

TULLE

*Volume 23 No 1
February 2005*



Narrowmarsh, Nottingham circa 1900

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

**MEETING
DATES
2005**

Saturday February 19, 2005
Saturday, May 21, 2005
Saturday August 20, 2005
Saturday November 20, 2005

At

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

**NEXT MEETING
Saturday February 19**

OUR AGM

Come along and help plan 2005 and
enjoy a social afternoon.

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

**Want to join?
Membership due?
Annual Fees \$30 to
The Membership Secretary
190 Shaftesbury Rd
EASTWOOD NSW 2122**



Tulle

Volume 23 Number 1, February 2005

From the Desks of.....	2
This is your <i>Tulle</i> , <i>The Editor</i>	7
Calais will have its Lace Museum.....	9
Don't go to Australia, Ned, <i>William Morley</i>	14
William and Eleanor Gascoigne – an adventure in research, <i>Gillian Kelly</i>	18
Thomas Gascoigne of Braemar, <i>Obituary</i>	24
Steaming Towards Baths & Picnics, <i>Kevin Saddler</i>	26
A Problem of a Thousand Years, <i>Kim Wilsher</i>	29
For the Genealogist.....	31
Pronunciation of the English Language.....	36

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Dear Friends,

I have in front of me a copy of the letter that I wrote this time last year in which I hoped that 2004 would bring good health and gentleness of spirit to us all. I also hoped that the year would be trouble free and happy.

The events of 26 December 2004 certainly changed that. I'm sure that, like me, you continue to scan the papers and watch television coverage and be appalled by the devastation wrought by the tsunami.

At the same time we can all grieve for those thousands of people who have been scarred by this enormous tragedy, not only those who have lost family, homes and their livelihood, but also the many volunteers and specialist experts who are attempting to bring some solace to these stricken countries and their people. This information is brought to the public instantaneously.

Information can be also shared instantaneously through other methods as I discovered while working with the forensics police training division at Parramatta. One of their finger print experts is in Thailand helping with identification and has been sharing some of his experiences there with the forensics colleagues at Parramatta on a regular basis, coming through loud and clear on his mobile phone.

What a different way to exchange information from that experienced by our families in 1848. The picture that Professor Carol Liston painted for us at our November gathering about the importance of Parramatta as an information exchange post, highlighted the way that our families could have learned something about the work and social fabric of their new country. Parramatta was at the crossroads where information came in from

the countryside and was filtered through the various networks that had grown up in the thriving industries in the area.

We were indeed privileged to have Carol come again to share her love and knowledge of Australian History with us. Do join us at Donbank Cottage on Saturday 19 February for our first meeting in 2005.

Elizabeth Bolton
President

THE SECRETARY'S COMMENT

February 2005, like February each year, is election time for ASLC. Election time is a time to exercise your franchise, a time to get rid of any dead-wood if the incumbents have not been up to the mark. A time to give new blood a chance if this is your wish.

You have a say and you are encouraged to exercise it. Nominations are open for all executive positions on the ASLC committee and will be accepted by your current Hon. Secretary from now until the election at the AGM.

Our ancestors in 1848 had no right to be heard on who their leaders would be, at least not in their new homeland. Here their leaders (the state Governors) were appointees of the British Government. The Governor of NSW in 1848 (the new home for the majority of the lacemaker families) was Sir Charles Augustus FitzRoy, the tenth for this state. During his term (1846-1855) he was faced with the problems posed by gold discoveries, which were unprecedented in British colonial experience. He was successful in ensuring the goldfields were more orderly than those of California. He was, above all else, a man of the world, tough

and shrewd in his political and social judgments, liable to great self-indulgence and sustained by a very high opinion of himself.¹

The Governor of South Australia, the destination for the Harpley passengers, until 2 August 1848 was Lieutenant Colonel Frederick Robe Holt. Holt was unpopular and ineffectual, and was little missed after he left. Thereafter the Governor was Sir Henry Fox Young, the state's first civilian governor. It was under Governor Sir Henry Young that South Australia was to receive its first formal parliament. For those interested in trivia, Port Augusta was named after his wife, Lady Augusta Young.

Back in England, the Prime Minister was Lord John Russell (1792-1878), the 25th PM. He was notable for introducing measures which assisted Ireland in the aftermath of the 1845 potato famine. He was also responsible for getting the third Factory Act (1847) passed. This legislation limited the working hours of women to ten hours per day.

In America National elections take place every even-numbered year. Every four years the president, vice president, one third of the Senate, and the entire House are up for election (on-year elections).

On even-numbered years when there isn't a presidential election, one third of the Senate and the whole House are included in the election (off-year elections). 1848 was a Presidential election year and Democrat President James K Polk did not seek re-election. His party nominated Lewis Cass who lost the election to the Whig candidate and Mexican War hero, General Zachary Taylor ("Old Rough and Ready"), a slave owner.

¹ *Australian Dictionary of Biography 1788-1850*, p. 389

There is no right to vote in the United States Constitution. When the US was founded, only white men with property were allowed to vote. Working white men, white women and all blacks were denied the franchise. Between 1800 and 1850 National laws extended suffrage to all white men 21 and older, regardless of property holdings or religion.

In response, the “women’s suffrage” movement was begun in 1848 by Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton. They called on the Seneca Falls Convention to proclaim that “all men and women are equal.” The 15th Amendment (passed in 1869) granted the right to vote to adult male black Americans. However, it wasn’t until 1920 that women in America got the vote.

