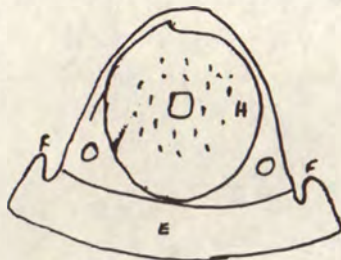




Engr by J. C. ...

WILLE

A.S.L.C.



The Australian Society of the Lacemakers of Calais meets downstairs in the Meeting Room of the N.S.W. State Archives, 2 Globe Street, Sydney.

The Executive meets from 12 noon to 1 p.m. (all interested members welcome) and the main meeting commences at 1 p.m. Tea and coffee from 3 p.m.

MEETING DATES FOR 1987/88 are:

Saturday, 7th February, 1987

Saturday, 2nd May, 1987

Saturday, 1st August, 1987

Saturday, 7th November, 1987

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, 23rd January, 1988.

COVER: Framework Knitters Arms set on Nottingham Lace from the Bransen Family.

ISSN No. 0815 - 3442

Issue 17... May... 1987 *ld.*

With luck the printing of this issue will co-incide with Easter, and so I wish everyone a Happy, Peaceful, Safe Easter, and hope that the holidays provide everyone with a pleasant break from the hustle and bustle of our daily routine.

This issue is already looking interesting with contributions from the West, Lander, Saywell and Sargent families. Marjorie has also done a lot of work both research and writing and organising the Morpeth/Maitland trip.



Our next meeting will be held at the Archives on:

Saturday: 2nd May

At: 1 p.m.

At this meeting we are lucky to have a guest speaker who can be of great help to all members who are writing or compiling their family history. So often I hear walls of despair: "I have the information but I don't know how to put it together", or "I'm good at the research work but not the composition". Well --- now's your chance! Laurel Richardson, of St. Peter's Parish, Cook's River, together with Rev. Tom Halls (WEST FAMILY) will conduct a workshop on writing and publishing your histories. They are both members of their Parish History Committee which is publishing a history of St. Peter's Church for the Bi-Centennial. St. Peter's was founded in 1838, and was the first church in Australia built by free men. They have a lot of help to give us all, so I look forward to seeing many folk attending.

We intend at this meeting to stay within the bounds of an agenda -- hopefully to fit as much as possible into the day.

- | | | |
|----------------|----|---|
| 15 minutes | 1. | Opening |
| | 2. | Minutes & Brief Business Arising |
| | 3. | Correspondence |
| | 4. | Financial Report |
| 15 minutes | 5. | General Business |
| 30 minutes | 6. | Tom Halls to report to the Meeting on his recent trip to Calais and Nottingham. |
| Remaining Time | | Laurel Richardson and Tom Halls Workshop |

In order that we use all the available time on discussion, may I suggest that we waive, for this meeting, the social component at the end of the meeting. I will ensure that a cup of tea or coffee is available with your generous offerings on a plate, but this will be served to you so that you can keep talking. Unless we get cracking we will not have anything to publish or display next year!

May I further suggest that you bring to this meeting a list of all your information rather than all your material. This list should include any items you feel could be displayed. This way we will get a better idea of what we need.

This means you have some homework to do -- thinking of what you would like to see A.S.L.C. doing in 1988.



Chonagan
EXECUTIVE MEETING: 12 NOON, PLEASE



To Morpeth and beyond.....

As Saturday, 14th March, drew close and the numbers for our trip to Morpeth and East Maitland fell, my heart became heavier. And I wondered if I should cancel it altogether. But ----- there were still a few.....

Saturday dawned overcast -- but fine. And 5.45am is, to me anyway, the middle of the night -- and my cat agrees with that too!

7.30am, and I was due at Eastwood, for, as otherwise I would have been travelling alone, I was going with Elizabeth Bolton and her sister, Barbara Kendrick. On our way via Doyalston, Cooranbong, Maitland, to meet our guide, Harry Boyle, at the Morpeth Railway Station at 11am.

