

TULLE



MARKET PLACE, NOTTINGHAM.



by CALAIS. — Vers la Jette. — LL.

**MEETING
DATES**

Saturday February 16, 2008
Saturday May 17, 2008
Saturday August 16, 2008
Saturday November 15, 2008

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

**SATURDAY FEBRUARY 16, 2008
OUR BRIEF AGM WILL BE
FOLLOWED BY GUEST SPEAKER**

Mrs. Claire Loneragan, a member of ASLC since its inception, will be our speaker at the February meeting on 16 February 2008, our AGM. Claire, an avid social historian, will talk about the historical perspective faced by the Lacemaker Families in 1848. Those who are familiar with Claire's well-researched and dynamic presentations will ensure this is a meeting not to be missed.

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

Want to join?

Membership due?

Annual Fees \$30

**Membership Secretary
190 Shaftesbury Rd
EASTWOOD NSW 2122**



Tulle

Volume 26 Number 1, February 2008

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FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

A very happy New Year to all our Lacemakers. As I write, it is the 20th January, 2008 - January has almost gone – this year has already begun to gallop away.

Our November meeting was a really wonderfully & festive end to our 2007 Lacemaker's year. As well as our usual Christmas party, we celebrated the Silver Anniversary of the founding of our Society. Our "Silver Birthday" Luncheon was well attended. Many thanks to our Lacemaker "resident chef", Claire Loneregan, who surpassed herself with her wonderful birthday & Christmas fare. Another culinary-talented Lacemaker is Barbara Kendrick who baked & decorated a lovely birthday cake to add to the celebration. Thank you Barbara. The cake was cut by those present who are Foundation members. We were pleased to welcome many friends, and greet some new members & visitors to join us toasting the Society, wishing ourselves "Many Happy Returns" & drinking to the Society's good health for the next 25 years.

To really end the year on a high note, and add to the festivities, we welcomed on that same day, as our honoured guest & guest speaker, from Leicestershire, U.K. Rosie Wileman who entertained & enthralled us with her knowledge of her lacemaker family in the UK & in France.

Rosie & her husband enjoyed the wonderful "home hospitality" of lacemaker Judy Gifford & her husband John, at their Central Coast home. Richard and Lyndal Lander gave Rosie and John a "right Royal" tour of Sydney after the meeting.

The day after our Lacemaker's meeting, it was Gillian Kelly's pleasure to play host to our UK visitors. Gill took Rosie & her husband to a trip up the Parramatta River, to follow in the

footsteps of those on the *Agincourt* and the *Fairlie*. The following day Robert French showed them the iconic sights, including Bondi Beach.

John and Judy Gifford, in conjunction with Lindsay Watts, also hosted and entertained Lacemaker member, Anne Fewkes from Nottingham while Anne was revisiting Australia.

Our secretary Richard Lander has been keeping our website well and truly up to date. For those of you who can, do visit our site from time to time at www.angelfire.com/al/aslc/ It is a really good source of current information & is a much used contact for members & those who wish to know about our Society. Richard reports, another email of interest, via our website in recent weeks looks as if we will be welcoming another member who is a descendant of the WELLS family. It is lovely to think the net we cast, as it were, is gathering still, more of our families or branches from their "trees".

We are delighted to welcome to our February Guest Speaking spot, our own Claire Loneragan. Claire, a member of ASLC since its inception, was an early editor of *Tulle* and has served admirably in the office of President. She is an avid social historian and will speak about the historical perspective faced by the Lacemaker families in 1848. Those who are familiar with Claire's dynamic presentations will ensure this is a meeting not to be missed. Our Annual general Meeting will be conducted during the February meeting. I hope we begin the new year with a bumper turn up!

I am looking forward to greeting you all at the meeting, Warm regards,

Robin Gordon
President

SECRETARY'S COMMENT

Elizabeth Cady Stanton (1815 - 1902) was the most famous, American freethinking woman of her day. Stanton, with the support of her husband, spent her life fighting for equal rights for all humanity, starting with slavery. She believed that the Bible and its clergy were the primary reasons for slavery's existence in America. However, even before the abolition of slavery had been achieved, she had turned her attention to the emancipation of women. Again she asserted the Bible and Christianity as the cause. Mainstream religion, she believed, had an agenda for women — preventing them from gaining divorce, stopping their access to birth control, alienating their right to own property, and ensuring they were unequal.

In 1848, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott organized a meeting of 300, mainly female freethinkers, in Seneca Falls, New York with a view to gaining women's rights. Before long, similar conventions were being held around the country. Female abolitionists and women educators eagerly joined the movement.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton & Lucretia Mott's Declaration of Sentiments for the 1848 Woman's Rights Convention deliberately modelled itself on the American Declaration of Independence. Following is part of the text of the Seneca Falls Declaration of Sentiments, 1848:

When, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one portion of the family of man to assume among the people of the earth a position different from that which they have hitherto occupied, but one to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes that impel them to such a course.

We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men and women are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; that to secure these rights governments are instituted, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. Whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of those who suffer from it to refuse allegiance to it, and to insist upon the institution of a new government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shown that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they were accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their duty to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security. Such has been the patient sufferance of the women under this government, and such is now the necessity which constrains them to demand the equal station to which they are entitled.

The history of mankind is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations on the part of man toward woman, having in direct object the establishment of an absolute tyranny over her. To prove this, let facts be submitted to a candid world.

He has never permitted her to exercise her inalienable right to the elective franchise.

He has compelled her to submit to laws, in the formation of which she had no voice.

He has withheld from her rights which are given to the most ignorant and degraded men--both natives and foreigners.