From day one the ASLC has granted the right to vote to all financial members. It matters not what your sex or colour is, nor how much or little property you might have. Age is of no consideration nor is your political leaning. You are encouraged to attend the AGM and to make your vote count. Be there.

Richard Lander
Secretary

AND FROM THE EDITOR

Just when we think we are running out of leads further to further our learning about our Lacemaker folk, a little gem falls our way! The Gascoigne family were aboard the *Agincourt* and while later generations were well documented, there was a decided gap in their family story from 1848 to the late 1800s.

One of the biggest stumbling blocks has been misspelling and the unforgiving nature of the preciseness of NSW Births Death and Marriage records. The IGI does a broad search around like

spellings and like names, so often the aberrant name can be found. Not so our otherwise excellent NSW system given the internet record is only as good as the spelling on the original and as a result Gascoine became Gascoying and Biddulph became Biddeth.

What joy, then, to find an obituary that was written with the history that Thomas Gascoigne's has included. This little article has opened an entire new world of research for the Gacoigne descendants – and, indeed, uncovered whole lines of descendants that were not previously known.

The moral to the tale is never give up, never believe you have uncovered every trail, and consider every variant of a name that you can think of. Remember that many of our forebears did not read or write and often names were spelled phonemically – throw in a broad accent and you just never know what is around the corner.

Gillian Kelly
Editor

MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE DUE

To ensure your continued membership, please forward your dues with the enclosed form to our Membership Secretary:

Miss Barbara Kendrick
190 Shaftesbury Rd
EASTWOOD NSW 2122

Subscription is \$30 per year

THIS IS YOUR *TULLE*

Tulle has been around for over twenty years now, and in that time it has become an historic record of the story of the Lacemakers. The success of a journal such as this relies upon its members to add to the core knowledge of the group by sharing their stories. A band of faithful and much appreciated writers like Richard Lander keeps material flowing but it is time to widen our horizons.

Sometimes it isn't even a matter of writing. Without the assistance of such members of Kate Foy and Eliane Legrand, who both find articles in local papers, we would not be aware of the positive progress of the Lace Museum in Calais, or the continuing collection of Saywell stories.

The well of the Editor is running dry. We all complain that forebears should have written it down –

Write for us all, and as a little bribery, your family story WILL survive when two generations from now the children are saying they should have asked. *Tulle*, and all its stories, is preserved at the National Library of Australia, the NSW State Library, the State Library of South Australia, the Society of Australian Genealogists, the Heraldry and Genealogy Society of the ACT, the Nottingham Family History Society, and le Musée des Beaux Arts in Calais where WE will be part of the story of the lace museum.

And so there are two plans of attack:

- 1. If every member could share a story or a filler (the little bits and pieces that intrigue the reader, and assist the compositor in lay out) *Tulle* will continue to thrive. Writing a little adds your family story to posterity.**

Perhaps some ideas of themes will help the grey matter: Tulle concentrates on telling the story of the Lacemakers and add to the family knowledge of individuals.

- The lace industry
- Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, Derbyshire, Kent, Calais, Adelaide, Sydney, Bathurst, Maitland
- Where did your family finally settle? Why? How did they earn a living?
- Do you have a notable family member whose story should be told? If only some one had recorded the stories Maria Powell, who became a midwife on the gold fields!
- Did your family go to the goldfields?
- The ships of the time
- Were any of your family members involved in war – especially those who returned to France?

2. The Editor would appreciate knowing what the membership would like to read. Her research facilities are widespread, and she enjoys a challenge.

The Editor has great confidence that her mail boxes will overflow!

Postal address:

**The Editor, *Tulle*
PO Box 1277
Queanbeyan NSW 2620**

Or email: 4mchtn8@fwi.net.au

CALAIS WILL HAVE ITS LACE MUSEUM

The following article is a composite of three articles published in La Voix Du Nord, the main regional newspaper for Calais. The articles were written by Anne-Sophie Hache and Bruno Mallet and we are greatly indebted to Mme Eliane Legrand of Calais for her persistence in tracking down the paper's editor who has given permission for the articles and photographs to be reprinted.

A century and a half of history – the story of hundreds of families; of their hands blackened with graphite moving skillfully in patterns learned from when they were fourteen until they are grandparents; a history that is recorded in racks with a language of ecaille, reflée and racomondée.

The history of the town is the history of the streets reverberating to the mechanical rhythm of the machines. To tell this story of Calais, the world's capital of lace, there are great things proposed for the future museum of la Dentelle et de la Mode. Never since the genesis of the project has this museum seemed so real. It is a long time since Olivier Noyon, a Lace Manufacturer of Calais and his committee named TRAME commenced their plans. At last M. Noyon can report with great enthusiasm.

The museum is not yet born but already has an ancient history! As the nineteenth and twentieth centuries passed, the lace industry in Calais developed a unique heritage of knowledge that, except for the factory buildings, has become hidden in the passage of time but includes the technical advances of the machines, the hand movements needed to operate them, the original designs and the names of those involved.

In 1993 the town committed itself to making the preservation of the history of the lace industry a priority and at that time a site for the museum was chosen – the Boulart factory – an old factory of

some 5000 square metres. However, the architectural competition launched for its renovation turned into a fiasco, the project was abandoned and the conservator threw in the sponge!



L'usine Boulart, Calais
Photo Jean-Pierre Brunet

Hope was revived with the arrival of Martine Fosse. Previously the head of l'Ecomusée de Fourmies, she was appointed conservator of the future musée de la Dentelle de Calais in December 2001. In between these times, the project attracted the interest of the Government and the Region with a substantial grant.