Morpeth Railway Station? Yes! But it is no longer Railway -- which has gone. The building is now the Main Roads Department. Still, a railway station building always looks like a railway station, and we did find it, as did the rest of our party of 11 plus Harry.

With Harry as our pilot we first drove down to the river, where once stood the 800 yard long wharf, where our great-grandparents came ashore, to climb up the steep embankment stairs (still to be seen) to the road high above. The stone of the wharf is now buried beneath the silt of a century and a half of floods; the remains can only be seen here and there. Some of the blame for this silting must surely rest at the feet of the early settlers who cleared the land so well of the trees -- cedar trees. Lieutenant Close, who came here in 1821, said the trees were so thick the sun could not get through to the ground!

From the river we drove back up to the Campbell's Store, built about 1858. This has been restored and now houses a number of craft shops, etc. It also had an interesting display of old photographs of Morpeth and its identities of the past. Then a leisurely stroll along the street, whilst Harry identified the various buildings which would have been familiar in the 1850's, and sites now occupied by more modern structures.

Then, up the Metford Road hill to St. James Anglican Church, celebrating its Sesqui-Centenary this year. This church was built in 1837 by the early settler in this area, Lieutenant E.C. Close, as a thankful fulfilment of a promise he made to God for his miraculous preservation in a bombardment during the Napoleonic Wars, when his two companions were killed and he hardly touched. It was built of local sandstone, and has been enlarged since 1837.

Lunchtime, so we drove back to the Park for our picnic, pausing en route to see the fine Roman Catholic Church buildings.

On our way from Morpeth to East Maitland we drove through the grounds of Closebourne House (lovely old Georgian style) built in 1826, and for many years now the Anglican Conference Centre.

A word about the Morpeth Wharf. This very long structure formed the river port for the tremendous area clear through into what is now Queensland, and not merely the Hunter River Valley district. As the railway, and the roads, spread northwards, so came the gradual decline of the importance of the wharf and the town.

At the top of the steps from the wharf stood an Inn, where, no doubt, our ancestors partook of some refreshments, and learned the route to East Maitland where their accommodation would be, and over which they would have to walk carrying all their possessions. (About 3 miles, perhaps, over the hills.)

A bit further today as we followed Harry, to our first stop -- the Trade Arms Hotel, built about 1836. It is a sandstone building, today a private home. There should be a number of photos --- all our cameras seemed to be clicking busily.

The Trade Arms Hotel would have been a place dear to our g'grandparents hearts. Between Morpeth and the 'Arms they had been drenched in a thunderstorm. The patrons, their hearts touched by this woe-begone group of about 106, took up a quick 'whip-round' to buy a quantity of bread, cheese and ale for our Lacemakers.

In the same block (entrance in the street behind) is the Maitland Gaol, designed in 1844 to replace an earlier structure. Part of it is used as a Museum and shop to sell articles made by the present inmates of this maximum security prison. We spent an interesting and enjoyable time in the museum before driving on to the site of the Immigrants Barracks (now gone) where many of our folk were to be accommodated, with in the Barracks, or -- the overflow -- in tents. The single women and the sick were taken to Caroline Chisholm's cottage. It was built in 1840 of brick and stone. It is now a private home. Nearby stands the home boxer Les Darcy built for his parents.

By now it was after 3 pm, and with a 3 to 3½ hour return trip ahead of us, we reluctantly took our farewell of Harry. We all were delighted and very appreciative of Harry's guided tour and of his great and detailed knowledge of our lacemakers and the area, which he so generously shared with us. Thank you, Harry, from us all.

From the Editor - By way of apologising!

The centre three pages of this edition are printed lengthwise. We did this for two reasons. Firstly Sam has gone to trouble to print using three farms for emphasis. Secondly the layout of photos would need total resetting so - please turn your pages!

The heading this issue is very rough - I got to the printer to find I had left it at home... it is a hasty hand effort! *Ch.*

AUSTRALIAN RELS

Betsy, so baptised on 17th October, 1824, in the parish of Radford, county of Nottingham, was the eldest child of William and Ester Sarjent. William was a frame work-knitter, who

Robert John Harrison, a lacemaker, was the son of Thomas and Maria Harrison, also lacemakers, who had lived in Calais for many years. Robert, aged 23 on arrival in Australia, his brother Alfred and his sister Mary Ann were born in Calais. The family then apparently moved back to Nottinghamshire, where Emily and George were born at Hyson Green, after which they returned to Donai, France, where Thomas was born.

