henry must have regained his health for on the 8th October he was discharged into the care of his son William. Henry returned to Bath St. and his family, where he spent his last Christmas and New Year.

On the 27th January 1897, Henry left home without stating where he was going. Two days later his body was found in the Saltwater River<sup>3</sup> Footscray, within 10 feet of the bank in a depth of about 3 feet. The Constable on duty described him as: "*A man name unknown about 55 years of age about 5 feet 5 inches high, medium build, dark complexion, dark hair, clean shaved except dark moustache and goatee, dressed in a beaufort coat and vest - small brown check colour, black corkscrew trousers, blue striped shirt - flannelette, white flannel undershirt, woollen drawers, brown socks, balmoral lace up boots.*" Henry was in fact 69!

There were no marks of violence and Henry carried nothing whatsoever in his pockets. On the 30th he was identified by William, who could give no reason why his father would have travelled to Footscray. Henry had been visited by a doctor on the day of his disappearance and William surmised "*... that he may have got a notion that his recomittal was under consideration.*" The post mortem examination stated that Henry was 5ft. 7ins., well nourished, had a small heart and a thin skull. The cause of death was asphyxia due to drowning. There was nothing that would indicate that Henry met with foul play.

So now Sarah was alone, with her four surviving children to render support to her; it was to these four, in equal parts, John Henry, William, James and Helen that she left her estate. After having finalised Henry's will and making her own, Sarah lived on in St. Kilda for another 12 years. On the 31st day of August in 1909 Sarah made another will; in this will her estate was left to

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<sup>3</sup> Now the Maribynong



the three sons in equal parts, with Sarah stating this was " *in consideration of their having provided me with home and a fortnightly allowance of money from April 1908 to the present time.*" This will was witnessed by John Winbank who was the husband of Helen so we must assume that Helen was in agreement with the changes made. On the 3rd November 1909 at the age of 81 she died at the home of her son James and his wife Laura in Alexander St., St. Kilda. She joined Henry and her youngest child Edwin in their grave in the 'other' section of St. Kilda Cemetery.

### **Judith Power**

## ***Well Suited to the Colony***

DO YOU HAVE YOUR COPY ?

This definitive history of the Lacemakers is now in very short supply with orders going out every week. It will not be reprinted.

Copies can be ordered from

**ASLC**

**PO Box 1277**

**Queanbeyan NSW 2620**

***Well Suited to the Colony***

**\$34 + \$8 postage Australia**

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## SAYWELL'S HOTEL'S HISTORY SERVED UP ON eBay



**The New Brighton Hotel**

Many residents remember the New Brighton Hotel only as the dilapidated teen hang-out that was demolished in 1984 but pottery collector Allan Young has a much grander image of the 100-year old hotel. While clearing out his recently deceased father's garage in Sans Souci, he found two plates that had detailed etchings of the New Brighton, complete with Norfolk Island pines in the background.

Mr Young listed them on eBay and within days they were up to \$56.55. Rockdale library expressed interest in purchasing them after supplying Mr Young with a history of Brighton's most prominent landmark.

Described by Sydney press as ‘the most complete and high class place of public resort within excursion distance of Sydney’ the grand hotel of 60 bedrooms was built by Thomas Saywell in 1887.



*Thomas Richard  
Saywell*

Thomas was the younger son of George Saywell and his first wife Eliza Nadin. Thomas was almost twelve when he reached Australia and would have clear memories of Calais and its casino<sup>4</sup> sur le sands.

Land acquisitions in this southern breach area of Sydney began in the 1840s but no significant development occurred until the railway opened to Hurstville, via Rockdale in 1884.

Thomas Saywell foresaw that the construction of the Illawarra railway would create new suburbs in the sparsely settled area south of Cook's River and he bought the estate at Lady Robinson's Beach, Botany Bay on which to erect his fashionable New Brighton Hotel. It was the only hotel outside the CBD with hot and cold running water and later became one of the first hotels in the country to be lit by electricity.

In 1884 Saywell's Tramway Act granted him a thirty-year franchise for a private tramway from Lady Robinson's Beach along Bay Street to Rockdale railway station. In 1887 the tramway service to Sans Souci opened and together with Saywell's private tramway effected the pattern of development and inspired subdivisions of nearby land.

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<sup>4</sup> The original meaning of ‘casino’ was a public music and dancing establishment

New Brighton was the original name used by Thomas, ostensibly after the famous seaside resort Brighton in England. He planned to create a model suburb and seaside resort for working-class families. On his suggestion the new suburb was named Brighton-le-Sands and he lived there for many years.

Brighton Hotel was stripped of its licence in 1892 due to violence and reckless behaviour that found expression in the hotel and its surrounding area. The depression of the 1890s may have had something to do with the crisis. There were many unemployed, and the area was a famous retreat. The area north of the hotel was used during the depression as one of many shanty sites that spread across Sydney.

