

TULLE

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The Journal of Australian Society of Lacemakers of Calais Inc.



TULLE

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Marilyn Brown, a member of our Society, presented each attendee at our 30th Anniversary Luncheon with one of three interestingly designed bookmarks, each featuring a small piece of lace. In addition to the eighteen of these which remained after the celebrations Marilyn has subsequently generously supplied me with many more bookmarks and these have been inserted into the copies of Tulle of all those who were unable to be with us on the day as well as some who have already received one. Marilyn, on behalf of all members of ASLC and all recipients of these thoughtfully prepared bookmarks, please accept our warm thanks for your thoughtfulness and generosity.

President's Message

Last year we celebrated thirty years of sharing stories, research, the publication of books and our always-interesting journal *Tulle*. The report in this edition shows us in a good financial position and we ended the year about even in member numbers. One hiccup for the Society occurred when we discovered that we had been deregistered as an association early in the year for the want of some paperwork. However, that also ended well when we were re-registered in October.

Thank you to all who made our celebration lunch a great success and to the committee members who worked throughout the year to run the Society.

While we are a very small Society and, apart from our ever-busy editor, it takes little to keep us going, the registration issue reminded us that we have responsibilities imposed by legislation and revealed that our Society's name is not as we had thought. Firstly, the matter of our name is a technicality but should be addressed, as it is **how** we call ourselves. Secondly, our constitution as recently revised by government legislation would change the way the Society has operated for many years. Our constitution governs how we interact with each other, how we conduct our **business** and should work for us.

At the coming February annual general meeting, the committee will present **two** special resolutions to address these issues. The first resolution is a minor change to our Society's name so that it will be what we have been calling ourselves for the **past** thirty years, namely the Australian Society of the Lacemakers of Calais Inc. The second resolution proposes the adoption of a new constitution that contains **minor** revisions to the government's standard version. These revisions will allow our **small** Society to work for us and still comply with the government's new legislation.

I welcome your comments on the proposed changes and hope that you will **approve** the special resolutions at the AGM. I wish you all well for the coming year.

Stephen Black
President

Secretary's Report

As I sat enjoying the wonderful gathering at Don Bank Cottage to celebrate the 30th Birthday of our Society I started to ponder the idea of just how many descendants our Lacemakers must have in Australia. I leave that to a Mathematician to work out. This led me on to think about what contribution these people had made to this country. The answer to that is easy. They were considered "well suited to the Colony" so, yes, they must have done well.

Next I thought how many of their descendants do we meet in our daily lives. The population in Australia was not huge in 1848 so of course that must happen all the time.

Finally looking at the fine group of people gathered I realised our Lacemakers had done well. Here was a group of truly "good and honest people" gathered together to celebrate and honour their heritage.

Some particularly "fine" members addressed us. Gil Kelly led us through the various characters and personalities who shaped our society and contributed to our shared knowledge in so many ways over the last 30 years. Kingsley Ireland took us back to the beginnings of the quest to unlock the "Lacemakers of Calais" mysteries. We are indebted to these souls who researched and then shared an incredible amount of information with all of us. Bob Wilson even produced the original constitution of the Society!!!!

Many of you were unable to attend but I would wish to convey to you that the Society is alive and well and I'm sure we can look forward to another 30 years researching our shared heritage. Please keep encouraging the younger members of your families to pursue the search. Tell them the stories, show them what you have found out. That way this knowledge will be kept for generations to come and perhaps our descendants will thank us as we did when we honoured ours at the Birthday party on 17 November 2012!!!!

Carolyn Broadhead

Editor's Comment

Leon Tolstoy wrote "Truth, like gold, is to be obtained not by its growth, but by washing away from it all that is not gold". Mohandas Gandhi by contrast titled his autobiography *Experiments with Truth*. His title rather suggests, indeed, emphasizes, the growth of truth through experimentation. The ASLC has for thirty years been attempting to find the truth relating to our ancestors both in the pages of *Tulle* and in our two books. These resources have been backed up by the individual research efforts of us all. The very fact that our joint efforts have sustained a vibrant Society for thirty years must indicate that our "panning" and our "experimentation" have occasionally at least, in some way or another, struck gold.

However, just occasionally we have to log off from the internet, turn off our computers, return our books to their place on the bookshelf and just have some fun. And this is what our thirtieth anniversary celebrations were. Fun! Claire Loneragan and her committee did a wonderful job with the catering despite being faced with a Don Bank oven which was out of operation. Margo Wagner displayed true lacemaker dedication and spirit by driving home to North Epping with all the delicacies which needed heating and returning with them hot and in sufficient time to feed the masses.

Gillian Kelly recalled some of the personalities who were early members of the Society but for various reasons most of whom are no longer with us. These included Bert Archer (Archer family); Lenore Keays & Bill Pedder (Pedder); Bill Brownlow (Brownlow); Theo Saywell (Saywell family & the first editor of *Tulle*); my parents, Cecil & Linda Lander (Lander); Wilfred Hoy (Bromhead); Jack Clifford (Potter family and one of the few members of our Society who actually knew a passenger aboard one of our ships, Maria Potter, his aunt. My father knew his Grandfather, John, a passenger on the *Harpley* and I am sure there will be others so placed); Mildred Brunton (Bromhead – a leader in equal rights for women); Bruce Goodwin (Kemshall); Doug Webster (Branson); Marjorie Brown & Pat Stewart (Saywell); Dorothy Smith (Goldsmith); Ann Fewkes – our only Life Member and still a generous friend to us all; Rosie Wileman (Mather family – still an active member from Nottingham); Eliane Legrand and Christian Borde (both from Calais who still share their passion for lacemaking and history with us all). Stephen Black (our current President), Bob Wilson (our foundation President) and Kingsley Ireland, another foundation member and who had travelled from Adelaide to be at the celebrations also spoke and they rounded off what turned out to be a very happy and successful day.

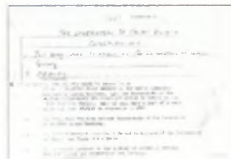
The truth is that it is us, the current as well as the former members of ASLC, who are the real gold of our Society. Take a bow as we celebrate our thirtieth anniversary.

Richard Lander

Comments on the Society's 30th Anniversary

How did we all stumble into this organization called the Lacemakers? Well the early names I recall are Philip Jeeves, Elizabeth Simpson, Christine Sutton, Lenore Keays, Margaret Audin, Bert Archer and Kingsley Ireland. Elizabeth Simpson in Nottingham and Margaret Audin in France had conducted research for many lacemaker descendants from Australia. In turn these women suggested that an Australian society be set up based on the model of the Mayflower descendants of America. Two of the early proposers for the society were Chris Sutton and Lenore Keays, both of whom were prompted to do so by Elizabeth. Philip Jeeves wrote a regular column on Australian history in *The Sydney Morning Herald* and he gave the story of the migration of the lacemakers some prominence.

We all started to sit up and take notice. Chris Sutton called a meeting at the Archives Office (Globe Street, Sydney) in June 1982 and there were enough people there to agree to support the establishment of the society. I said that among other things we needed a constitution, which I volunteered to draft. Here it is. This ragged document (→). It persuaded the members to elect me their first President. I had not expected that as I just wanted to learn something about the Saywells and to expand on the snatches of stories my grandfather had told me.



Chris Sutton from Bulli was elected Secretary. She worked hard to get the Society up and running. There was always desperation in the letters and circulars which Chris wrote. She was always terribly busy but was a livewire. Our Treasurer was Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) Terence Higgins of the Salvation Army. He was unbelievably vigilant with our meagre funds, but in other ways was a jolly man. When Elizabeth Simpson came to visit in our early days, Terence made the Salvation Army rooms in Elizabeth Street available to us for her meeting. We needed it because 70 people turned up to hear her speak. Our Membership Secretary was Gillian Kelly, young and keen. She is still that same person thirty years later and has been the real backbone of the Society. You all know her so I will not dwell on her achievements. Gillian and Chris were the ones who first introduced me to the writings of Bert Archer. Theo Saywell, my mother's cousin, was our Editor. He had visited Calais and had a wonderful pool of family stories on which to draw. He was a learned man, tall and stately. Theo and I struggled with those early editions of Tulle. I had a portable typewriter and tapped out the pages on that. I could run off enough copies at work to ensure that our parsimonious Treasurer did not have a fit about the way his precious funds were being spent. Our subs were \$15 per year.

I was amazed by the amount of research that had been done by members in those early years. Lindsay Watts, Theo Saywell and the Landers were wonderful early tellers of the stories of the lacemakers. They had all that knowledge well before the development of the internet. People brought along precious collections of lace to those early meetings and we all met relatives we did not know we had.

Far away in South Australia Kingsley Ireland was making sure we understood the part Adelaide had in the story of the lacemakers. A fascinating story was emerging and we were all benefitting.

The Society has come so far. The two wonderful books by Gillian and the editing of Tulle by Gillian and Richard Lander have made the Society a significant family history institution. We have realised that dream of Elizabeth and Margaret all those years ago thanks to some very dedicated family historians.

My time in public life has restricted me for many years in enjoying the fruits of research into the lacemakers. Those early efforts have been consolidated and I thank you all for sustaining that vision for over thirty years.

Bob Wilson - the Society's foundation President

Leavers Lace Videos on Line

Many Sydney-based members were able to view my personal video of Leavers lace machines in action following the 2012 AGM while others saw it at our 30th anniversary celebrations. Who could forget the hypnotic sound these enormous machines make as they produce their beautiful product.

For those from country areas, from interstate or overseas who weren't able to see my video or for anyone interested in seeing and hearing these wonderful machines in action again, I think you will find the videos at the following links of considerable interest.

- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gn-08fqUK_4
- <http://vimeo.com/33298722>
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gbe-NEXRu-w>
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6mDy9ql0fPg>

Meeting Places of the Society

At our 30th Anniversary celebrations, there was some discussion regarding our various meeting places over the years. I have scoured the pages of *Tulle* and believe the following is a reasonably accurate reflection of our usage of the various venues.

• Archives Office, Globe St	12/6/1981 – early 1983	
• Salvation Army Assembly Hall, Clarke St, Sydney	28/5/1983	Elizabeth Simpson, Guest Speaker
• Archives Office, Globe St	16/7/1983 – 28/4/1984	
• The Kiosk, Botanical Gardens	14/7/1984 (also AGM)	Baiba Berzins, Chief Librarian, Mitchell Library was Guest Speaker
• Archives Office, Globe St	3/11/1984 – 6/8/1988	We terminated our hire of the basement room at Archives Office after being told that our Saturday afternoon hire would hereafter cost \$150 (see <i>Tulle</i> , Issue 22, August 1988).
• St Francis Xavier Hall, North Sydney	16/10/1988	
• English Speakers Peoples Union Meeting Rooms, 275C Pitt St	4/2/1989 – 6/5/1989	Elizabeth Simpson, Guest Speaker on the latter date
• St Francis Xavier Hall, North Sydney	4/11/1989 -5/5/1990	Launch of "The Lacemakers of Calais" on the latter date
• St Francis Xavier Hall, North Sydney	1990-early 1992	
• Council Meeting Room, State Library of NSW	4/7/1992	We celebrated our 10 th Birthday
• Meeting Rooms, Archives of NSW, Globe St, Sydney	17/10/1992	Anne Fewkes was our Guest of Honour
• Don Bank Cottage, North Sydney	27/2/1993	Our first meeting at Don Bank
• Don Bank Cottage, North Sydney	27/2/1993 – Nov 1998	
• Dixon Room, Mitchell Library	1/2/1999	Launch of "Well Suited to the Colony" was conducted by Anne Fewkes
• Don Bank Cottage, North Sydney	16/11/2002	We celebrated our 20 th Birthday – Assoc. Prof Carol Liston was our Guest Speaker.
• Don Bank Cottage, North Sydney	5/1999 - Present	
• Don Bank Cottage, North Sydney	17/11/2012	We celebrated our 30 th Birthday. Guest Speakers included President Stephen Black, foundation President Bob Wilson, and foundation members Gillian Kelly and Kingsley Ireland.