Mother, Maria Harrison, was the daughter of Mary (dec'd) and Robert Stubbs, who was still living in Calais.

Betsy and the Harrison family came on the 'Fairlie'; Betsy's family followed on the 'Agincourt'. Two months later, on 7th December, 1848, Betsy and Robert John were married, with the consent of friends, and in the presence of her sister Mary Ann, and Robert's brother Alfred, in the parish church at Kelso.

The young couple settled near O'Connell Plains, where Robert was employed on the property "Milton". As their family grew to 8 children, they acquired "Willow Glen Inn", at Tindale's Hollow. This Betsy ran with the help of her children, who were:

Emily (b. 21.2.1851); Flora (b. 6.8.1853);
Robert John (b.22.11.1854); Esther (b.2.10.1856);
William Thomas (b.23.12.1859); Sarah Ann (b.23.8.'61)
Ann Maria (b.16.12.1862; & Caroline Trueman (b.18.7.
(b.18.7.1865). Caroline was my dear Grandma.

Tragically Betsy died on 22nd December, 1869, aged about 45, and was buried in a bush grave on Christmas Eve. She left a very young family to fend for themselves, as Robert John was a broken-hearted man. But that is another story.

JEAN WRIGHT.



FAMILY OF JOHN ARMSTRONG AND FRANCES AGINCOURT WEST

| NAME | BIRTH | MARRIAGE | DEATH |
|---|----------------------------------|--|--|
| Florence | Trunkey. | | |
| George Patrick | Trunkey, 10 April, 1872. | May Spray, 17 March, 1917 Rockley. | Essington, 28 May, 1948. |
| Florence Ann | Essington, 11 July, 1874. | Oswald Thomas Linnane. | Bathurst, 14 December, 1932. |
| Emma | Essington, 24 December, 1876. | William Cash. | Bathurst, 31 August, 1917. |
| Lucy Jane | Essington, 24 December, 1878. | Frank Price. | Goulburn, 20 February, 1949. |
| Lily Naomi (Writer's grandmother) | Essington, 23 April, 1881. | Thomas Mitchell, 1 January, 1906 Essington. | Wollongong, 25 May, 1937. |
| John Henry | Essington, 29 December, 1883. | Margaret Emily Jones, 30 October, 1910. | Perthville, 8 March, 1925. |
| Thomas West | Essington, 5 July, 1886. | | Yerranderie, 9 December, 1909. (Accidentally burned). |
| Mary Elizabeth | Essington, 27 January, 1889. | Philip Foran, 10 January, 1910 Sydney. | Gosford, 12 Sept., 1948 |
| Charles Walter | Essington, 3 July, 1891. | Frances Gregory, 15 April, 1916/ Alice Gray, 25 June, 1924. | |

FRANCES AGINCOURT WEST

It is arguable that **Frances Agincourt West** was conceived on French soil at the beginning of 1848. One record links her mother's family, a Nottingham laceweaver, **Thomas Shepherd** and his wife with Valenciennes, France. Although Frances' parents, **Robert McMurray West** (of Deal) and **Ann Shepherd** (of Stappleford, Nottinghamshire)⁽¹⁾, were married at Deal in Kent, England on *25 December, 1840* and both their fathers' occupations are recorded there as "publican", Ann West's father's occupation is recorded on her death certificate issued at Bathurst in 1874 as "laceweaver". It is possible that Ann West and her husband Robert, whose occupation on their wedding certificate (1840) is given as "publican", but on Frances' death certificate (1916) as "shepherd", may have returned to France sometime between 1840 and 1848 involving themselves once again in the traditional trade of her father, perhaps at Valenciennes. The February, 1987 issue of 'Tulle' indicates that their first child, **Robert** was born in Calais, France. The Nottingham Review of 12 May, 1848 told of laceweavers coming out of inland France and one French account⁽²⁾ records that 455 English left Calais for England between 27 April and 6 June, 1848 (6 days before the "Agincourt" sailed). It remains to be discovered whether Frances West's family was part of this migration. Her names appear to be the combination of the places of her conception and her birth: France in the first instance and the barque 'Agincourt' subsequently.