Thomas Saywell offered the development to The Scots College, who transformed the ground floor to classrooms and the hotel rooms into the dormitory. In 1895 The Principal of the College, Arthur Aspinall, decided to transfer The Scots College to Bellevue Hill. This was to avoid both the proximity of the local racecourse and the distraction the near-by beach was having on his students.

In 1899 our ubiquitous Thomas converted his steam trams to electricity - and later sold the electricity to Council to power the Rockdale shopping area and the Town Hall!, The trams passed into government ownership in 1914 and was closed in 1949, as the Sydney tramway system was slowly wound down. Brighton Baths attracted a large chunk of Sydney's weekend holidaymakers and the racecourse remained popular with punters who could cool off after a stressful day at the races.

Saywell also had large land holdings

The fortunes of the opulent hotel have come and gone and today the pines in the plate drawings are all that remain. By 1980 it had become run down. It was one of the few hotels in Sydney with a

24-hour licence and the venue for week-end rock concerts that became the bane of the neighbourhood.

Western Australian Consortium demolished the building in 1984 with the promise of a new modern resort hotel, but the promises came to nothing and for three years the site stood vacant. Following negotiations with Rockdale Council and the developer, the Resort Hotel finally opened in May 1990 but soon struck financial trouble. Eighteen months later the building was taken over by Novatel..



Allan Young with the plates from the dinner service of the New Brighton Hotel; photograph Jane Dyson

Saywell died on 23 November 1928 at Mosman and was buried in the Congregational section of Waverley cemetery. He was survived by five sons and six daughters by his first wife Annie Ellen, née Fawcett, whom he had married on 1 November 1862; she died in 1905 and he married Rebecca Elizabeth Osborne on 31 January 1906. His estate was valued for probate at over £164,000.

*Lead – thank yo,u to member Kate Foy*

*Old Hotel's history served up on eBay, Siobhan Tanner, George & Sutherland Shire Leader, 29 March 2007*

**Australian Dictionary of Biography**

**ASLC Saywell family notes**

## THE LACEMAKERS' STORY: LOUGHBOROUGH, LUDDITES AND LONG JOURNEYS

In 2005 Dr John Carpenter, Treasurer of the Friends of Charnwood Museum in Loughborough, contacted ASLC about an exhibition planned for 2007. The project was to include an Australian descendant, and after reading *Well Suited to the Colony*, the family of George Stubbs, lacemaker from Quorndon and Calais, was chosen by their team.

Mrs Judith Griffiths, descendant, worked closely with John and a whole story board was developed to show what happened to one of our families.

In November last year John and Audrey Carpenter visited Australia and the Editor and Judith were able to share a day on the Parramatta River with them, retracing the last steps of the voyage of some of our Lacemakers



**John & Audrey Carpenter (Leics) & Judith Griffiths Queanbeyan NSW  
lunching at the Parramatta Wharf metres from where Gillian Kelly's Branson  
family first stepped ashore in 1848. Photo – Gillian Kelly Nov, 2006**

On April 19<sup>th</sup>, Friends of the Charnwood Museum proudly unveiled its exhibition with guests including Edward Heathcoat-Amory and John Boden. Edward is the 4th great-grandson of John Heathcoat and John Boden is a direct descendant of John Boden, the Loughborough-based partner of John Heathcoat.

This is an exhibition of invention and determination, migration and new lives in foreign lands. It tells of pioneering inventor John Heathcoat and his lace-making machine, the Luddites who attacked his Loughborough factory in 1816, the workers who walked 200 miles to follow Heathcoat to Devon, the smuggling of machines to Calais, and the lacemakers who sailed to new lives in France and Australia.

*The Stubbs of Quorn*

A family of the move

2

3

*Luddite*

1. Stubbs panel – 6%
2. John Heathcoat
3. Luddite Riot 1816

1 & 3 – friends of Charnwood  
2. Micron Theatre Company



It tells of Loughborough in 1816: inventor John Heathcoat is growing rich on the back of his patented lacemaking machine. Traditional lacemakers in the East Midlands either go to work in the factories, or face losing their livelihoods in this chapter of the Industrial Revolution.

While the East Midlands prospered from a commercial boom as a centre of textile production in the late 18th century, many craftspeople employed in cottage industries lost out. Traditional lacemakers were put out of work by Heathcoat's Loughborough Frame machine, and those employed in his factory were incensed when he cut their wages by a third in 1816.

Following the example of the mysterious Ned Ludd, who was notorious for destroying factory machinery, a group of Luddites attacked Heathcoat's factory later that year. Leader James Towle was hanged for his part in the attack, and others were transported to Australia.

In the wake of the attack 500 men, women and children followed Heathcoat, on foot, to a new factory he set up in Tiverton, Devon. Heathcoat was aware of the local resentment towards him, and it is believed this is why he built a secret room in his house to hide from angry mobs should they come for him.