There was urgency – the Boulart factory didn't have the strength to wait! It was deteriorating quickly and needed urgent strengthening work done. This work was completed between June and December 2002 and in the spring of 2003 a new competition for its renovation was launched.

The second step was the purchase of the Aubert factory, rue Four-à-Chaux, where all the technical equipment will be stored – at

present it is spread across seven different sites. At the same time four machines in working order were purchased.

‘Until now the technical side has not kept up with the development of the lace collection,’ said Martine Fosse. *‘A technical team will be trained to restore and operate the machines.’*

Interest was such that the judging committee received 75 entries. Four designs passed the pre selection in September 2003 and the winner was announced in February 2004. The judges were all smiles as they announced the company of Moatti –Rivière were the winners . The work will commence in 2005.



Gisèle Cocquerelle, deputy Mayor of Calais, is delighted with Moatti et Rivière design for the quai du Commerce

Alain Moatti said *‘ this will not be just a museum – one realises very quickly that it will demonstrate that Calais lace is not a product of the past’*, and his company’s winning design demonstrates this intention perfectly.

The old Boulard factory, now fully restored, will double as a very contemporary building whose façade reflects a lace card and which surrounds a huge tranquil square leading onto quai du Commerce and the banks of the canal.

‘...we concluded from our very first visit to Calais, that it would become an important place,’ recalled Alain Moitte, ‘...lace helped build the town and continues to help it breathe. All the permanent collections will be concentrated in the Boulart factory and this very contemporary building will house the temporary collections and an auditorium.’

Happily the museum did not have to wait to begin its collection: in boxes in the Musée des Beaux Artes there are some 1500 pieces of hand made lace dating from the sixteenth to the nineteenth centuries. There are small samples of lace, some with the maker’s name, and lace lengths of exquisite design and technical interest, and there is a costume collection of some 4600 gowns and pieces of lingerie. Of great interest also are the catalogues² of the lace houses, dating from 1840 to 1935. These discoveries will be of great interest to the general public and to the technical researcher alike.

The true uniqueness of this museum of Calais will be its technical display. The techniques of producing lace in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries were very different to those used in producing other textiles.

To do this the museum has collected machinery from the four corners of the town and they will be reassembled in the old Aubert factory as an annex to the Boulard building. The plan is to recreate workshops from the nineteenth century to 1950.

² These catalogues are large books with actual pieces of each lace design in them

They will include the four Leavers machines in working order and the ups and downs of the industry that can't be demonstrated any other way will be shown more symbolically with tools and pictures.



**The museum will demonstrate working machines .
Photo Jean-Pierre Brunet**

If all goes well, the musée de la Dentelle will open its doors in 2007 and lace and the people of Calais will tell their story, unique to the world and show that the lace industry is still alive in Calais, and not just a testimony to the past.

**Anne-Sophie Hache
Bruno Mallet and
La Voix du Nord, Calais**

With special thanks to Eliane Legrand

DON'T GO TO AUSTRALIA, NED

In 1845 William and Mary Ann Morley set up house in place Crevecoeur, St Pierre and it was there that baby Alice was born. Within a few years they were feeling the pinch in the lace trade and William made the decision to emigrate to America. Mary Ann was heavy with child, so William went on ahead, reaching New York on the *Wellington* on February 15, 1848. Mary Ann followed on the *Wenham*, reaching New York on October 11, 1848 with Alice and their new son William.

William had a younger brother Edward who was caught up in the events in Calais of 1848 and considered migrating to Australia, but William intervened:

*543 Hudson Street
New York
Sept- 24. 1848.*

*Dear Ned,
I was glad to hear from you and also to receive two papers from you, and no doubt you think I ought to have written you ere this, and now having an opportunity of sending I embrace it.*

You say you are "sweet on Australia", It might answer your end to go there certainly, and It might not. Whatever I may say on the subject of your removal from your native country will be said with the best of intentions and a wish towards your welfare that I know you will take for granted. Whatever I may say about Australia of course will not be from experience but from reading and conversation or letters, but whatever I may speak of America will be more from experience having a little knowledge of It on account of being in the country.

Before we remove to a fresh country we should look a little to Its natural resources as well as its position climate etc.

In the first place let me say a word about Australia. It has a fine climate it is generally admitted by Travellers who have written on the country, the heat of summer not being oppressive and the winters very mild snow seldom being seen, that is all very good and very desirable. I knew a man in France who had resided there some years he spoke highly of the Climate and of the country too, but he acknowledged the country was objectionable in a many points of view.

First there are very few rivers there and that will always operate against the prosperity of a country.

The few rivers they have are only brooks compared with the rivers of this country. Again it is a Country subject to droughts. In the year 1827 they have drought for three years when cattle died by Hundreds for want of water and water was sold in Sydney at V- a Bucket. Of course the Inhabitants had to suffer In proportion. Whilst I was in France I read an extract from the Governor's speech wherein he observed although they had been there a whole year without a drop of rain falling they had "sufficient water left in the city Tanks for three more years."

How long the drought continued I cannot say I merely mention It to show they are still subject to them and in my mind that is very objectionable because such continued droughts will always render a country unfit for Agricultural purposes, though you would not go there with a view of entering on Agriculture.

