

Tulle

Volume 22 Number 3
August 2004



LI.

Calais - le Bassin du Paradis

The Journal of
The Australian Society of the Lacemakers of Calais

**MEETING DATES
2004**

Saturday August 21, 2004
Saturday November 20, 2004

Donbank Cottage
6 Napier Street, North Sydney
Meeting Time 1.00

NEXT MEETING

Saturday August 21

Looking for us on the net?
www.angelfire.com/al/aslc/

Want to join? Membership due?
Annual Fees \$30, to
Membership Secretary
190 Shaftesbury Road
EASTWOOD NSW 2122

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ISSN. No. 0815-3442

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Dear Friends,

As I'm sure that as many of you are aware, Gillian Kelly likes nothing better than to spend her holidays prowling through country cemeteries in search of lost lacemakers. There is much rejoicing when she locates yet another name that fits into a family puzzle and provides an explanation about the last resting place of a Nottingham-Calais ancestor.

I, too, am always delighted when I find that someone who has been present at one of my 'Lacemaker' talks recognises their family connections with our society. Often their research helps to uncover some of the mystery that surrounds a family whose name appears in the shipping lists but whose descendants had remained elusive. But sometimes information about our society reaches its target by less direct methods.

You may recall that earlier in the year I spoke to the Hornsby Kuring-gai Family History Society and while the group was very interested in our story there wasn't an immediate response from anyone who could claim a Nottingham-Calais ancestor.

However, one very attentive listener, Robyn Hawes, telephoned me recently to ask whether our society would be interested in learning more about the many activities of the Friends of Rookwood Cemetery.

This is a voluntary support group that aims to foster the restoration and conservation of this historic Necropolis. Robyn suggested that perhaps some of our lacemakers were buried there.



Tulle

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As a genealogical resource, Rookwood's size makes it a unique single source of knowledge. Headstones and monuments from 1798 provide a wealth of information about the history and development of the nation that stretches across all sections of society.

Robyn has asked me to speak to the Friends next year and when discussing this with her committee found a very excited Eric Sinfield whose Parkes family arrived on the *General Hewitt*. I have spoken to him too and passed on Gillian's telephone number. I hope that we will hear more from him.

Do join us on Saturday 21 August 2004 at Donbank Cottage for our next meeting when I will be able to give out more information about the Friends of Rookwood.

Elizabeth Bolton
President.

SECRETARY'S COMMENT

Cameron, my son, was married early this month. At the time of their marriage, he was aged 30 years, 4 months and 9 days at the time. His wife, Christa, was a little older at 30 years, 10 months and 22 days.

I think that most people would consider that Cameron and Christa's ages at marriage are pretty typical of young people today but considerably older than past generations. I felt as much myself. I think most people



would also feel it was unusual for the female in a union to be older than her male partner. However, research into my own family has proven that my preconceptions have been incorrect.

I am able to account for eleven generations in my family history. The average age at marriage for the eight generations of males for whom I have exact dates is 10,346 days or a little more than 28 years 3 months. The average age at marriage for the six generations of females for whom I have exact dates is 11,134 days or a little over 30 years 6 months. Of these six generations, Lander men have been the younger partner in 4 of the 6 marriages.

The moral of this personal story is to question your preconceptions in all aspects of family history. You may be surprised at the facts.



Talking of facts, my brother, Hugh, the General Manager of the 3-masted, 19th Century barque James Craig, was our guest speaker at the May meeting. He gave an interesting talk on the ship for which his fondness was obvious. Main points made by Hugh were as follows:-

- The James Craig, originally the “Clan Macleod”, was launched in Sunderland, England, on 18 Feb 1874. Our own “Agincourt” was also built in Sunderland but was launched considerably earlier (in 1844).

- Her first voyage was from Sunderland to Peru. She called in at Rio de Janeiro where she unloaded coal before rounding the Cape. The return voyage took 212 days. The Master's wife had accompanied him on the maiden voyage. She conceived during the outward leg and her child was born during the homeward leg.
- There were 5 deaths during the maiden voyage.
- The *James Craig* carried a crew of 17. This included 10 "climbing crew", those who set the sails under all conditions. By comparison, Hugh said our vessels carried crews of between 35 and 40 men.
- Like the *Harpley* (a ship) the *James Craig* (a barque) had three masts. The *Harpley* carried square-set sails on all masts whereas the *James Craig* had square-set sails on the two foremost masts and fore and aft sails on its mizzen mast.
- The *James Craig* was built in 11 months, had a working life of around 50 years and during that time voyaged most of the world's oceans and rounded Cape Horn 23 times (many of these the wrong way round, viz. east to west).
- She first entered Australian waters on her third voyage in January 1877 while on her way to New Zealand but it wasn't until her fifth voyage in August 1879 that she put into Brisbane, her first Australian port.
- In 1901 she entered the trans-Tasman trade carrying flax and timber from New Zealand and returning with coal from Newcastle. If she unloaded her cargo in Sydney, the crew would have had to load rock ballast by hand so she could make the 60 mile trip from Sydney to Newcastle without cargo.
- On 8 December 1905 her owner, Joseph James Craig, renamed the *Clan Macleod* as the *James Craig* after one of his sons.