The Charnwood exhibition charts all these events, plus the adventures of those who emigrated to France, and after that country's revolution of 1848, to Australia, rather than face the poorhouses back in England.

As the project developed it caught the eye of Mikron, a small touring theatre company based in Yorkshire that for 35 years has turned historic events into dramatic entertainment rich in original music. Mike Lucas of Mikron contacted ASLC and we, too, became part of the planned musical drama.



On April 21<sup>st</sup> the Mikron Theatre Company opened

## THE LACEMAKERS

– doing what it does best in taking a fascinating event in history and turning it into an accessible and entertaining piece of musical theatre. It is the story of young lovers Will and Sarah who are laceworkers for Heathcoat with an assured future and plans to marry. But their ordered lives are shaken by larger events, when a Luddite mob attacks Heathcoat's factory, burning the lace and destroying fifty five lace frames. It is the start of a great adventure which will take William and Sarah far from home in their search for work.

It is the story so close to ASLC hearts of the intrepid lacemakers of Loughborough, whose struggle to earn a living took some of them to Devon, some of them to Calais, and finally – trapped between the poorhouses of England and the French Revolution of 1848 – to a new life in the colonies of Australia.

**Gillian Kelly, with grateful thanks and appreciation to  
John & Audrey Carpenter of the Friends of Charnwood Museum  
Mike Lucas of the Micron Theatre Company**

Research pertaining to the Charnwood Exhibition is the property of The Friends of Charnwood.

All graphics pertaining to **THE LACEMAKERS** are the property of Micron Theatre Company.

All graphics pertaining to **THE LACEMAKERS' STORY:  
LOUGHBOROUGH, LUDDITES AND LONG JOURNEYS** are the property of the Friends of Charnwood Museum.

# THE LACEMAKERS

Written and directed by Mike Lucas

Music by Rebekah Hughes

Lyrics by Chris Blackwood

Music directed by Rebekah Hughes

Costumes, set & props: Michael Camden, Annie Dearman & Katy Lonsdale

In the autumn of 2005, I was approached by Susan Cooke, the Keeper of Charnwood Museum in Loughborough. The Friends of the Museum were planning an exhibition about the lacemakers of Loughborough for April 2007. Susan had seen several Mikron shows and she felt the subject would make ideal material for a Mikron production. I thought so too, particularly as the story involved Luddites. We had already written, *A Place to Stand*, in 1990 about the Yorkshire Luddites.

Charnwood Museum, the Friends of Charnwood Museum, Charnwood Council and Leicestershire County Council pledged their support and, with the help of the Museum and its Friends, I began my research.

What a fantastic story it proved to be – not just a tale of lace and lacemakers and Luddites, but of a group of people who were forced to move from their home town in search of work. A story of economic migration which still resonates today.

Mike Lucas, writer and director of *The Lacemakers*

We would like to thank the following for their help with the production:

Bridge Housing Advice Centre; John & Audrey Carpenter; Susan Cooke, Keeper of Charnwood Museum, Loughborough; Lez Cope-Newman; Bert Demellweek; Judith Elsdon, Curator of Tiverton Museum of Mid Devon Life; Tony Jarram, Gillian Kelly, Australian Society of the Lacemakers of Calais; Rosie Wileman.

## Recommended literature

Kevin Binfield *Writings of the Luddites* (John Hopkins University Press 2004)

Dun Charlwood *The Long Farewell* (Penguin 1981)

W Gore Allen *John Heathcoat & his Heritage* (Christopher Johnson 1978)

Gillian Kelly *Well Suited to the Colony* (Australian Society of the Lacemakers of Calais)

E P Thompson *The Making of the English Working Class* (Pelican 1967)

D E Varley *John Heathcoat 1783-1861, Founder of the Machine-made Lace Industry* (David & Charles 1969)

*Heathcoat's Industrial Housing in Tiverton, Devon* (Southern History Magazine 1991)

*Felkin's History of the Macleane-Wrought, Hosiery & Lace Manufacturers* (David & Charles 1967)

*Tulle* (Journal of the Australian Society of the Lacemakers of Calais)

*Tulle: A Guide to the Making of Plain Net* (British Plain Net Manufacturers Association, Nottingham 1947)



ANNA  
BAATZ



RUTH  
CATAROCHÉ



ADRIAN  
PALMER



DANIEL  
WEXLER

## A FEW HELPFUL DATES!

### 1808 - 1816

- 1808 John Heathcoat patents the traverse bobbin-net machine, known as the Loughborough Frame
- 1809 Heathcoat with his partner, John Boden, begins lace making on bobbin-lace frames at Mill Street, Loughborough
- 1815 Battle of Waterloo. End of the Napoleonic Wars
- 1816 Heathcoat cuts wages by one third at his Loughborough factory  
28th June: Luddites attack and destroy fifty five lace frames