Having deprived her of this first right of a citizen, the elective franchise, thereby leaving her without representation in the halls of legislation, he has oppressed her on all sides.

The first unrestricted women's suffrage in terms of voting rights (women were not initially permitted to stand for election) in a self-governing, still-independent country was granted in New Zealand just before their general election of 1893. In 1894, South Australian women gained the universal right to vote. This encouraged women in the other colonies to press on with their own claims. All Australian women, except Aboriginal women, received the vote at the Federal elections held in 1902. American women did not receive the vote until 1920.

Let it be known that your rights as a member of ASLC are inalienable and you do have the right to the elective franchise, regardless of your gender. Your voice will be heard and your vote will be counted when you attend the AGM of our Society on 16 February 2008.

Richard Lander
February 2008

AND FOR THE LAST TIME FROM THIS EDITOR

At the AGM of 1991 I undertook the production of *Tulle* and so began my learning curve. When *Tulle* began it was simply a typed and folded A4 sheet. Over a succession of Editors it grew to a small journal and by 1991 the age of the computer had hit us – and so had the age of the quick printers!

My first editions of *Tulle* were typed onto the computer, but then printed off and all frills added by the glorious cut and paste technique. Any illustration had to be a line drawing and any charts or tables had to laboriously lined up with the tab key. The pages were then copied with a photocopier.

Today's technology allows me to sit here and type the text, scan photos, accept email text and photos from all over the world, burn it to CD and deliver up to my printer who can reproduce exactly what I give him!

I've done some rough calculations and figure I have edited some 65 editions – some half million words, over 2000 pages, hundreds of pictures, 6500 envelopes and 7000 kilometres to and from the printers. I figure I have kept Nescafe alive in the process.

I have loved producing *Tulle* – I love the research, the collection of material and the attempts to put together a journal that will interest all. I have been truly overwhelmed by the reception you have given *Tulle* and by your continued encouragement and support. Thank you all so much!

Now it is time for another Editor – time for new ideas and expertise – time for a freshness. So this is my last *Tulle* as Editor. I will continue to research our stories and track down those elusive families - and I will continue to write but there will be

another Editor waiting in the wings and *Tulle* will take on a new life – I can't wait for my next edition to arrive in the post!

Over the years I have had fantastic support from you all but I particularly need to thank two people:

Richard Lander for his unfailing work as a researcher and writer, and for his continued lessons in teaching a Mac user to convert to a PC and Gordon, my husband, for his unflagging support, his advice and opinions that weren't always welcome but always spot on, his hours of proofing and his patience and tolerance.

I looked back at my first Editorial and was reminded that my aim was to produce a journal that would appeal to social historians and genealogists because I believed then that the two were inseparable. Sixteen years later this belief is even more strongly entrenched in my system. Nothing I have learnt along the journey has separated them.

I was somewhat amused to read that even then I was exhorting you to write! May I do so again please?

This has been a glorious journey and I look forward with great eagerness, to the next stage.

Gillian Kelly
Editor

THE COLOUR OF A COVER

While most of the old illustrations and photographs are actually best served with grey scale printing, there is the odd piece that needs colour. It has long been this Editor's wish to share one with you one, just once! So this is her last chance.

Top Photo: Nottingham Market

Bottom Photo: Calais. Looking across the Market to the jetty

THE BROWNLOWS OF BRIAR PARK

Edmund William Brownlow died at his home *Briar Park* at Rockley, and with his death the connection between the lace makers and *Briar Park* began to fade. His wife Lorna survived him by several years, but after her death there was no one to follow in the farmer's footsteps that were 160 years old – such are the pressures and uncertainty of farming in Australia today.

William Brownlow arrived on the *Agincourt* in 1848 and went to Bathurst where he worked at Summerhill for Hanbury Clements. He turned to the land and eventually bought and enlarged Briar Park at Rockley

The Bathurst Free Press of 21 February, 1885 recorded his death:



William Brownlow Sr

The death has occurred of Mr William Brownlow. He was in Bathurst last Monday, transacting business with Mr John McPhillamy and then appeared to be in good health. Yesterday morning he was seized by apoplexy and after having several fits, he died. Mrs Brownlow, who was in Sydney on Thursday, returned just in time to see her husband before he died. Mr Brownlow was one of the refugees from France who many years ago were obliged to leave that country. He came to Australia, and with his wife settled at Rockley where he undertook the occupation of grazier. Mr Brownlow weighed over twenty stones and was a subject peculiarly liable to the distress by which he met his death.

The following week there appeared:

The funeral of the late Mr William Brownlow of Rockley took place on Sunday at Bathurst was attended by nearly every resident of Rockley as well as by several learned gentlemen living in this city and the district.... Mr Brownlow amassed a considerable amount of property. The well know Briar Park near Rockley belongs to his estate, as well as the Club House Hotel, the Rockley stores and various other properties in the Rockley District.

And in the Nottingham review at an unknown date:

Australia: The following from the Sydney Mail of the 7th just to hand: DEATH OF A RADFORD MAN IN AUSTRALIA: An old resident Mr Wm Brownlow has died at his Villa, Rockley last week. He went to that place in the early days and amassed much property and raised a large family. He was one of the French refugees who fled from that Continent in the Revolution of 1848 and married a French girl who accompanied him to that country and who survives him. Mr Brownlow formerly lived at New Radford.

At the time of his death William Brownlow farmed Rockley with three of his sons. In 1905 son William sold his share to HIS two sons Thomas and Arthur. Arthur was Edmond William's father and in 1945 on his death Edmund William, or Bill as he was known, inherited *Briar Park*.