- She ended her working life in the early 1930s and was finally abandoned in Recherche Bay in Tasmania. She lay at anchor here till 1932 when a local fisherman, tired of her swinging around her anchor and damaging his nets, blew a huge hole in her hull and sank her. She lay there for about forty years.
- In 1972 volunteers from the *Lady Hopetoun* & Port Jackson Steam Museum rediscovered her. By then she had more than 1000 holes in her hull. They bravely said she could be restored for \$188,000 and by 5am on 24 October 1972 she had been patched sufficiently to be refloated. On 26 May 1973 she was towed to Hobart by tug. After further repairs she was towed into Sydney Harbour on Australia Day 1981.
- Despite the optimistic estimate to restore her, to date it has cost more than \$20 million to restore her to her current condition. Remember, she cost only £11, 375 to build in the first place. Despite the belief of many people that the *James Craig* is owned and financed by the Australian Maritime Museum, every cent (other than a one-off donation of \$1.5 million from the government) has come from donations. She is owned and operated by a trust of the Sydney Heritage Fleet. They also own the *Lady Hopetoun* and the *Kookaburra*.
- The *James Craig* is unique because:-
 - She is only one of four similar vessels anywhere in the world still sailing
 - No finer example of the work-horse, bulk cargo carriers of her time have been preserved
 - She has been restored as faithfully as possible to her original condition



- Some facts and figures
 - Tonnage 1600 tonnes displacement fully laden, 646 tonnes net.
Tonnage as restored is 900 tonnes displacement including 500 tonnes of ballast (predominantly concrete).
 - Length at the waterline 51 metres
 - Registered length 54.7 metres
 - Extreme length (jib boom to mizzen boom) 71.3 metres
 - Beam 9.5m
 - Draught 3.7 metres; fully laden 4.7 metres
 - Depth of hold 5.5 metres
 - Mainmast height 33.07m above deck; 35.7m above waterline; 38m above keel. These are Oregon, originally imported from Canada in 1894.
 - Main lower mast (steel) 20m , stepped on keelson. These were originally iron.
 - Lower yards (steel) 19.2m (weigh 1.4 tonnes)
 - Number of frames 92
 - Number of plates 424
 - Number of rivets 50,000 plus
 - Metres of planking 1000
 - Total sails 21 (1,124 square metres or 12,100 square feet) 10 squares and 11 fore and afts.

Richard Lander
August 2004

AND FROM THE EDITOR

In recent weeks I have found it necessary to revisit the age old discussion of nature versus nurture: to what degree does one's genetic makeup (nature) and one's life experiences (nurture) influence one's traits and behavior, and does it matter any way?

The trigger for such in depth thoughts has been the discovery of several family structures that are quite different to what I had presumed.

In today's society many of our children are reared by a parent not biologically their own, while the biological parent is still very much part of the child's life. In the society of the middle nineteenth century many children were also reared by a parent not biologically their own, but the cause of the parent's separation was most commonly death.

My interest has not been about whether or not the child's development was most influenced by nature or nurture. It has been about the parent's role – is that non biologically-linked parent no less a parent because of a few missing genes?

Were those blended families of his children, her children and their children any less families because of those same different genes – and were the mothers and fathers who cared for, loved, supported large families any the less parents?

In the course of my discoveries (see Questions) it has become apparent that often the descendants didn't know of the structures of their early families – what they have had handed down to them is the loving and the caring, the family stories of good times and bad, the tragedies and the triumphs – no discussions of gene pools and DNA – so perhaps, from a

parenting point of view, nature doesn't come into it – but nurture – that's a different story!

Gillian Kelly
Editor

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Gillian

Our Secretary, Richard Lander, comments in the May issue of Tulle about the detailed activities and interests of our once Calais-resident ancestors is particularly relevant to me. I have often considered a number of these, but Richard in his characteristic and analytical style has raised a number of new points.

When I began my research into my LONGMIRE forebears in the late 1960s I located in the Clare (mid north SA) Northern Argus an obituary to my great grandfather Henry LONGMIRE b 1836 Nottingham, lived Calais c 1843-1848, d 1915.

Reproduced on p9 of my LONGMIRE book (published Adelaide 1972 and in the ASLC collection) the obituary tells of his visit to the Victorian goldfields with his younger brother Hiram, his farming moves, the conveyance of the first engine for the Chambers Mine in the far north of the state from Kapunda, his membership of the local council and his keen interest in veterinary matters.

Having questioned my mother b 1911, now 92, her siblings and her cousins to glean any more anecdotes and recollections, I had presumed 'the well was dry'.

However, recently a friend sent me a copy of Henry's obituary from the Adelaide Advertiser, June 2, 1915. It contains

basically the same information as the Northern Argus but no mention of the engine conveyance). An unexpected addition was the added snippet of insight: 'uUp to the time of his death Mr Longmire was an enthusiastic gardener' - not a gene that I have inherited from him, alas!

So reader, please do heed Richard's advice. Some thirtysix years later I have another tittle of information. Be persevering, for your next discovery may be even more significant!

Kingsley Ireland

STOP PRESS NOTTINGHAM

Barry Holland in Nottingham

Both items in this quarter's **STOP PRESS** relate to the daily lives of the Lacemakers.

NOTTINGHAM REVIEW OCTOBER 10, 1851.

Police Office, Nottingham

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 his wife was found to have been 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.

John Knowles Huddleston born c 1800 was the son of William Huddleston and Elizabeth Knowles. He married Frances Richards in Radford in 1820, was widowed and in 1828 married Elizabeth Frances Dowers at Dover, as he claimed. Elizabeth Dowers was the daughter of George Dowers of Dover, a man of independent means.

FRANCE AND ENGLAND

Nottingham Review

July 11, 1840

The return match between France and England came off on Calais Common on the 29th & 30th ult., and after some excellent play on both sides, the game terminated in favour of Calais with seven wickets to go down. Our Calais friend, who has furnished us with an account of this match he observed Tom Heath of the Nottingham old club (celebrated for his activities as a fielder) and J Hewitt and R James, both of whom you will recall have played in several matches in Nottingham. Heath's bowling and fielding excited general admiration.

