

Tulle

May 2005

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



**MEETING
DATES
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 May 21

GUEST SPEAKER: ANGELA PHIPPEN

Angela was librarian at SAG for 17 years and is now the Local Area Studies Librarian for The City of Ryde. Her particular interests, as well as WWI memorials and honour boards, include the history of divorce in Australia. All members are encouraged to attend our May meeting to hear Angela's address. (See Secretary's Comment for further information about Angela's illustrious career.)

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www.angelfire.com/al/aslc/

Want to join?
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The Membership Secretary
190 Shaftesbury Rd
EASTWOOD NSW 2122

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Tulle

Volume 23 Number 2,
May 2005

From the Desks of.....	2
Secretary's Comment, Private Herbert Leslie Lander	5
My Grandmother's Shop, <i>Len Riddell</i>	9
Shipping Intelligence, <i>Lauren Thompson</i>	12
A Peep at Nottingham, <i>The Leisure Hour</i>	13
Edward Lander, PC, <i>R Lander</i>	18
Le P'tit Quinquin.....	19
Garnet James Webster OAM <i>Gillian Kellyr</i>	20
The Lace of Calais.....	22
The Day the Earth Shook, <i>C Ewing, R Gordon</i>	26
Calais World War II.....	30
Genealogy and Computing, Richard Lander.....	32
The 1861 Census and the Power of the Census and BDMS.....	35

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your confidence in re-electing the current committee for another year, but do remember that new ideas and new faces will always be welcome.

I must admit that it is always a great joy for me, when speaking to other groups, to discover that there has been a person with lacemaker connections in the audience, and even more delightful when they become active members. While we tend to focus on exploring the many facets of the lives of our lacemaker families before and after their arrival in Australia, there are many groups that have been delving into other aspects of family and Australian history. Through my guest speaking invitations I have had any opportunity to discover what fascinating activities are being pursued by well and lesser-known organizations in Sydney. In my reports back to our meetings I have touched on some of these and I know that many people in our society do belong to other specific interest groups.

Some years ago we asked our members to tell something of their research and some wonderful stories were brought to life. Also, who will ever forget the day that Dr John Fluit brought along some of his surgical tools and demonstrated how they were used during the late 1800s, or the way Associate Professor Carol Liston has painted a picture of the Sydney our families would have known.

It is time for us to widen our horizons and I know that Richard Lander is anxious for our society to invite more guest speakers to our meetings to provide a wider exchange of information. In this way we learn something about other clubs or societies as well as having an opportunity to spread word of our own families' stories. Now is the time for us to be amazed by, and

perhaps tap into, the wealth of knowledge that is being gathered by so many special people. We have invited speakers for the August 2005 and February 2006 meetings but I am asking everyone to bring along ideas to the May meeting so that speakers can be invited to share their special knowledge with us. Richard has some suggestions, but do have your ideas ready for the 22nd May at Don Bank Cottage.

Elizabeth Bolton
President.

FROM THE EDITOR

IS IT TIME FOR A CHANGE? Or not so much a change, as an addition?

One of my greatest pleasures in life is being given the privilege of using documents and books from the times of the Lacemakers.

But I am lucky – I live close to one of Australia's great depositories, the National Library of Australia, I am close to Sydney's Mitchell and I have had the joy of the Mortlock in Adelaide. Logistically this kind of research can be impossible for many researchers, and in these days of the internet there is a different kind of researcher – the Internet Traveller! Believe me, I am a great exponent of internet research, even with my passion for the excitement of the hands-on stuff!

Over the years, I have become an avid collector of stories and histories from others and from my own research. Together we have collected a vast amount of knowledge. It has always been the policy of the Society to share – in this way we have built a great collection of our forebears' histories, and knowledge of the trades and towns that involved our people. As the interest in family history broadens, the requests for help from outside the

Society have become more and more numerous and time consuming. One of my greatest worries is preserving and making available to all, the knowledge we have of this fascinating group of people.

I believe it is time to look to the future – my thoughts are that it is time to broaden our scope to internet members, with *Tulle* available electronically and our records, up to World War 1, committed to the electronic world, accessible only by members.

This would be quite an undertaking - however, it would ensure perpetuity and accessibility to all. Because we don't own our own premises, most of our collection is with me, but eventually the Society will eventually have to decide where it wants hard copy of its records to be housed.

For my part, my own records (and they are vast) will eventually be preserved at the National Library of Australia. I choose the National because I consider it has the easiest accessibility, has a lending code to other libraries, and is bipartisan! This will, however, limit accessibility.

The concept of an electronic component to ASLC obviously needs a lot of thought and exploration – initially my thoughts are that:

- *Tulle* be available in electronic format for those who would like to receive it that way
- Our records be accessible to members through a website linked to our general information site

I am interested in your thoughts – please do contact me! (email and address inside back cover)

Gillian Kelly
Editor

SECRETARY'S COMMENT

2005 marks the 90th anniversary of the ANZACs' landing at Gallipoli, and the 60th anniversary of VE (Victory in Europe) Day and VP (Victory in the Pacific) Day. It is therefore very fitting, more particularly as I am writing this article on ANZAC Day, that our guest speaker at ASLC's May 2005 meeting will be Angela Phippen. She will be speaking on World War I memorials and honour boards.

Angela was the Librarian for Society of Australian Genealogists from July 1987 until April 2004. In her 17 years there, as well as providing SAG members with invaluable help in tracing their genealogy, she oversaw the transfer of SAG's collection from their old "Annexe" building at 8 Argyle Place to their new premises at Rumsey Hall at 24 Kent Street, Sydney. She also oversaw the introduction of a computerised library catalogue for SAG which included both books and the microform collection. Angela was also the dynamo behind SAG's annual two-day family history fair, 'Showcase', when it started in 1996.