### 1816 - 1817

- 1816 The Year without a Summer: in 1815, a volcanic explosion in Sumatra emits ash and gases which affects the weather patterns in the Northern Hemisphere for months to follow  
Over 200 men, women and children walk to Devon to work for Heathcoat in his new factory at Tiverton  
November: Luddite, James Towle convicted and hanged in Nottingham
- 1817 Twelve others involved in the attack caught and convicted. Six hanged and two transported to Australia

### 1820s - 1832

- 1820s Six lace factories flourishing in Calais with English machinery. English people build terraced houses in St Pierre, a district of Calais, where there are four English-run workshops. Heathcoat opens a lace factory in Paris
- 1823 Expiry of Heathcoat's patent results in a tremendous expansion of the lace trade
- 1826 One of the largest waterwheels in England erected at Heathcoat's Tiverton mill
- 1831 11.6% of the population of Calais are English
- 1832 Heathcoat becomes MP for Tiverton (until 1859)

### 1848 - Today

- 1848 Bad harvests in England and France  
Revolution in France. British workers in Calais made to feel unwelcome. 114 families seek to emigrate to Australia. Money raised in Nottingham and London. 700 men, women and children sail on board the *Harley, Fairlie* and *Agincourt*
- 1861 Heathcoat dies 18th January
- Today Calais has 700 looms employing 3000 workers  
English traditions survive in Calais. Christmas pudding and Welsh Rarebit are still eaten  
John Heathcoat & Co Ltd, Precision Fabric Engineers, are still based in Tiverton  
The Australian Society of the Lacemakers of Calais links together the descendants of the English emigrants from Calais



## BROMHEADS ON HUNTER'S RIVER

The tragedy that befell Eliza Robinson in Maitland's major flood of 1864<sup>5</sup> could so easily have been repeated in John Bromhead's family. The *Maitland Mercury* recorded, at the time,

*Mr John Bromhead's house was badly undermined by flood waters, large pieces of the river bank fell from under and along side of the house, four of the six rooms overhung the river after the landslide. It was feared that the house would go bodily if left any longer and so to save the material of which it was made Mr Bromhead had the back portion taken down. He later removed the rest of the house.*

John must have had enough of living on the river's bank, because he then established his business and home on the other side of the road, on the spot where the present Administration Building now stands. This was not a flood free area, but at least the foundations for their premises were more stable. As a Christian John should have known that a wise man always builds his house on rock foundations.

*Lucy Bates,  
Tulle No 7, April 1984*



**Maitland 1893**

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<sup>5</sup> Tulle February 2007, page 8

## ***GUEST SPEAKERS***

Your Executive has worked hard to find fascinating guest speakers to interest you. These folk receive no more remuneration than our appreciation, a great cup of tea and some stimulating conversation!

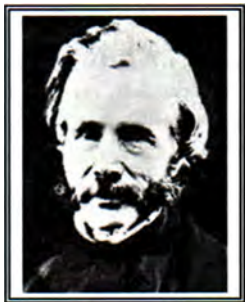
Their greatest reward comes from having a large and appreciative audience! Please come along to share our next speaker – Dr John Fluitt. He is guaranteed to interest you, and even horrify you with some of his tales of medicine as it was practised

## ***25<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations***

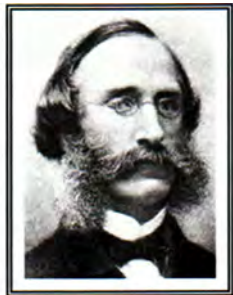
The Australian Society of the Lacemakers of Calais is pleased to invite all members and friends to celebrate its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary with lunch at Donbank Cottage On Saturday 17 November 2007 at 1pm followed by our very special guest speaker, Rosie Wileman from Leicestershire.

Rosie's family, the Mathers, were in Calais with the Australian Lacemakers. Part of her family joined the migration to Adelaide in 1848 and part returned to England. Rosie has a wealth of knowledge of Calais and the lace industry.

## THE FLYING LACEMAKERS



**John Stringfellow**



**William Henson**

William Samuel Henson and John Stringfellow, both engineers in the lacemaking industry in Somerset, in 1840 cooperated to design a steam driven aeroplane which they called an “aerial steam carriage”.

Henson’s patent (#9478/1842) was for an aircraft which closely resembled early monoplanes. It was to have a bamboo frame, wire bracing and a steam-powered engine. The engine was to supply power to two, six-bladed propellers mounted on the trailing edge of a large, rectangular, silk-clad main wing.

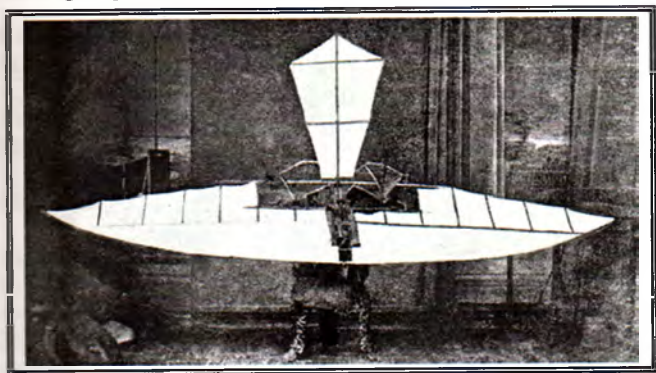
Henson and Stringfellow sought subscriptions of £100 from each of 200 subscribers to bring their ideas to fruition and to protect these by patent. However, because no proof of the worthiness of their ideas could be offered, their appeal failed.