S Bishop's bowling was excellent and the batting of James, who ran up a good score, was scientific and much admired by the French who kept shrugging their shoulders and exclaiming and applauding, ' Mon Dieu, c'est le diable!', and when he was run out, having obtained ten more notches than the River players had obtained in their first innings, he was warmly congratulated by the lively Frenchmen. 'Hewitt's play', proceeds our correspondent, 'reminds me strongly of the old school and while not so fortunate as we could have wished, yet

he played well. The fielding of both parties was very good, but the activity and judgement of our townsmen was pre-eminent.'

The first day's play was remarkably well attended, and boasted of a pretty sprinkling of ladies. Among the gentlemen were the mayor of and commissary of Calais and Basse Ville¹, who appeared highly gratified with this truly English game. At the conclusion of the first day's play, the cricketers and their friends dined together at Mrs Middleton's² Dover Castle Hotel; the song and glass went merrily around, and the festivities of the day were kept up until a late (or rather early) hour. The following is the score:-

RIVER

First Innings		Second Innings	
Finn, c Hill	0	<i>b Heath</i>	15
<i>Phipps, b S Bishop</i>	0	<i>b ditto</i>	0
<i>Gambriel, b ditto</i>	0	<i>c James</i>	3
<i>Harman, c Hill</i>	14	<i>c Heath</i>	3
<i>Coleman, b Heath</i>	1	<i>c ditto</i>	4
<i>Welch b Gee</i>	2	<i>run out</i>	7
<i>Gibbons, c Hill</i>	0	<i>b Heath</i>	5
<i>Rpilcher, b S Bishop</i>	0	<i>c R Solley</i>	3
<i>MacDonald b ditto</i>	5	<i>b S Bishop</i>	4
<i>Lake, not out</i>	3	<i>B ditto</i>	0
<i>J Phipps, b Bishop</i>	0	<i>Not out</i>	0
<i>Byes & Wides</i>	2	<i>Byes & Wides</i>	13
	27		57

¹ St Pierre

² The Middleton family were from Kent. John Middleton took his wife and three sons to Calais and ran the Dover Castle Hotel. He died before 1841 and his wife, Ann took over the hotel. The three sons entered the lace trade and became prominent owners and employers. They remained in Calais after the 1848 crisis.

CALAIS

First Innings	Second Innings	
Godber, b Phipps	0	<i>Not out</i> 0
<i>Atkin, b Finn</i>	8	
<i>James run out</i>	37	
<i>Heath c McDonald</i>	4	
<i>Gee, b Finn</i>	3	
<i>Wombwell, c McDnld</i>	5	<i>b Finn</i> 0
<i>Hewitt, c Phipps</i>	1	
<i>Hill, b ditto</i>	0	<i>Not out</i> 0
<i>Bishop, st Coleman</i>	10	
<i>R Sulley, c Harman</i>	0	<i>b Gambriel</i> 1
<i>S Bishop not out</i>	5	<i>b Finn</i> 8
<i>Byes & Wides</i>	2	<i>Bye</i> 1
	75	10

A SAD TALE

Leicester the following deaths are recorded for the 13 children of Benjamin & Lydia RUSSELL nee BUCKLE, from the records of the Bond Street Congregational Church.

Richard d 11 May 1818 age 6 wks, Benjamin d 1 Mar 1819 age 4 wks, Mary d 16 Nov 1820 age 2 wks, Joseph d 11 Oct 1822 age 2 wks, Edward d 7 Jul 1823 age 11 d, William d 11 Sep 1823 age 11 wks, Charles d 29 Mar 1828 age 13 mo, Mary d 29 Sep 1828 age 13, Samuel d 29 Mar 1831 (no age given), Edward d 14 Aug 1833 age 11 d, Emma d 14 Aug 1833 age 11 d, George d 11 Sep 1834 age 13 d, Henry d 1 Apr 1837 age 9 mo

If these statistics are correct, but it looks as though, out of 15 pregnancies, that poor couple had one child who lived to 13 yrs, and possibly four others who may have made it to adulthood!

FAMILY HEIRLOOMS

When I was a child in the 1950s I was at boarding school in Sydney and often used to spend Sundays with my grandparents at their Wahroonga home. Their house was full of beautiful but old furniture, books and paintings. There was a large garden with a sun-dial, chickens and fruit trees and wonderful plants. There was also a rain-gauge which contained a glass measure.

My grandfather dutifully kept the details of all rain gratefully received by his large garden. The garden was large enough to hold a couple of gazebos as well as a greenhouse and each of these had basic benches where you could read a book, prepare seeds for planting out, or hold a conversation.

My maternal grand-father, Fred Booth, was very formal and deaf, but a kind, knowledgeable and successful gentleman. He loved his large family and despite the fact he had 24 grandchildren, each of us seemed to hold a special place in his heart and he knew us all as individuals. He seemed to always have time for us and had endless stories to tell about distant relatives, his experiences in the Boer War, about gardening and plants, about philosophy and philosophers, about the wool and metals industries, and about social mores. He was a fine man and I loved my Sundays with him and my grandmother.

In their lounge room there were books on almost every imaginable topic and on wet Sunday afternoons, I was encouraged to read from their extensive library. One set of books which I particularly liked was one which my grandfather called "the five feet of knowledge".