Angela is now the Local Area Studies Librarian for The City of Ryde. Her particular interests, as well as WWI memorials and



honour boards, include the history of divorce in Australia. All members are encouraged to attend our May meeting to hear Angela's address.

Many lacemaker families would have had members of their family involved in the First World War. The grandson of my lacemaker, Edward Lander, was killed in action in France. He was Herbert Leslie Lander (pictured above), the son of John Hudden Lander (who had arrived in Australia aboard the *Harpley* in 1848, together with parents, Edward and Mary Anne). Herbert, or 'Bert' as he was known, was John and his wife Eliza's (Kook) thirteenth child and youngest son. Bert was born at home on "Ringwood Station", Darlington Point on 7 March, 1894.



He enlisted in the 56th Infantry Battalion 2nd Regiment A.I.F at Cootamundra on 1 February 1916 and was shipped from Australia to Port Said aboard the Shaw Saville steamer 'Ceramic', then called "HMT (His Majesty's Troop Ship) Ceramic". He disembarked at Port Said on 17 May 1916 and on 21 June 1916 he went aboard the Cunard Line steamer, "HMT Invernia" at Alexandria to join the British Expeditionary Forces at Marseilles, France, on 29 June 1916.

Private Herbert Leslie Lander entered the trenches of the Somme on 3 December 1916. As he was helping to stretcher a sergeant suffering from trench feet¹ out of a trench, a shell exploded right

¹ This was an infection of the feet caused by cold, wet & unsanitary conditions. Men stood for hours on end in waterlogged trenches without being able to remove their wet socks or boots. The feet would gradually go numb & the skin would turn red or blue. If untreated, trench foot could turn gangrenous and result in amputation. Trench foot was a particular problem in the early stages of the war; during the winter of 1914-15 over 20,000 British Army men were treated for trench foot.

under the stretcher. The sergeant and the other stretcher bearer were killed immediately. Amongst other injuries, Bert lost his right leg below the knee. It was not until the next day that he was admitted to the 1st ANZAC M.D. Station and an attempt was made to repair the remainder of his shattered right leg. Later, on the 4 December 1916, he was transferred to 36 Clearing Station.

On 5 Dec. 1916 he died of his wounds and he is buried in the Heilly² Sur Somme Military Cemetery, Mericourt L'Abbé, Somme, France, 2¼ miles nor-nor-east of Corbie.

*They went with songs to the battle, they were young,
Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow.
They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted:
They fell with their faces to the foe.*

*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.*³

² The 36th Casualty Clearing Station was located at Heilly from the April 1916 to April 1917. It was joined in May by the 38th Casualty Clearing Station and in July by the 2/2nd London. The cemetery was begun in May 1916 and was used by the three medical units until April 1917. There are now 3,000, 1914-18 war casualties commemorated in this site. Of these, a small number are unidentified and special memorials are erected to fifteen soldiers from the United Kingdom, whose graves could not be exactly located. The regimental badges, numbering 117, are carved on a cloister wall on the North side.
<http://homepage.ntlworld.com/mike.briggs76/Cemeteries%20in%20France%20and%20Flander.htm>

³ The poem "*For the Fallen*", written by English poet Laurence Binyon (1869-1943), was first published in the Times of London on 21 September 1914, the second month of the First World War. Binyon served as a Red Cross orderly during World War I and for his work was made a Chevalier of the Legion of Honour by the French Government. His poem gained further recognition when it featured at the unveiling of the London Cenotaph in 1919. In 1929 it was recited at the laying of the Inauguration Stone for the Australian War Memorial. The fourth stanza of the poem (the third and fourth stanzas are shown above) is known as "The Ode", and is recited at nearly all major occasions of remembrance - including ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day.

After Bert's death, his father was sent a package by the Australian Imperial Force Kit Store containing "the inventory of effects of the Late 1686 (Bert's regimental number) Pte Lander. H.L. 56th Btn A.I.F". This contained his "identity disc, 34 Australian stamps (unused), metal mirror, 2 coins, badge, 2 devotional books, 2 cards and note book" (sic). On 5 August 1922 John also received a memorial plaque and King's Message. These were followed on 27 March 1923 by a Victory Medal. It was a poignant moment for me to see Bert's father's signature acknowledging receipt of his few and meagre effects.

Bert's death is commemorated on the War Memorial in Darlington Point (but amazingly and sadly, this memorial is not acknowledged on the site which purports to be the register of all war memorials in New South Wales.⁴



Lest we forget. Lest we forget, indeed.

At the May meeting Angela may be able to shed some light on this and any other anomalies our collective research may have uncovered. A meeting not to be missed.

Richard Lander⁵

⁴ (<http://www.warmemorialsnsw.asn.au/>).

⁵ For those wishing to research a relative who served and/or was killed in war, I strongly recommend that you have a look at the National Australian Archives website, naa.gov.au. On the left hand side under "Research" choose "Record Search" then "Search Now – as a guest". All the above information on Herbert, including copies of many documents relating to his war service, life and death, were obtained from this site.

Well Suited to the Colony - Gillian Kelly

The story of the laceworkers from Calais and Saint-Pierre, born in the Midlands of England, trapped between the poorhouses of Nottingham and the French revolution of 1848, they appealed to the British government to allow them to emigrate to the colonies of Australia. Despite their ages, their skills and their large families, almost seven hundred reached Australian shores in the last months of 1848 and spread across the colonies - this is their definitive history.