Again you know it has been the receptacle for the vilest species of the Human race sent there by the British Government consequently morals will be always at a very low ebb In such a country as the principal part of the convicts sent from England stay there and you know that people of that description seldom benefit a country much. I have seen Travellers' remarks on that and they all admit the vicious state of society there.

I have a letter by me now from Edward Hawksley and he admits that. When I was In Nottm. I saw some of Eliza Hart's letters and she makes the same observations so that taking these things Into consideration I certainly should not give the preference to Australia over this country,

though had I been in France at the period of the revolution I no doubt should have gone with the rest of the English who are gone.

In America the summers are pretty warm but not so disagreeable as some people would have lead you to imagine. I have not as Yet found It so very bad and I have now passed one summer here. Nor are the winters so much to be dreaded. It is cold here in winter certainly but then the air Is clair and purer here than In England.

Not that raw damp atmosphere you experience in England in winter, but if it is warmer in summer you dress lighter in accordance with the season and so in winter you add more clothing.

As regards the rivers of this country they are the most numerous and largest In the world and there are also some of the finest canals that ever were made to be seen here. I have been on one nearly 400 miles long. As to rain there Is no lack of that It falls In about the same proportion as In Europe.

So that taking these things Into consideration I think the palm must be given to this country and as for scenery there is no country in the world superior to it. I have travelled 500 miles west of New York as far as Buffalo and I can assure you I never beheld finer scenery or better land or people more contented. than those with whom I conversed.

Then as to Labour. I know Mechanics are well paid in Australia, so they are here. Then provisions are much higher on the average in Australia than they are in the U.S. so that If a man gets a little higher wages In Australia than here he is no better off, provisions being dearer. I do not believe employment Is any more constant In Australia than here. A man like you could always command employment here and at good wages too. Coachmakers get about 8/- a day, I mean the regular hands. Joiners 5/- and In busy times 7/- and as for work there is always plenty of It.

Of course when a man comes straight into a country he labours under a little disadvantage at first but that you would soon get over.

Taking all things into consideration I do think you would be the most contented with this country was you to make a move, Mind I should not like to say anything by way of advice so that you might blame me afterwards. I am explaining the matter in the best way I can. There are a many Thousands who come here every year and but few return In comparison to the numbers who arrive.

That I think would warrant one to suppose that people do better here than at Home as It cost but little to get back only about 5 pounds including grub. In New York employment Is not so easily obtained as further In the Interior of the country, New York being the great Inlet for European emigration consequently more Hands floating about seeking work

Nevertheless you would get employment here if you wished to stay here. You know I should be glad to see you here and for you to be near to me, and I shall give you all the assistance in my power.

Was I In your trade I should prefer being here to being in England. I should like you to see some of the carriages made here they are like jack a dandies more than anything else made so light. They make a many here for trotting Horses, a pair of very large light wheels with a seat just enough for a man to sit and they do dash away with them sometimes like so many madmen. Some of the four-wheeled carriages are made very light also made to go-ahead.

Omnibuses are about the same as In England. Railway carriages larger made about the same style as the best second class In England, seats all the way down each side of the carriage, each seat holds Two persons. The backs are made to turn over so that you may ride either backwards or forwards, a great convenience. The seats and backs are cushioned and on some railways there Is no second or third class.

If you should come you will write me again before you leave England and If you want any more Information I will give It if I can. I shall be glad to hear from you as often as you can scrawl a scratch or receive a paper from you.

When you post a paper you have a penny to pay. Try If you cannot send one now and then. I have sent you some hope you received them. At present I am Hawking. I do not like it much it Is not very profitable. At present there are so many, it requires no licence in this state, In other states It does so that every vagabond turns Hawker.

Some friends here offered to find me some goods if I Would commence so took their offer. I believe I shall do better than I have done as I have had a connection to seek,

I expect Mary is on her way to New York at present. I hope you have sent my watch to bar. I WAS sorry to hear from her you did not send her a trifle now and then as you promised it would have been a great relief to her. I gow you did a deal for me and I ought not to expect any more, yet a shilling or two would have meant a great deal to her.

Now you know don't go and be crabbed at me saying this I should like to have you and Jack here. he would do very well here but the paper is run out don't you see.

Yours sincerely

WE Morley

11 Sept.24. 1848

WILLIAM AND ELANOR GASCOIGNE: AN ADVENTURE IN RESEARCH

I have been passionate about researching the Lacemaker Immigrants for some twenty years and every so often a little stroke of luck collides head on with proven research techniques and the internet. To inspire those who feel they have hit their Great Wall of Genealogy, I offer the following, heavily foot noted with the year of the research, so you can see how the journey was travailed.

When the first Lacemaker book was published there was very little known about the Gascoigne family: *They first went to Bathurst and then to Mittagong where they stayed. They must have been an industrious family because they owned several lots of land. Today a street in Willow Vale has been named after them. There were eight children, but only two girls married and had children. Louisa married Frederick Charles Webb and Sarah Ann married Alfred Kendrick.*

*William Gascoigne was born in Nottingham in 1815 while Ellen, his wife, was born in Staffordshire in 1819. Three of their children accompanied them, the other five being Australian born.*³

Elanor was the daughter of William and Kendrick and in 1837 she married John Biddulph at Radford.⁴ In 1838 a son William Biddulph was born in Radford⁵ but in 1840 John Biddulph died⁶ at Radford and so Elanor took her baby boy and went to Calais where her father and stepmother were living with her brothers Thomas and William and sister Elizabeth. Their home was in rue de Vic in St Pierre and while the men went off to work in the lace factories Sarah Kendrick ran a boarding house for four young male lace workers, including one William Gascoigne.⁷