Interestingly, in conducting this search of *Tulle* I discovered that the phrase “Well Suited” appeared in the pages of *Tulle* at least three times prior to Gillian so appropriately using it as part of the title of her second book!

- The first instance I found occurs on p. 11 of Issue 15, Nov 1986 in reference to the *Agincourt* (“It was **well suited** for the conveyance of Immigrants, although the arrangements of the berths amidships, owing to her small size, was deemed by the Immigration Board to be not so advantageous as the usual method of placing them on the sides.”)
- The second instance I noticed was made in relation to the *Fairlie*. This occurred on p. 5 of Issue 18, July 1987. “The *Fairlie* is extremely **well suited** for the emigration service, and was in a very cleanly state on arrival.’
- The third instance I found unfortunately related to bees and not to one of our other ships. It read “A good deal of honey was obtained in the bush where, at that time there were many gigantic Eucalyptus, with hollow limbs, **well suited** to bees.” This I found on p. 10 of Volume 13, No.4, November 1994.



Top Ten Mistakes in Genealogical Research

1. Starting with the wrong information
2. Forgetting to ask questions
3. Not recording record sources
4. Believing family legends
5. Recording only names and dates
6. Keeping only one copy of your work
7. Blindly trusting the ‘research’ of others
8. Being inflexible with spelling
9. Skipping generations
10. Not having a goal

See http://genealogy.lovetoknow.com/Top_Ten_Genealogy_Research_Mistakes

Notice of 31st AGM

AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF LACEMAKERS OF CALAIS INC.

TO BE HELD AT DON BANK COTTAGE, NORTH SYDNEY
16 FEBRUARY 2013 COMMENCING AT 1.00PM

BUSINESS:

- To confirm a quorum is in attendance & to announce any apologies
- To confirm the Minutes of the previous AGM
- To receive and consider the statements of the financial position of the Society for the year ending 31 December 2012 (refer pp 18-19)
- To receive from the committee reports on the activities of the Society during the last preceding financial year
- To elect the office bearers in the Society
 - President; Secretary; Treasurer; Editor; Publicity Officer; and Fellowship Officer
- To consider and vote on Special Resolution 1: "That the name of the Society (currently registered as Australian Society of Lacemakers of Calais) be amended to Australian Society of the Lacemakers of Calais"
- To consider and vote on Special Resolution 2: "That the Constitution in the possession of the President and signed for identification by the Society's Secretary be adopted as the Society's Constitution in substitution for and to the exclusion of the current Constitution."

ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO THE AGM AND ARE ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE.

Trade Unionism in Lace Making¹ - Part 2.

Collective bargaining did not revive immediately after the collapse of Luddism but groupings of twisthands existed quietly in the background. By 1817, the machine-made lace trade had clearly emerged as an industry separate from framework knitting. Support industries such as bobbin and carriage making, the manufacture of guides, pushers, bolts, combs, points, hooks, sleys and needles, as well as the assembly of the machines themselves also developed as separate occupations.

The coming of the factory brought with it the use of steam power. Heathcoat recognised steam's importance by making his Tiverton factory able to operate from both water-wheels and from steam engines. Since these machines made plain net, it was then sent out to thousands of women outworkers to be embroidered or "hand-run". From 1817 to 1823, expansion of the lace trade was steady. In 1819, William Cripps sailed to New York to begin his career as an agent for the export of Nottingham lace to America.

On the expiration of Heathcoat's patent in 1823, "twist net fever" hit Nottingham and lace machine building boomed. Every available smith and mechanic was hired on the spot and for good wages. However, by 1825 the boom was over. At least 300 skilled lace makers in Nottingham were left out of work² and because of excess capacity working hours were temporarily reduced to 8 hours per day. Lace prices remained very low until at least the end of 1826. A downturn again in 1828 led to the Trade Committee calling a meeting of machine owners. They resolved to shorten the working hours of existing machines and to try and prevent new machine building. Both resolutions had little success in practice.

Repeal of the Combination Laws in 1824-1825 removed the illegality of trade unions and established the right to withhold ones labour from the market by

¹ This article which was commenced in *Tulle*, August 2012, has been largely sourced and inspired by a book by Norman H Cuthbert, *The Lace Makers' Society - A Study of Trade Unionism in the British Lace Industry, 1760-1960, The Amalgamated Society of Operative Lace Makers and Auxiliary Workers, Nottingham, 1960.*
² *Nottingham Journal*, 23 April 1825.

concerted action. However, the repeal meant nothing to twisthands who during boom times were earning extremely high wages, whilst during hard times, most were on parish relief anyway.

With the stagnation of trade in 1831, a restriction to eight hours work per day was again agreed, but this ceased after a fortnight. The twisthands declined for a time to return to more than twelve hours work per day and, on 14 January 1831, they formed the "Lacemakers' Union" to enforce their decision³. The union immediately ordered a general strike. The Lacemakers' Union was for a brief period a branch of the trade union movement of the time, with its combinations of different trades and aim at a single national trade union. The union was a member of Doherty's "National Association for the Protection of Labour" which was formed in 1830 to resist reductions of wages but not to strike for advances. The Nottingham trades subscribed liberally to the levy for the support of the strike of the Ashton-under-Lyne cotton spinners in 1830-31 in resistance to new "price lists", but the refusal of the Lancashire branches to support the great Nottingham strike of 1831 caused the defection of the Nottingham members.

The 1831 slump produced economic and social tensions in the West Country also. When Heathcoat cut back his costs by reducing wage rates there was a strike in Tiverton on 3 October, the only serious recorded dispute at this factory. The strike lasted three weeks and ended in frayed tempers and an attack on the manager's house. It was suggested by the operatives that they should ascertain the rates paid in other lace factories, binding themselves in advance to accept the national average. Heathcoat agreed, and four investigators were appointed, one representing Heathcoat, one representing the twisthands, and two nominated by the borough to act as arbitrators. This body obtained information on lace wage rates in the East Midlands from Nottingham, Chesterfield, Derby, Loughborough and Leicester, and in the West Country from Barnstaple, Chard, Taunton and Tewkesbury. The national average was found to be well below that proposed by Heathcoat on

³ Felkin, pp. 334-335.

announcing the reduction in September 1831, but the men kept to their agreement.

To this time, skilled workmen in the machine-lace trade had been subject to no repression despite Combination Laws, Statute of Artificers, the Master and Servant Act, and the common law of conspiracy, but the increasing effectiveness of concerted action now resulted in the use of the “document”. Employers began to insist that men need not apply for work unless they were prepared to sign a formal renunciation of the union movement.

Excess capacity remained a problem. In 1834, a 20-quarter 20-point machine costing £3,000 then sold for £300. 7-quarter machines which had sold for £600 in 1824 were thrown out of the top storey windows into the street with a cry of “Old rags and twist machines to sell.” Many went for £3 each. Machinery originally worth £2,000,000 now became £15,000 worth of scrap⁴ yet the machine-lace industry in 1833 still employed about 10,000 twisthands, 40,000 auxiliary workers and 150,000 outworkers (including children and part-timers). However, despite over-production, machine building continued apace and it was still customary to work machines at least 20 hours a day, with two men to a machine each working a 10-hour shift.

Writing about the mid-1830s, Felkin⁵ states; “In the case of silk net generally made, but especially in very light or irregular weights, the eyesight is much and prejudicially affected. In factories⁶ of modern construction, warmth, ventilation, and an atmosphere free from dust have been secured. The health of the workpeople employed in machine lace making is on the whole satisfactory; and if the practice of working by shifts in the night were discontinued, it would be superior to that in most other trades.” Felkin’s rosy picture is not repeated by Grainger⁷ in his 1843 report on the employment of children in lace factories, however.

4 Felkin, p. 338ff.

5 Felkin, p. 359f.

6 Remember, although there were then many large factories, machine-lace was still primarily being manufactured in the upper rooms and attics of private homes.

7 Select Committee on Children Employed in Manufactures, 1843.

He reported that in a temperature of about 25°C, children from age seven as well as women were employed for between 12 and 20 hours per day winding, threading or taking lace off machines. "The general rule of lace factories is that the engine runs from 4am till midnight, except on Friday, when it runs all night without cessation, and on Saturday, when it stops at 6 or 8pm; but frequently when trade is active, every night of the week is a Friday night."⁸ "The physical appearance and condition of all the children employed in the lace trade is in general far below the average of factory children; stunted in growth, sometimes deformed, weak and sickly, and usually susceptible to disease, which they have no strength to resist, lace children look victims to excessive constitutional debility."

Felkin wrote: "The children suffer from scrofula, indigestion and defective eyesight." Factory conditions and long hours of work produced curvature of the spine in women, anaemia, difficult childbirth, a tendency to miscarriage, and pulmonary tuberculosis.

As bad as the factories undoubtedly were, they rarely touched the depths reached by the domestic workshops in Nottingham, according to the Commissioners⁹. They reported that crowded into unventilated apartments, and working 15 hours a day in filth, damp and stench, girls became "gin-drinking drabs", children drudged their lives away, infants were quietened with increasing doses of opiates. "The earnings of the lace runners¹⁰ do not, on an average, much exceed a half-penny an hour; for the weekly earnings for long days' work are not much above three shillings and are frequently below it."¹¹ It was these situations which led to the formation in 1840 of the Nottingham Lace-Runners' Association. They called a strike to try and put an end to the abuses and as a protest against middle-women but were unsuccessful because of the weak bargaining position of the domestic lace-runners.

8 In 1846, lace factories opened at 1am on Monday and were not closed again until midnight on Saturday. Nottingham Review, 17 April 1846.

9 Children's Employment Commissioners' Report, 1843; pp. 31, 41, 44, 103, 211.

10 The working round of the outline of a piece of net by hand.

11 The *Penny Magazine*, March 1843, Vol. XII, p.119.

The 1834 depression brought lace makers' wages down to eight shillings a week. In 1835 a Chamber of Commerce was again formed by lace and hosiery employers, its main object being the review of the French tariff and the smuggling of French lace into Britain, both of which were believed to be potent causes of the depression.

Introduction of the Jacquard system of individual thread selection in 1835 gave the lace trade a fresh start. This was the true foundation of the Leavers (or fancy lace) branch of the industry and mass-production of patterned lace became possible. This also opened the way for the trade of lace designer and a School of Art and Design was opened in Nottingham at this time.

