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Cape Banks Family History Society Inc

Kith & Kin



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Cape Banks Family History Society Inc

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2nd Saturday of each month at 1.30 p.m.

Hibiscus Room, The Coast Centre, 2 Curie Ave., Little Bay

Research Room:

Frangipani Room, The Coast Centre, 2 Curie Ave., Little Bay

Opening Hours:

Tuesday 10.00 am to 3.30 pm

Saturday 10.00 am to 3.30 pm

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Membership Fees:

| | |
|---------|---|
| \$48.00 | single |
| \$65.00 | family (two people at the same address) |
| \$ 5.00 | joining fee |
| \$20.00 | postage for journal & newsletter |
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| \$55.00 | overseas (including airmail postage) |

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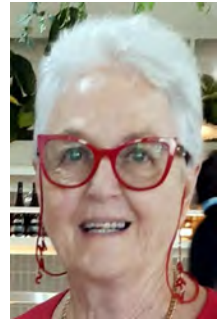
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Front Cover

**Retford House,
Darling Point**

Photographed by Ian Scott in 1958
Image from the Woollahra Library
Digital Archive PF002903

Editor's Note



When the theme for this edition was set at “*Accidents*” there was little response by way of articles or short items from our members. However, the three stories of misfortune that you will find on the following pages are certainly tragic and leave one to wonder about the

heartbreak for the families left behind after catastrophes such as these. Eric McLaughlin posed the question about how the family coped; particularly when children were orphaned. Congratulations to Ros Nicol who has submitted her first ever article (*with more to follow?*) to Kith & Kin.

A service at a cemetery always follows these tragedies and our Research Officer, Helen Fatouros, has found some interesting information about the old Devonshire Street Cemetery.

On a brighter note, Denise O'Connor discovered some surprising connections when she submitted an interesting poem she had found in a magazine. Journals and newsletters from other societies are available for reading at the rooms or borrow and take home to read at your leisure. Some societies have gone online with their journals and those are available to read on our computers at the Frangipani Room.

Bill Shute advised us that 747,148 new records were added to the Ryerson Index in 2022. With 8.8 million records now the indexers are aiming for 9 million by the end of June this year. Quite an achievement!

As this journal goes to print we were saddened to hear of the passing of Pamela Karayannides. Pam's member number was 40 so a very long term and loyal member of Cape Banks FHS. Our condolences go to Pam's family.

Lindsay Harden

Welcome to New Members

Karen and Geoff Gardiner

Happy researching!

A Word from the President

Welcome to the first Kith & Kin for 2023, full of information, upcoming events and interesting stories written by our Cape Banks members.

Welcome also to the new members who have joined our society this year. We look forward to seeing you in the research room and at some of the other meetings and activities scheduled each month.



To start the year off with important interesting and welcome news I am pleased to advise Cape Banks FHS has received notification of being a successful applicant under the Cultural Grants Program administered by The Royal Australian Historical Society on behalf of the NSW Government. This grant will be used to digitise all editions of Kith & Kin since the first edition published in 1985 up to the present time. This project will benefit our members as well as preserving all the editions in digitised form and a welcome addition to our resources.

The program of events for this year is already filling up with functions organised for members and visitors to attend. Our society's events and speaker programs have the details of dates for Discussion Groups, Writers Groups, Open Days and Beginners' Workshops. Saturday afternoon meetings with the name of the speaker and their topics are added when all details are confirmed.

Upcoming events and changes to venues will occur in April, May and August. Cape Banks will participate in the NSW Heritage Festival held from 10th April to 14th May by holding a Beginners' Workshop on 29th April from 11.00 to 1.00pm in Frangipani Room at Coast Centre Little Bay.

I am pleased to be able to advise members in conjunction with the management of Bowen Library our society has been offered the use of Vonnie Young Auditorium for meetings and the glass cabinet for displays. The monthly meeting with guest speaker on **Saturday 13th May** and meeting with guest speaker on **12th August** will be held in Vonnie Young Auditorium commencing 1.00 to 3.30pm. We will have the use of the glass display cabinet on 1st floor during the months of April and August.

The month of March marks the anniversary of the founding of our society in 1985.

Happy 38th Birthday Cape Banks FHS!