Standing side by side they stretched for about 60 inches and covered almost all important literary works – poetry,

Shakespeare, the classics, philosophy, political science, engineering, the Arts, pioneers in many fields including explorers, engineering feats and so on. He had read the lot and encouraged with gentle persuasion others in his extensive family to do likewise. He thought anyone who read and could absorb all the information contained on the thousands of pages would have more useful information than any university could ever impart in an active and absorptive mind. These books were housed in an American oak modular bookcase which I also admired. Also in the bookcase was a large Websters Collegiate Dictionary from which we were encouraged to seek the meaning of any words we did not fully understand.

My grandmother died when I was still relatively young but my grandfather survived till he was nearly 94. When he died, along with many happy memories, I was left "the five feet of knowledge", the glass measure for the rain-gauge, the Websters Dictionary and the American oak book-case. The former, unfortunately, subsequently formed a wonderful home for white ants and had to be disposed of. The rest will remain with Lyndall and me till I die. I hope thereafter that Cameron might keep them and love them for their sentimental and antiquarian worth if not for their actual value. To me they have become priceless family heirlooms.

Having just survived a giant garage sale at which Lyndall's mother as well as ourselves disposed of many items which have been a part of our lives for many years, I am aware that there are hordes of people out there who are willing to take advantage of others' ignorance of values or their need to down size in an ever changing world.

However, I am equally aware that once family heirlooms are lost, they cannot be retrieved and I am absolutely determined that the significance of the few we have is recorded so that my

descendants can keep or dispose of them with knowledge rather than through ignorance. Our home is not so full of walnut pianos, mahogany What Nots and oak writing-desks that such an inventory is not possible.

Inventories of the worldly possessions of ancestors can sometimes make for interesting reading. My own grandfather's will listed his dutiable estate in fairly prosaic terms (real estate, shares in public companies, livestock, money in banks, life policies, plant and equipment, etc.) However, that of Harriet Ireland (Kingsley Ireland's great-great-grandmother), is much more interesting. When she died in South Australia in 1911 in her house on Section 16, Hundred of Wokurno, she left amongst other things, a light horse (aged) complete with two seated buggy and shafts, a 12ft iron trough, a quarter coil of No. 10 galvanized wire, 2 bags of almonds, butter scales, bellows and a large cedar sideboard.

Through his usual judicious research, Kingsley has deduced that the large cedar sideboard (shown in the photograph), originally owned by Harriet, following her death was acquired



by her son, Robert Ireland (1860-1927) of Barunga & Lincolnsfield, near Bute in SA.

After Robert, it passed to his son, Leonard (Len) Ireland (Kingsley's father's cousin) and then to Len's son, Lionel. In turn it passed to Lionel's daughter, Shirley Ireland, born in 1942.

Shirley Ireland married Gary Ireland (the son of Len's first cousin and Kingsley's second cousin) and the "large cedar sideboard" is now in their farmhouse at Poirilla in the Murray Mallee, a long way from where Harriet's place of death.

This wonderful piece of furniture has thus been in the Ireland family for at least 90 years and presumably much longer as Harriet is unlikely to have purchased it on her deathbed.

Quite often, beautiful pieces of furniture appear in numerous family photos. I guess many of these formed props for professional photographers, but where the piece can be found to be a family heirloom, that can be very special and the piece can acquire a value well in excess of its monetary value. Like Kingsley, be on the lookout for such pieces.

Richard Lander (reporting on Kingsley Ireland's research)

A GIFT OF GOLD

The contingent of *Agincourt* lacemakers who reached Bathurst in October 1848 had spent ten days on drays to reach their ne home and were undoubtedly pleased to have a roof over their heads - albeit a temporary arrangement.

Edward Austin's storage buildings on the eastern side of Durham Street had been prepared as an Immigrants' Depot. The Bathurst Advocate reported that some of our travellers appeared exceedingly careworn - and indeed the Lowe family had great trouble adapting. Oliver Lowe was unable to find work to his liking and Edward Austin allowed the family to remain in the store for many weeks. Eliza, his wife, had gotten

wet on the journey over the mountains and became really ill. She died on December 4. Austin's kindness would have made a great difference to this family.

The discovery of gold on the Turon within two years boosted the financial status of the Austin family. The journey over the mountains was arduous and rather than cart heavy goods with them most gold seekers relied on Bathurst to provide the necessary basics to confront the fields. Edward's stores were the ideal repository for all that was needed and his riches from the goldfields were derived from this source.



With gold being freely available, Edward designed and had made a brooch for his wife Mary. The brooch is 4.5cm high and depicts a miner complete with bucket and winch. Crossed picks and shovels support either side. After Mary's death the brooch was

inherited by their eldest daughter Esther, and can now be seen at the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences in Sydney.

A MEMBER'S STORY

PREMIER'S AWARD TO JUDY GIFFORD

Each year in Seniors' Week the Premier presents his prestigious award to a select group of some 40 volunteers across the state. Each region in the state can nominate one person and one group in each of six categories:

education and lifelong learning, environment and science, health and well being, community, community service and volunteering, intergenerational understanding and business mentoring.

Any one who knows member Judy Gifford will understand her commitment to promoting breast feeding as a volunteer through the Australian Breastfeeding Association. During Seniors Week this year Judy was presented with one of the Premier's awards as a recognition by the Central Coast community of the time, commitment and invaluable support that for thirty years Judy has offered mothers as a volunteer counsellor.

The group was founded some forty years ago and was known then as the Nursing Mothers Association - during the 60s public use of the word breast was not acceptable. This was a time when there was a popular notion that formula feeding was modern, fashionable and best.