Another slump occurred in 1837. The wages of men in work were reduced by 30% and a relief fund was instituted for the unemployed. The Chamber of Commerce was dissolved and a Secret Committee was established to prevent the export of lace machinery¹² – yet again! Although twisthands subscribed to the Secret Committee and notice was provided to almost every port in the UK, the Government was unsympathetic and the Board of Trade refused to sanction seizures. Machines were exported to Germany, Russia, and especially France. There were large numbers of Englishmen in the lace trade in the Calais area. While emigration of workmen was still illegal, Calais alone contained nearly five hundred Nottingham men.¹³

In 1841 flowered curtains, previously decorated by hand, were made on a machine, and by 1846 the third great section of the machine-lace trade was established, the Curtain section, making wide breadths with a wide-scale pattern suitable for window furnishings.

In 1837 the Nottingham Mechanics' Institute was formed. This provided a new opportunity for discussion between artisans.

Depression hit the trade again in 1845, this time clearly due to over-production. The price of plaited lace fell by 75% and Leavers lace sold for as

12 Repeal of the prohibition of machinery export laws did not come into effect until 1842-3.

13 *Nottingham Journal*, 2 January 1835.

little as three farthings a yard, about the price of the thread used to make it at the time.

Within a few months that part of the trade located in Leicestershire comprising about 200 machines was extinct. Small machine owners became twisthands again. The lace makers themselves, suffering unemployment, petitioned the House of Commons to restrict working hours to sixteen a day¹⁴. In this they were backed by many smaller masters but the larger machine owners successfully petitioned against the original petition. All parties agreed, however, that the hours of women and children should be restricted. A public subscription for the hundreds of lace makers unemployed was very poorly supported.

The failure of appeal to the House of Commons and the competition among twisthands for limited employment resulted in the formation in 1846 of the British Union of Plain Net Makers. This was a modest attempt in a new model of unionism. Members paid 2d. to the local and 4d. to the national fund each week. In return, sick and unemployment benefits were 10 shillings weekly for men earning sixteen shillings a week and 12 shillings and sixpence for men earning £1 per week. The Union had considerable moral support from working people and their families generally. If an employer reduced his rates, all the women and children in his neighbourhood would bang on kettles and pans, or blow whistles or other noisy instruments every time he left his house.

As we all well know, 1847 and 1848 brought panic and depression once more and it is probable that it was this which destroyed the British Union of Plain Net Makers. Twisthands suffered great distress while at the same time immigration into Nottingham's lace trade of refugees from a revolutionary continent seemed to herald a new era. For our ancestors this was certainly true. Fear of the revolution drove many Nottingham lace makers home. £259. 2s. 0d. was collected towards an Australian emigration fund and, as we say, the rest is our history.

Richard Lander

¹⁴ See Felkin, p. 278.

Mrs Saywell Socks it to Busted

Some time ago while trawling the Internet for Saywell family information I stumbled upon an item in the Maitland Mercury newspaper issue of Wednesday, 11 April 1849. On page 4 was a report of the Maitland Quarter Sessions held on Monday, 9 April 1849. Appearing before the Quarter Sessions was a Catherine Busted accused of having stolen two pairs of socks the property of George Saywell.

In this matter the Complainant was George Saywell's wife who of course would have been Isabella Saywell, nee Carscadden. George & Isabella had only arrived in Port Jackson, Australia on 6 October 1848 in the *Agincourt* & had been shipped to Morpeth the same day in the steam paddle-wheeler, "*Maitland*" - so at the time, George & Isabella would have been "new chums" in the colony. Catherine Busted on the other hand sounded as though she was a well-established "Local Character" who smoked on a pipe while she drank a cup of water.

I mused about two pairs of socks becoming a Quarter Sessions matter but put it into perspective that when George & Isabella arrived just six months earlier all they had was what they were wearing & carried as hand luggage having had to depart from Calais, France in a hurry and under threat from another French Revolution. Two pairs of socks then become significant!

I was pleased to find the outcome that Catherine Busted was given the benefit of the doubt with it being deemed that she had accidentally ended up with my Great-Great-Grandfather's socks in her basket and was discharged by the Jury with a verdict of "Not Guilty". I assume that my Great-Great-Grandfather got his socks back after the Quarter Sessions Trial was over as they then no longer would have been required as evidence/exhibits. He may well have been short of socks until then?

STEALING SOCKS.

Catherine Busted was indicted for stealing two pairs of socks, the property of George Saywell, at Maitland, on the 27th March, 1849.

It appeared that the prisoner was selling eggs and butter about the town, and sold the last lot of her eggs to Mrs. Saywell; she had laid her butter-cloths on Mrs. Saywell's table while taking out the eggs, and had afterwards asked for a drink, and sat down and smoked a pipe; Mrs. Saywell had seen her take up her cloths from the table and put them into the basket; this was on her return to her with the cup of water, and before the prisoner smoked the pipe; three pair of socks lay on the table when prisoner entered the house, and after she was gone Mrs. Saywell missed two pairs of them; the cloths might have been laid on them, but Mrs. Saywell could not say whether they were. A constable was sent for, and on his going after the prisoner she denied having any socks, but said he might search her basket; in the basket, under the cloths and some groceries, he found the missing socks, which were identified by Mrs. Saywell.

The prisoner protested her innocence, and said she must have taken the socks up by mistake.

The jury, without hearing the witnesses to character called by the prisoner, returned a verdict of not guilty, and she was discharged.

Catherine Busteed was referred to as being "the prisoner" at the Quarter Sessions so no doubt she experienced some trauma over those socks and I feel sorry for her about that and trust that being able to relax by smoking a pipe after her release quickly put her at ease once again. However, I think it may well have been a case of "Not happy Jan - oops Catherine!"

And another "Saywell Snippet".

Sometime after George Saywell arrived in Port Jackson in the *Agincourt* in 1848 his money held by his bank in Calais, France was released and he no doubt breathed a sigh of relief!

George put his funds to use & moved into the fledging transport industry in the Hunter River District - it was primitive beginnings with bullock waggons & horses.

In January 1850 we find George Saywell placing advertisements in The Maitland Mercury & Hunter River Advertiser offering a reward for one of his horses, "Stolen Or Strayed on the 26 December last from the paddock of Mr. Wm. Ramsay, Crown and Anchor Inn, New Freugh, near Singleton, a Black Horse, the property of George Saywell." In the newspaper notices, a description of the horse is provided including its branding details.

In the newspaper issue of Saturday, 26 January 1850 (no doubt not then recognised as Australia Day) on Page 3 George Saywell offered a reward of Fifteen Shillings for the return of the horse. The issue of the newspaper on Page 3, Thursday, 31 January 1850 offered an increased reward of One Pound. That of course was a handy sum of money in those times.

I do not know the outcome of this event - did George recover his horse? Why did it actually go missing? In those days "borrowing" someone else's livestock was not uncommon - it was called "rustling" with some people making a business out of it until caught by the law.

Penalties were severe. We do know that George did prosper in the end through sheer hard work & business skills.

John Saywell

Words are timeless. You should utter them or write them with a knowledge of their timelessness. -Kahlil Gibran, mystic, poet, and artist (1883-1931)

Australian Society of Lacemakers of Calais

Income & Expenditure as at 31 December 2012

	This Year 2012 (\$)	Last Year 2011 (\$)	Prior Year 2010 (\$)
INCOME			
Subscriptions	2,920	2,445	2,520
New Subscriptions	200	155	135
Book Sales	90	244	412
Interest	10	8	9
Sundries	-47		90
Catering Income 30 th Anniversary Luncheon	1,020		
Tulle Commission	90	60	
Donations	25	191	
	<u>4,308</u>	<u>3,103</u>	<u>3,166</u>
EXPENSES			
Rent	256	345	330
Sundries	75		50
RAHS Insurance/Subs	424	413	412
Catering	713	46	
Stationery	7		
Postage	197	745	
Tulle – Printing/Artwork	1,442	926	1,667
Subs renewal printing			
Bank Charges			
RAHS Affiliation Membership	119	206	200
Books			283
Fair Trading	553		
	<u>3,786</u>	<u>2,681</u>	<u>2,942</u>
Net Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	<u>522</u>	<u>422</u>	<u>224</u>

Bank Reconciliation as at 31 December 2012

Cashbook Reconciliation for the year ended 31 December 2012	\$
Opening balance as at 1 January 2012	2,961.38
Add receipts for the year	4,308.36
Transfer from investment account	
Less payments for the year	(3,786.47)
Transfer to investment account	
Cashbook Closing Balance 31 December 2012	<u><u>3,483.27</u></u>

Bank Reconciliation as at 31 December 2012 (Cont.)

Bank Reconciliation for the year ended 31 December 2012	\$
Bank Statement balance as at 31 December 2012	3,583.27
Add outstanding deposits	
Less Outstanding Cheques	(100.00)
Un-presented cheque 200106 – C Loneragan Catering	100.00
Adjusted Bank Balance as at 31 December 2012	<u>3,483.27</u>

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2012

	This Year 2012 \$	Last Year 2011 \$	Prior Year 2010 \$
ASSETS			
Cash on Hand			
Cash at Bank	3,483	2,961	2,539
Investments			
Total Assets	<u>3,483</u>	<u>2,961</u>	<u>2,539</u>
LIABILITIES			
Trade Creditors			
Bank Overdraft			
Total Liabilities	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>3,483</u>	<u>2,961</u>	<u>2,539</u>
MEMBERS EQUITY			
Opening Balance	2,961	2,539	2,315
Net Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	522	422	224
	<u>3,483</u>	<u>2,961</u>	<u>2,539</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES. This financial report is a special report in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirement of the Associations Incorporation Act 1984 (NSW). The Committee has determined that the Australian Society of Lacemakers of Calais Inc. is not a reporting entity. No accounting standards have been applied to this financial report and it has been prepared on a cash basis.

INCOME TAX. The Committee has self-assessed the organisation to be exempt from income tax under Section 50-45 of the Income Tax Act.

Searching for a French Connection

My lacemaker ancestry includes Frenchwoman, Marie Françoise Adélaïde (Adelaide) Bouclet, a “couturière” (dressmaker), who married John Shore, ouvrier en tulle, in 1843 in Saint-Pierre-lès-Calais, then travelled with him and their one-year-old daughter Marie Celina (Selina) on the *Agincourt* to Sydney and on to Bathurst in 1848.

On arrival in Bathurst Adelaide advertised her skills as a dressmaker and milliner offering “all the latest and most elegant Paris Fashions”¹⁵ but sadly, on 3 August 1852, she died in childbirth aged just 36.¹⁶ Her French-born daughter Selina was not quite five years old and there were three younger children born since arrival in Bathurst.

John Shore remarried and the family stayed on in Bathurst. Selina grew up, married Thomas Watts in 1869, and had 9 children (8 with Thomas), 6 of whom survived childhood, but she too died young, in 1892, aged 44.¹⁷ According to family stories, Thomas Watts left his young family to fend for themselves. The two older daughters, Annie Isabel (aged 16) and Edith Harriet Selina (14) found domestic work and supported their younger sister, Violet May Watts (9).