Well Suited to the Colony is a superior publication on high quality paper with hundreds of illustrations and photographs, many not available from any other source.

It is available at \$34 + \$6 packaging and postage from

PO Box 1277

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MY GRANDMOTHER'S SHOP

With the kind permission of its writer, Len Riddell of Calais, we are delighted to publish his beautiful short piece that reflects the poignancy of his memories of occupied Calais in World War II, the romance of his parents, his love of Calais, and a humour that Australians will understand.

MY GRANDMOTHER'S SHOP



One of the abiding memories of my life as a young French boy in Calais, were the bullet holes in the front of my grandmother's shop in 48 Rue Galilee.

I often wonder what happened to the German soldiers who were defending my grandmother's shop.

Was Hitler notified that it had been taken by the invading troops, was it a turning point in the liberation?

On the right is my mother on the doorstep of the shop. Fashions have changed.

As you can see, we were not well off. She looks as if she is wondering what has happened to Davy Crocket. The cat that is.

What you can't see inside the shop is the wooden post holding up the counter where Davy Crocket used to sharpen his claws – what's left of it.





My father was in hospital after liberating my Grandmother's shop, my mother is looking rather tense.

He landed with the main invasion troops on D Day. His landing was fairly unopposed, so much so, that after his troop landed, they pulled up on the beach and started brewing tea!The

sergeant nearly went mad.

My father met my mother in a field, while driving a Bren Gun carrier.

He couldn't speak French, she couldn't speak English. It must have been a fascinating conversation. My father left my mother and Calais to go with the invasion force to Berlin. On the right is my mother begging him not to go, either that or to pay the bill owing to the shop.

Nobody else did, my grandmother was a terrible businesswoman.



He came back to Calais of course - we all do.

Len Riddell

Calais 2005

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE

(Reprint of a paragraph from the Plymouth Advertiser, Wednesday, September 20, 1849).

Under her three topsails and jib, with a stiff breeze from North East, and a strong ebb tide, the smart ship *Harpley* appeared off Plymouth, on Monday morning, the 17th instant, and notwithstanding the opposition of both elements, she, cutter-like, grace fully entered the Sound, and with conscious pride took up her anchorage at the appointed station. Comparatively a few years since no one would have imagined that the far distant colonists of Van Diemen's Land would have sent to the mother country, a fine specimen of naval architecture, so well qualified to mingle in one of her noblest ports, with the merchant shipping of the parent state.

The *Harpley* was launched at Launceston on the 2nd of February, 1847, and with the exception of her chain cables, was there supplied with all her materials, stores, rigging, pumps and c. She is now, through the instrumentality of Messrs. Ford and Co. destined to convey a cargo of British merchandise, and a living freight back to Port Phillip. She is full ship rigged, and registers 570 tons, is fitted in the 'tween decks right fore and aft, and well ventilated cabins for four and sixes, for which accommodation each person pays Eighteen pounds. Her ample poop aft possesses an elegant saloon, into which the superior cabins open. Near the rudder there is a very convenient entrance to the saloon from the poop deck, by which this part of the ship is most conveniently separated from the main deck. The *Harpley* has all the other usual fitments for emigration, including one of Thompson's life boats, the lockers of which are fitted with cork. Mr. Thomas Buckland, a first-class master of considerable colonial experience, commands her, and he has an able crew of 10 officers and 24 seamen. Nearly 200 souls are committed to their charge.

Among the passengers is a Baptist congregation⁶ of about 60 persons, who accompanied by their ordained minister, Mr. Turner, have left Brighton in a body, intending to settle in one locality. An experienced surgeon, Mr. Smith, takes medical charge, and a medical assistant, Mr. Haye, goes out in the vessel. Few emigrants have left the Sound under more favourable auspices than those on board the *Harpley*. Her agents in Plymouth are Messrs. Luscombe, Driscoll and Co. and it is understood that at Melbourne she will

⁶ for the history of this migration see John Chandler's *Forty Years in the Wilderness*

load for England, thus assisting to maintain that happy connection between Great Britain and her colonies which it is to be hoped will continue for centuries unbroken. The *Harpley* left for her destination this (Wednesday) afternoon, with a spanking wind from the north-east.

Lauren Thomson, From the *Argus Melbourne, Port Phillip*. Wednesday, January 9, 1850, page 2

A PEEP AT NOTTINGHAM

I came across the following article in a booklet called "The Leisure Hour 1866". The article (author unknown) is titled "A Peep at Nottingham" and I have taken the liberty of recording part of it below. The article provides an interesting insight into the lives of machine lacemakers in a period not long after that experienced by our own ancestors.

It is of particular interest to me because it states that in 1851, "M. Clausson's circular loom, or "round frame," was introduced into Nottingham. You will learn from the article that this had pretty major consequences for lace producers. Perhaps the events of 1848 saved many of our ancestors from the pain and fragmentation of a major restructuring of the machine lace industry.



By-and-by we are brought up by a sound for which our ears have been watchful all along—a kind of metallic "ripping" noise, which we know to be produced by the stockinger at his loom. The sound comes from a court leading from a street of small red-brick houses towards the outskirts, and as we advance we hear it repeated on all sides.