“When I became heavily involved in 1976, I was living at Wagga Wagga. We had a talk back program on the local radio station and just before I went to air I was told I couldn't use the word pregnant - it had to be 'expecting' and I couldn't say 'breast feeding', it had to be 'feeding the baby yourself'.”

It is interesting and a sign of the times that it was only three years ago that the Association changed its name from Nursing Mothers to the unambiguous title of Australian Breastfeeding Association.

Congratulations, Judy Gifford, and may you continue to help mothers in need.

THE GREAT MYSTERY OF THE FAMILY OF JOHN WAND

Good mystery stories begin with dark and stormy nights, pelting rain and howling winds but this one doesn't. It starts, or perhaps finishes, on the balmy evening of October 6 1848 when there arrived in Sydney Harbour the good ship *Agincourt* and amongst her cargo of Lacemakers were:

John Wand, born Nottingham in 1803
his new wife **Eliza Clara Spinks**, born in York in 1806
and their children:

Eliza Wand born 1835 in Calais

John Wand born 1837 Calais

Sarah Wand born 1840 Calais

James Wand born 1845 Calais

and baby **Fanny Wand** born 1847 Calais.

The shipping list tells us all this .

Father John and mother Eliza were amongst those who had experienced some difficulty in producing a marriage certificate before the voyage, and this was achieved at St Dunstan's in the East in London on 21 May 1848 – a little too late to sail with the *Harpley* and Eliza's nephew Henry Watts.

In the ensuing years two small mysteries of name developed. James became Henry James Andrew Wand and Sarah became Elizabeth Spinks Wand. Apart from these small curiosities, the family seemed to be of the standard pattern of dad, mum and a batch of kids.

But let us look further into the families:

In 1831 John Hassall, aged 45, was working in the lace industry in St Pierre. His wife Mary Goude aged 36 and his little family of Ann aged 13, James aged 8 and Sarah aged 4 were with him. On October 9 1832 Mary Goude died. Her death certificate says she was from Skeffington in Leicestershire and the daughter of John and Rebecca Goude.

Young Ann Hassall was only 14 when her mother died but very probably already working in the lace trade. Within three years she had formed a relationship with John Wand and their first child Eliza was born on 26 May 1835. Two years later on 29 November 1837 a son John was registered to John Wand and Ann Hassall and then on January 9 1840 a second daughter named Elizabeth was registered.

John and Ann celebrated the birth of this little Elizabeth by having her baptised at the Church of England chapel of St George on January 7 1840. At this same ceremony one Fanny Watts was also baptised – she was the daughter of William and Fanny Watts. Fanny Watts the mother had a sister Eliza Clara Spinks, and it is quite likely that Eliza attended the ceremony. The officiating Reverend Hopper noted in the church register that Elizabeth Wand was the illegitimate daughter of Ann and John – a differentiation the French Registrar make

John Wand then entered what must have been a very difficult and sad time for him. In June of 1840 his baby Elizabeth fell ill and died at her parent's home in rue Vauban. In the October of that year, his wife Ann also died at her home in rue Vauban. Here the mystery deepens. Ann's death registration records her as being the eldest daughter of John Tomlin and Mary Goude and states that she was born at Skeffington in Leicestershire in 1818, and that she was the wife of John Wand. Perhaps John Tomlin was Mary Goude's first husband.



In 1841 the census return for household 1452 in St Pierre shows John Wand 38 laceworker, living with his daughter Eliza aged 6 and son John aged 3. With them is John's widowed sister Elizabeth Radford, nee Wand – one would assume to help the young father care for his toddlers.

Left: Eliza Sivyver, nee Wand, daughter of John Wand and Ann Hassall but known as daughter of Eliza Spinks, see here with grandsons Percy & John Sivyver.

Life improved for John. Whether the baptising of their children at the same time was an arrangement between friends or just chance we don't know – but by 1844 John had formed a liaison with Fanny Watts' sister Eliza Clara Spinks and on February 9 in 1845 at his parents home in rue des Soupirantes the birth of Henry Wand, natural child of John Wand and Eliza Spinks was registered.

A year later there was another census and the family was still living in rue des Soupirantes, and there is another surprise – the family consisted of John and Eliza, John's children Eliza and John, their shared child now called James, and Sarah, their daughter aged 9!



Henry Wand born Calais 1845, son of John Wand and Eliza Spinks, with his wife Clara Louisa Roberts. Henry became known as James Henry Wand and later as Andrew James Henry Wand.

So who was Sarah?? The evidence is circumstantial – on March 20 1831 an Eliza Spinks married at Quorndon a Richard Greenslade. On May 24, 1839 a child Elizabeth Grinsley (Greenslade) was registered in Calais as being the daughter of Eliza Spinks and Richard Greenslade. The baby was born in her mother's home in rue Verte, and the father was living in Devon. It was not unusual for fathers to be absent at the time of a birth but the registers clearly note 'father away', 'father in Nottingham' etc. The registration for Elizabeth Grinsley clearly states the father was LIVING in Devon.

It would seem that this Elizabeth became Sarah up until the time of her arrival in Australia when she reverted to Elizabeth Spinks Wand. Of all of the children of this intriguing family Elizabeth is the only one to have the name Spinks.

There are many mysteries and intrigues that need to be solved for the family Wand, but their story does show very clearly that things aren't necessarily as they first appear!

Gillian Kelly

All stated facts in this report are verifiable through the Calais Birth and Death Registers and the registers of the Chapel of St George, Calais. The missing link is hard evidence that Elizabeth Greenslade is indeed Elizabeth Spinks Wand.