In November 1843 Henson and Stringfellow decided to construct a large model at their own expense. This model had a total wingspan of about 6m. The wings were about 1m deep and supported



two propellers each about 1m in diameter. In 1847 the model was tested at Chard in southern Somerset but it didn't perform as well as expected. The industrious pair found that the plane could not support itself for any distance. The framework was too weak and the silk rapidly became saturated with steam and due and couldn't be kept stiff enough. Stringfellow commented that "the steam engine was the best part. Our want of success was not for want of power or sustaining surface, but for want of proper adaption of the means to the end of the various parts".

Disappointed and financially stretched, Henson went to America and left Stringfellow to continue his experiments alone. From 1846 until 1848 Stringfellow worked on what was to become the first engine-powered aeroplane which actually flew.



**Stringfellow's 1848 model**

His plane was a pilotless model with a 3m wing-span powered by a steam-engine and two 4-bladed propellers about 400mm in diameter. In June 1848 he used the 20m long room of a disused lace factory to trial it. Although the tail was damaged on his first attempt, it was repaired and his second attempt saw his model fly



and even climb after leaving the wire which was used to launch it. The experiment was witnessed by a lace manufacturer called the Rev. J. Riste as well as other reliable observers. Later it flew about 40m until its flight was deliberately terminated.

Scientific American <sup>6</sup>reported that Stringfellow exhibited a steam-engine and triplane model at the Aeronautical Exhibition held in the Crystal Palace in 1868. This model, inclusive of engine, boiler, fuel and water had a total weight under 5.5kg and Stringfellow was awarded a prize of £100 for developing the lightest steam engine in proportion to its power. Both this triplane and its engine were eventually purchased for the Washington Museum. Stringfellow's earlier models, together with those he constructed with Henson are in the British Victoria and Albert Museum.

It was the invention of the internal combustion engine which finally made **manned** flight possible but the early involvement of lacemakers in flight should be recognized.

Richard Lander  
08/01/2007

## FROM NOTTINGHAM TO THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE 1819

In 1820 a large contingent of Nottingham people expressed an interest in emigrating to form a new colony on the Cape of Good Hope. Not all who applied went, and some returned to Nottingham. Thomas Calton died not long after his arrival and his wife returned to England with her young children – two of whom eventually migrated to South Australia before the Lacemakers

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<sup>6</sup> Vol 20, Issue 11, p.69, March 13, 1869, New York

arrival. There are other links to Lacemaker families – Kemshaw is the family of Benjamin Kemshall, Palmers are related to the Creswells and Wells. Below is a list of applicants:

### **Statement of Persons desirous of emigrating to the Cape of Good Hope**

The lists are ordered: **Names of Men, Age, Town, Parish, Trade or Profession, Names of Women, Age, Names of Children, Age (Years/Months), Observations)**

**George DENNISON**, 36, Notts., St Mary's, Farmer & knitter, Hannah, 29, Ann 6/6, George 4/10, Henry 1/10, Charlotte 1mth Serjeant Pensioner 35th Regt. At 9. per diem

**George PALMER**, 36, Notts, St Mary's, Farmer & knitter, Millicent, 32, George 14/1, Benj'm 12/2, George 8/1

**Thomas PALMER**, 23, Notts, St. Mary's, Farmer & knitter, Elizabeth, 22

**Christ' LANGEN**, 46, Notts, St. Mary's, Farmer & Knitter

**Rich'd MARSHALL**, 23, Notts, St. Mary's, Farmer & knitter

**John SIMPSON**, 27, Notts, St. Mary's, Bricklayer, Mary, 26, Sarah 6

**John BILBY**, 40, Notts., St. Mary's, Framework Knitter, Ann, 21, George 16/3, John 10/3, Eliza 1

**Rich'd KEMSHAW**, 40, Notts, St. Mary's, Framework Knitter, Eliz'th, 30, Benj'm 15, Caroline 12/2, Sarah LACEY 14/3 (as part of Richard Kemshaw's family)