A "sonsy"⁷ dame of forty, who is engaged in the interesting task of dry-nursing a brood of orphaned chickens, whose mother, she tells us, has been killed by a prowling cat, replies readily enough to our request to see the stockinger at his work, and vanishes upstairs to bring him down. While she is gone, the chickens, who 'have it all their own way', and whose traces are everywhere, cackle and flutter about us, perch on the dresser and mantelpiece, and do not scruple to explore the cupboard and peck at the bread and cheese stored within.

The stockinger is a long while coming, and when he does come the reason is apparent: he has been washing his face and putting on his Sunday coat, to make himself presentable - pains we would willingly have spared him. He is a sallow, fleshless man of forty, with an intellectual cast of face, and nervous temperament, and a general aspect more than sufficiently subdued. He leads the way through the narrowest of doors, up a flight of steps so dark and confined that one imagines one's self climbing a chimney rather than ascending a staircase; - and in a minute or two we are landed on the top floor, which, is a room some twelve feet square, windowed for the whole width on two sides, and containing six looms, all clicking and ripping away. Together with a flock bed and bedding spread in one corner. We notice that each of the looms is separated off from the rest by a hanging cloth or blanket, so that each man works in a little berth of his own.

Our friend is not slow in his endeavour to explain to us the construction and operation of his machine, but, to say the truth, he is not very lucid, and we might have gathered little wisdom from his teaching had we not first read up a little on the subject.

Enough to say that the function of the loom is to do rapidly, and, as it were, in the mass, what the hand-knitter does a stitch at a

⁷ Plump, buxom or comely

time; and this is brought about mainly by the action of a row of barbed needles and, sinkers⁸, by whose joint motion one row of loops, or stitches, is drawn through another row previously formed, while a third row is in the act of formation.

The needles are delicate little instruments ranged in a dense rank, from fifteen to fifty in the inch, according to the fineness of the work to be executed, and from their slender make they would appear liable to frequent breakage. As we watch with interest the gradual growth of a carnation-coloured silk stocking, which we are told takes four hours in the making, the operator stops short and takes up a queer-looking instrument consisting of a row of steel rods oddly arranged on a sort of curved frame, and applies it, not without careful deliberation, to the upper part of the loom.

This, he tells us, is the "jack," upon which he has designed a pattern for the open-work on the instep of the stocking, and which pattern will be effected by the interference of the jack with the normal action of the loom. He tells us that he designs his patterns himself, and says that, if a manufacturer approves of any design he makes, he may get work to do by it, that is all.

Looking to the surroundings of this delicate-handed worker, we are quite prepared to hear that his gains are but small, and that they are often uncertain. Twelve to fourteen shillings a week he considers about the average; while those who work in cotton or in "plated goods"- that is, goods one side of which is silk, and the other cotton - earn even less. By the way, these plated goods, some of which is in the form of gloves we see in process of manufacture, strike us as being curious: they are a mere veneering of cotton with a surface of silk, and when well wrought testify strongly to the workman's dexterity.

⁸ Stocking-frames and knitting-machines employed both jack-sinkers (thin metal plates suspended from the front ends of the jacks) and lead-sinkers, to form loops upon the thread.

The hosiery trade and the resulting condition of the stockinger have undergone a radical change within the last fifteen or sixteen years. Before the year of the Great Exhibition in Hyde Park, the bulk of the Nottingham hosiery goods were manufactured by small independent workers at their own homes, and the clicking of the stocking-looms was heard in almost every humble dwelling. The workers wrought with hired looms, for which they paid a weekly rent; and they were consequently much at the mercy of the loom-proprietors, who also acted as middlemen between them and the merchants, absorbing no small portion of their profits.

The idea had prevailed for years that hosiery goods could not be manufactured by steam machinery, or that, even if they could, such machinery could not compete with the cheap handloom labour of the poor workers. But in 1851, M. Clausson's circular loom, or "round frame," was introduced into Nottingham, and, being driven by steam, was found capable of enormous quantities of work - a single loom forming a hundred thousand loops a minute. A complete revolution in the industry of the town was gradually brought about: hundreds of the hired looms were thrown by, and had to be broken up for waste metal; while goods became cheaper in consequence of the increased facility of production, and multitudes of the cottage weavers found constant and better-paid employment in the factories.

Having had enough of the stockings for the present, we bid adieu to our poor friend, and ten minutes later find ourselves standing in a huge apartment redolent of oil and steam, amid the thundering din of some score or more of monstrous lace-machines all in full operation. The heat and the noise are at first bewildering, and it is some time before we can collect our senses sufficiently even to endeavour to comprehend what is going on.

What we see - confining our attention to one machine only - is a wide framework of iron, supporting a mass of the most complex and multitudinous apparatus of brass and steel work of a minute description, all executing a kind of frantic dance dazzling even to think of. In the midst of the moving metal-work rises up an interminable forest of white filmy threads, numbering no less than eight or nine thousand altogether, and constituting the material, or a part of it, from which the lace is made. The broad sheet of lace, some ten feet wide, is growing visibly before us as we look on - the whole width being made up of many repetitions of the same pattern.

The weft threads are supplied by innumerable bobbins of thin metal contained in metal cases easily removable and replaced by others when necessary, while the warp or upright threads uncoil themselves from reels. There are several ways of determining the pattern to be wrought. In some cases the pattern is cut in small circular holes upon a series of cards about a foot in length and three to four inches in width; these cards revolve slowly round a polygonal cylinder, presenting their surfaces as they go to a series of points, which, pressing slightly against them, pass through the holes, but are stopped by the blank card; the passage of the points of course in some way governing the action of the machinery.