FRANCES NELSON (NEE WAND)

Frances Wand or Fanny as she was known was born in Calais France in 1847 the youngest child of Lacemakers John Wand and Eliza Clara Spinks.

Fanny was only one year old when she arrived in Port Jackson aboard the *Agincourt* with her parents and older siblings Eliza 13 yrs John Jnr 11 yrs, Sarah 9yrs and James 3yrs on October 6 th 1848. Upon arrival in Port Jackson the family were transferred to another vessel that took them to Morpeth, a few miles north east of Maitland on Hunter's River where they landed at the Government Wharf. Her father John became a farm labourer in the surrounding rural area.

As early as January 24 1852 the Maitland Mercury carried the announcement that gold had been discovered at 'the Hanging Rock' at the head of the Barnard River, a tributary of the Manning.

By the end of March the Maitland Mercury reported '*few persons are now at work on the original Hanging Rock diggings. The main body of diggers, some 200 in number, are gathered on the Peel, 6 or 7 miles from Hanging Rock and 27 miles from Tamworth and about a day's walking journey from the head station at Goonoo Goonoo. The site of the discovery was Bowling Alley Point*'.

It was also noted a few months later that Tamworth farms and village and the Goonoo Goonoo station were short handed as so many having left to seek their fortunes at the 'diggings'. Fanny's father John and older brother John Jn seem to have also joined the gold rush.

On 16 May 1853 Fanny's older sister Eliza married **Joseph Sivyer at Maitland**. (I have been told by a descendant of Joseph & Eliza Sivyer that Joseph courted and proposed to Eliza on a log at Goonoo Goonoo station. The same descendant's grandmother also stated that Eliza was a governess on the station and taught the King children. However, in this case it is not known for certain if the grandmother was referring to Fanny's mother or sister who was the governess as they both had the name of Eliza and they both could read and write).

On 22 December 1857 Fanny's other sister Elizabeth **Sarah**, a dressmaker in Morpeth, married John Thomas Parker in Morpeth.

Sadly fifteen months later Fanny's dad John died in Tamworth hospital on 7 March 1859 from a severe cold he had suffered with for six weeks. He was buried in the Church of England Cemetery in Tamworth on 8 th March 1859.

Sometime between 1860/61 and Fanny being about 13yrs old, moved to live at Collingwood Cottages in Liverpool Sydney with her mother, brother Jim, and sister and brother in law Elizabeth **Sarah & John** Parker and their 2 young children. Older brother John Wand appears to have also moved to Sydney as he died in the Sydney Infirmary on 8 April 1862 only 24yrs old. Sadly four months later on 27 August 1862 their mother Eliza also died in the Liverpool hospital or Asylum as it was also know. (Today it is part of Liverpool Technical College.)

Sometime after the death of their mother in 1862 Fanny moved again with her sister and family to Chippendale and then to Redfern, where she lived with the Parker family until she was 17 years old and then married William Nelson a wool sorter

from Sydney. Fanny and William were married in Elizabeth Street, Sydney according to the rites of the Presbyterian Church in the presence of her brother in-law John Parker and William's brother in-law William Boyton on 2 November 1863.

William Nelson's parents William Lunn Nelson (Woolsorter) and Elizabeth (nee Day) also lived at the Collingwood Cottages in Liverpool from about 1856/57 until William's death at the cottages in April 1862.

William and Fanny had nine children Elizabeth Wand Nelson "Lizzy" born 1864, William Lunn Nelson 1865, Benjamin James 1870, Eva Eliza 1872, Edwin John 1876. Harry Australia 1879, Phoebe Ellen 1882, Oliver Charles "Charlie" 1885 (my paternal grandfather), & Frances Gertrude "Gertie" 1889.

Fanny was 56yrs old when she died in the Coast Hospital Little Bay on 6 September 1903. Eight years later on 11 April 1919 her husband William died at Botany 85yrs old and both are buried in the Church of England Cemetery, Botany.

If anyone can find errors, or add to my research, I would love to hear from you.

Bev Venn (nee Nelson).

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SO, WHAT IS IN A NAME?

Our life expectancy increased dramatically during the last century, but in times not so far gone the early death of a partner left many a parent with very young children. Remarriage was society's expectation.

Shipping agents, when recording assisted passenger's names, were given the task of producing lists that would enable the Government to keep track of those in their care.

To simplify blended families the children were listed under the surname of the head of the household regardless of their natural parents.

Of the three ships , the *Fairlie*, the *Harpley* and the *Agincourt* that brought the majority of the lacemakers to Australia in 1848 the *Agincourt* seems to have carried those with the most complex family arrangements. For many of today's Lacemaker researchers the task of finding the descendants in Australia has been complicated by the ordinary records of births and deaths disappearing into Methodist and French records and not being easily unearthed. This is further complicated by the fact that the French always use a woman's maiden name, regardless of how many marriages she has had, and the English and Australian's use the woman's last surname!

Listed on the *Agincourt* as a child of William Gascoigne and Eleanor Kendrick was William, aged 10, born Leicester. Check the NSW registers for any sign of this William Gascoigne and he can't be found. Check the NSW registers for William Biddulph and we find he didn't marry, but he died in Berrima in 1900. William was actually the son of Eleanor's first marriage to John Biddulph in 1837 at Radford. John Biddulph died early in 1840 and Eleanor remarried William Gascoigne.

Similarly, the first two children listed as those of John Moon and Ann Asling were Henry and Lucy . John Moon married Lucy Asling nee Pain after the death of her first husband Henry Asling in Calais in 1842. Henry and Lucy's surname was Asling and as such we find Lucy marrying Charles Foster, a fellow traveller on the *Agincourt*.