It seems that somehow, through these difficult life events, the family maintained a correspondence with their Bouclet relatives back in Pas-de-Calais. One of the few original items handed down within the family is a handwritten Bouclet family tree which was sent to Annie Watts, my great aunt, in about 1893 by a Bouclet descendant – perhaps in response to a letter bringing news of Selina’s death.

This family tree, passed on to me, while offering a tantalising glimpse into the Bouclet family, was also frustrating. It has no dates, few first names, just an age or two, and some information about later descendants. It shows six marriages for Adelaide and her siblings, unfortunately described by surname only: Bouclet-Leuliet; Robbe-Bouclet, a second Robbe-Bouclet, Butez-Bouclet, Shore-Bouclet, and a sixth marriage that was hard to decipher: Correl-Bouclet? Gorret-Bouclet?

¹⁵ *The Bathurst Advocate*, 16 December 1848.

¹⁶ New South Wales Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*

Every now and then over the past 25 years or so I would look at the tree and think about it for a while but then I would put it away none the wiser. But when the civil records of Pas-de-Calais became available online, it opened up exciting possibilities.¹⁸

I started to look at these records in earnest in 2011 and was amazed to see how much information they contained. They made it possible to follow entire families through the decades. I could have looked at members of the Shore family who stayed on beyond 1848 but decided instead to find out more about Adelaide Bouclet's family.¹⁹

I already knew Adelaide was the daughter of Eugénie Falempin and Marc Antoine Bouclet. From census records I now confirmed that the family included nine children (eight daughters and one son), eight of whom survived into adulthood:

- Jean Marie Joseph Ovide, born 1804
- Françoise Désirée, born 1806, died 1819
- Louise Antoinette Adèle, born 1808
- Henriette Lucie, born 1810
- Louise Antoinette Amable, born 1811
- Félicité Eugénie, born 1813
- Marie Françoise Adélaïde, born 1816



**Annie Isabel Watts,
granddaughter of Adelaide Bouclet and John
Shore; daughter of Selina Shore and
Thomas Watts.**

¹⁸ See Using the Pas de Calais Archives on Line, Gillian Kelly, *Tulle*, November 2009,

¹⁹ Except where otherwise indicated, these and all subsequent dates and information in this story are sourced from the Recensements de population and Tables décennales de l'état civil of Les Archives du Pas-de-Calais, Archives en Ligne, <http://www.archivespasdecalsais.fr/Archives-en-ligne>.

- Marie Antoinette Félicité, born 1818
- Adeline Sophie, born 1820.

(Marc Antoine and Eugénie Bouclet also had two more daughters who died very young. They don't appear in any census returns and I know very little about them beyond their names and dates.²⁰)

I set out to trace the family further through the online Pas-de-Calais records, cross-checking back and forth between census returns and the 10-year birth, death and marriage summaries. The French custom of continuing to refer to married women by their maiden surnames was a great help. But this was balanced to some extent by the confusingly similar multiple first names of the Bouclet daughters. Fortunately, as evidenced by later census records, the daughters were generally known within the family by just one of their string of official names. For example, Félicité Eugénie was known as Eugénie, while Marie Antoinette Félicité was known as Félicité – still a little confusing, but reported ages also helped to disentangle the girls in later records.

The younger members of the family moved around once they grew up, most likely in search of work, but after many hours, and using the tree as a guide to surnames, I found records for five of the marriages listed there:

- Jean Marie Joseph Ovide Bouclet married Marie Louise Geneviève Leuliet in 1830 in Pihen-lès-Guînes
- Louise Antoinette Adèle Bouclet married Pierre Charles Robbe in 1832 in Pihen-lès-Guînes
- Henriette Lucie Bouclet married Jacques Pierre Buttez in 1841 in Saint-Pierre-lès-Calais
- Marie Françoise Adélaïde Bouclet married John Shore in 1843 in Saint-Pierre-lès-Calais
- Félicité Eugénie Bouclet married Louis Marie Robbe in 1844 in Pihen-lès-Guînes.

However, the sixth marriage shown on the tree eluded me because the handwriting was so difficult to read. Then I noticed that the 1846 census for Calais listed a Sophie Bouclet, wife of Louis Thorel – could that be the name in the tree? Allowing for some

²⁰ Separately commissioned French research; personal communication.

variation in spelling this was possible, and indeed Adeline Sophie Bouclet married Louis Érasme Thorel in 1843 in Saint-Pierre-lès-Calais.

But there was still a mystery to solve. The tree only showed six descendants for Marc Antoine Bouclet and Eugénie Falempin. What had happened to the remaining two daughters who survived childhood?

Rechecking the records I found a Louise Bouclet (aged 34, so born in 1811/12) and husband Louis Morlyon, living in the same house as Eugénie Bouclet and her husband Louis Robbe in Ancienne Route de Gravelines, Saint-Pierre-lès-Calais in 1846. A further search revealed that Louise Antoinette Bouclet married Louis Joseph Morlyon in Saint-Pierre-lès-Calais in 1841.

The only remaining unmarried sister was Marie Antoinette Félicité, who in 1846 was living with her widowed father in Pihen-lès-Guînes. Marc Bouclet died in 1848, but in 1851 a Félicité Bouclet (age 32, so born in 1818/19) and her husband Antoine August Lavoine were living next door to Félicité's sister Adèle Bouclet and her husband Pierre Charles Robbe in Rue du Vauxhall, Saint Pierre. Indeed, in 1846 Auguste Lavoine had been lodging with Adèle and Pierre Charles Robbe in Rue du Vauxhall, right next door to Adelaide Bouclet and her husband John Shore. Following up on these entries, I found in the ten-year summaries for Pihen-lès-Guînes that Marie Antoinette Bouclet had married Antoine Auguste Lavoine there in 1847.

So I had found my eight Bouclet marriages. Among all these dates and names the censuses also gave information about occupation and I was delighted to find that two of Adelaide's sisters and her brother's daughter also became couturières, and two of her sisters married *ouvriers en tulle* – though French lacemakers in their cases rather than English.

While there are still one or two mysteries to solve, and I probably should follow up on people and dates in the full civil records rather than relying on the online summaries, for now I am happy that I've found my French family and deciphered the information in my handwritten family tree. How lucky we are to have those wonderful Pas-de-Calais archives freely available online!

Barbara Manchester

Origins of *Lacemaker* Surnames

SAYWELL: This surname is of Anglo-Saxon origin, and has two possible sources. Firstly, it may be derived from the Olde English pre 7th Century "sige", meaning victory, or from "sae", meaning "sea", and "weald", signifying rule. These names, "Sigeweald" and "Saeweald", were to give rise to the medieval personal names "Siwal(d)" and "Sewal(d)" respectively. The personal name "Sauualdus" occurs in the Domesday Book of 1086. Secondly, the surname Saywell is locational from a number of places in England, including Sewell in Bedfordshire, and Sywell in Northamptonshire, all named from the Olde English "seofon", seven, and "wella", meaning "a spring"; hence, "seven spring". Locational surnames were usually acquired by a local landowner, or by the lord of the manor, and especially by those former inhabitants of a place who had moved to another area, usually in search of work, and were thereafter best identified by the name of their birthplace. The surname was first recorded in the early 13th Century and other early recordings include Roger Sewale, who was listed in the 1275 Subsidy Rolls of Worcestershire. Recordings of the surname from London Church Registers include the christening of Alyce, daughter of Robarte Saywell, on 10 March 1577, at St. Margaret's, Westminster. The first recorded spelling of the family name is shown to be that of William Sewald, which was dated 1220, in "Liber Feodurum", Berkshire, during the reign of King Henry III, known as "The Frenchman", 1216 - 1272. Surnames became necessary when governments introduced personal taxation. In England this was known as Poll Tax. Throughout the centuries, surnames in every country have continued to "develop" often leading to astonishing variants of the original spelling.

GASCOIGNE: This surname, with variant spellings Gascoign(e), Gascoin(e), Gasquoine, Gaskain, Gasken, and Gasking, originated as a regional name for someone from the province of Gascony, written as "Gascogne" in Old French. The name of this region in South West France derives from that of the Basques who once occupied the area. First named in Roman sources as "Vascones", they were displaced from most of Gascony by the Middle Ages

and were replaced by speakers of Gascon (a dialect of French). The surname first appears on record in England in the early 13th Century and other early recordings include: Geoffrey Gascoyne (the Hundred Rolls of Norfolk, dated 1273); Peter Gascoying (Devonshire, 1274); and William Gascoigne, witness in the 1389 Fine Court Rolls of Huntingdonshire. Notable name bearers listed in the "Dictionary of National Biography" are Thomas Gascoigne D.D., Oriol College, Oxford, 1434; who was chancellor of the university from 1434 to 1444. His "Dictionarium Theologicum" is preserved at Lincoln College, also William Gascoigne (1612 - 1644), inventor of the micrometer, who was killed on the royalist side at Marston Moor. The first recorded spelling of the family name is shown to be that of Bernard Gascon, which was dated 1206, in the "Curia Regis Rolls of Northamptonshire", during the reign of King John, known as "Lackland", 1199 – 1216.

DUCK: This unusual and interesting surname is of medieval Scottish origin, and is a variant form of Doig, itself an Anglicized form of the Old Gaelic "MacGille Doig", "son of the devotee of Dog", a foreshortened form of the saint's name Cadog. St. Cadog was a 6th Century abbot, and one of the most outstanding of the Welsh saints. He was widely venerated in South Wales and Brittany, and is reputed to have visited Cornwall and Scotland. Certain clan names evolved as a result of the veneration of a particular saint, and in the Old Gaelic such names were usually prefixed by "Mac", son of, with "Gille" (Scottish) or "Giolla" (Irish), literally meaning "servant", but used here in the transferred sense of "devotee". These prefixes were gradually dropped, and variant forms of the surname indicating devotion to St. Cadog include: Dog, Doge, Dogg, Doig, Doag, Duck and Doak. The surname is particularly widespread in the neighbourhood of places where Cadoc was commemorated, and early recordings include: Alexander Dog, canon of Inchmahome in Menteith (1491); John Doge, witness in Qwchtyreleth, Bamff (1533); and Robert Dook, glessenwright (glazier), in Irvine (1681). On 28 August 1746, the birth of Alexander, son of James Doak and Elizabeth McAllaster, was recorded in Edinburgh parish, Edinburgh, Midlothian. The first recorded spelling of the family name is shown to be that of Alexander Doge, vicar of Dunnychtyne, which was dated 1372, in the "Episcopal Register

of Brechin", Scotland, during the reign of King Robert 11 of Scotland, 1371 - 1390.