Frances Agincourt West travelled further in the first ten months after her conception than she did in the rest of the 67 years of her life. She was one of three baby girls born on the Duncan Dunbar barque 'Agincourt' which was carrying migrants and merchandise from Britain to Australia. Arriving in the world as she did on *22 September, 1848* Frances missed out on being born on Australian soil by 14 days. After two more weeks at sea with her parents, Robert McMurray and Ann West and her three year old brother, Robert, not to mention the other 260⁽³⁾ migrants and Captain Thomas Scott and his crew, she disembarked at Port Jackson either on the day of the ship's arrival, 6 October, 1848, or the day following. The next few days were spent in the Immigration Barracks, better known to us as Old Government House, the nearest any of her family have come to vice-regal accommodation.

One wonders which was worse for baby Frances: being tossed around in her unborn state from June until September, or those first two weeks after birth still at sea; the time in Old Government House, or the 8 days spent on bullock drays hired by the government for the journey across the sandstone barrier of the Blue Mountains to Bathurst. If she could survive all of that she could survive anything! The Sydney Morning Herald recorded 121 'Agincourt' immigrants leaving Sydney for Bathurst⁽⁴⁾. The Bathurst Advocate noted 114 immigrants as having arrived in Bathurst⁽⁵⁾. Even allowing for the Croft family of three who dropped out along the way to allow Mrs. Croft's confinement for the birth of a son, William, that leaves four people unaccounted for. At least the Wests made it.

Five other children were born in Australia to Robert and Ann West: **William, Jane Ann, Emma, Valentina Friend and Elizabeth**, who married James Hewitt. William became lost in the bush for 7 days when he was 7 years old. Although he survived physically the experience so affected his emotional stability that he had to be cared for for the rest of his life. **Irene Mayer** whose daughter is **Minyon Agincourt Mayer**, and **Kitty Foran** daughters of William West's niece **Mary Elizabeth Foran** (nee Armstrong) can remember playing with William a gentle, child-like old man, when they were children.

Frances West was baptised at Bathurst on *16 December, 1849* by the Reverend Thomas Sharpe, the first man ordained priest by Bishop Broughton, when Broughton was bishop of all Australia₍₆₎. At that time Frances' father Robert was a shepherd at Grosvenor Farm, Roxburgh Shire.

On *19 August, 1869* Frances West became the third wife of **John Armstrong** a widowed gold miner of Spring Creek at Davie's Creek, near Swallow's Nest, New South Wales (the bride's usual place of residence). The ceremony was conducted by the Reverend William Fell, a Wesleyan Methodist Minister who received consents from Robert McMurray West and Ann West; Frances "being under the age of twenty one years". The witnesses were Robert West and one Ellen Jones, who made "her mark".

John, an overseer on Major Lockyer's farm, was the first son of Irish convicts, **Charles Armstrong**, who arrived in the colony on the ship '*Almorah*' on *22 December, 1820*₍₇₎ and **Naomi Wright**, who arrived on the ship '*Harmony*' on *27 September, 1827*₍₈₎. Charles (by then emancipated) and Naomi were married with the approval of Governor Darling at St. John's, Parramatta on *26 August, 1828* by the Reverend John Vincent, one of the six chaplains who arrived in the colony while Thomas Hobbes Scott was Archdeacon of all Australia within the Diocese of Calcutta. Mr. Vincent was just three years older than the groom and newly arrived from England. It may have been his first wedding in the colony.₍₉₎

Though Frances West was under age, John Armstrong had by the time of their marriage reached the age of 40, having been born on *15 July, 1829* near Taralga. He was baptised on *2 January, 1831* the birthday of both the writer, a great-great-grandson, and a great-great-great-granddaughter, **Susan Mitchell**, whose grandfather **George Mitchell** and Aunt **Judith Frances Mitchell** are members of the Australian Society of Lacemakers of Calais. John was baptised by the Reverend Thomas Hassall, who though English-born was the first young man to grow up in New South Wales and seek ordination. In 1813, at the age of 19 Hassall commenced in his own home the first Sunday School in New South Wales. At the time of John Armstrong's baptism in 1831, Hassall described his Parish as "Australia beyond Liverpool"₍₁₀₎.