After her husband's death Emma moved back into Rockley to Calais Villa where she lived until her death. She survived William by some eight years and her death was reported in the Bathurst Paper mid January 1893:

The death of Mrs Brownlow cast quite a gloom over the community in which she had lived for about half a century. She had so many friends and relatives that the news of her departure was received with deep regret by all. This was but natural for the deceased excelled in all the virtues being a devoted wife, a fond mother and a true and steadfast friend as many can bear witness. Her memory will be cherished in this district while the greatest sympathy is felt with her surviving relatives.



Emma Brownlow née Courquoin

Mrs Brownlow, who was 73 years old at the time of her death. was born at Calais in France in 1820 and in her young days went

to England where she married.¹ In 1840 she came to Australia with her husband.² Her family then consisted of William and John (the former residing in Dubbo and the latter in Sydney, Mrs Brenna (wife of the Sergeant at Murrurundi), and George who was born on the voyage out and who was living in the Dubbo district.

Shortly after the family arrived they came to Bathurst and settled at Briar Park near Rockley where the rest of the children were born, namely Mrs Henry Hackney (who died a few years since), Mrs Williams and Thomas and Arthur and a daughter who is unmarried

Mr Brownlow was a typical English farmer – strong, self reliant and energetic – and the difficulties in the way of settlers in those days served only to give zest to his daily work. In addition to Briar Park he took up the run known as Thompson's Creek. (Which afterwards passed into the possession of the late Mr Hackney) and his affairs prospered. Utimately he confined his attention to the estate where he resided and died there about eight years ago. After his death his wife was content to live on at the old place, happy in the love of her children and the regard of her friends.

While kind and generous to all who knew her, she took special interest in the affairs of the Church of England, being among the most active in arranging tea meetings, bazaars and concerts and never grudging either time or money to assist the good work.

Glenda Gault

¹ Emily Courquoin and William Brownlow were married in London the day the *Agincourt* sailed.

² Arrived 1848

THE CHILDREN OF MARY ANNE WORTHINGTON

Given that the average life expectancy in the nineteenth century was a short forty seven years there can be no surprise that many people were married at least twice, and this was the case for Mary Anne Worthington.

Mary Anne was born into a textile family in Manchester in 1805 and married William Wood Beatson in Manchester in 1825.

The union produced four living children children before William's death: Sarah Anne, 1829; Mary Anne 1830; John Lee 1833; Joshua Wood 1834. Mary Anne Beatson, née Worthington, married a second time in Manchester in 1838. Her husband was William Crowther Nichols, a blacksmith and in that same year William Crowther Nichols jnr was born.

The combination of blacksmithing and textiles took the combined family to Calais and in 1848 they joined the exodus to Australia on the *Agincourt*. Shipping agents simply listed all five children as Nichols.

The Nichols family chose the journey across the Blue Mountains to Bathurst where William Snr was employed as a shepherd for twenty pounds a year by John Savery Rodd. Sarah and Mary Anne worked for Francis Lord as house servants and both girls married in Bathurst in 1849.

Mary Anne, as Mary Anne Beatson, married Louis Gronan. Sarah Anne was curiously married as Sarah Nichols to William Adams, a mariner.

Sarah Anne and William returned to Sydney where William became a Master Mariner, living in Glebe until about 1880 when they bought an elegant house in Ashfield. The house was named *Studley* after Studley in Yorkshire, close to William's birthplace of Ripon. The couple raised seven daughters and a son and are buried in Rookwood cemetery. The last of their daughters was Clara who married grazier and entrepreneur William Charles Payne in 1886.

In October 1888, Payne bought land near Camden in an area called Narellan in southwest Sydney. He named his newly acquired property Studley Park. In 1889, construction of a grand Victorian mansion began. Designed by A. L. & G. McCredie, a prosperous architectural and engineering firm, it became known as *Payne's Folly*. Unfortunately, due to financial difficulties, Payne was forced to sell the house to Buckle, the architect.



Studley Park, Camden Now part of Camden Golf Club

John Lee Beatson found employment in 1848 with George Williams, a builder. He was married as Beatson to Mary Peacock in 1864 at Hartley. They had two children - Archibald and Jane in Wollongong. Jane died in 1867 at Kiama. John didn't remarry.

When he died in 1915 he was buried beside his sister Sarah in Rookwood, as John Nichols.

Joshua Wood Beatson was employed at Whitton's Commercial Inn in Bathurst and this experience influenced his later decisions. In 1856 he married Grace McCurdy in Bathurst and by 1861 he was licensee of *The Struggler's Arms* at Binalong.

In this same year, his mother Mary Anne Nichols, died at Blackguard Gully, the site of the Lambing Flat riots against the Chinese miners. (also 1861). Her death was registered at Binalong, and William Nichols died in 1868 at Mudgee.

In 1868 Joshua Wood Beatson became licensee of another *Struggler's Arms* – this time at the tiny community of Bendick Murrel. Twenty years later he farmed 150 acres along a creek he named Crowther. His son William Henry farmed with him. Joshua died in 1893 at Bendick Murrel.

William Crowther Nichols, the only son of William Nichols, was too young to work when he arrived in Bathurst. He married Elizabeth Marshall in Bathurst in 1869 and seems to have gone farming in the western region of NSW he died in 1908 at Wowingragong near Forbes.

While William Crowther Nichols was stepfather to her children, he must have been regarded with great love. Sara Ann chose to be known as Nichols, John Lee was buried as Nichols and Joshua Wood named a creek for him and from that creek arose another tiny settlement known as Crowther.

This love is surely William Crowther Nichols' greatest legacy.