In other cases no perforated cards are used, but an endless chain is made to pass round a cylinder at the right-hand side, every link of which chain is, or may be, of a different form; in its passage round the cylinder the links of the chain come in contact with a series of guiding rods or governors - whatever be their technical name - whose movements control the execution of the pattern.

We give this, however, only as the impression we derive from a rather hasty and general view; for, to say the truth, the lace-making machines appear to us as mechanical problems all but

insoluble, compared to which in point of complexity and ingenuity, the choicest work of the horologiographer⁹ dwindles to a trifle.

In an adjoining room we see girls filling the bobbins with yarn. The bobbins, about the size of crown pieces, but not so thick, contain the thread in a deep groove cut through their edges almost to the centre. They are wound from reels a score or two at a time. When full, the girl cuts the threads, and, taking a number of them in her hand as if she were counting money, throws out those which are wound too tightly, knowing them instantly by the feel, as the thin metal of the bobbin swells when the threads overlap each other. The swollen bobbins are made over to boys, who re-wind them on machines adapted to the purpose.

The wages of the lace-makers, we are happy to say, are far better than those of the weavers, varying from twenty to forty shillings a week. The lace-making further gives employment to numbers of women, who, if working in the factories, gain from eight to fourteen shillings a week, but when working piece-work at their homes earn considerably less. They finish the lace after it leaves the machine.

Researched by Richard Lander

EDWARD LANDER, PC

Within months of reaching Adelaide, Edward Lander joined the South Australian police force for an exact three years. The police records for that period indicate that Edward was a success in this, one of the many career changes he was to make in his life in Australia.

⁹ A maker of time-pieces

3/5/1849 No. 29 Stealing, victim: RA FIVEASH at Adelaide - suspect: George Huggins arrested by PC LANDER - Committed

12/9/1849 No. 52 Hway Rob: victim: J KNOTT Esq at Hindley St - suspect: J Green arrested by PC LANDER - Committed

12/9/1849 No. 52 Hway Rob: victim: J KNOTT Esq at Hindley St - suspect: Elizabeth Baker arrested by PC LANDER - Committed

26/11/1849 No. 45 Wounding: Stabbing - - victim: KML KOCHEN at Adelaide - suspect: Francis McGee arrested by PCs STEWART & LANDER - Committed Transported 15yrs

R Lander

LE P'TIT QUINQUIN

In 1852 Alexandre Desrousseaux, of Lille wrote a lullaby, P'tit Quinquin. This simple lullaby (*P'tit quinquin* means "little child") was adopted by every mother in Lille, and used to soothe their children at bed time. It became the marching song of the northern soldiers leaving for the Franco-Prussian War of 1870. Today it could be called the official anthem of the French city Lille.



A statue was erected in Lille in memory of the town-hall clerk, Alexandre Desrousseaux. It shows a poor lacemaker whose child would not stop crying, and is said to "melt the hardest of hearts"

GARNET JAMES WEBSTER OAM

July 2, 1935 – March 7, 2005



Garnet James Webster was amongst the rarest of Lacemakers – he was the great great grandson of both William Branson and William Brownlow, passengers on the *Agincourt* and whose descendants married two generations later.

Garnet's family's connection with the village of Binda commenced in 1851 with the appointment of Dr Webster as the first master of the Binda School. The 'Binda Connection' has remained ever since, with the Webster family prominent not only in service to the Anglican Church but as primary wool producers.

Born at Crookwell, he was educated at the Beecroft Grammar and Newington before completing his compulsory National Service with the army and embarking on his career as a grazier. He worked first on a family property in the Western Division of NSW at Ivanhoe then in 1956 he moved back to Binda to a lifetime on his beloved *Kenilworth*. His initial interest with the land developed through spending all his school holidays on the family property *Funny Hill* with his grandfather James Carr and his great aunts.

Over the past fifty years, Garnet has had a marked and often unknown influence on the community affairs of Binda Village. His interest in local affairs was reflected by his active participation in the community groups and local small schools. His ownership of the Binda Store and Post Office came about solely because he recognised that the loss of these would ruin the fabric of the village. An achievement that gave Garnet the

most pleasure was the planting of trees on the Binda recreational ground and surrounds, along with a stone monument that lists the names of all the families that have lived in Binda and surrounding area since 1850.

Garnet had been Church Warden, Lay Minister and Chairman of the Parish Council, St James Binda since 1971, Lay Canon St Saviour's Cathedral Goulburn 1997 to 2003 and Honorary Lay Canon since 2003. He had been Foundation Chairman, Friends of St Saviour's Cathedral since 1999 and a member of the Anglican Property Trust a member of the Diocesan Synod from 1966 to 2001. He was also a member of the Anglican Historical Society since 1986 and patron of the Crookwell and District Historical Society. Recognition of these activities led first to his receiving the Citizen of the Year Award 2001 from the Crookwell Shire Council, then the Order of Australia Medal 2005, from the Commonwealth Government.

Garnet's passion for local and family history led to his recording in book form the stories of his forebears and the locality in which they had all lived. He had a brilliant mind and a phenomenal memory and his contribution to family, local and diocesan history will be valued forever.

He was a sensitive and caring person but foremost a family man believing in the values and integrity of the family. He was the lynchpin for his many cousins and relatives spread throughout the world.

Although a very successful grazier, he admitted that if he had any regrets with his life it would be that of not becoming a school teacher! While undoubtedly the teaching fraternity would have been the richer, one small community would have been very much the poorer without this gentle and compassionate man.