Only two of the ten children of John Armstrong and Frances West reached three score years and ten. John died of "pneumonia" at Essington on *15 November, 1907* at the age of 78. Frances died of "heart failure due to natural causes" after 67 years in the colonies at Essington on *20 December, 1916* They are both buried at Oberon. Frances left as she had come with the world around her in turmoil, and France at the centre of the storm.

Frances' mother, Ann West also died of "natural causes" at the age of 54 years after 26 years in the colonies on *16 June, 1874*. At Chain of Ponds near Bathurst on *19 November, 1876* Robert McMurray West at the age of 62 took his own life while depressed over the loss of his wife. Robert and Ann are buried at "Charlton" a property near Bathurst. Ann West the lacemaker's daughter from Nottingham has the only readable gravestone of the three remaining in the ruined cemetery.

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1. Tulle, February, 1987 Cf. Passenger list 'Stapleford'.
2. Tulle No.3 March, 1983.
3. Tulle, No.2 February, 1983, p.5 where total is 255.
4. Sydney Morning Herald 16 October, 1848.
5. Bathurst Advocate 28 October, 1848.
6. Bishop Broughton ordained Sharpe in St. James' Sydney 17 December, 1836.
7. Shipping Arrivals and Departures Vol.1 1788-1825.
8. Shipping Arrivals and Departures Vol.2 1826-1840.
9. Hewn From The Rock by M.L. Loane., p.38.
10. Thomas Hassall, Australian Dictionary of Biography Vol.1

Article by the Reverend Thomas Halls, great grandson of Francis West.
Research assistant Judith Mitchell, great granddaughter.
Family names when mentioned first and Frances/Agincourt
where still used in **bold** type; significant family dates in *italics*.

25 March, 1987.



ANN WEST



JANE WEST



ROBERT WEST



GEORGE ARMSTRONG



FRANCES AGINCOURT
ARMSTRONG (nee WEST)



FLORENCE ARMSTRONG



EMMA ARMSTRONG



LUCY ARMSTRONG



LILY ARMSTRONG



THOMAS
ARMSTRONG



MARY ARMSTRONG



CHARLES ARMSTRONG



JOHN ARMSTRONG



Of Shoes and Ships and Sealing..wax

DORMER

George Dormer, who first set up a smithy in Albert Place in 1868, and later moved to McKinlay Street, was the son of a blacksmith, his father having kept a smithy on his farm at Bald Hills.

The Dormers were originally a titled Irish family, who emigrated to France, where they became owners of a lace business in Lille. They prospered there until in 1848, rather than be forced to serve in the French Army, the story is told, George Dormer and his wife Judith, with children, Helene, Julienne, George and Esther, left the country, and came in the ship *Harley* to South Australia.

George Dormer senior worked for a time at the Alberton Smelting Works (treating copper from Burra) while his ten year old son worked as a shepherd for Lachlan McBean, on the banks of the Torrens. At night he camped the sheep at the head of a quarry where now Parliament House and the Railway Station stand.

After a trip to the goldfields the whole family moved to the south, taking up land at Bald Hills. In 1867 George Dormer died, aged sixty-nine. His widow moved back to Adelaide with one of her daughters, and George junior began a business in Victor Harbor, which he ran for forty-five years. His sister Helene, and her husband Joshua Gibson, had been running a butchering business in the town for a few years prior to his moving to the town.