Gillian Kelly &

Alex Crane Stafford, California for information on Sarah Anne

FROM CONSUL BONHAM TO BREAKER MORANT

One of the great player's in the Lacemakers' exodus from Calais in 1848 was British Consul Edward Walter Bonham.

In February of that year the waves of revolution were developing across Europe and across France in particular but while Calais remained relatively calm, Bonham already had grave concerns. He perceived the misery amongst his people in Calais as genuine and believed an early and enforced departure from Calais was inevitable.

His concern led a group of the Lacemakers' to approach him with a proposal to emigrate to Australia. Bonham saw them as respectable but reduced by the hard times they were enduring. He understood full well that they did not meet the criteria for emigration. Despite his misgivings, the petition was written and it was Bonham's duty to have it delivered to London.

He continually fought for the English in Calais – even appealing to the provisional French government to release funds the English had saved in French banks. Patrick Maloney and Edward Lander both left France without their substantial savings.

The tone of his communications with Britain are respectful but indicate a great caring about the fate of those he saw in distress. His support for those who wanted to come to Australia is evident in all his correspondence and he continually asserted that while these people did not meet the general immigration criteria, they were good people. It was Bonham who decided who was accepted to the list and who did not meet the criteria he could apply – that of being a good upright citizen.

So who was Edward Walter Bonham?

He was born in 1809, but to whom and where remain unknown. In the 1830s he is recorded as being Her Majesty's Consul in Tebriz, Persia and was still there in 1840.

In 1843 in Hove, Sussex, he married Elizabeth Anna Floyd and in 1844 a son, also Edward Walter Bonham, was born in Russia. By 1847 he was in Calais as Consul. His stay there was long – but in the early 1860s he was appointed to Naples as Consul, replacing Captain Galleway.

Rescuing his flock seemed second nature to him. In May 1865 a London stockbroker with his wife and two English companions were kidnapped for ransom by Italian brigands. To assist in the rescue Bonham called in a British Naval gunboat, causing a brief upset in relations between the Italian Government and the British.

Edward Bonham, because of his direct dealings with the kidnappers, had managed to upset not only the Italian Government but also his own superiors and political masters. This may have led to his next appointment, which was as Vice-Consul to Galatz, the great Romanian river port on the Danube.

From there he disappears but there is one line of descent that connects to Australia. Edward Walter Bonham, born in Russia, had a son named Walter Floyd Bonham, Walter Floyd was educated in England and graduated from Sandhurst, the Royal Military College. He was used as a translator in both French and German. By 1899 he was in Africa fighting the Boers. He was captured and imprisoned in Pretoria with Winston Churchill.

Upon release he was appointed to the Provost Marshall's department and became part of Lord Kitchener's staff. It was this department that raised the Bushveldt Carbineers for service in the

Transvaal and then became involved in the investigations that led to the arrests and trial of Breaker Morant and Arthur Davey for the death of Rev Heese. Captain Walter Floyd Bonham took the depositions of those involved , including Arthur Davey and Breaker Morant.

Bonham became a Colonel in 1904 and was appointed to Paris. However this promising career was cut short when he died at Argeles in the Pyranees on May 15, 1905.

TAKING THE PACKET TO CALAIS

Taking the packet to Calais was the common mode of travel.

A *packet*, according to the Oxford English Dictionary, is short for packet-boat, or a “boat or vessel plying at regular intervals between two ports for the conveyance of mails, also of goods and passengers; a mail-boat.” The derivation of the word seems to relate to the progress of the mails, and especially state papers and dispatches, between England and the Continent:

A *packet* was originally the boat maintained for carrying ‘the packet’ of State letters and dispatches. An early official name for this was POST-BARK also POST-BOAT.... this *Boate to Transport the Packetts* was probably already familiarly known as the ‘packet-boat,’ since this term was so well-known as to be borrowed in French before 1634.

To get to Europe, the usual and shortest route was between Dover and Calais (the towns closest to one another across the Channel) the distance being about 22 nautical miles

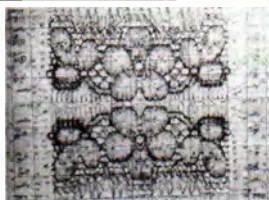
THE PRODUCTION LINE OF A LACE FACTORY

By the 1840s the use of the Jacquard and the introduction of steam power heralded the start of the factory production line in the lace industry.

The lace machine now produced true lace – a fabric of beautiful design produced by twisting threads around each other. It was no longer possible for the operator of a hand driven machine to compete with steam, so factories were built that provided floor space and steam power.

The designer was the artist. He needed imagination and an understanding of the capabilities of the machine.

The draftsman took the design and translated the movement of every thread into a highly complex chart. This chart was the 'read off' onto squared paper. Each square contained numbers that told the position of the thread.



These numbers indicate the positions of the holes on the Jacquard card. The holes determined which bobbins would come into play in every movement of the machine. – thus creating the pattern.



The punchers sat at a table with their cards and punch and using the grid numbers pierced the card in pattern. And in sequence.

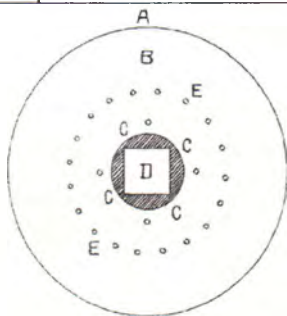
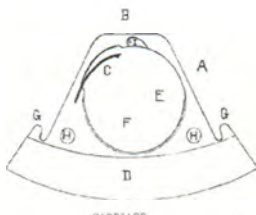
Once done, the cards were laced together in order and folded and attached to the Jacquard.