Lee Bevan

Christmas Dinner at South Coogee Bowling Club

The same venue as our traditional Christmas Lunch but in 2022, due to the Bistro on the Greens no longer opening for lunch, the time was changed to an early dinner. This was not a problem due to Daylight Savings and it seems the food and service was up to their usual high standard. However the noise from adjoining celebrating tables was rather overwhelming and therefore an early date for our end of year social celebration is being considered for this year. Many thanks to the marvellous Margaret Morscheck for all her work once again negotiating and organising this function.



L to R:
Denise O'Connor, Bev Toohey, Margaret Morscheck, Ros Nicol and Graeme Turner enjoying a cool drink and socialising with friends.

Raffles

You will have seen a list of the lucky prize-winners of the Christmas raffle in the February Newsletter.

However we do have a raffle each month which is drawn by our guest speaker at our meetings. Many thanks to the kind donors of these raffle prizes and to members who regularly support our society by purchasing these tickets.

Tickets - \$2 ea or 3 for \$5 -are always available for purchase during the month when our library is open on Tuesdays and Saturdays.

Remember - **"You've got to be in it to win it!"**



Kith & Kin Awards



Allen Morris and Rhonda Horne with their Kith & Kin 2022 Awards.

Over the last four issues of *Kith & Kin*, starting in December 2021 each story was assessed against the selection criteria and the judge ended up with six finalists.

K&K Award 2022

Rhonda Horne ‘*My DNA Journey*’ K&K, September 2022

“...a good article that contains useful explanations of the DNA terms used, and also gives some idea of why you might want to use DNA for genealogical purposes.”

Highly Commended

Allen Morris ‘*An Ancestor’s Search for Identity*’ K&K December 2021

“...facts from a variety of sources ... heavily researched article that meets criteria 1, 3, 4 and 5.”

Helen Fatouros ‘*Catherine Hyde: My Research Breakthrough*’ K&K March 2022

*“An interesting account of how a chance reading of *The South Australian Genealogist* magazine led ... down a path to solve the mystery of where her great grandmother, Catherine O’Leary nee Hyde, was born.”*

The other finalists were:-

- ◇ *My Road Trip to Blayney and Millthorpe* by Judith Neville
- ◇ *DNA Dramas* by Linda Heavener
- ◇ *DNA Anecdotes* by Fiona Archinal

George Bourne: A Railway Tragedy

Roslyn Nicol, Member No. 558

The BOURNE family arrived in Australia from Kent, England, on 6th July 1853. Henry BOURNE, his wife Mary Elizabeth and three children, Mary four years old, Emma three and George 18 months came on the ship 'Meteor'. The cost of their passage was £3/10/- (three pounds and ten shillings). They settled in North Sydney. Henry's occupation was a drayman. Three more children, Frederick, Charles and Harriet were later born in Australia.



My maternal great grandfather was their oldest son, George BOURNE. He was a fireman with the NSW Railways and was killed in a shocking accident in 1878. According to the report of the Coroner's Inquest in the *Sydney Morning Herald* of 27th May, 1878 he was aged 27 years.

It was the practice of the firemen to uncouple the engines while they were in motion and George had been doing this for six months. At about 6 pm on 23rd May, half a mile from Parramatta, he fell and the

engine passed over him. His body was found in a much mutilated condition. The rules and regulations of the Railway Department for the uncoupling of engines stated it was to be carried out at the junction but it had become the custom to do it before arriving there to save time and space. The jury returned a verdict that the deceased died from injuries accidentally received and added that they considered the uncoupling of the engines was in direct violation of the existing rules of the NSW Railway Department.

George and his wife, Agnes, were living in Goulburn with their baby boy at the time of the accident. They had only been married for 15 months and their son (my grandfather) was only two months old. The baby's birth certificate recorded his name as Henry but he was baptised Henry George BOURNE after the death of his father and was always known as George. His widow, Agnes Graham (née THOMPSON) BOURNE married again in 1880 to William Hilton LOBB and had six more children.

George BOURNE is buried at St Thomas Park Rest Cemetery *at North Sydney.

FUNERALS.

G. U. O. O. F.—ST. LEONARDS LODGE, No. 1087.—The Officers and Brothers of the above Lodge, together with the Officers and Brothers of the various Lodges, are respectfully invited to attend the Funeral of our deceased Brother Past M. F. **GEORGE BOURNE**. Brothers meet at the Hall, Mount-street, at 2 p.m., **THIS DAY.** **WILLIAM SHEAD, N.G.**
JAMES MOUNTFORD, Sec.