Elanor married William Gascoigne⁸. Son Thomas was born in 1843⁹ and they had the sadness of a still born child in 1845. By

³ The Lacemakers of Calais, p 51, published as our starting point in 1988

⁴ IGI in the 1990s – married July 10 1837 at Radford

⁵ IGI in the 1990s – baptised William Kendrick Biddulph September 8, 1838 at Radford

⁶ Ancestry.com from the British Civil Registration Index 1837 - 1983

⁷ From the 1841 census for Calais and St Pierre copied for ASLC during the 1990s by Joel Brismalin

⁸ Date: December 20, 1841; Marriage records for St Mary the Virgin Dover transcribed for Elizabeth Simpson 1980s and given to ASLC by her; now readily available on the IGI

1846 the Kendrick family had departed from Calais and it would appear that young William Biddulph went with them because he was not with his parents.¹⁰ Next door was Elanor's sister Elizabeth who had married a William Ward.¹¹ In October 1846 Maria Gascoigne was born.

The events of February 1848 persuaded both the Gascoigne family and the Wards that Australia was a better proposition and they arrived in Sydney on the *Agincourt* in 1848. Both families chose to go to Bathurst,¹² where William Gascoigne went to work for Hanbury Clements and William Ward left the Immigrants' Depot on his own cognisance.¹³

While in the Bathurst district William and Elanor Gascoigne had three more children – Louisa, John Kendrick and Samuel.¹⁴ The

⁹ From the transcripts of the BDM registers for Calais transcribed by Joel Brismalin. Thomas' birth registered Jan 24, 1843 born at home at rue du Vauxhall

¹⁰ 1846 census for Calais

¹¹ *ibid*

¹² Governor's Despatches August to November 1848. Ships Returns for the *Agincourt*. The Ship's Return gives detailed information about the journey and in the case of the bonded immigrants, it records their initial employment and remuneration. Luck: these despatches were initially lost and were re-sent from Sydney in 1849. As a result they have been filmed with the 1849 documents by the Australian Joint Copying Project.
¹³*ibid*

¹⁴ NSW BDMs on the internet; Samuel was registered as **Gascoying**; a search of the deaths of all the children of William Gascoigne showed Samuel Gascoigne, the son of William and Ellen, dying at Parramatta in 1877. A further search of births using the 'Wildcard' births of William Gas* and El* produced Sameul Gascoying born 1854. No birthplace is given, but it was most likely before the family moved to Berrima because the following births record Berrima as District.

family then moved to Berrima and Sarah Anne and George were born there.¹⁵



Berrima 1890

William Gascoigne moved to Mittagong about 1860 and worked with son Thomas as a road contractor as well as carrying mail between Sydney and Goulburn until the railway came through. William Biddulph worked as a labourer building the rail line from Parramatta to Mittagong¹⁶ so it is reasonable to suspect that this was what the men of the family did – and it explains Samuel's death in Parramatta in 1877.

In the early 1860s William Gascoigne caught gold fever and at least he and Thomas went to Lambing Flat (Young). They apparently enjoyed success only to lose their riches in a flood.¹⁷

¹⁵NSW BDMs on the internet; Sarah Anne's birth registered Berrima 1856 and George's 1859

¹⁶ From family notes of the descendants of William Biddulph; this link was discovered by a chance search through the website Curious Fox

¹⁷ From the Obituary of Thomas Gascoigne, Southern Mail Tuesday June 21, 1921.

In 1867 Elenor Gascoigne died and it is interesting to note that she is buried at Berrima with a delicate headstone.¹⁸

In 1871 the family had a letter from Uncle Tom Kendrick in Nottingham : *Trade still continues good here, and I am building machines for France, I go over occasionally to put them up, my eldest son Alfred (your cousin) went over with two last November and stayed 6 weeks. He is a fine tall man about 6 feet high, and works with me in the shop.*¹⁹

There is a note on the bottom of the slip of paper Thomas has copied from the family bible which he had once belonged to his Grandfather Kendrick; he tells William that his Uncle William Kendrick lives with Grandfather William Kendrick and can be contacted by addressing to:

*Mr W Kendrick Sen at W. Jones
Steelhouse Lane Near Wolverhampton
Staffordshire England*²⁰

So the family had returned to Staffordshire and Thomas had stayed in the lace trade. His son Alfred²¹ came to Australia and

A chance visit to the Berrima & District Family History centre at Mittagong (I was looking for an old map) pulled out a Gascoigne file that contained the track record of Thomas.

¹⁸ Headstone just inside the gate of Berrima cemetery – first visited in 1994

¹⁹ Luck again! The descendant of William Biddulph has many family letters that sort through family financial affairs

²⁰ Confirmed on the 1871 census through Ancestry .com; William Kendrick and his son William had become makers of gas pipes.

²¹ Alfred's mother was Louisa Brownlow, the niece of William Brownlow also on the *Agincourt*, so Alfred had a great deal of family support in Australia. From Brownlow family records of Mike Brownlow, gleaned at a Brownlow family gathering at the NSW Archives c 1995

met and fell in love with his cousin Sarah Anne Gascoigne and they married in 1881 at Berrima.²²

By 1872 William Gascoigne had purchased land at Nattai and was described as a farmer²³ and twelve years later in 1884 he held 80 acres of land in the Berrima district and owned four horses and fourteen head of cattle. Thomas Kendrick had 200 acres with three horses and fourteen cattle and John had 500 acres with two horses and six cattle.²⁴

In 1874 Louisa Gascoigne married Frederick Webb, an old family in the district.