The warper prepared the warp roll or mill at the top of the machine with the warp threads of very fine cotton. When all the threads were on the mill the threads were fastened to the main warp beam at the bottom of the machine. The warp threads now ran top to bottom like an ordinary weaving loom.

The bobbin winders rolled a hundred metres of fine cotton onto a batch of 80 to 100 bobbins at one time. A Leavers machine needed 4000-5000 bobbins .

The filled bobbins were then flattened with heat and pressure to make them as slim as possible. The bobbins were then placed in carriages that hung between the warp threads where the movement of the machine twisted them around the warp threads - ³



Above - Leaver's bobbin, actual size

- A - Lip of bobbin
- B - Part containing 100metres thread
- C - Body
- D - Square hole for winding spindle
- E - Rivets holding the discs together

Left - Bobbin Carriage

- B - Hole for bobbin thread
- C - Spring to hold bobbin in place
- E - circular space where bobbin sits
- F lip where bobbin sits
- H - Holes to lighten bobbin and through which a rod can be passed to lift twenty or more bobbins fat once from the machine

The twisthand and the mechanic ensured the smooth running of the machine and the Jacquards. Another worker with a deft movement of his hands, removed empty bobbins in their carriages and replaced them with full ones.



A web of lace off the width of a machine usually consisted of many bands joined by lacer threads and before cleaning was described as brown. The lace was carefully examined for flaws by laying the fabric over a black tissue on the knees of the examiners. Damage was marked with a knot of coloured thread.

After mending, the lace went to the bleachers and dyers to remove the graphite used to lubricate the machines. It was soaked overnight in soap and graphite remover and then scoured for twenty minutes in a huge wooden tub with wooden mallets that pounded the dirt out of the fabric.

Bleaching was done in a solution of hyperchloride of lime followed by an acid bath. The lace was then washed and blued if it was to remain white. In the early days the only colour lace was dyed was black.

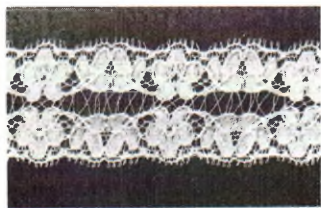
It was then examined again for faults and again repaired





Bleaching and dying left the lace limp. To overcome this the fabric was run through a starch mangle then dried in open air by stretching it across frames the size of the finished piece.

Some laces required additional embroidery and this was done with large machines. Cornelli threads were added in this way.



Some lace patterns have loose threads that pass from one motif to another and these are removed by clipping. Most laces have scalloped edges and these were trimmed by hand. Bands of lace had runner threads holding them together and these were had drawn to produce narrow widths of trim.

The lace was then ready for carding. It was wound onto the card over a strip of blue paper to show the pattern of the lace.

The lace was then packed in boxes and taken to the salesroom where wholesale purchases were made.



POACHING IN THE LACE TRADE

The value of a good draughtsman could not be underestimated and poaching staff was considered fair game in some circles of the trade. The following note indicates the practice was alive and well in 1887 and unless John Pollard was quick to sign his man to a contract, he might lose him to a better offer. Thomas Pollard, and his son John were lacemakers in Beeston, Nottinghamshire in the latter part of the nineteenth century.

Nottingham
8/4/87

Dear Sir

I overheard a conversation
this morning in our warehouse
and hearing your name I
listened, I heard one of the
gent^s say, Pollard had just
taken a new Draughtsman but
he meant having him if he
was not fastened, as his man's
time was nearly out

I Remain

Warehouse
Apprentice

I thought it my duty to let you know

From Exploring Beeston's History

1943 GUIDE TO HIRING WOMEN

The following is an excerpt from the July 1943 issue of Transportation magazine, It was written for male supervisors of men in the work force during Word War II.

Eleven tips on Getting More Efficiency Out of Women Employees: There's no longer any question whether transit companies should hire women for jobs formerly held by men. The draft and manpower shortage has settled that point. The important thing now is to select the most efficient women available and how to use them to the best advantage.

Here are eleven helpful tips on the subject from western Properties:

1. Pick young married women. They usually have more of a sense of responsibility than their unmarried sisters, they're less likely to be flirtatious, they need the work or they wouldn't be doing it, they still have the pep and interest to work and to deal with the public efficiently.
2. When you have to use older women, try to get ones who have worked outside the home at some time in their lives. Older women who have never contacted the public have a hard time adapting themselves and are inclined to be cantankerous and fussy. It is always as well to impress on the older woman the importance of being courteous and friendly.
3. It is general experience that 'husky' girls – those who are just a little on the heavy side – are more even tempered and efficient than their underweight sisters.
4. Retain a physician to give each woman you hire a special physical examination – one covering female conditions. This step not only protects the property against the

- possibilities of lawsuit, but reveals whether the employee-to-be has any female weaknesses which would make her mentally and physically unfit for the job.
5. Stress at the outset the importance that a minute or two lost here and there makes serious inroads on schedules. Until this point is gotten across, service is likely to be slowed up.
 6. Give female employees a definite day-long schedule of duties so that they'll keep busy without bothering the management for instructions every few minutes. Numerous properties say women make excellent workers when they have their jobs cutout for them, but they lack initiative in finding work for themselves.
 7. Whenever possible, let the inside employee change from one job to another at some time during the day. Women are inclined to be less nervous and happier with change.
 8. Give every girl an adequate number of rest periods during the day. You have to make some allowances for female psychology. A girl has more confidence and is more efficient if she can keep her hair tidy, apply fresh lipstick and wash her hands several times a day.
 9. Be tactful when issuing instructions or in making criticisms. Women are sensitive; they can't shrug off harsh words the way men do. Never ridicule a woman – it breaks her spirit and cuts off her efficiency.
 10. Be reasonably considerate about using strong language around women. Even though a girl's husband or father may swear voraciously, she'll grow to dislike a place of business where she hears too much of this.
 11. Get enough size variety in operator's uniforms so that each girl can have a proper fit. This point can't be stressed too much in keeping women happy.