From Albert Place, George Dormer moved his smithy to McKinlay Street, about the time that William Skinner sold his Stuart Street smithy to Thomas Henly. Mr Dormer's official title was a wheelwright, and he manufactured many cart wheels. First the wooden wheel hub was made, and spokes fitted, then wood was 'steamed' to make the curved rim. To this had to be fitted the metal outer rim, and finally the wheel was 'rubbered' and finished off by being brightly painted.

With the expanding shipping trade of the 1870s, many contracts were to be had from ships calling at the port. George Dormer also manufactured many of the old wrought iron grave surrounds still to be seen in the local cemetery. Iron fittings and plumbing were made, and horses shoed.

LORRAINE PRATT
BERTENA DORMER KOCK
[DORMER FAMILY]



Hannah and George Dormer

In 1876, aged thirty-eight, George Michael I. married Hannah, the widow of Charles Chamber. Hannah Dormer had been originally a Miss Bowler; had first married Robert Palmer in 1862, and two were born—Tryphena and William, when she was widow. Her second husband, Charles Chambers c 1872 leaving her with three more children, Eva, H and Charles. Life was very hard for most widows, cially those with children.

George and Hannah Dormer raised five children c own in their little house in McKinlay Street; Victor, H Lilian, Olive and Frederick. None of the children sst the town, but Mr Dormer continued to run his smth, 1913, when he was seventy-five. Mrs Dormer d 1921, and George Dormer went to the city just over later, dying there in 1924.

ON CONTRIBUTING TO TULLE.

Write something for Tulle! You have to be joking! Me? What do I have to say that would be even remotely interesting to other members of The Australian Society of the Lace-makers of Calais?

William Makepeace Thackeray once wrote that "there are a thousand thoughts lying within a man that he does not know until he takes up the pen to write". However, Oliver Goldsmith, who preceded Thackeray by about one hundred years wrote, "as writers have become more numerous, it is natural for readers to become more indolent". It is unfortunate but most Tulle readers opt for indolent readership rather than an active authorship.

Probably the reason why we would rather read than write is given by Alexander Pope in his Essay on Criticism. "True ease in writing comes from art, not chance". Samuel Johnson, however, believed that writing wasn't meant to be easy. He wrote "what is written without effort is, in general, read without pleasure".

Walter Bagehot suggested that the wrong people take to writing: "the reason why so few books are written is that so few people who write know anything".

Perhaps all the above proves is that it is easier to be critical than it is to be creative. (A critic is a man who knows the way but can't drive the car). However, the Editor of Tulle would like your contributions - on any subject at all. If you have feared contributing in the past because you have feared criticism, just remember:

When you hark to the voice of the Knocker,
As you listen to his hammer fall,
Remember the fact, that the knocking act
Requires no brain at all.

Richard Lander
7/2/67.

Information

animal, vegetable and mineral....

RUDDINGTON FRAMEWORK KNITTERS' MUSEUM

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE COMPLEX:

- * Remember first, that Ruddington was a village of less than 700 population before the handframe knitters changed it from an agricultural to an industrial community.
- * William Lee, of Calverton, Nottinghamshire, invented the handframe in 1589. Initially rejected in this country, it eventually became the staple industry of the county of its birth; textiles, and lace (made by adaptations to the original stocking frame) remain today our major industries.
- * The earliest indications of handframe knitting in Ruddington are found in the Parish Registers of the later 1600s. It appears to be the Parliamentary Enclosure here in 1767 which opened the flood gates to the industrial workers. An 'Open' village, with land available for new housing - a comparatively new Turnpike Road easing transport problems - well situated between the established handframe knitting centres of Nottingham, Derby, Loughborough and Leicester - and close to the Leicestershire Wolds and the Sherwood Forest for plentiful supplies of wool - Ruddington's industrial foundations were being laid.
- * This museum complex is part of a street created from farmland in the 1820s. It then comprised:
 - ... a 'yard' (or square) of cottages & outhouses
 - ... a Primitive Methodist Chapel (which with the Wesley Methodist and Baptist Chapels provided for the spiritual needs of the knitters)
 - ... a pair of workers' cottages at the street end
 - ... our own, now unique, complex of working and living accommodation on one site.
- * With this brief background we can now look in detail at the 1829 group of workshops and cottages owned, and being restored by, The Trust.