Thomas Gascoigne didn't marry and died in Bowral in 1921.²⁵

John Kendrick Gascoigne, however, did marry quite late in life. He was 43 when he married Ellen Schofield at Granville.²⁶ They were living at Braemar at the time of John's death in 1927. Early in the next year Ellen advertised a furniture sale at her house at Braemar. The advertised list seems to include every last stick of furniture she could have owned. This was followed by an announced auction sale of farm goods on March 24th She died in 1937 in Bowral.²⁷

William Gascoigne himself died in 1885. In his last will and testament he said:

²² NSW BDMs

²³ Greville's Postal Directory for 1872, Berrima District.

²⁴ Returns of Stock for the Districts of Berrima and Picton 1884, from Votes and Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly of NSW, second session 1885. This is a document that the assistant at Berrima FHA found me

²⁵ See obituary

²⁶ The marriage was in 1905, too late for any children to appear on the NSW BDMs.

²⁷ The Southern Mail Jan 15, 1929; thanks to Berrima FHS

...I give to my son Thomas Gascoigne the sum of one hundred pounds, the two allotments of land which belonged to my son George (deceased), a team of bullocks with dray and tackling of same and half of my other cattle.

To my son John Kendrick Gascoigne the allotment of land given me by the vendors of the Willow Vale Estate, the sum of one hundred pounds and the remaining half of my cattle.

To my daughter Louisa Webb the sum of fifty pounds.

To my daughter Sarah Ann Kendrick the sum of fifty pounds.

To my daughter Maria Gascoigne my house and furniture with the six allotments of land adjoining and the sum of one hundred pounds.

The remainder of my property personal and real to be equally divided between my above named sons Thomas and John Kendrick.²⁸

William Gascoigne, lacemaker and destitute in 1848, was quite truly a self made man!

Gillian Kelly

THOMAS GASCOIGNE OF BRAEMAR

Born Calais 1843 – Died Bowral 1921

The death occurred on the 16th instant, at the Berrima District Hospital, Bowral, of Mr Thomas Gascoigne of Braemar, nr Mittagong. The deceased who was the eldest son of the late Mr William Gascoigne was in his 79th year and was born at Calais in France, coming out to this country in 1848.

²⁸ A search of the Archives Index to probate revealed William had left a will. A visit to the Archives at Kingswood took twenty minutes wait and 90c copying costs for this gem. It is of note that William makes no mention of his step son, William Kendrick Biddulph.

About twelve years later they came to Mittagong, where he worked with his father as a road contractor, also taking up the business as a carrier between Sydney and Goulburn before the construction of the railway. About forty years ago he took up a selection near the Sheepwash at Braemar, and commenced fruit growing which he carried on until his death.

He had a splendid constitution and scarcely had a day's illness until within three weeks of his death when he complained of not feeling well and went into the hospital for treatment.

The deceased was of a retiring disposition and did not take an active part in public affairs although he was always ready to assist in any movement for the benefit of the town and district. He was one of the oldest members of the Star of Mittagong Branch of the Protestant Alliance Friendly Society, and always attended the meetings and took a keen interest in the affairs of the lodge.

It was interesting to be in his company and listen to the descriptions of the early days, especially of the gold diggings at Lambing Flat where he went with his father in the quest for gold, and how the gold was found and lost again in the flood.

A large concourse of residents of the district followed his remains on Friday to the graveside at Rowe's Hill Cemetery, where the Revd. E Heffernan conducted the funeral service, the undertakers being Messrs Robertson & Lippiatt. The deceased never married, but a younger brother, Mr John Gascoigne of Braemar survives him.

From *The Southern Mail*
Tuesday June 21, 1921

STEAMING TOWARDS BATHS AND PICNICS

IF you build it they will come.' That was the commercial reasoning behind the building of Australia's first privately owned steam tram line linking Rockdale and Brighton-le-Sands.

In the 1880s, an influential entrepreneur named Thomas Saywell had purchased 100 acres (40 .5 hectares) of sand dunes along the Botany Bay foreshore for just £10 (\$20) an acre. Other investors thought that he was mad, that he had wasted his money.

But no. First Saywell began to develop the foreshore. By erecting fences out into the bay, he built swimming baths, a pier and a hotel.

It was a time when men and women were not allowed to swim together. Women were only allowed in the baths between 10 am and 2pm while men enjoyed swimming in the hours before and after. Saywell was to build separate baths, for women only, a few years later.

Rockdale was then the centre of vast tracts of market gardens, and was already serviced by the Illawarra railway.

Getting paying customers from Rockdale to Brighton-le-Sands was initially made possible by horsedrawn drays down a bush track now known as Bestic Street.

But Saywell the visionary thought, ' *If I build a tramway, the paying customers will come in much greater numbers to picnic by the water's edge and swim in the baths* '.

It required a special act of Parliament, passed on March 6, 1884, before work could begin. The biggest obstacle to Saywell's plans was cutting through a sandstone ridge a few 100 metres west of Rockdale station-down what is now Bay Street. From Brighton-le-Sands the completed tramway turned north to Kyeemagh.

It was opened on November 9, 1885, using a locomotive and carriages leased from the NSW Railway Commissioners.

Within a year Saywell's own locomotives and carriages arrived from England. Saywell's steam train was a great success. The horsedrawn drays carried around 10 passengers. Those first tramcars could carry 60 passengers and 80-passenger cars soon followed. But steam trams had a use-by date.