THE LACE OF CALAIS

AN OVERVIEW FROM CALAIS

In the 16th century, it was fashionable for lords and ladies in the French court to wear lace ornamentation, but it had to be imported from Venice. Louis XIV's minister Colbert wanted to make France wealthier by using state funds to encourage luxury industries. In 1665 he brought in some Venetian lacemakers and set up schools of lace-making to train French craftsmen. Making fine lace became an important craft industry - it was hand-made by thousands of craftspeople in their own homes or in small workshops. 18th century smugglers took French lace into England, to avoid heavy import taxes

EFFECTS OF THE FRENCH REVOLUTION

Abruptly French lace-makers lost their best customers: French aristocrats fled into exile for fear of the guillotine. Under the Republic and Napoleon, plainer clothes became the fashion - lace was not wanted. Many unemployed workmen were glad to be conscripted into Napoleon's army to fight in endless wars.

MAKING LACE FOR THE WORLD

If you see a lace dress at a wedding, chances are that lace was woven in Calais or in Caudry, near Cambrai. Actually 20% of the lace is used in wedding and cocktail dresses, and other high-fashion designer dresses; 80% is used for fine lingerie. In Calais there are today about 700 looms employing 3,000 workers. The two town's lace factories export about 3/4 of their output to 140 countries.

INVENTING A MACHINE TO MAKE LACE

Back in 1812, at the height of the Napoleonic Wars, a machine to make lace was invented in England by John Leavers. The basis of his machine was the Elizabethan "stocking frame", invented c.1589 by a Nottingham vicar, Rev. William Lee, to help his wife knit stockings. It worked a bit like "french knitting", where children make a knitted tube by winding wool round nails on top of a cotton reel.

INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

The original English "Leavers Machine" was only 18 inches (0,5m) wide, but it made cheaper mass-produced lace for small garments. At that time many new inventions were transforming industry in Britain - textile machines, steam engines, iron-making.. This was the age of the Industrial Revolution, and Britain was the "Silicon Valley" of those days

INDUSTRIAL SECRETS

Foreign lace makers could not get hold of the Leavers Machine. To protect valuable industrial secrets, the British government banned export of such new machines on punishment of death - just as the USA later banned exports of computers to Russia.

In 1816 - just after the end of the Napoleonic wars - three skilled workmen from Nottingham, Clark, Webster and Bonnington, thought there might be a better future in France. They smuggled some machinery over to Calais, and were helped to set up a new machine-lace workshops.

In Calais, the emigrant English workmen found people keen to work for them - the port was impoverished after losing its trade

during the French wars. The French aristocracy had returned, so a revival in trade for luxury lace looked likely

By the 1820's the new Calais lace workshops were flourishing. Protected by heavy tariffs on most imported goods, they didn't need to worry about competition from England.

English ex-patriots built rows of terraced houses in the St-Pierre district of Calais with space for their workshops. Some also went to Caudry, near Cambrai, and opened lace factories there. In Calais the industry is still in the hands of family businesses - many with distant English origins. People in Calais still eat Christmas puddings and Welsh rarebit (cheese on toast), customs the English lace-makers brought to the town.



Cottage at the corner of rue Verte and quai du Commerce
G Kelly 1996

In 1835 they perfected a device to make a near-perfect imitation of hand-made lace in any design, including traditional styles like "Chantilly" lace. This was the work of another Englishman,

Samuel Fergusson, who adapted the French "Jacquard loom" (used to make tapestries for aristocrats) for making patterned lace - an early example of "numerical control"



A Leavers machine at right with the jacquard attachment on the left. Note the large windows for light

FASHIONS AND FREE TRADE

19th century women's fashions boosted the demand for lace. When free trade ideas led to lower tariffs throughout Europe, Calais lace became sold all over the world. Import taxes on French lace coming into Britain were drastically in 1860, during the Second Empire. Napoleon III made a treaty with British minister Cobden in 1860 that slashed protective tariffs on trade between the two countries.

Nord-Pas de Calais is still an important centre for machine lace, exporting it all over the world. The craft of making lace by hand, which had almost died out, was revived after the First World War. In the 1920s a rich American endowed a lace-

making college in Bailleul to train future generations in the old skills.

An Australian Post Script

Canberra lacemaker Mrs Petronelle Wensing, despite being in her 80s still regularly returns to Bailleul to lecture in modern bobbin lace techniques. Of Dutch heritage, Mrs Wensing came to Australia with her husband post World War II. He was employed in the construction of the Snowy Mountain Scheme and returned to make their home in the new suburb of Ainslie.

From www.theotherside.co.uk

THE DAY THE EARTH SHOOK

In a year when our near neighbourhoods have been raddled by seismic action of horrific proportions it seems opportune to remember another such occasion when a Lacemaker's family experienced the horror of such events first hand.

On September 1st 1923, one of the worst earthquakes in world history hit the Kanto plain area of Japan and destroyed Tokyo, Yokohama and the surrounding areas. It lasted some thirty seconds and about 140,000 people fell victim to this earthquake and the fires caused by it. Alexander Ewing, with his wife and small daughter, was there:

"The horror of the city in really beyond understanding. The ground opened and shut all the time, people vanishing forever, and the agonising cries of the poor victims buried under the debris of the houses was heart-rending, because nothing could be done to help them

"When we left Tokyo Bay we steamed the whole morning through piteous and sometimes ghastly wreckage The whole bay was covered with oils - the 15 years supply of the Japanese Navy had gone up in smoke at Yokosuks

"I will not tell you any more of the horrible things that have happened or you would never sleep - the newspapers are not allowed to print them."