WILLIAM BIDDULPH – FINDING A NAME

Ellenor Kendrick was born in Staffordshire to William Kendrick and Sarah. Elenor married first John Biddulph in Radford in 1837. A small boy, William Kendrick Gascoigne, was born to the couple in 1838 and a little over twelve months later John Biddulph died.

Alone, with a small son, she went to Calais to her father and siblings who were living in rue de Vic. With them, and listed as William Kendrick's wife, was Mary Sley. As well there were five young men working in the lace trade, including William Gascoigne.

In the December of 1841 William Gascoigne and Ellenor were married in Dover and began a family of their own. On the 1846 census for Calais there is no sign of Ellenor's first born William Biddulph, but when the family sailed for Australia in 1848, he is amongst the family again and came as William Gascoigne.

William Gascoigne's (snr) first employment in Australia was with Hanbury Clements of Summerhill. By 1856 he had moved his family to Berrima where he worked with his son Thomas as a roadcontractor as well as carrying mail between Sydney and Goulburn. William Biddulph worked as a labourer building the rail from Mittagong to Parramatta.

William Biddulph married Ellen Armfield, née Izzard at Berrima Court House in 1867. His name is recorded as Biddeth and appears this way for the births of both his daughters, Ellen Louise and Eliza Maria.

It was not until 1871 that William wrote to his Uncle Thomas Gascoigne in Nottingham to learn of his true family connection and correctly spelled surname.

Ellenor Gascoigne died in 1867 and was buried in Berrima. William Gascoigne died in 1885 in Mittagong, where he was buried. He was a self made man and left substantial property. What is telling is that his step son William Biddulph and family were entirely excluded from Gascoigne's will.

William Biddulph's wife had inherited land from her first husband and William worked this property at Mandemar near Berrima. The land would eventually go to Ellen's five sons from her first marriage.

In June 1900 he was going home from Moss Vale when his horse shied at a swollen drain, throwing William off and stunning him. It is not known how long he lay there, but a Mr Nye found him unconscious, cold and quite rigid and sought help.

William was taken to the Commercial Hotel where Dr Stevenson worked on him for five hours before he regained consciousness. He seemed to have reasonably recovered and returned to his home *Greenhills*. However he developed pneumonia and died several days later.

Newspapers of the day report William Biddulph to have been one of the oldest and most respected residents of the district. They noted also that he had worked for Mr Cordeaux of Bullio for some time. The funeral was reported to have been widely attended and he is buried at Berrima where his mother was interred.

Ellen lived another 18 years – most of which she spent on *Greenhills*. Eventually the frailty of age forced her to move into Bowral where she died in 1918. William had only the two daughters so the name of Nottingham Biddulphs slipped out of Australian history.

From the notes of the Berrima & District Historical Society

THE LEAVERS LACE INDUSTRY IN THE UNITED STATES – A FAMILIAR STORY

The lace industry in the United States is comparatively recent and was slow in developing. The reason for this was that the exportation of lace machines from England was prohibited and the only way that the machines could be brought to this country was piece-meal. Having smuggled the parts to the United States, they were assembled by people who had worked on them in England.

The first machine lace factories in the United States were established early in the nineteenth century in Medway and Ipswich, Massachusetts. The first hosiery machine was smuggled In to Ipswich in 1822. But the real development of Leavers lace in the United States did not get under way until 1909. At this time there were only about 100 Leavers machines in this country.

Because the United States had no way of producing suitable mosquito netting, many American soldiers died from malaria during the Spanish American War. So, for the purpose of promoting the manufacture of netting in this country, the Tariff Act of 1909 provided for the free entry of Leavers lace machines for 17 months (from Aug. 6, 1909 to Dec. 31, 1910). As these very expensive machines were not (and are not) made in this country and as the normal duty upon imported Leavers machines was 45%, the provision for their free importation resulted in a rapid expansion of the industry.

Practically all of the twist-hands, as lace makers are called, are either men who learned their trade in England or France or the sons of such men. Comparatively few American lace makers have been developed other than those sons or relatives of British

immigrants who were born in this country. The process of learning to make Leavers lace is long and difficult. The Amalgamated Lace Operatives of America, Leavers Section, the twist-hand's union, feel that a three year apprenticeship is the minimum and that more time than that is required to make a thoroughly trained, all around twist-hand who can work on any type of lace satisfactorily. It is a highly-skilled operation and the highest paid of any comparable occupation in the textile industry.

In 1948 there were fifty four lace mills and seven hundred and thirty Leavers lace machines in the United States, manufacturing all types of Leavers lace. Of these mills, four were in Connecticut, two in Massachusetts, seven in New Jersey, one in Ohio, three in Pennsylvania, thirty four in Rhode Island and three in New York State. It then employed 5000 people and did an annual business of approximately \$30,000,000.

The American Lace Manufacturers Association, Inc 1949

MEMBERSHIP FEES DUE

It is that time of the year again!
To ensure your continued membership
please forward you remittance of \$30
to our

Membership Secretary
190 Shaftesbury Ave
EASTWOOD NSW 2122

SAMUEL STEVENS & JOHN BROMHEAD

I, like many of our Lacemakers often wonder about the families that were with ours, in Nottingham, in Calais & in Australia.