**Thos. KEMSHAW**, 20, Notts., St. Mary's, Framework Knitter

**Jos'h SMITH**, 36, Notts., St. Mary's, Blacksmith,  
Mary, 32 : Serjeant Pensioner 69th Regt. At 1 per diem

**James WRIGHT**, 31, Notts. St. Mary's. Framework Knitter,  
James 8/1, John 3/3 Pensioner 59th Regt. At 9 per diem

**Rich'd FISHER**, 31, Notts. St. Mary's, Framework Knitter, Ab'l  
32

**James STURT**, 40, Notts, St. Nicholas, Laborer, Charles 8/1

**John HOOLEY**, 48, Notts. St. Mary's, Framework Knitter

**William HOOLEY**, 22, Notts. St. Mary's , Mary, 22

**William WATSON**, 21, Notts., St. Mary's, Laborer

**Henry STORER**, 21, Notts., St. Mary's, Laborer

**William FIDS** 27, Notts., St. Mary's, Framework Knitter

**William ELLIOT**, 47, New Radford, Framework Knitter

**William ELLIOTT**, 25, New Radford, Framework Knitter,  
Elizabeth, 22, Nathaniel 3, William 8mth

**Mark ELLIOT**, 21, New Radford, Framework Knitter

**William PIKE**, 40, Keyworth, Framework Knitter, Sarah, Sarah  
17, William 15, Elija 6/5, Rose 4/3

**Thomas PIKE**, 19, Keyworth, Framework Knitter

**John WARREN**, 28, Notts. St. Mary's, Framework Knitter

**John WHITE**, 20, Notts. St. Mary's, Framework Knitter :  
Pensioner 1st Regt. At 6 per diem

**Chris'r TATHAM**, 22, Notts. St. Mary's, Brass Founder

**John DAFT**, 22, Notts., St. Mary's, Laborer

**James STUBBORNS**, 40, Notts, St. Nicholas, Laborer

**Bononi BUGG**, 37, New Radford, Framework Knitter, Mary, 33,  
Matilda 13/1, Benjamin 64, Dinia 2/4, Joseph 4mths  
Pensioner 88th Regt. At 9 per diem

**John WARD**, 19, Notts., St. Mary's, Framework Knitter

**Conian WOOD**, 24, Notts., St. Mary's, Framework Knitter

**William TAYLOR**, 24, Notts., St. Mary's, Laborer, Eliza 24,  
William 4/1

**William FOWLES**, 27, Basford, Framework Knitter, Ann, 20,  
John 8mths

**William CROSS**, 29, Bunny, Cordwainer

**John TOMLINSON**, 20, Notts. St. Mary's, Framework  
Knitter

**Joseph WRIGHT**, 21, Notts., St. Mary's, Framework  
Knitter

**William HARRISON**, 21, Notts., St. Mary's, Framework  
Knitter

**John BELLAMY**, 21, Notts., St. Mary's, Framework  
Knitter, Diana 23, Eliz'th 1/3

**James HARRIS**, 18, Notts., St. Mary's, Framework  
Knitter

**Thomas WOOD**, 21, Notts., St. Mary's, Framework Knitter

**George TWELLS**, 23, Notts., St. Mary's, Ropemaker,  
Hannah, 20

## **RECAPITULATION**

Men 41

Women 16

Children above 14 years 6

Children under 14 years 25

Total No. of persons 88

## **THE EARLY ARRIVALS**

The previous charts of early arrivals in Calais have suffered glitches caused by transferring data from the McIntosh system to a PC. My apologies! This issue completes the list of early arrivals in Calais. It is not complete – it is a list of those for whom I have evidence of their presence in Calais before 1831.

Sources:

**BDM Calais** – from the birth and marriage records of Calais & St Pierre, filmed by the LDS

**Death** – Death Registers fo Calais as filmed by the LDS

**1881** – English census

**Anthony Le beucq** – Descendant of the Bannister family

**Caron** – from the trilogy on the lace trade in Calais written by Michel Caron

**Census** – 1831 & 1841 Calais

Surname	Given Name	Birthplace	DOB	Relation	Year & Source	Occupation	Notes
Pratt	Thomas	Leic. 'borough	1802	Green Sarah	1831 BDM Calais	laceworker	
Pratt	Thomas	Leics	1802	Green Rebecca	1831 Census	lacemaker	
Prest	William Chalk	Kent Dover	1792	Hole Elizabeth	1831 BDM Calais	lacemaker	witness
Pringle	Rosalie	Calais	1811	née?	1831 1881	shopkeeper	
Reckless	Adelaide	Calais	1831	née?	1831 1881	shopkeeper	
Reynolds	Georgiana T	Calais	1831	née?	1831 1881		
Reynoldson	William	London	1812		1831 Census	boarder	with E Cherry
Roberts	John	Kent Dover	1774	Pollhill Elizabeth	1831 census	Indep m	married Dover 26 4 1798
Roberts	Abraham	Notts	1790	James Mary	1831 BDM Calais	mechanic	
Rothery	John	Yorks, Sheffield	1799	Ashforth Mary	1831 BDM Calais		Married 1820 Sheffield
Rothery	George	Yorks, Sheffield	1804		1831 BDM Calais	filemaker	witness
Russell	Jeremiah	Gloucs Tyth'ton	1803	Simmons Anne Marie	1831 BDM Calais	lacemaker	witness
Saltby	John	Lincs Swineshead	1776		1831 BDM Calais	laceworker	witness
Sansom	John	Notts S in A	1799	Stubbs Mary Ann	1831 BDM Calais	laceworker	
Scales	Maria	Calais	1826	née?	1831 1881		Thomas Scales Commercial traveller
Seabrook	Thomas	Herts Wyddial	1781	Stevens, Elizabeth	1831 census	Indep m	
Seriker	John	London	1806	Moody Flora	1831 BDM Calais	laceworker	
Shaw	Isaac	Derbys Pentrich	1774	Darsh Sarah	1831 BDM Calais	laceworker	first wife was Jane Simmons
Shaw	Georgina	Kent?	1815		1831 Census	boarder	Marie François
Shipman	Luke	Derby Ilkeston	1763	Uncle to Thomas	1831 BDM Calais	lacemaker	witness
Shipman	Thomas	Leics	1790	Greenwood Elizabeth	1820 BDM Calais	lacemaker	
Shipman	Thomas	Leics Stathem	1790	Greenwood Elizabeth	1831 BDM Calais		184:iron dealer; 1822:sister in Calais
Shore	William	Notts Basford	1787	Robinson Sarah	1831 census	laceworker	
Shrapnell	James	Wilts Trowbridge	1783	Wadmore Sarah	1831 BDM Calais	Lieut RN	
Siddons	Henry	Leics	1782	MacArthur Dorothy	1831 WSTC p53	laceworker	
Siddons	Henry	Leics Glenfield	1782	McArthur Dorothy	1831 BDM Calais	laceworker	witness
Smith	Grace	London	1807				Living with Helena Smith 1881
Smith	Helena	Calais	1834		1831 1881		Cous of Ferd. Scott;
Smith	Elizabeth	Calais	1823 née ?		1831 1881		Husband Richard
Smith	John	Leics	1789	Bradford Sarah	1831 census	laceworker	marriage says Ann
Smith	James	Notts	1792	Taylor Ann	1831 BDM Calais	lacemaker	
Smith	James	Notts Radford	1804	Craven Eliza	1831 BDM Calais		
Smith	James	Notts Radford	1804	Craven Eliza	1831 BDM Calais	lacemaker	

Surname	Given Name	Birthplace	DOB	Relation	Year & Source	Occupation	Notes
Smithers	Martha	Calais	1831	née?	1831 1881		York 1881
Staveley	Anne Eliz'beth	Calais	1817	widow	1831 1881		Landed prop. Old Slanningford, York
Staveley	Anne Elizabeth	Calais	1817	née?	1831 1881	landed propieter	
Stevens	Samuel	Notts Radford	1807		1831 Census	boarder	Carpentier Jean Marie
Stevenson	Francis	Cranklis Elisa	1801	Cranklis Elisa	1831 Census	lacemaker	
Stewart	Edward	London	1750	Marlar Amelia Anne	1831 Census	Indep M	
Stubbs	Francis	Notts	1803	Peet Flora	1831 BDM Calais	Lacemaker	
Stubbs	Emily	Calais	1839		1831 1881		Boardin 5 Clarence St Islington 1881
Swift	Thomas	Leics Sheephead	1801	Gibson Frances	1831 BDM Calais	laceworker	
Swift	George	Notts Hickley	1794	Greet Ann	1831 BDM Calais	laceworker	
Swinding	John	Yorks	1794	Bingham Elisa	1831 BDM Calais	mechanic	
Taylor	Samuel	Calais	1814	Swift Elizabeth	1831 Census	laceworker	
Taylor	George	Derby Wirksworth	1798	Ward Anne	1831 BDM Calais	lacemaker	witness
Taylor	Samuel	Leics	1776	Smith Elizabeth	1831 Census	laceworker	
Taylor	John	Leics Appleby Magna	1809	Wright Elizabeth	1831 BDM Calais	lacemaker	
Taylor	William	Notts	1809	Leeming Rebecca	1831 Census	laceworker	
Taylor	John	Notts	1796	Chettle Mary	1831 census	lacemaker	
Tinkley	John	Kent prob	1780	Bradford Sarah	1831 census	laceworker	
Todd	William	Calais	1840	Cresswell Rebecca	1831 1881	File & rasp man	1881 - 2 Cottage Place Forty Hill Enfield
Trees	James	Notts	1786	Atkinson Sarah	1831 BDM Calais	laceworker	
Tucker	Margaret	Scotland Renfrew	1815		1831 Census	boarder	Marie François
Tulloch	Rosalinda	Calais	1828	née?	1831 1881		wife of Colonel Henry W
Turnley	Alexander	Scotland		Katherine	1831 BDM Calais		
Twible	Edward	Nottingham			1829 Caron	Lacemaker	
Tyler	William	Leics Mt Sorrell	1782	Baum Elizabeth	1831 Rabaul p 34	lacemaker	
Tyler	William Francis	Leics Mt Sorrell	1782	Baum Elizabeth	1831 BDM Calais	lacemaker	witness
Vicary	John	Devon?	1796	Silwaorde Mary	1831 census	laceworker	
Vine	Henry Loveday	Cornwall		Ross Mary Scott	1834 BDM Calais		Married Cornwall
Walker	Amos	Derby	1809	Gorely Ann	1839 BDM Calais	laceworker	
Ward	Robert	Notts Newark	1796	Wheatcroft sarah	1840 BDM Calais	laceworker	
Ward	Charles James	Notts	1810	Taylor Georgina	1842 BDM Calais	laceworker	
Watson	James	Yorks, Sheffield	1796	Crooks, Anna	1847 BDM Calais		knifemaker
Watson	John	Yorkshire	1802		BDM Calais		knifemaker