On the shipping list William Nicholls and Mary Anne Worthington list five young Nicholls children. A check of Mary Anne's marriage to William reveals her name as Mary Anne Wood Beatson Worthington³. A further investigation reveals Mary Ann married William Beatson in 1825 at Manchester and the children Sarah, Mary Ann, John and Joshua are from this first marriage and as Beatsons are easily traced through the NSW records.

The romantic story of George Saywell meeting his second wife Isabella Kiscadden as they both grieved for their first partners is well recorded in the folklore of the family. The children of George's marriages carried the name Saywell without complication. Isabella Kiscadden brought a daughter to that marriage who was on the *Agincourt*. She was Mary Ann Elliott. Born Radford in 1829, she was the daughter of Isabella and her first husband Richard Elliott.

A final tale: Hayes Ingham was born in Nottingham to Nancy Ingham, no father recorded. Ann Ingham married Joseph Davis in 1838 and this family was on the *Agincourt*. Ann's maiden name was Ingham and her father's name was Hayes. When Ann Davis nee Ingham died her name is recorded as Nancy and the 1846 census for Calais shows our young Hayes Ingham as being in the Davis household as a son. Ann Davis was Hayes Ingham's mother!

There may be more examples among the Lacemakers – the moral being not to give up when the name seems to disappear! It may well be there all the time, but telling you another story about your family.

³ This is a very odd, but fortuitous entry in the Baptismal Register for Manchester Cathedral

WHY SOUTH AUSTRALIA?



Adelaide 1839

On March 21 1848 a large group of the lacemakers in Calais met at a church to discuss their future after the massive decline of work in the trade and the eruption of revolution in France.

The outcome of this meeting was a decision to petition the British government with a description of their present circumstances in France and the current situation of their trade in England and then to offer a solution:

Having therefore put you in possession of the facts, we take the liberty of suggesting the following plan by which you can render us effectual assistance.

The plan we propose is Emigration to one of the British Colonies, South Australia preferred, where workmen are scarce

*and labour wanted, our experience having shown us the great advantage they possess who live under the British flag.*⁴

There are many theories on the choice of South Australia:

- Adelaide was not a penal colony
- religious freedom was encouraged and many of the lacemakers were non-conformist
- it was a new, young colony
- there was a very great need for labourers

If the would-be immigrants knew enough of South Australia, where did their information come from? It is known that the Foreign Bible Society advertised South Australia as an appropriate destination for those wishing to leave the troubled times of the homeland behind. It is also known that the English papers frequently ran encouraging articles about immigration to all the Australian Colonies but perhaps the voice of someone who knew Calais and knew South Australia would have more influence than any other.

At the end of the Napoleonic Wars, England resumed its formal political association with France. This included the return of the consulates to full staffing and for Calais this meant the appointment of a minister of the Church of England to extend pastoral care to his parishioners in that city.

Early in 1818 John Liptrott was appointed to this role and took up residence with his wife Frances and family, including a babe so young that he had not yet been baptised. George Louis Liptrott was baptised by his father at the Chapel of St George in Calais on March 7, 1818.

⁴ Foreign office correspondence with France 1848

John Liptrott continued in his role as minister in Calais until the early 1840s but in 1839 his son, George Louis Liptrott sailed on the *Anna Robertson* with 110 other passengers, departing Gravesend for? Adelaide!

He arrived on September 20 – a neat nine years before the *Harpley*. By the Census of 1841 George Louis was living in his own residence in Gillies Street and seemed to be sharing it with another young couple. At various times George Louis was an auctioneer, a shepherd, a land lord, and a gentleman!

There is little evidence of his time in South Australia. George Louis did not marry until he was 38. In 1856 he married Ann Elizabeth Thring (who was 20) at her father's home. They are said to have had a child, but after this date they seem to have disappeared from the Australian shores – George Louis Liptrott died in London in 1890.

So now there is a direct link between Calais and South Australia. Was it through George that the Lacemakers first became inspired to travel to the youngest colony in the Antipodes? Undoubtedly there were others. On October 4 1839, the Adelaide Register reprinted news from home brought on incoming ships, including Liptrott's *Anna Robertson*. Gleaned from a Sheffield paper is the following:

EMIGRATION OF THE HOWITTS:- *We regret to hear that the Howitts of Nottingham are going to settle or be settled in Australia. They have made their names ring through Great Britain, the continent of Europe and America; and are now going, it appears, to South Australia, to listen to the echo there. We understand that William will stay at home, but Dr Godfrey and Richard, with a numerous accompaniment of relatives, and a few scientific friends intend emigrating in the autumn; their meaning is, we understand, to found a happy and social little*

settlement there; and most assuredly they will form a very intelligent little community.

The Howitts were a fascinating and literary family, much given to the writing of poetry. Thomas Rossell Potter said "I once asked a gentleman what he thought of that remarkable trio of brothers of whom it was said, that, having made all Europe ring with their fame, they were gone to Australia to listen to the echo?"

His reply was striking - 'I don't *know* them; they are poets, or said to be poets, and one naturally avoids such people'" The observation of a short sighted man, who dreamt not that when his importance has been engulfed in the grave, the fame of the Howitt family would make Nottingham a classic place in the eye of the world.

And perhaps the Howitt family, along with George Louis Liptrott, also made Adelaide a classic place in the eye of the lacemakers.

SAYWELL TALES CONTINUED.