In Calais, particularly, we can see evidence of the closeness of some families, by examining those wonderfully detailed French records which show us details of names of Heads of Families, as they register the birth of a new child. The French law required witnesses to the registration to a child's birth....two people, usually male, went with the Father and the baby to the Maire (Town Hall) where the father declared he was the father of the child & also named the mother. The two witnesses then witness the Registration. Their age and occupation were given, as well as the address of the Father and the Babe. We can assume the witnesses would be close & supportive family friends of the family of the newborn babe.

In the case of my STEVENS family, from the records, my Head of Family, Samuel Stevens registered at the Maire, on 16.8.1846, the birth of Louise STEVENS, dau of Samuel, aged 40, laceworker and of Eliza Place, 33 wife, reside rue du Temple. The witnesses were Thomas HARRISON, 46, laceworker, who came to Australia & John HOLMES, 32 laceworker. In 1843 Samuel had witnessed the birth of a son of James WOODFORTH.

Further listings mention our Samuel witnessing births with Frederick HALL and Frederick ARCHER, so it's fair to assume the STEVENS family were friends of the families who helped, shared & reciprocated the witnessing of the births of their children born of the various UK families in Calais.

Of all those witnesses, I think I am correct in saying that when STEVENS arrived at the Immigrants' Depot in Maitland only the

WOODFORTHs were with them. The ARCHERS, HALL & HARRISON families all went to Bathurst.

The STEVENS family remained & prospered in Maitland. Family folk only gives us sketchy, shadowy details of their lives and names of family friends don't seem to feature in any stories. They became storekeepers - *CENTRAL STORE* was apparently quite a decent drapery & general soft goods store - their advertisements in the Maitland Mercury through the years tell of *Quality hats for ladies & gentlemen – fine linen and cotton fabrics* and so on...but who were their friends?

Not a clue to be had until.... wonder of wonders, after applying for the 1861 Death Certificate for Samuel STEVENS b.1807 Radford, Nottingham, died 23rd March 1861 in King St. East Maitland, I found, listed in the column of *Witnesses to the Burial* the name of John BROMHEAD..... well !!!!! That information delighted me, as the BROMHEAD family were also lacemakers from the UK & Calais AND came with the STEVENS on the *Agincourt* . The families must have maintained a friendship for John BROMHEAD to be asked to witness Samuel's burial.

One of the earliest lessons I learned when I began researching family history was to read all the information given on certificates very carefully. It may not always be correct but read and digest it. It may help somewhere fit a piece in the jigsaw of the puzzle you are trying to put together. I was just so pleased with this "find", as from that BROMHEAD family comes our lovely lacemaker member & my friend, Lindsay WATTS & her daughters & her cousin, Joan LATTER – both also members. How lovely to know that some of the people I have come to know & cherish, through our society, had family who must also have had a friendship with my family, all those years ago.

Robin Gordon

FOR THE GENEALOGIST

BE WARNED!

AUSTRALIAN-ANCESTRY.COM



Australian-Ancestry is a site that charges membership and then charges again for copies of materials. It advertises wide and instant Australian resources, but in truth offers nothing of value. It has stolen databases from other resources, most of which are free and as well has registered a misleading name that implies a connection to Ancestry.com.

Ancestry.com **HAS** an Australian component that you do pay for, but it tells you precisely what resources are available and for many they are resources that are not easily accessed.

The most blatant of Australian-Ancestry.com's plagiarisms is the theft of the Ryerson Index⁴ - an index to death notices, some obituaries, funeral and probate notices appearing in current Australian newspapers. It was created voluntarily by the Sydney Dead Persons Society and concentrates on NSW papers, with some papers from other states included. It is a great resource - free to air! And Australian-Ancestry.com charges you for the privilege.

My personal examination of this site indicated:

- its advertising to be completely false for researchers of Australian materials
- the materials that are available have been blatantly plagiarised

Think carefully before subscribing!

Gillian Kelly

THE BOSSES OF THE LACE TRADE IN CALAIS 1845 – 1848

Historian Michel Caron of Calais has written three books on the history of the lace industry in Calais. They cover the era from 1815 to 1905 with the first *Du Tulle à la Dentelle* recording the history to 1860. He has recorded from L'Almanach de la Ville et du Canton de Calais the names of those who ran businesses in the industry for that era. .

The lists below is an extraction of the English men included in these lists. They do not cover those who were employed.

LACEMAKERS IN CALAIS	1845	1848
Barwick	rue des Deux Moulins	-
Cooper	rue du Paradis	-
Hazard	rue des Pretres	-
Middleton	rue des Maréchaux	-
Sheperd	rue de la Douane	-
Spiers	rue de Thermes	rue de Thermes
Thompson	rue du Paradis	-
COTTON MERCHANTS		
Stevenson	rue de Guise	rue de Guise
LACEMAKERS IN ST-PIERRE		
Arnett & Lee	rue de la Tannerie	rue de la Tannerie
Atkin, Louis	rue de Vic	rue Lafayette
Austick, Joseph	-	rue de Vic
Austin, Charles	rue Lafayette	-
Ball, Alfred	-	Grande Rue
Barker, Francis	rue de la Pomme d'Or	route de Boulogne
Bayley, John	-	rue Lafayette
Boot, Joseph	-	rue des Prairies