NUTT: Recorded as Nutt, Nott, and Notte, as well as diminutives Nutten, Nuttin, Nutkins, Nutting, Nottey, Nuttey, Nutty and possibly others, this is a surname of English and occasionally Scottish, origins of which it has at least two. The first is an occupational name for a farmer or merchant of nuts. This is from the pre 7th century Olde English word 'cnut' and the later 12th century note or nut. 'Nuts' formed a significant and vital role in the winter diet of the ancient peoples, and large areas of woodland were intensively farmed to provide these essential fruits. The second possibility is that the name was given as a nickname to a 'hard man' - one as tough as a nut. The name was also that of the Viking King of England the famous Canute, or more correctly spelt Cnut. Amongst the early recordings was that of Adam Notekyn of Essex in the Hundred Rolls of that county in 1273, and Hugh le Notte of Buckinghamshire in the same year. John Nutkins, a miller, was also recorded in Essex in the year 1666, whilst Matthew Nuttey married one Ann Pullen at St Mary Abchurch, in the city of London, on 19 July 1738. The first recorded spelling of the family name is shown to be that of William Nutte which was dated 1181, The Pipe Rolls of Northamptonshire during the reign of King Henry II, known as 'The church builder', 1154 - 1189 Surnames became necessary when governments introduced personal taxation.

The information shown above has been sourced from the following website: <http://www.surnamedb.com/Surname/>. I commend this site to you as it covers most English surnames; provides useful links to further information; and some names (e.g. the Duck surname) have brought forth more discussion on the meaning and derivation of the family's name from family members.



"Love isn't an emotion or an instinct, it's an art. Anything worth doing is worth doing slowly. You only live once, but if you do it right, once is enough. An ounce of performance is worth pounds of promises. I generally avoid temptation unless I can't resist it. To err is human, but it feels divine." – Mae West

Miscellaneous Paper Clippings

(Continued from Tulle, May 2012)

From: *The Advertiser*, Adelaide, Wednesday, 5 November 1924

LACEMAKING

A FACTORY FOR SYDNEY.

Sydney, November 4.

Mr. Claude D. Butler, a lace manufacturer from Nottingham, has decided to start a subsidiary factory in Sydney, where manufacturing processes will be completed.

There will be no reduction in price at first, but that may follow. Australians will, however, get better lace for the same money. About fifty female experts will arrive shortly to work in the new factory, and give instructions to the Australian women who will be employed.

From: *The Examiner*, Launceston, Wednesday 30 April 1902

A new lace-making machine, invented by an Austrian, has been constructed at Nottingham. It is said to be likely to revolutionise the lace trade. It turns out lace of such a quality as to be absolutely indistinguishable from the handmade article.

From: *The Brisbane Courier*, Tuesday 15 January 1901

There are a dozen large mills and 175 lace-making machines in the United States. These machines represent an invested capital of nearly £600,000, and turn out annually 4,500,000 pairs of curtains, valued at £4,000,000.

From: *The Courier-Mail*, Brisbane, Friday 11 March 1949

NYLON IN NEW LACE

By a special correspondent

LONDON, March 10. —Nylon and woollen laces are being tested by Nottingham manufacturers in an attempt to retain world supremacy for fine laces. Threatened with the loss of markets by the spread of lace-making industries to the Dominions, Nottingham is spending £10,000 in a search for fancy yarns to make delicate, attractive laces. Nylon lace will be stronger than the lightest fibres now used for Valenciennes. Hairnets made from nylon have been proved to have greater durability. Lace manufacturers are showing interest in new light weight woollen yarn developed as a competitor to silk and rayon for summer clothing. Wool is being used on lace machines to make blankets for air lines. They are lightweight, airy, warm, and of attractive appearance. Although much more expensive than ordinary blankets, lace woollen blankets are expected to find other uses, particularly in warm climates, where the circulation of air is advantageous.

From: Evelyn Observer and Bourke East Record, Victoria, Friday 6 March 1914.

LACE INDUSTRY FOR QUEBEC.

To the many flourishing industries of the Province of Quebec, Canada, it is possible that the manufacture of lace, and lace-making machinery, may soon be added. Two leading British lace manufacturers, Mr. D. J. Jardine, M.P., and Mr. E. Jardine, who employ some 3000 workers in Nottingham, have recently paid a visit to Canada for the express purpose of ascertaining whether the time is ripe for the establishment of this industry in the Canadian Dominion. It is thought that the tariff at present in force is scarcely high enough to warrant such an undertaking without some Government concession, but hopes are entertained that such a concession may be secured as to ensure the founding of a lace industry in the Province of Quebec on a profitable basis. The magnificent water powers of this province greatly favour manufacturing enterprise.

Three men who make lace

Two years ago Michael Hancock, Tom Swift, and John Hing cast a speculative eye on Australia from their homes in Loughborough, near Nottingham, where they worked with one of Britain's foremost lace-making firms.

Hancock was production manager, Swift an expert mechanic, and Hing was factory foreman. They decided to pool their talents and resources and set up a factory in Australia.

They contacted a Melbourne architect, had him build two houses and made arrangements to buy another. All family men, they wanted the settling-in process to be smooth and uncomplicated for their wives and children.

A Melbourne agent for the newly founded firm found a suitable factory in Prahran, and after a brief preliminary visit by one of the firm's directors they set sail as industrial pioneers of the twentieth century.

Within two weeks of opening, 30 spanking new lace-making machines were turning out thousands of yards of cluny (sic) lace edgings, medallions, insertions, and borders.

"Normally I would reckon on taking six months to train a man on these machines," Mr. Hancock told our Melbourne correspondent. "These Australians got the hang of it in a fortnight, and we're working two shifts a day.

"I'm still liable to get called out of bed in the middle of the night to fix a jammed machine-but that won't last long."

Keen shoppers, Mr. Hancock tells us, should examine cluny lace for consistently even threads.

Modern machines work on the same time-honoured principles established for hand-made pillow lace. Steel arms and discs, substituted for nimble feminine fingers, get the same results.

WOMAN'S COLUMN. LACE-MAKING.

There are some things which a machine can do for woman better than her hands can do them - a few things only, and those such as require strength and speed rather than skill. But in many of the luxuries of life we still esteem hand-work more highly and rightly so, for no machine can give individuality to its product. It may make hundreds of articles without a rest, and millions of stitches with methodical accuracy, but the very fact that those articles and those stitches are each exactly like their fellows takes from their worth. Moreover, we do not value the things we get very easily- "light come, light go"-nor like the things our neighbours can obtain as easily as ourselves. Rather do we value the things which have been made for our own purpose, and which carry in their warp and weft clear evidence of intelligence and skill.

Because of these ideas and because no ornament can surpass its filmy beauty, women love good lace, and the refined and tasteful woman values only that which has been made by skilful fingers. The cheap imitation may do for a poor purpose, and the machine-made edging may serve as a mere finish to a frill, but for most of us only good handmade, or, as it is commonly called, real lace, can be used with satisfaction. It is more beautiful than any imitation can be, and its first cost is more than justified by the length of time it will wear, and by the fact that sweet memories and associations will linger in its delicate folds, as they never could about its paltry imitation.

Tor some years the rich women of England have been made to feel that hundreds of their fellow women in fishing villages and in remote agricultural districts were suffering in poverty. Before the era of the ever encroaching machine there was work for many a girl and woman at lace-making. When the work of the little home was finished the lace pillow was taken out, and the women sat and talked over their homely doings their deft fingers wove the thread almost mechanically, and so they helped to keep the home together. In some places beautiful designs were part of the village tradition, certain classes of work were done only by certain families, and skill and swift accuracy were handed down through many generations. A particular pattern or a particular knack became family property, and the little girl did as her grandmother had done, and hardly remembered how she learnt it.

But machine made lace came with its low price and its present showy effectiveness; rich women bought it, not considering its poor quality, and poorer women, who before the machine era would not have thought of using lace at all, made it almost a necessity of adornment, and hand lace making nearly died. Then the village girls having lost their means of earning a living, went to the nearest country town or the great city. Sometimes they did well, sometimes their names were only remembered in sad whispers. Life is hard in a great city.

Let us be glad that a few of the good rich women of England have determined to revive the art of lace-making and as we love sincerity and truth let us hail with joy the desire for real lace. The organisation of agencies in the lace districts has been going on for several years, but the work has been beset with difficulties. The good old workers are nearly all gone, or if alive their fingers and their memories are failing. The pioneers of the work found that valuable patterns had been destroyed and pricked parchments necessary for some sorts of weaving scattered to the four-winds when the reign of the machine began. But the organisers were determined to do the work, and they have done it. There are now several benevolent associations from which all particulars can be obtained, and in London, in the Midlands, and in Devonshire lace making is being done by girls and women either as a regular means of earning a living or, very often, as an addition to small home duties, in which case they are satisfied to contribute a share to the housekeeping and stay at home.

In London lace-making is becoming a fashionable amusement. Two elderly women, who have been quietly waiting their opportunity for 30 years are now fully employed, and are preparing a small army of minor teachers. One old woman, who has been making lace on a pillow since she was a little child, now finds herself a centre of attraction. She has hit upon the wise plan of making her apparatus ornamental. The necessary stand or horse for the pillow is enamelled in a tint to suit the drawing room and the little bolster pillow in coarse canvas, stuffed with straw, is covered with coloured linen. The groups of quaint long bobbins which hang from a maze of threads tempt the lookers-on to try to fathom as a riddle- the intricacies of the pinning of parchment, the twisting of threads, and the throwing of bobbins.

At the British School of Spinning and Weaving lace-making has lately been undertaken as a part of weaving. The main object of this institution is to train girls for the trade and to further the teaching of spinning and lace making "in girl's schools as an admirable occupation following on kindergarten plaiting, drawing, and pricking. At this school lessons are given on Torchon, Honiton, Buckingham, or Duchess Lace. They also take orders for church laces fringes, and various designs. We have no organisation or association in Sydney which follows at all on the lines of such a school as this, although the work it undertakes is most important. To make lace may be in itself a comparatively unimportant occupation. The lace may be of little consequence whether well or ill done, but the training is important. To learn to do a thing well is in itself good education. The girl who sits at her lace-making trains not only quick eye and deft finger, she also learns to be exact and neat, and lays foundations of character on which the worth of future work must rest.

Lace-making is not a very old art. Needle-point and pillow lace began to be made in the sixteenth century. Before that time the edges of robes were trimmed with small cord, fastened in loops or netted but there was no design of lace as we know it except such geometrical patterns as might be produced by darning the meshes of fine netting or the threads of coarsely-woven linen. When linen was darned a pattern was cut out in finer lawn and buttonholed upon the background exactly in the same way as our modern effective applique work.

The places where lacemaking flourished were the two centres of pictorial art, Italy and Flanders. It is said that pillow-lace was first made by Flemish women, and a picture said to have been painted by Quentin Massys, in which a Flemish girl is depicted working with a pillow like the implement now in use in England, is quoted as a proof that in Flanders pillow lace was made in the fifteenth century. The matter is, however, disputed. Venice soon became noted for the beautiful needle point which her women made for altar frontals, and it was from a Venetian that France learned the art in which she afterwards excelled.