I grew up in an age when there was no TV, and there was time for bedtime stories. My chief forms of entertainment were reading, the usual games such as Ludo, Chinese Checkers, Monopoly, Snakes and Ladders etc; and listening to a fine selection of 78 RPM classical records on a 'wind up' HMV gramophone.

At the age of six I learned to knit and started to embroider. I began with squares which were joined into rugs and given to

Red Cross children's homes. With the advent of World War II we graduated to scarves and socks for the servicemen.

As children we were never bored as we lived on the land with contact with cattle and horses, ducks, chooks and chickens, dogs, cats and kittens. It was a joy to follow Dad as he ploughed and sowed seed – to ride on horses and other farm conveyances such as the cart and a SLED from which fodder was tossed for the stock – in all to enjoy the pleasures of a wonderful childhood.

Often at bed time, instead of a story from a book, we would ask Mother 'Tell us about what you did when you were a little girl!' She had a store of tales about her own childhood and her mother Harriet's childhood and youth in Calais.

My mother could just remember Rose (Saywell) Pryor who died when my mother was only three. After Rose's death James spent a lot of time with Harriet Trantor's family at Narrabri and Boggabri. He often told of his childhood and of the long sea voyage from England to Australia. He claimed that they were six months at sea and that the ship would often lie over on its side. They were never afraid as he and his siblings had great faith in their parents and in God.

The Pryor family settled in East Maitland. One branch of the family began a plastering business and made superbly decorated ceilings for fine homes. One Of James' stories told of an unfortunate exploit when he was about ten years old.

In those days hangings were frequent on Stockade Hill. On hearing of such an event James sneaked off with the crowd to witness the spectacle. It shook him to the degree that he couldn't eat or sleep for days.

Being a staunch Methodist, he clung to circles of his own faith but as an old man he was visited by Catholic nuns when in hospital and often referred to them as 'those beautiful women'.

In earlier days he considered that music, except for hymns, could get you into bad company and he refused to allow the family to have music lessons. With time he confessed his regrets and wished his time over again to buy a piano and have each child taught how to play it.

When his grandchildren were young he gave them a white pony called Togo, who was actually considered to belong to Dot, the youngest. Once he caught her sewing on a Sunday⁵ and declared that 'for being such a naughty girl, Togo will now belong to Maudie!'

However, eventually Togo spent his old age on my father and mother's farm at Oakhampton. He had learned many tricks. If the baker had left the bread on the kitchen table and the window was slightly raised, Togo could nudge it up and take off with the fresh crusty loaf.

One day I found Togo actually in the kitchen looking for the fresh loaf. He lived to be forty or perhaps more and died on my brother's second birthday in January 1936. Togo was so well loved that dad buried him and planted a Morton Bay Fig over him. He was too precious to be taken away to the knackers.

It is rather remarkable that anecdotes spanning four generations since the 1830s and 1840s are still being handed down and some other things go on – at Christmas we gave a set of

⁵ As sewing was work it was considered sinful to sew on the day of the Lord.

Chinese Checkers to two great grandchildren. Despite having the latest computer games they are hooked on checkers!

June Howarth

FOR THE GENEALOGIST

MORE BURIALS AT CALAIS 1799-1844

Further transcripts from the burial registers of Calais. Women are recorded under their maiden name.

BOOT, John died 30 June 1831 aged 35 born Leicester, the son of John Boot (dec) and Elizabeth Popplewell, at his mother's home. Witness Thomas Boot, 34 lacemaker.

DESOMBRE, Antoine died July 1831 aged 15, the son of Antoine Desombre and Adrienne Gelee

EATON, Richard died 7 June 1834 aged 40, lacemaker, born Quorndon, son of John Eaton and Anna Dickenson, living St Pierre, died at parents home.

ELLIOTT Frederick died 28 September 1833 aged 27 lacemaker born Nottingham son of William Elliott watchmaker and Mary Godwin. Wife's name unknown, but living at Hyson Green.

GOUDES, Mary died October 9 1832 aged 35, born Skeffington Leics the eldest daughter of the late John Goudes and the late Rebecca Goudes, wife of John Hassall lacemaker living St Pierre

HILLYER, Henrietta died 30 January 1832 aged 10 months, born St Pierre daughter of Thomas Hillyer and Mary Hinton, at their home rue Vauban. Witnesses George Fairfax 21 laceworker and Sydenham Wylde 26, Independent Means

HUTCHINSON Frances died April 4 1841 aged 63, born Gonneshome Notts daughter of Thomas Hutchinson and Sarah, wife of George Fletcher. Witness James Fletcher 34 son

MOON, George died October 10, 1836 aged 39, born deal son of John Moon and Elizabeth Darely, wife Mary Ann Shepherd.

SHAW Eliza died 18 January 1832 aged 8 months the daughter of Isaac Shaw and Sarah Darsh

TAYLOR, Ann died September 14 1836 aged 62 born Wirksworth daughter of George Taylor and Elizabeth, living rue Neuve. Witnesses James Smith 44, laceworker and William Taylor aged 28, laceworker, grandson.

WALKER Amos died March 10 1833 aged 23 born Derby laceworker son of John Walker and Ann Walkerdon, wife Ann Gorely, living la Grande rue

WOOD, Anne died October 7 1844 aged 35 born Beeston daughter of Samuel Wood (living Beeston) and Sarah Lowe (dec) husband Isaac March

WOOLEY, Martha died October 7, 1831 aged 23 born Radford, daughter of John Wooley and Martha Story, died at parent's house in rue Neuve. Wit William Smith 56 carpenter & William Daish 31 laceworker

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