Boot, Thomas	-	rue du Temple
Brown & Lakin, Thomas	-	rue du Vauxhall
Brailsford, Edward	-	rue Lafayette
Bridge	-	rue Lafayette
Burrows, Joseph	-	Grande Rue
Cave, George	-	rue Lafayette
Cobb, Joseph	Quai du Commerce	-
Cope, Henry	-	rue neuve
Crofts	route de Boulogne	-
Dormer	rue neuve	-
Dodd	rue de la Tannerie	-
Eagle, William	-	rue Lafayette
Farrands, William	rue de Pont-Neuf	Quai du Commerce
Farrands Bros ⁵	-	rue du Pont-Lotin
Gaskin, George	rue Lafayette	-
Hall, George	rue de Vic	rue de Vic
Hazledine, Jesse	rue Lafayette	rue Lafayette
Hogson ⁶	rue Lafayette	rue Lafayette
Hopkin, William	-	rue de la Pomme d'Or
Hough, Joseph	rue de la Pomme d'Or	-
Isaacs, Benjamin	-	rue Vauban
Jackson	rue Lafayette	-
James, Robert	rue de Vic	rue de la Pomme d'Or
Kesteman	rue Lafayette	-
King, Robert	rue Lafayette	-
Lee & Co ⁷	rue de la Tannerie	-
Lee, John	-	rue Lafayette
Martin, C	-	rue des Quatre-Coins
Maxton, John	rue Lafayette	rue Lafayette
Maxton, Robert & Co	rue du Vauxhall	rue du Vauxhall
O'Hara	rue de la Pomme d'Or	rue de la Pomme d'Or
Onion & Wragg	rue Lafayette	rue Lafayette
Oswin, James	-	rue Lafayette
Pearson, Frederick	rue Nationale	rue Nationale
Peet, William	-	Jardin des Plantes
Plakell & Ball	-	Grande Rue
Prest, William	-	Quai du Commerce
Shepperd, Thomas	-	Grande Rue
Stubbs, widow of Francis ⁸	rue du Temple	-
Stubbs, Henry	rue Lafayette	rue Lafayette

Smith, James	rue Lafayette	rue Lafayette
Smith	Quai du Commerce	-
Smith, W	-	rue Lafayette
Stevenson & Co ⁹	-	Grande Rue
Taylor, John	rue de Vic	rue Neuve
Taylor, W	rue Neuve	-
Tidswell, Thomas	-	rue neuve
Turner, Eli	-	rue Lafayette
Vickers, W	rue Neuve	-
Walkland James	rue Lafayette	rue Lafayette
Webster, father & Son ¹⁰	rue Lafayette	rue Lafayette
West & Frost	-	rue du Temple
West, Robert	rue Lafayette	rue Lafayette
West, James ¹¹	rue Neuve	rue Neuve
West, Thomas R	-	rue Lafayette
Wheatley, William	-	rue Neuve
Wood	rue de l' Hospice	-
Wood, James	-	Grande Rue
Wragg, John	rue Lafayette	rue Lafayette
PATTERN MAKERS		
Needham	rue de Vic	rue de Vic
Simpson	rue de Vic	rue de Vic
West	rue Lafayette	rue Lafayette
Wood	rue de l'Hospice	rue de l'Hospice
MECHANICS		
Gasking (sic)	Grande Rue	-
Hall, George	rue de Vic	rue de Vic
Hardy, Joseph	rue du Vauxhall	rue du Vauxhall
Leaper, Charles	rue des Soupirantes	rue des Soupirantes
Martin	Grande Rue	Grande Rue

Caron, Michel, *Du Tulle à la Dentelle, Calais 1815/1860*, Editions Le Téméraire, la Sentinelle novembre 1997

THE SPELLING OF THE DAY

Dr Rupert Chicken is a descendant of the Darker family and early in his life took an interest in the church registers of Nottingham. Chicken refers to the spelling of Registrars as being *notoriously loose*, and that no one accustomed to old manuscripts would ever assume the names to be more than phonetically or even approximately correct. Take the example, from the register of St Marys Nottingham: *Benjamin Darkley married Elizabeth Walkden on 19 Jun 1761*

The register in which this entry occurs is entirely in manuscript. The entries, with the exception of the signatures of the contracting parties and witnesses, were written by the officiating clergyman, the Rev. Francis Simes. The entry is spelt as Darkley, which agrees with the spelling of the signature, but Dr. Chicken says that Benjamin Darkley's name (though so signed in the register) was really Darker. Dr. Chicken states that a Benjamin Darker was the son of William Darker (who died intestate in Leicestershire), came to Nottingham about 1750, and was his great-grandfather.

Nottinghamshire, England: Parish and Probate Records **from Ancestry.com**

AND FURTHER MORE

Wylie, in *Old and New Nottingham*, 1853 , page 367, says: *Towards the close of 1796 , Benjamin Darker, an industrious needle-maker of Nottingham, built the first house of what is called New Radford, and which is now connected with Nottingham.*

Benjamin Darker was the grandfather of Benjamin Kemshall who arrived on the *Agincourt*. The houses Benjamin built were in Pleasant Row and for a while Edward Little Lander of the Harpley lived in one of them!

Office Bearers
The Australian Society of the Lacemakers of Calais

PRESIDENT

Robbie Gordon
53 Hill Street
BELMONT NSW 2280
TolgaPtyLtd@internode.on.net

SECRETARY

Richard Lander
73A Killeaton St
St IVES 2075
(02) 9440 3334
richardlander@ozemail.com.au

TREASURER

Craig Williams
PO Box 209
TERREY HILLS 2084
recurve@tpg.com.au

EDITOR

Gillian Kelly
PO Box 1277
QUEANBEYAN 2620
02 6297 2168
gilliankelly@bigpond.com

PUBLICITY OFFICER

Elizabeth Bolton
4/165 Pennant Hills Rd
West Pennant Hills 2125
eabolton@bigpond.com

**MEMBERSHIP
SECRETARY**

Barbara Kendrick
190 Shaftesbury Ave
EASTWOOD 2122
(02) 9874 2330