Louis XIV, acting on the advice of his Minister, Colbert, fostered the art of lacemaking, believing that by so doing he would relieve the finances of his kingdom. A grant of 30,000 francs was given to a company, who were instructed to organise lacemaking centres in various parts of France, and at

the same time the importation of Venetian and Flemish lace was strictly forbidden. This was more than ordinary protection, as we understand it, and it was wonderfully successful. In six years French lace was spoken of by an Italian as "done to admiration " The character of the designs soon showed the influence of French character French lace was more fanciful and floral than that made by the sober Flemings and commercial Venetians, and French patterns were copied everywhere , but the peasant women of England, where there were then no schools of design, continued to make the simple edgings on their pillows, and much of the work now being encouraged is similar to that made a century ago. Besides organisations to encourage this almost forgotten industry, England possesses a great many needlework societies. These are associations of rich women who take charge of articles made by poorer ones, and arrange that such articles shall be sold for their fair value, in order simply that the needy ones shall earn a living. In some cases an annual show is held under the presidency of a well-known and popular society lady, and the goods which may have accumulated during the year are sold at good prices to the very great benefit of the workers. One such annual sale has just taken place in Portman rooms, and as it was the twenty-eighth sale we may assume that it is doing good work. Such a sale would resemble in its outward aspect what we call a bazaar, but the great difference between the two is apparent. In the bazaar held here, as we know it, goods made by rich women are sold at low prices, in order that a charity which ought to be otherwise supported should gain a little of the large amount it needs. At such a sale it is not uncommon for an article to be sold for the price of its material, in order to get rid of it and slightly increase the profit of the sale. The people who thus support the charity they favour are at the same time doing a bitter wrong. For we have always among us workers, poor gentlewomen, who are trying to earn a quiet living with their hands, and these are undersold by the society or church bazaar and thus deprived of their livelihood. But the sale of work in London is brought about by the desire, not to help a cause which should be supported on its own merits or deserted if it has none, but to help the working gentlewoman who sorely needs assistance, and it is an immense boon to the quiet poor, who without it might starve respectably and die without much fuss. Another society in London, which has been in existence only a few years, is for special orders only. It is, like most of the others, carried on by an influential committee of ladies who wish to help the workers, but it keeps no stock. Samples of work can be obtained, and orders when given are most carefully executed. These orders are not confined to needlework, but include the mending of fans, china, ornaments, etc., , the

retouching or restoring of pictures, and other valued articles, all of which its various members are glad to undertake.

These are only two of many societies in London which have for their main object the finding of work for those women who by their own or others' misfortune are obliged to earn a living for themselves.

It is true that we have not many such women in Australia, but it is equally true that we have a few and that at present we are doing nothing for them. We are doing worse than nothing, for every bazaar and sale of work undersells them, and many girls and women, daughters of good homes, do work and sell it to their friends, which would otherwise be offered to the women who wait for work whereby to earn a living.

In Glasgow an organisation of ladies carries out an admirable scheme of help to poor women workers. It keeps always open a comfortable room in which 60 or 70 women can work between the hours of 10 and 4. Most of the workers are women unfit by age or infirmity to earn a living otherwise. Each one receives a daily allowance of bread, and three times a week a piece of cheese. She can, if she chooses, bring her tea or other food from her home, and prepare it there if necessary. In case of illness she is visited, and receives money or food from a fund provided for the purpose, or she is handed over to an infirmary. The enterprise is systematically carried on by its promoters, who take orders for any sort of underlinen. The work finished by the women when not ordered is placed for sale in four different houses in Glasgow, where orders are also received.

Like the London associations, this Scottish one considers the workers first, and not the buyers, for in those old lands charity is merely an ordinary duty. We in Australia have been in the past accustomed to the belief that no one ought to be poor, and we are prone to look with suspicion on those who stand in need of help. Meanwhile hard times have come and the poor are with us. Could not some of the time and energy so freely given to promote amusements or to raise funds for various other purposes be devoted to a scheme for helping those who must have been in the mind of the Master when he said, "I was an hungered and ye gave Me no bread?" LOIS.

LACE MAKERS HAVE DIFFICULTIES

The men and women making white lace in Britain may end their day's work looking as black as any coal miner, reported the B.B.C.'s industrial correspondent. Bertram Mycock, broadcasting in "Radio Newsreel."

He noticed this when recently visiting Nottingham, one of the most famous centres of the British lace-making industry, and found the factories there trying out an experiment to make the job cleaner.

Few machines depend so much on smoothness and accuracy as those for making lace, and where the cotton loom has one shuttle the lace machine may have 1500, each running in a narrow groove. These grooves all have to be lubricated and as oil would ruin the lace and clog the machines with fluff, graphite, "black lead to you and me" said Mycock, is dusted on to the bobbins. The black powder gets over everything, lace and operatives included, and the twist hand or weaver, comes off his shift looking and feeling so dirty that young people are disinclined to follow the trade. The black powder has to be scoured off the lace, and the difficulty is aggravated by the fact that about 5 per cent of the thread used is nylon, which has the property of charging itself with electricity as it runs through the machinery and so picks up all the dirt and fluff that is flying about. Research on the problem of finding some lubricant that is cleaner than graphite is top priority in Nottingham research laboratories and a new secret preparation is already on trial.

Mycock saw curtain lace being made on huge machine that creates a piece of fabric twelve yards wide. A feature of them is the great mass of strings, thousands of them. In some cases, that come from machinery high in the roof and put the warp threads to make the pattern. Another bit of research is going on there, to find a string that will not tighten in wet weather and throw the whole mechanism out of gear. "They think they have solved the problem, too." said Mycock, who came away from the factory with, a healthy respect for the ingenious and painstaking research workers of Nottingham.

From: The Sydney Morning Herald, Wednesday 11 October 1848.

DISTRESSED BRITISH ARTISANS FROM FRANCE. (From Bell's Messenger, June 17)

The *Agincourt*, the last of three ships chartered by the Emigration Commissioners for the conveyance to Australia of the distressed British workmen emigrating from France, sailed on Monday from Gravesend, and as the circumstances under which these persons have received free passages from the government are peculiar, we think that a recapitulation of them will be found interesting to most of our readers.

Shortly after the termination of the last war, a small body of Lace-makers from Nottingham settled in the neighbourhood of Calais to teach our French neighbours the art of making cotton lace. The progress at first was slow, but within the fifteen years lost past cotton lace had, under the patronage of Louis Philippe, grown much into favour, and in the district above alluded to alone not less than half a million sterling was invested in its manufacture, giving employment to upwards of 5000 men, women, and children. Until this year commenced there had been in France for some time a cessation in the demand for cotton lace, and the machines were kept going only at short time. But with the new year came fresh orders, and night and day all was bustle and activity. Full work and high wages had filled the Basse Ville with hope, and with the expectation of a good summer's work before them, none of its inhabitants had prepared themselves for the change which a few weeks was to bring upon them. Suddenly and unexpectedly, however, came the crash of the revolution in Paris, and with the confusion and anarchy confidence immediately perished. Almost the same post which brought the news of the establishment of the Republic in Paris, brought positive countermands of the orders before received, or filled the minds of the masters with such distrust that they declined to fulfil them. Immediately the engines were stopped, and the hands thrown out of work. The recent earnings of the workmen were quickly dissipated, and their savings were unavailable, as they were locked up in the savings' banks, which, by the orders of the republican government, had stopped payment, and it was under the starvation and ruin which presented themselves immediately before them that they appealed to their native country, to the government, and the public, to relieve them by removal at once to the Australian colonies.

As soon as their distressed condition was made known, Lord Ashley, Lord Robert Grosvenor, and other influential noblemen and gentlemen, under the auspices of the Queen and Prince Albert, headed a subscription for their succour, and to aid them in their wishes, a large sum of money was speedily collected. Lord Grey, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, directed the emigration commissioners to render such assistance as might be found practicable, and this board forthwith despatched a gentleman to Calais with the offer of a free passage to such as might be found adapted to the circumstances of Australia. In two days 700 applications were received, and in less than a fortnight the first party had sailed to Sydney in the *Fairlie*, emigrant transport ship. Subsequently a second and larger party were despatched in the *Harpley*, and the third and last division, numbering 250 souls, have now started in the *Agincourt*.

In the *Fairlie* about 50 only were despatched, but in the *Harpley*, a Van Diemen's Land built ship, of 547 tons, taken up expressly for the purpose, about 254 souls were provided for. The departure of this vessel was marked by some most interesting circumstances. A more than usual anxiety was felt respecting their accommodation and comfort for so long a passage, and before the ship left the river last month, Mr C Alexander Wood, one of the emigration commissioners, accompanied by Mr Walcott, the secretary, proceeded to Gravesend, and attended by Lieutenant Lean, R.N., the emigration officer, personally inspected the ship, and inquired into the wants and wishes of the emigrants, when Mr Wood, having found everything in the most satisfactory condition, addressed the colonists in a very feeling and effective speech. The passengers of the *Harpley*, it was most pleasing to find, were not insensible to the kindness of the commissioners, but, on the contrary, evinced their humble gratitude in cheers and blessings, and in every way in which they could possibly show it, and before the ship sailed they spontaneously drew up the following address to Lieutenant Lean and Mr Cooper (the gentleman sent to Calais to make the selection of the emigrants), and through one or two of their body, presented it to these gentlemen.

We are requested, on the part of the emigrants of Calais to return you our best thanks for the exertions you have made in our behalf. Speech-making, you are aware does not belong to persons in our class of life: you will therefore the will for the deed, and give us credit for feeling that it is out of our power to express; but of this be assured, that we shall think of you with gratitude to the last hour of our lives. We can only say, in conclusion, that

should it please God to grant us a safe passage, there will be very few hearts in Australia which will not couple your name with every good wish, and may God's blessing fall thick and fast upon yourselves and old England when we are thousands of miles away.

The equipment of the *Agincourt*, a remarkably fine vessel of 669 tons burden, the property of Mr Dunbar, was not undertaken with less care and attention, nor was her departure from the river marked with less unaffected gratitude on the part of the emigrants.

An influential member of the relief committee, Mr Alderman Salomons²¹, whose active benevolence is so well known, accompanied by the secretary, Mr Haly, visited this ship on Friday, at Gravesend, and inspected all the arrangements, the provisions, &c, provided for the passengers, together with everything requisite for their comfort, health, and due accommodation, when with the whole they expressed themselves greatly pleased. Both Mr Salomons and Mr Haly addressed the emigrants, pointing out the exertions of the emigration commissioners, and the benevolence of the subscribers to the relief fund, especially alluding to the interest which Lord Ashley had taken in establishing the society, and giving them wholesome and excellent advice as to their conduct on the voyage, and their course of proceedings on their arrival in the colony.

The addresses were listened to with the utmost satisfaction and thankfulness, and their appreciation of what had been done for them may be seen in the following record which they have left behind them -

The emigrants on board the *Agincourt* to Lord Ashley's committee, and the government commissioners -

Gentlemen before taking our final departure from the land of our birth, it is our duty to express our warmest thanks for the many favours and great kindness we have received at your hands. The benefits you have conferred upon us, and the extraordinary interest you have taken in our welfare und behalf, are entirely unmerited on our part and infinitely exceed our means of

²¹ Sir David Salomons was a leading figure in the 19th century struggle for Jewish emancipation in the UK. He was the first Jewish Sheriff of the City of London and one of the first two Jewish people to serve in the British House of Commons. (Wikipedia)

repaying them. All we have to offer in return is our gratitude und thanks, for your kindness, and honour and esteem for the nobleness of heart from which it springs: and these sentiments, we hope and trust are sincerely felt by us all.

And now that the same kind Providence, under whom we rely for a safe passage to the land of our adoption, may also grant to you the health and happiness, and every other blessing throughout a long and honourable life, is our humble and most sincere prayer.