In the late 19th century, American inventors, including Edison, were already working on electric train and tram systems. In Australia, steam trams only continued to operate into the early years of the 20th century.

Today, many busy commuters arriving by bus at Rockdale station or walking from the station to the Princes Highway would not realise they are passing through Tramway Arcade, the point where Saywell's steam trams began and ended their journeys to and from Brighton-le-Sands.



**Saywell's Tram Arcade
Rockdale**

On a low brick wall opposite the railway line there is a plaque that reads:-

**This plaque is sited in
Tramway Arcade to record that in
November 1885, Thomas Saywell,
a pioneer of the Rockdale district,
commenced operating his steam tram
from Rockdale to Brighton-le-Sands.**

And, if you are wondering what happened to those £10 acres - within five years the shrewd Saywell had sold around 50 acres for the sum of £200 (\$400) each.

Kevin Saddler from St George & Sutherland Shire Leader
Fairfax Community papers
January 11, 190
Thanks to Kate Foy

A PROBLEM OF A THOUSAND YEARS

IN 1843 Edward & Mary Ann Lander lived at
435 rue Verte and James & Mary Ann Foster lived at
581 Pont Neuf....

The addresses are clearly recorded in the Registers of births and deaths for Calais



Rue Verte, St Pierre 1996
Photo G Kelly

...and so an enthused family historian disembarks the ferry from Dover, wanders down le Grand rue of Calais, across the bridge into St Pierre to find the dwelling places of their forebears.

But what is this? Rue Verte is a tiny three blocks long, rue de Vic, three moderately longer blocks and a tiny stretch across the bridge.

The cottages, and even the larger homes have narrow street fronts, but even so, it is immediately obvious that the street numbers do not refer to the number of houses built as is our custom.

Enquiry of Georges Fauquet, local historian of note, tells that the numbers refer, infact, to the number of paces that particular

dwelling is from the intersection of the nearest main road, and in St Pierre this was most often rue Lafayette and Route de Boulogne.

The dwellings are numbered now with the convention that undoubtedly suits the postal services better and certainly makes navigation easier, but there was a romance in the old ways, so one can sympathise with the village of Murles that had for ten centuries nestled in the hilly scrubland of southern France without that necessity of life: **THE ADDRESS**

Its 260 residents regarded house numbers and proper street names as too much fuss.

Letters to "a gauche après le coin, a mi-chemin du cimetière" (left after the corner, halfway to the cemetery) arrived, eventually. Everyone knew which lane was "the path to the field and the regular postman had no problem finding his way to landmarks such as Les Vignes Vieilles ('the old vines').

All that is about to change.

Bureaucrats and the demands of utility companies' computers have forced Murles to turn its back on 1000 years of history and conform - to the irritation of many of those who live there. Josephine Guerre, 82, who gives her address as 'The Village, Murles' wrote angrily in a letter delivered to an "ideas box" in the town hall: 'Road names will never be welcome in Murles. Until now the village, 16 kilo metres from Montpellier and dominated by 'the ruins and 11th-century church, has been divided into areas close to landmarks such as Le Pigeonnier (The Pigeon House) and Le Saut des Champs (The Path to the Field).

Alain Guilbot, the mayor, said.. 'Everyone knows everyone else, so there's been no need for addresses. But the post

office, France Telecom and the water board constantly harassed us.

'They seemed to think it was suspect that we didn't have addresses - and because their computers wouldn't accept a blank space where one should be 'd taken to inventing names.'

He admitted that while the usual postman had no difficulty finding the right house in Murle's labyrinth of lanes, his holiday replacements came unstuck. "One became lost and we had a lot of letters delivered to the town hall."

Mr Guilbot has asked villagers to suggest ideas for street names, with the results settled by a jury of residents at a village party.

Murles article, **Kim Willsher** in Paris

The Telegraph, London 15.11.03

Thank you Anne Fewkes

FOR THE GENEALOGIST

DIED

At the residence of his father, Durham St Bathurst, on the 13th instant, Joseph, eldest son of Dominique Popilarie, aged 15 years and three months, much regretted by a numerous circle of friends. Bathurst Times, May 1851

CHARLES JAMES APPERLEY (1777-1843) was a sportsman and sporting writer, known as Nimrod. About 1821 he contributed articles to the Sporting Magazine under the pseudonym *Nimrod*, which helped to double the circulation of the magazine. The proprietor, Mr Pittman, kept for *Nimrod* a stud of hunters, and defrayed all expenses of his tours, besides giving him a handsome salary. The death Mr Pittman, however, led to a law-suit with the

proprietors of the magazine for money advanced, and Apperley, to avoid imprisonment, had to take up his residence in St Pierre, Calais (1830), where he supported himself by his writings.

He lived in Calais until at least 1840 when his youngest daughter Charlotte died. Returning to England he died in London on the 19th of May 1843.

MARRIED

NOEL J. (Revd) of Calais married 1 March at Calais by the Civil Authority and afterwards in the Protestant Church to **Henrietta Elizabeth FISHER** of Calais.
Dover Telegraph 10 March 1838

READING OLD FRENCH

OLD-FRENCH-L is a mailing list for anyone with a genealogical or historical interest in deciphering and interpreting written documents in French from earliest to most recent 20th Century times, and discussing old French words, phrases, names, abbreviations and antique jargon. To subscribe, send subscribe to <mailto:OLD-FRENCH-L-request@rootsweb.com> (Mail Mode) or <mailto:OLD-FRENCH-D-request@rootsweb.com> (Digest Mode)

CURIOUS FOX

Despite the somewhat unrelated name, Curious Fox is a new website of interest to both genealogists researching ancestry in the U.K. and to historians. I took a look at the site this week and must say that I was impressed. This site is rather different from most other genealogy sites. While it does contain local and family history, the website focuses on place names. All genealogy information is associated with a location. Historical information about each place name is available.