Surname	Given Name	Birthplace	DOB	Relation	Year & Source	Occupation	Notes
Webster	William	Notts	1807		BDM Calais	lacemaker	witness
Webster	Robert	Notts	1781	Maltby Elizabeth	Rebaul	lacemaker	
Wells	Walter	Worcester	1790	Basford Sophie	Census	lacemaker	Sophie not with him in 1831
West	Robert	Leics, Enderby	1795	Bannister MARY	Rebaul & Cal	lacemaker	
West	Robert MacMurr	Sussex	1814	Shepherd Anne	BDM Calais	publican	
Weyne	William	Leics?			Death		
Whetton	William	Calais	1829		1881	cotton agent	
Whiddon	John	Devon/Devon	1772		census	Indep m	
Whitmarsh	Henry	Wiltshire	1779	Broutier Louise	BDM Calais	Brewer	Butcher in 1829
Whitting	Mary Ann	Calais	1817	ndc?	1817 1851	husband Elam	
Wholley	Martha	Derby North Wingfield	1808		Census	boarder	
Wightman	David	Notts	1795		BDM Calais	laceworker	
Wiles	Edward	Kent	1777	Richards Alice	BDM Calais	butcher	Married Canterbury 1811
Wilmore	Frederick	London		Cumberlege, Cleland	BDM Calais		Married 1.6.1817 St Anne Soho
Winder	William	Kent	1790	Wedd Elizabeth	census	doctor	
Woodbine	Claudine	Calais	1804	widow	1881		24 Holland Rd, Lambeth 1881
Wormill	Sarah	Leics	1812		Census	Servant	
Wright	James	Leicestershire	1801	Garner Sophie	BDM Calais	laceworker	
Wright	John	Leics	1808		BDM Calais	laceworker	
Wright	Bartholomew	Notts	1805	Stevenson Lydia	BDM Calais	laceworker	
Wroughton	Philip	Berks Wantage	1789	Downey Margaret	Census	retired officer	
Wylde	Sydenham	Somerset	1804		Census	Indep m	
<b>Addenda</b>							
Hewitt	John		1785	Wergmann Julie	1821 BDM	Officer Army	
Hester	Thomas		1788	Everett Sophie	1821 BDM	Officer Army	
Pain				Pain Louise	1821 BDM	Daily worker	

## STRANGERS IN THE BOX

Come, look with me inside this drawer,  
In this box I've often seen,  
At the pictures, black and white,  
Faces proud, still, serene.  
I wish I knew the people,  
These strangers in the box,  
Their names and all their memories  
Are lost among my socks.  
I wonder what their lives were like,  
How did they spend their days?  
What about their special times?  
I'll never know their ways.  
If only someone had taken time  
To tell who, what, where, or when,  
These faces of my heritage  
Would come to life again.  
Could this become the fate  
Of the pictures we take today?  
The faces and the memories  
Someday to be passed away?  
Make time to save your stories,  
Seize the opportunity when it knocks,  
Or someday you and yours could be  
The strangers in the box.

*Office Bearers*  
*The Australian Society of the Lacemakers of Calais*

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## COVER STORY

The Mikron Theatre Company of West Yorkshire presents The Lacemakers – a story that belongs with the Australian Lacemakers of Calais. In fact, the background to this beautiful advertising poster features twenty of those who came and the background to the story features the lifestyle of so many who worked in the lace industry.

Article – page 18

**Top Row:** John Peddar, Adah Branson, Frances Saywell, Emma Brownlow nee Courquin, Mary Ann Lander nee Simpson, William Branson

**2<sup>nd</sup> Row:** Maria Potter, Edwin Homan, Mary Ann Lander nee Simpson, Thomas Harrison, Mary Rushton

**3<sup>rd</sup> Row:** Maria Harrison nee Stubbs, Joseph James, Robert McMurray West

**4<sup>th</sup> Row:** Mary Hopkins nee Oriel, Ellen Widdison, Eliza Sivyer nee Wand

**5<sup>th</sup> Row:** Edward Lander, Alfred Kemshall & grandson