Signed on behalf of the emigrants, by the constables appointed for the preservation of order in the ship.

Nothing can exceed the cheerful, happy spirit which prevails amongst these emigrants. They are full of hope, and are surrounded with every comfort that their circumstances and the good arrangement of the Emigration Board will admit. With each other they show excellent feeling and of this we may give one pleasing illustration. A family had come over from France, the heads of which were not married. By the proper rules of the Emigration Commissioners these people could not be admitted, although there was no other reproach on their character. As soon as the rejection of this family was known amongst the emigrants, they entered into a subscription, and by their pence, for few of them had more to give, they raised a sum of money which, with the aid of the contributions of a few gentlemen on board the ship, was sufficient to enable the parties to be married by license, and proceed with their companions.



Nottingham Trent University's Lace Collection

The above collection has evolved as a result of its history and largely from bequests by Nottingham's lace industry and the Lace Federation. The collection holds 75,000 items of lace as single pieces; garments and garment panels; items in manufacturers sample books; photographs of lace from a breadth of sources and collections; and portfolios of machine-made lace. It also holds numerous books on European lace and portfolios of lace and lace designs representing major lace manufacturing countries.

Bromhead Family



Carl Bromhead (son of George), Ernest C Bromhead (son of John) and Oliver Prince (son of Elizabeth Bromhead and Thomas Prince) – all first cousins twice removed of our President.



ASLC President, Stephen Black, great-grandson of Charlotte Bromhead; and Joan Latter, great-granddaughter of John Bromhead and Jane (nee Swift). Joan is also an ASLC member and is Stephen Black's second cousin once removed. Stephen is the great-great-grandson of John and Jane Bromhead, who immigrated to Australia aboard the *Agincourt* in 1848.

Australian Society of Lacemakers of Calais Inc.
Office Bearers 2012-2013

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FELLOWSHIP OFFICER	Mrs Claire Loneragan

Foundation Members of Australian Society of Lacemakers of Calais Inc.

<u>FIRST NAME/INITIAL</u>	<u>SURNAME</u>	<u>FAMILY</u>
D. E.	Anderson	Shaw
Bert	Archer	Archer
Lucy	Bates	Bromhead
Elizabeth	Bolton	Gascoigne
Heather	Bovill	Saywell
Mrs M.	Boyce	Bromhead
J	Bromhead	Bromhead
Bill	Brownlow	Brownlow
Mildred	Brunton	Bromhead
Lola	Crofts	Crofts
Fay	Duffield	Shaw
Joan	Fenton	Horner
G.	Goldsworthy	Shaw
Kay	Grange	Bromhead
J.	Hedges	Shaw
Mrs E	Hermanson	Bromhead
Eleanor	Higgins	Shaw
Terence	Higgins	Shaw
Wilfred	Hoy	Bromhead
Kingsley	Ireland	Longmire
Lenore	Keays	Pedder
Gillian	Kelly	Branson
Barbara	Kendrick	Gascoigne
Cecil	Lander	Lander
Linda	Lander	Lander
Richard	Lander	Lander
Joan	Latter	Bromhead
Claire	Loneragan	Branson
Amy	Mann	Crofts
Mrs M	Monie	Bromhead
J.	Morey	Saywell
Jean	Neich	Crofts
Bill	Pedder	Pedder
Sheila	Rogers	Roe
Kathy	Salter	Plummer
Theo	Saywell	Saywell
B.	Scott-Young	Saywell
Pat	Stewart	Saywell
K.	Styles	Duck
P.	Styles	Duck
Christine	Sutton	Stubbs
Marianne	Waterford	Branson
Lindsay	Watts	Bromhead
Doug	Webster	Branson
Garnet	Webster	Branson
Bob	Wilson	Saywell
Ms K	Woods	Crofts

If you are not on this list and believe you or others should be, please let the Editor know.

AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF LACEMAKERS OF CALAIS INC.

New name

This matter is a technicality. Our current name is *Australian Society of Lacemakers of Calais Inc.* The committee believes that it should be changed by the addition of the word *the* between the words *Lacemakers* and *of* to read *Australian Society of the Lacemakers of Calais Inc.*

New constitution

In 2009 the New South Wales Government enacted new legislation (Associations Incorporation Act 2009), which governs the formation and operation of incorporated associations. Subsequently, in 2010 a government regulation (Associations Incorporation Regulation 2010) came into force to support the 2009 Act. The new legislation replaces that dating from 1984. Our Society, being an incorporated association, was subject to the requirements of the original legislation and is now subject to the requirements of the new legislation.

A requirement of both the original and new legislation is that any incorporated association must have, and operate under, a constitution with particular minimum requirements. Previously, our Society operated under the original "model constitution". While the new legislation provides a new "model constitution", there are clauses in it, which are considered onerous for an association such as ours. We are small in number and have members located in diverse locations. These factors make it difficult to comply with the "model constitution" as outlined in the new legislation. Accordingly, a new constitution, which better accommodates the particular circumstances of our Society has been prepared and is attached.

Proposed AGM resolutions

The intention of the Society's committee is that the proposals to change the Society's name and constitution be voted on at the February 2013 Annual General Meeting and if the proposals are accepted by the members present, the applications to make the changes will be forwarded to the relevant authority for review. Following acceptance by that authority, the constitution will be used to manage the business of our Society thereafter.

If you have any queries or comments about the proposed name change or attached constitution, we would appreciate your sending them to the President as soon as possible, but certainly no later than 31 January 2013.

Stephen Black
President

Australian Society of the Lacemakers of Calais Inc.

CONSTITUTION

Under the Associations Incorporation Act 2009

The constitution of an incorporated association forms the structure within which the association operates. The constitution of the Australian Society of the Lacemakers of Calais Inc. is based on the model constitution developed by NSW Fair Trading and covers the matters required by law but has been modified to suit the requirements of the Society.

14 December 2012

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Part 1 - Preliminary

1. Definitions

- (1) In this constitution:

Director-General means the Director-General of the Department of Services, Technology and Administration.

secretary means:

- (a) the person holding office under this constitution as secretary of the Society, or
- (b) if no such person holds that office - the public officer of the Society.

general meeting means a meeting of the Society other than an annual general meeting.

the Act means the *Associations Incorporation Act 2009*.

the Regulation means the *Associations Incorporation Regulation 2010*.

the Society means the Australian Society of the Lacemakers of Calais Inc.

treasurer means:

- (a) the person holding office under this constitution as treasurer of the Society, or
- (b) if no such person holds that office - the public officer of the Society.

- (2) In this constitution:

- (a) a reference to a function includes a reference to a power, authority and duty, and
- (b) a reference to the exercise of a function includes, if the function is a duty, a reference to the performance of the duty.

- (3) The provisions of the *Interpretation Act 1987* apply to and in respect of this constitution in the same manner as those provisions would so apply if this constitution were an instrument made under the Act.

Part 2 - Membership

2. Membership generally

- (1) Membership is open to:

- (a) people with an interest in the aims of the Society, and entities that apply for affiliated membership, and
- (b) the person or entity has applied and been approved for membership of the Society in accordance with clause 3.

(2) A person or affiliated entity is a member of the Society if their name appears on the membership register as a financial member.

3. Application for membership

- (1) An application for membership of the Society must be made in writing and must be lodged with the secretary of the Society.
- (2) As soon as practicable after receiving a nomination for membership, the secretary must refer the nomination to the committee which is to determine whether to approve or to reject the nomination.
- (3) As soon as practicable after the committee makes that determination, the secretary must notify the nominee, in writing, that the committee approved or rejected the nomination and if the committee approved the nomination, request the applicant to pay within the period of 28 days after receipt by the applicant of the notification the sum payable under this constitution by a member as entrance fee and annual subscription.

- (4) The secretary must, on payment by the applicant of the amounts referred to in subclause (3) and prior to the next general meeting enter the applicant's name in the register of members and, on the name being so entered, the applicant becomes a member of the Society.

4. Cessation of membership

A member ceases to be a member of the Society if:

- (a) the person dies, or
- (b) the member resigns membership, or
- (c) the member is expelled from the Society, or
- (d) the member fails to pay the annual membership fee under clause 8 (2) within 3 months after the fee is due.

5. Membership entitlements not transferable

A right, privilege or obligation which a person has by reason of being a member of the Society:

- (a) is not capable of being transferred or transmitted to another person unless approved otherwise by the Committee, and
- (b) terminates on cessation of the person's membership.

6. Resignation of membership

- (1) A member of the Society may resign from membership of the Society by giving to the secretary written notice of the member's intention to resign and the member ceases to be a member.
- (2) If a member of the Society ceases to be a member the secretary must make an appropriate entry in the register of members recording the date on which the member ceased to be a member.

7. Register of members

- (1) The Society must establish and maintain a register of members of the Society specifying the name and postal or residential address of each person who is a member of the Society together with the date on which the person became a member.
- (2) The register of members must be kept in New South Wales:
 - (a) at the main premises of the Society, or
 - (b) if the society has no premises, at the Society's official address.
- (3) The register of members must be open for inspection, free of charge, by any member of the Society at the next meeting after request to inspect is made.
- (4) A member of the Society may obtain a copy of any part of the register on payment of a fee of not more than \$5 for each page copied.
- (5) If a member requests that any information contained on the register about the member (other than the member's name) not be available for inspection, that information must not be made available for inspection.
- (6) A member must not use information about a person obtained from the register to contact or send material to the person, other than for the purposes of sending the person a newsletter, a notice in respect of a meeting or other event relating to the Society or other material relating to the Society, or any other purpose necessary to comply with a requirement of the Act or the Regulation.

8. Fees and subscriptions

- (1) A member of the Society must, on admission to membership, pay to the Society an amount determined by the members.

- (2) In addition to any amount payable by the member under subclause (1), a member of the Society must pay to the Society an annual membership fee of an amount determined by the members:
- (a) except as provided by paragraph (b), before 1 January in each calendar year, or
 - (b) if the member becomes a member on or after 1 January in any calendar year, on becoming a member and before 1 January in each succeeding calendar year.

9. Members' liabilities

The liability of a member of the Society to contribute towards the payment of the debts and liabilities of the Society or the costs, charges and expenses of the winding up of the Society is limited to the amount, if any, unpaid by the member in respect of membership of the Society as required by clause 8.

10. Resolution of disputes

- (1) A dispute between a member and another member (in their capacity as members) of the Society, or a dispute between a member or members and the Society, is to be referred to the committee for resolution. If the committee cannot resolve the dispute, it is to be referred to a community justice centre for mediation under the *Community Justice Centres Act 1983*.
- (2) If a dispute is not resolved by mediation within 3 months of the referral to a community justice centre, the dispute is to be referred to arbitration.
- (3) The *Commercial Arbitration Act 1984* applies to any such dispute referred to arbitration.