Curious Fox is based upon a gazetteer of 50,000 UK villages, towns, and counties. You can search for the village name, generate lists of nearby villages and hamlets, and link to the exact location on a modern map or an old map.

Each village/town/county has a page where you can leave genealogy and local history contact messages. You can also search by family name.

The website has a rather unusual financial arrangement: you can either pay or not. The owners request that you pay a modest fee of £5 but they do not require payment before you are allowed to view the data. However, paid members receive more privileges than free members. Curious Fox does not carry any banners or any other form of advertising for other businesses.

The advantage of this system is that anybody being helpful doesn't have to pay a penny, but anybody wanting help can encourage responses by choosing to pay. It is completely up to the user whether to pay or not. However, at least one side in any message transaction has to be a paid member.

www.curiousfox.com.

Dick Eastman

MARRIAGES IN CALAIS

FARRANDS, Mary born St Pierre September 14, 1847 the daughter of Frederick Farrands 52 and Anne Parsons
Married at Calais on Febraury 10, 1872

DAUCHART, François; witnesses were William Tyler aged 59, thebride's uncle and Henry Farrands, her brother

FRANCIS, Deborah born Basford February 20, 1836 the daughter of James Francis, aged 46, lace worker and Marie Fox, aged 45

Married at Calais in 1861

HAZLEDINE, EDMUND

SMITH, Charles, tulliste born St Pierre February 1, 1851, son of John Smith who died at St Pierre May 6, 1859 and Elisa Bayley who died at St Pierre February 25, 1860

married at Calais on December 1, 1877

NERCUCQ, Emilie Marie

SMITH, Sarah Marie born St Pierre January 3, 1853 the daughter of Thomas Smith, aged 49, lacemaker and Sarah West aged 46

Married at Calais

FOREST, Jules Paul born St Mihiel June 9, 1842 and widower of Flora Derviette; witnesses to the marriage were James West, 48, lacemaker, Uncle of the bride and William Boot, first cousin of the bride.

TAYLOR, Joseph born St Pierre April 24 1843 the son of Samuel Taylor who died St Pierre January 3, 1872 and Elizabeth Swift who died at St Pierre July 25, 1851

Married at Calais on November 5, 1877

POUILLY, Marie born Calais May 9, 1843;

Witnesses to the marriage were John Swift, aged 58, uncle of the groom, Thomas Collier aged 25, brother-in-law by marriage of the groom and George Bratby, aged 27, lacemaker and brother in law of the bride

RICHEZ, Jules born April 15, 1846 at Ingley, the son of Apolite Richez, lace maker aged 51 and Agnes Legrand, living St Pierre, Married at Calais on February 15, 1860

OSWIN, Sarah born St Pierre April 11, 1830, the daughter of James Oswin, aged 70, lacemaker St Pierre and Dorothy Shuttlewood, died Calais November 6, 1842

WEBSTER, Elisa born St Pierre December 3, 1841, the daughter of John Michael Webster aged 51, lacemaker and Charlotte Hiatt both living St Pierre

Married at Calais on March 17, 1862

HERMANION, Alfred b Amiens March 6, 1832, the son of Jean Baptiste Hermanion and Elise Ermon, died Abbeville June 11, 1866.

Witnesses to the marriage were William Webster aged 53, lacemaker, bride's uncle on her father's side and Joel Hall, bride's uncle on her mother's side.

WEST, James Louis born St Pierre January 31, 1846 the son of James West aged 49 and Marie Lapotre who died at St Pierre July 27, 1868 and widower of Josephine Ridoux who died at Calais October 8, 1873

married at Calais

FOREST, MARIE LOUISE born at St Mihiel on March 28, 1847; witnesses were Thomas Smith, aged 49, uncle of the groom on his father's side and Paul Forest, brother of the bride

WEST, Robert William born St Pierre June 20, 1854 the son of James West aged 54 and Marie Lapotre who died at St Pierre July 27, 1868

Married at Calais on September 20, 1875

MAGNIER, Ernestine born July 3, 1853; witnesses were James West aged 29, card piercer, brother of the bride and Joseph Lapotre aged 66, Commission Agent, uncle of the groom on his mother's side.

PRONUNCIATION OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

I take it you already know
Of tough and bough and cough and dough?
Others may stumble but not you
On hiccough, thorough, lough and through?
Well done! And now you wish perhaps
To learn of less familiar traps?

Beware of heard, a dreadful word
That looks like beard and sounds like bird,
And dead: its said like bed not bead -
For goodness sake don't call it deed!
Watch out for meat and great and threat
(They rhyme with suite and straight and debt).

A moth is not a moth in mother
Nor both in bother, broth in brother,
And here is not a match for there
Nor dear and fear for bear and pear,
And then there's dose and rose and lose
Just look them up - and goose and choose,
And cork and work and card and ward,
And font and front and word and sword,
And do and go and thwart and cart,
Come come! I've hardly made a start!
A dreadful language? Man alive!
I'd mastered it when I was five!

Anonymous

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