These are extracts from a long letter written by Mrs Alec Ewing to relatives in Newcastle after that disastrous earthquake 82 years ago and now shared with us by Mrs Robbie Gordon of the Stevens family.

Alec Ewing served his engineering apprenticeship at Rodgers Bros in King Street, where the City Hall stands, and in 1923 was with Lloyds of London in their Yokohama office.

At the time of the earthquake, Mrs, Ewing and her baby daughter were on a pier farewelling friends on the *Empress of Australia*.

"The sun was shining although the day was sticky and heavy – pre typhoon weather. Just as the gangway was clear of the in there came a terrific roar and instantly Yokohama was levelled."

"The concrete pier heaved and rocked, parts of It collapsing into the sea. We were all flung to the ground, knocked about by falling timber and piles or casts scattered around like children's ricks."

"Cracks opened wide many fell into the sea. The air was thick with dust . We nearly suffocated."

"It was indescribably dreadful. I clung to my wee girl desperately knowing that if I lost my child there was little chance of my recovering her. I tried to reach a pile of timbers about 4 ft. away but was flung violently away, the weight of the earth being against me "

Mrs. Ewing's life was saved by a series of remarkable coincidences. A couple of friends among the small crowd that remained of the thousands who had been on the pier helped her into a lighter which had drifted alongside. A typhoon sprang up, and Yokohama blazed like a candle. (About 80 per cent of its homes were burned in the holocaust).

The lighter began drifting across the oil-covered harbour and then caught fire from burning debris blown a quarter of a mile from the shore. Just as it appeared those in the lighter would have to swim, the burning craft swung near an American cargo boat, the Steel Navigator, and the bedraggled survivors were hauled aboard.

The ship - as did most ships in Yokohama harbour - saved many people from the burning city. The women and children stayed below with wet cloths over their eyes, while their men fought the flames.

Mr. Ewing, in the meantime, had been having his problems too. He had been in a big shipyard when the quake hit and, by a series of miracles" escaped from the dockyard, and fought his way through the wrecked and burning city to his home. He arrived there to find his wife and child gone: a servant told him they had gone to the waterfront, which by then was an Inferno.

Mr. Ewing struggled to the wharves - the last man to emerge from the city to the comparative safety of the harbour. He refused to board the American cargo boat that was taking on survivors, and planned to swim across the bay on some

wreckage so that he could circle back to Yokohama behind the flames and look for his wife and child.

When a friend yelled out, "Come on board you damn fool, your wife and kiddie are here," Mr. Eying thought they said this in an effort to save his life, but came aboard anyway.

Though united, their danger was not yet over. The Steel Navigator collided with three other ships one of them being the Empress of Australia which Mrs. Eying had originally set out to farewell. Friends urged them to come aboard, which they did, jumping over the rails as the two vessels touched.

In the collision with the American ship a seven-ton anchor fouled one of the Empress' propellers, and thus the liner could manoeuvre only with difficulty. Two days later, this put them to a severe test, when several burning oil tanks drifted out into the middle of the harbour still full of disabled shipping.

The crippled liner, with 5,000 people on board, was taken out of the harbour in a magnificent feat of seamanship, and later the survivors were transferred by lifeboat to the Empress of Canada and taken to Kobe, 400 miles away.



Tokyo Harbour 1923 – the aftermath

From the writing of Mrs C Ewin, 1923. presented by Mrs Robbie Gordon, 2005

CALAIS - WORLD WAR II

Somewhat ironically, Calais became a major British base once during World War I, due to its proximity to the front lines in Flanders and the town was virtually razed to the ground during World War II.

It was the scene of a last-ditch defence in 1940 that allowed the defeated British forces to be evacuated from nearby Dunkirk in the Battle of Dunkirk. 3,000 British and 800 French troops, assisted by Royal Navy warships, held out from 22 May to 27 May 1940 against two German panzer divisions. The town was flattened by round-the-clock bombing and only 30 of the 3,800-strong defending force were evacuated before the town fell.



During the ensuing German occupation, it became the command post for German forces in the Pas-de-Calais/Flanders region and was very heavily fortified, as it was generally believed by the Germans that the Allies would invade at that point. In the event, the invasion took place well to the west in Normandy.

Calais was nonetheless very heavily bombed and shelled in a successful effort to persuade the Germans that the D-Day landings were a feint in advance of the "real" invasion of the Pas-de-Calais. It was liberated by Canadian forces in October 1944.



29 September 1944. Halifax aircraft bombing Calais Photograph: Australian War Memorial

By orders of Hitler, the German Garrisons in Calais, le Havre and Boulogne were declared 'fortresses' and their defenders were expected to hold out until the very end. As a result of intensive attacks by bombers, the German garrison surrendered in five days. The physical cost to Calais was immense with much of the city being totally destroyed.

FOR THE GENEALOGIST

GENEALOGY AND COMPUTING

At our last meeting I agreed to give a few tips with regard to computing and genealogy. I don't profess to be anything other than a keen amateur with regard to both. As such many of my tips may already be well known to some of you. However, those tips that I will mention have all been beneficial to me and you may find them likewise. The decision whether or not to use them is entirely yours and you accept responsibility for any problems that you encounter. I encountered none installing any of the programs I mention. I will start with general tips regarding web searching and will progress to more specific genealogical searches and programs.

The most commonly used search engine in the world is now Google. This is simply because it is the best. This is not to say you shouldn't use others at times. You can find a plethora of other search engines simply by typing "search engines" into the search bar of the search engine that you currently use.