* The tour of the KNITTERS' MUSEUM starts in

THE SMALL FRAMESHOP - on Right.

where in the ground floor Lecture Hall visitors can watch a slide-tape sequence which gives the broad background story of handframe knitting with particular reference to the East Midlands area (about 20 minutes).

Upstairs is an exhibition tracing the development of the handframe from William Lee's invention to the latest computer method of production.

Downstairs again and across the garden, enter

THE LARGE FRAMESHOP - on Left.

The whole of the upstairs floor is full of handframes, an increasing number of them in working condition. Here one can see the cramped conditions in which the 19th century framework knitters worked - smell the smell of an authentic machine shop - and hear the ssssswish-clack-clack ssssswish-clack-clack of the handframes as they are being operated.

On the ground floor are two rooms divided by the entrance passage. To the right, on entering, is the workshop, with facilities for repairs, making new needle leads and other operations essential to the maintenance of machinery. The room also contains several circular sock machines which are operated by classes of Learner Knitters, and examples of developments in the circular type of machine - a Stibbe Maxim, Komet, etc., all of which have now been put into working order.

To the left is another exhibition room - the LOCAL ROOM - which sets out the story of handframe knitting in Ruddington, illustrating the impact of the late 18th and the 19th century framework knitters on this small agricultural community, and showing the contribution made to Ruddington's industrial development by specific families.

THE OUTHUSES:

At the opposite end of the rectangular site from the cottages, a row of outhouses was erected. These consisted of a store, a coal shed, a pig sty, two closets, a urinal for the workmen (the system of working this is both fascinating and, it is believed, unique), and an ash midden.

THE COMMUNAL WASH-HOUSE & OVEN:

Returning down the garden path towards the cottages, turn left at the end of the small frameshop. The door here leads to a small room which still boasts a copper for washdays, and space for a range to be fitted (when one can be obtained) to restore this room to its original dual purpose of washing and cooking for the families living in the cottage block. A small area behind the door has been equipped with modern facilities to enable refreshments to be served to visitors.

FINALLY - THE COTTAGES:

The whole complex was purpose-built in 1828, with working and living accommodation all on one site. This is why the cottages are so important. The block originally comprised four cottages - two central back-to-back cottages with one 'through' cottage on either side. One family lived in one of these cottages for three generations - from 1829 to 1929, and research has produced an interesting story. Other occupants have been, and still are being traced, and one back-to-back cottage has been restored as a framework knitters' home circa 1850, which one through cottage shows a hosier's home circa 1900. The remaining 'one and a half' cottages have been modernised inside for use as tenanted accommodation.

More details about the buildings, the industry, the people - their working lives and their home lives - are told to visitors on conducted tours; additional publications are in hand for sale with other items in a room in the cottage block which we plan to restore as the hosier's yarn store-cum-office, A small shop area is part of our development programme.

Arrangements to visit should be made in advance through - *MRS DOROTHY SHRIMPTON*

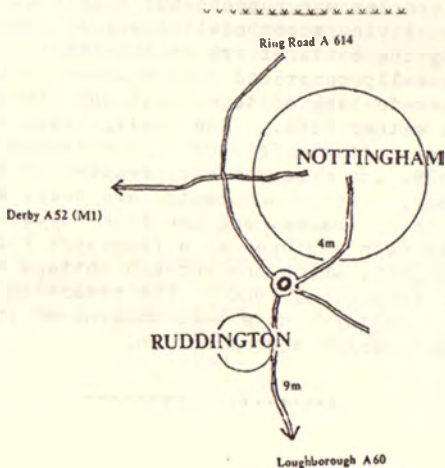
OPEN tuesday and thursday 10am-4pm

INDIVIDUALS/PARTIES WELCOMED

APRIL - OCTOBER

ALSO OPEN BY APPOINTMENT, TEL. (0602) 846914

There is a nominal admission charge, as also for coffee, etc.



*Contributed by
Lola Crafts.
[CROFTS FAMILY]*

THE AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF THE LACEMAKERS OF CALAIS

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