11. Disciplining of members

- (1) A complaint may be made to the committee by any person that a member of the Society:
 - (a) has refused or neglected to comply with a provision or provisions of this constitution, or
 - (b) has wilfully acted in a manner prejudicial to the interests of the Society.
- (2) The committee may refuse to deal with a complaint if it considers the complaint to be trivial or vexatious in nature.
- (3) If the committee decides to deal with the complaint, the committee:
 - (a) must cause notice of the complaint to be served on the member concerned, and
 - (b) must give the member until the next general meeting after the time the notice is served within which to make submissions to the committee in connection with the complaint, and
 - (c) must take into consideration any submissions made by the member in connection with the complaint.
- (4) The committee may, by resolution, expel the member from the Society or suspend the member from membership of the Society if, after considering the complaint and any submissions made in connection with the complaint, it is satisfied that the facts alleged in the complaint have been proved and the expulsion or suspension is warranted in the circumstances.
- (5) If the committee expels or suspends a member, the secretary must, within 7 days after the action is taken, cause written notice to be given to the member of the action taken, of the reasons given by the committee for having taken that action and of the member's right of appeal under clause 12.
- (6) The expulsion or suspension does not take effect:
 - (a) until the expiration of the period within which the member is entitled to appeal against the resolution concerned, or
 - (b) if within that period the member exercises the right of appeal, unless and until the Society confirms the resolution under clause 12, whichever is the later.

12. Right of appeal of disciplined member

- (1) A member may appeal to the Society in general meeting against a resolution of the committee under clause 11, by speaking at the next general meeting.
- (2) At a general meeting of the Society
 - (a) the committee and the member must be given the opportunity to state their respective cases orally or in writing, or both, and
 - (b) the members present are to vote on the question of whether the resolution should be confirmed or revoked.
- (3) The appeal is to be determined by a simple majority of votes cast by members of the Society present at the general meeting of the Society.

Part 3 - The committee

13. Powers of the committee

Subject to the Act, the Regulation and this constitution and to any resolution passed by the Society in general meeting, the committee:

- (a) is to control and manage the affairs of the Society, and
- (b) may exercise all such functions as may be exercised by the Society, other than those functions that are required by this constitution to be exercised by a general meeting of members of the Society, and
- (c) has power to perform all such acts and do all such things as appear to the committee to be necessary or desirable for the proper management of the affairs of the Society.

14. Composition and membership of committee

- (1) The committee is to consist of the following office-bearers of the Society: the president, the treasurer, the secretary and the editor.
- (2) The minimum number of committee members is to be 3.
- (3) Each member of the committee is, subject to this constitution, to hold office until the conclusion of the annual general meeting following the date of the member's election, but is eligible for re-election.

15. Election of committee members

- (1) Nominations of candidates for election as office-bearers of the Society must be made verbally at the annual general meeting.
- (2) If insufficient nominations are received to fill all vacancies, the candidates nominated are taken to be elected.
- (3) If insufficient further nominations are received, any vacant positions remaining are taken to be casual vacancies.
- (4) If the number of nominations received is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled, the persons nominated are taken to be elected.
- (5) If the number of nominations received exceeds the number of vacancies to be filled, a ballot is to be held.
- (6) The ballot for the election of office-bearers is to be conducted at the annual general meeting in such usual and proper manner as the committee may direct.
- (7) A person nominated as a candidate for election as an office-bearer of the Society must be a financial member of the Society.

16. Secretary

- (1) It is the duty of the secretary to keep minutes of:

- (a) all appointments of office-bearers, and
 - (b) the names of members of the committee present at a committee meeting or a general meeting, and
 - (c) all proceedings at committee meetings and general meetings.
- (2) Minutes of proceedings at a meeting must be read to the members at the next general meeting and accepted by vote by the members present at that meeting.

17. Treasurer

It is the duty of the treasurer of the Society to use their best endeavours to ensure:

- (a) that all money due to the Society is collected and received and that all payments authorised by the Society are made, and
- (b) that correct books and accounts are kept showing the financial affairs of the Society, including full details of all receipts and expenditure connected with the activities of the Society.

18. Removal of committee members

- (1) The Society in general meeting may by resolution remove any member of the committee from the office of member before the expiration of the member's term of office and may by resolution appoint another person to hold office until the expiration of the term of office of the member so removed.
- (2) If a member of the committee to whom a proposed resolution referred to in subclause (1) relates makes representations in writing to the secretary or president (not exceeding a reasonable length) the member is entitled to require that the representations be read out at the meeting at which the resolution is considered.

19. Committee meetings and quorum

- (1) The committee can meet as few or as many times in each period of 12 months at such place and time as the committee may determine.
- (2) Oral or written notice of a meeting of the committee must be given by any member of the committee to each other member of the committee at least 48 hours (or such other period as may be unanimously agreed on by the members of the committee) before the time appointed for the holding of the meeting.
- (3) Any 3 members of the committee constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of a meeting of the committee.
- (4) No business is to be transacted by the committee unless a quorum is present and if, within half an hour of the time appointed for the meeting, a quorum is not present, the meeting is to stand adjourned to a time and place to be agreed but not later than the next general meeting of the Society.
- (5) If at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour of the time appointed for the meeting, the meeting is to be dissolved.
- (6) At a meeting of the committee the president or, in the president's absence, the secretary is to preside.

20. Voting and decisions

- (1) Questions arising at a meeting of the committee or of any sub-committee appointed by the committee are to be determined by a majority of the votes of members of the committee or sub-committee present at the meeting.
- (2) Each member present at a meeting of the committee or of any sub-committee appointed by the committee (including the person presiding at the meeting) is entitled to one vote but, in the event of an equality of votes on any question, the person presiding may exercise a second or casting vote.
- (3) Subject to clause 19(3), the committee may act despite any vacancy on the committee.

- (4) Any act or thing done or suffered, or purporting to have been done or suffered, by the committee or by a sub-committee appointed by the committee, is valid and effectual despite any defect that may afterwards be discovered in the appointment or qualification of any member of the committee or sub-committee.

Part 4 - General meetings

21. General

- (1) Notice of meetings is to be printed in the Society's journal published preceding the date for the relevant meeting.
- (2) The president or, in the president's absence, the secretary or any other person elected by the members present is to preside as chairperson at each meeting of the Society.

22. Annual general meetings

- (1) The Society must hold its annual general meetings within 6 months after the close of the Society's financial year and subject to the Act and to clause 22, to be convened on such date and at such place and time as the committee thinks fit.
- (2) Any business may be transacted at an annual general meeting, but it must include the following:
 - (a) to confirm the minutes of the last preceding annual general meeting and of any special general meeting held since that meeting,
 - (b) to receive from the committee reports on the activities of the Society during the last preceding financial year,
 - (c) to elect office-bearers of the Society,
 - (d) to receive and consider any financial statement or report required to be submitted to members under the Act.
- (3) A member can bring any business before an annual general meeting.

23. General meetings

- (1) The Society must hold at least 3 general meetings within each calendar year convened on such date and at such place and time as the committee thinks fit.
- (2) Any business may be transacted at a general meeting, but it must include the following:
 - (a) to confirm the minutes of the last preceding general meeting,
 - (b) to receive from the committee reports on the activities of the Society since the last preceding general meeting.
- (3) A member can bring any business before a general meeting.
- (4) The chairperson of a general meeting at which a quorum is present may, with the consent of the majority of members present at the meeting, adjourn the meeting until the next general meeting.

24. Quorum for meetings

- (1) No item of business is to be transacted at a meeting unless a quorum of five financial members entitled under this constitution to vote is present during the time the meeting is considering that item.
- (3) If within half an hour after the appointed time for the commencement of a general meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting is to stand adjourned until the next general meeting.
- (4) If at the next meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour after the time appointed for the commencement of the meeting, the members present (being at least 3) are to constitute a quorum.

25. Making of decisions

- (1) A question arising at a meeting of the Society is to be determined by a show of hands.
- (2) A declaration by the chairperson that a resolution has been carried or lost, or an entry to that effect in the minute book of the Society, is evidence of the fact without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour of or against that resolution.
- (3) A special resolution may only be passed by the Society in accordance with section 39 of the Act.

26. Voting

- (1) On any question arising at a general meeting of the Society a member has one vote only.
- (2) In the case of an equality of votes on a question at a general meeting, the chairperson of the meeting is entitled to exercise a second or casting vote.
- (3) A member is not entitled to vote at any general meeting of the Society unless all money due and payable by the member to the Society has been paid.
- (4) A member is not entitled to vote at any general meeting of the Society if the member is under 18 years of age.
- (5) Proxy voting will not be undertaken at or in respect of any meeting.
- (6) Postal or absentee ballots will not be accepted at or in respect of any meeting.

Part 5 - Miscellaneous

27. Insurance

The Society may effect and maintain insurance.

28. Funds - source

- (1) The funds of the Society are to be derived from entrance fees and annual subscriptions of members, donations and, subject to any resolution passed by the Society in general meeting, such other sources as the committee determines.
- (2) All money received by the Society must be deposited as soon as practicable and without deduction to the credit of the Society's bank or other authorised deposit-taking institution account.
- (3) The Society must, as soon as practicable after receiving any money, issue an appropriate receipt.

29. Funds - management

- (1) Subject to any resolution passed by the Society in general meeting, the funds of the Society are to be used in pursuance of the aims of the Society in such manner as the committee determines.
- (2) All cheques, drafts, bills of exchange, promissory notes and other negotiable instruments must be signed by any 2 members of the committee or employees of the Society, being office bearers authorised to do so by the committee.

30. Change of name, objects and constitution

An application to the Director-General for registration of a change in the Society's name or constitution in accordance with section 10 of the Act is to be made by the public officer or a committee member.

31. Custody of books

Except as otherwise provided by this constitution, the public officer must keep in his or her custody or under his or her control all records, books and other documents relating to the Society

32. Inspection of books

- (1) The following documents must be open to inspection, free of charge, by a member of the Society at the next meeting after request to inspect is made:
 - (a) records, books and other financial documents of the Society,
 - (b) this constitution,
 - (c) minutes of all committee meetings and general meetings of the Society.
- (2) A member of the Society may obtain a copy of any of the documents referred to in subclause (1) on payment of a fee of not more than \$5 for each page copied.

33. Service of notices

- (1) For the purpose of this constitution, a notice may be served on or given to a person:
 - (a) by delivering it to the person personally, or
 - (b) by sending it by pre-paid post to the address of the person, or
 - (c) by sending it by facsimile transmission or some other form of electronic transmission to an address specified by the person for giving or serving the notice.
- (2) For the purpose of this constitution, a notice is taken, unless the contrary is proved, to have been given or served:
 - (a) in the case of a notice given or served personally, on the date on which it is received by the addressee, and
 - (b) in the case of a notice sent by pre-paid post, on the date when it would have been delivered in the ordinary course of post, and
 - (c) in the case of a notice sent by facsimile transmission or some other form of electronic transmission, on the date it was sent or, if the machine from which the transmission was sent produces a report indicating that the notice was sent on a later date, on that date.

34. Financial year

The financial year of the Society is the period of time commencing on 1 January and ending on the following 31 December.

Appendix 1
Application for membership of
Australian Society of the Lacemakers of Calais Inc.

(Clause 3 (1))

Incorporated under the *Associations Incorporation Act 2009*)

I,

[full name of applicant]

of

[address]

hereby apply to become a member of the above named incorporated association. In the event of my admission as a member, I agree to be bound by the constitution of the Society for the time being in force.

.....

Signature of applicant

Date