Try Yahoo (yahoo.com),

Lycos (lycos.com),

Altavista (altavista.com),

Hotbot (hotbot.com),

About (about.com),

Ask Jeeves (ask.com),

Dogpile (dogpile.com),

Teoma (teoma.com/), Clusty (clusty.com),

Mooter (mooter.com - it is worth knowing that this has an Australian emphasis),

GigaBlast (gigablast.com),

MSN (msn.com), or

Northern Light (northernlight.com) amongst many others.

But even the standard Google search window can be improved and if you haven't already done so, you might consider doing the following:-

1. Adding the Google Toolbar.

If you aren't already using Google, you will need to make it your homepage for this to work.

- Once you have done so, under the Google searchbar you should see “Advertising Programs – About Google – Go to Google Australia”.
- Choose “About Google” then choose “Google Services”.
- Under “Google Tools” choose “Google Toolbar”.
- Under “Choose Your Language and Download” choose Download Google Toolbar.

Read all about the Google Toolbar – you will be amazed how much it will help you in your searches. For example, it will block most of those annoying “pop-up” advertisements. It will enable you to search by your search terms. If you have searched on “lacemakers Calais”, these two search terms are individually searchable throughout the article. You can mark your search terms with a highlighter pen so you can more easily see them amongst the other text and so on. Once you have the Google Toolbar installed you can also type into the address bar the organization you are searching for and, in most instances, it will find it for you. For example, instead of <http://www.davidjones.com.au/home.jsp> just type in David Jones and you will be directed to the above. If you type

Lacemakers into the address bar, we come up as the second hit. A most useful utility.

2. Adding Google Desktop Search

This invaluable utility is in the Beta testing phase so it is a brand new service, still under trial. To use Google's own words:-

Google Desktop Search is how our brains would work if we had photographic memories. It's a desktop search application that provides full text search over your email, computer files, chats, and the web pages you've viewed. By making your computer searchable, Google Desktop Search puts your information easily within your reach and frees you from having to manually organize your files, emails, and bookmarks.

After downloading Google Desktop Search, you can search your personal items as easily as you search the Internet using Google. Unlike traditional computer search software that updates once a day, Google Desktop Search updates continually for most file types, so that when you receive a new email in Outlook, for example, you can search for it within seconds. The index of searchable information created by Desktop Search is stored on your own computer.

In addition to basic search, Google Desktop Search introduces new ways to access relevant and timely information. When you view a web page in Internet Explorer, Google Desktop Search "caches" or stores its content so that you can later look at that same version of the page, even if its live content has changed or you're offline. Google Desktop Search organizes email search

results into conversations, so that all email messages in the same thread are grouped into a single search result.

Google Desktop Search can be found in the same group as the Google Toolbar and is just as easily downloaded.

Because I have installed Google Desktop Search on my computer, I can search it as easily as I could search the web.

For example, if I wanted to find a document on my computer (and it doesn't matter what sort it is be it is a Word document, an Excel document, an email, a photo to which I have given a name or some other sort of file) in which I thought I had the words "Gillian", "Lionel" and "Tulle"), I could simply type in *gillian lionel tulle* on the search bar and Google Desktop

Search will find all documents with these words in them. If that gave me to many results to search through, I would type *+gillian +lionel +tulle* and try again. Oh, I think I might have touched on the subject of my next article – Search Engine Maths.

Richard Lander

1861 CENSUS

The 1861 census is now available on line through Ancestry.com . This census is very useful to Lacemaker researchers because many of the families who returned to England are there, as are many of the siblings and parents who stayed in England. I am happy to do look ups for anyone who needs this. Either write or email me at the addresses in the back cover.

Gillian Kelly

THE POWER OF THE CENSUS & BDMS

The arrival of the *Fairlie* in 1848 brought George Elliott's family almost in its entirety.

George Elliott b 1793 Nottingham	Not traced
George Elliott b 1814 Radford	Children born Sydney, Castlemaine & Utah USA; died Provo,Utah in 1876
Eliza Vinton, wife of above, born 1816 Belfast	Died Provo Utah,
Anne Elliott B 1817 Radford	Died childless Kelso 1857
William Potter, husband of Anne, born Leics 1818	Remarried Eliza Sansom 1858 Sydney; Eliza was from a Harpley Lacemaker family
Mary Elliott b 1820 Radford	Died NSW 1863, single person
Sabina Elliott b 1823 Radford	Widowed 1852, remarried Edward Bellies Victoria same year, disappears
Thomas Huskinson b Nottingham 1822	Died NSW 1852
Thomas Huskinson, son of above b 1850 Sydney	In Nottingham 1871, living with Uncle Robert Martin qv, lacemaker! Later married Sarah Froggett and has large family
Anne Huskinson, dau of above from first marriage, b Calais 1845	Disappears
Louise Elliott b 1825 Radford	Married John Scott 1849 St James Sydney, five children
Emma Elliott b 1826 Radford	Living Nottingham 1871 to 1901 with husband Robert
Robert Martin, b 1822 Nottingham	1841 living Folly Lane Notts with brother John, 1851 NSW, 1861 missing 1871 back in Nottingham making lace; still alive 1901
Julie Elliott b 1831 Radford	Married Thomas Pedie 1852 NSW, lived in Collingwood raised 9 children died 1873 Melbourne
Eliza Elliott b Radford 1834	Married Alfred T Jones Sydney 1849; died childbirth 1849

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Cover Story:

A delicate pencil drawing from the hands of Clare Hergstrom's grandfather. Clare is a descendant of Joseph James, per *Harpley* 1848