Sydney Morning Herald, Saturday 25th May 1878

** St Thomas Rest Park is located in West Street, Crows Nest, New South Wales. It is the site of the first cemetery (1845) on Sydney's North Shore. It is the largest park in the densely populated Crows Nest area. The sexton's cottage, dating from around 1850, was restored and opened as a museum in 1985. An interpretive history trail provides 24-hour access to historical information.*



Tomb of Alexander Berry and his wife Elizabeth, plus Elizabeth's brother, Edward Wollstonecraft

Vale Julie Galpern



It is with great sadness that we heard about the passing of Julie Galpern.

Having joined CBFHS in April 1998, Julie participated with good humour and great energy in many of our society activities. Over two decades of library duty days Julie would make all feel welcome by baking a cake or two for afternoon tea as well as with her welcoming smile.

She took, as her personal responsibility, the maintenance of the microfiche readers and volunteered on many Market Day stalls with the setting up, packing up and selling of items on the day. Julie also wrote articles for Kith & Kin and participated in the Discussion Group meetings. Her generosity was demonstrated by her financial and research item donations.

We extend all our sympathy to her husband Igor and family.

WYONG FAMILY HISTORY GROUP INC.

THE RUNNING WATERS OF HISTORY



8th – 10th September 2023

**38th Annual Conference of the NSW & ACT
Association of Family History Societies**



Due to the success of the virtual conferences over the last two years, the organising committee for the 38th Annual Conference of the NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies has decided that in 2023 the conference will be hosted by the Wyong Family History Group Inc. at Toukley AND, for those who can't make the conference in person, it will also be available to view and participate online.

So some good things have come out of the Covid lockdowns!

How did the Turner family cope?

Eric McLaughlin, Member No. 190

Family historians need to accept that there may be skeletons in the cupboard or even events that may be disturbing.

My paternal 2 x great-grandparents, John and Ann TURNER (née SMITH) fall into the latter category. John and Ann were born about 1817/1818; their place of birth and how they arrived in Australia is unknown.

John and Ann were married at St Mary's Church, Sydney on 28th January 1847. John and Ann had three children: James, Mary Ann and Catherine (my great-grandmother).

The first of the family tragedies occurred on 1st November 1857 when John TURNER was riding his horse near Collector, NSW. The horse fell and rolled over him, completely disabling him. The lower part of his body was paralysed, and he was immersed in water and lay in this position for several hours until assistance arrived. John was moved to a nearby property for medical assistance and eventually the hospital a few days later. John died on 23rd December 1857 and is buried in the Roman Catholic section of Collector Cemetery. He left behind a pregnant wife and three young children. Further tragedy struck the family when, on 28th March 1858, Ann TURNER died during childbirth. She was buried at Collector Cemetery with her husband, John.

What happened to the children? Were they cared for by other family members, friends, or neighbours?

Then James TURNER, on 18th June 1870, "*accidentally drowned*" in the swollen Gounyan Creek. He was on his way into Yass to deliver mail when he attempted the creek, located between Murrumbateman and Yass in NSW. The area had received heavy rainfall and surrounding rivers and creeks were flooded.

The remains of James TURNER were not found until 4th August 1870. An inquest was held at Yass on 5th August 1870. Witness Mary LEARY of Peechtree Farm, Yass River deposed that she gave James TURNER money and letters to post in Yass. She could not recognise the body of James; only his clothing.

The jury returned the following verdict: "*That ... James Turner met his death by accidental drowning while endeavouring to cross Gounyan Creek ...*" James was buried in Yass Cemetery.

Catherine TURNER, born 1851 at Collector, NSW married Francis Richard POIDEVIN on the 19th of June 1875 at Collector. They had thirteen children. Francis held a publican's license in Breadalbane from 1880-1885 and ran a road contracting business

On the 23rd of October 1886, Osmand GERARD attempted to stab and shoot Francis POIDEVIN. From the Goulburn Herald (NSW), 18th December 1886: *"Poidevin had a contract on the road from Breadalbane to Collector and had a number of men working there, one of whom was a prisoner; on the 23rd October, the prisoner came out of his tent and accused Poidevin of flogging him. This Poidevin denied and prisoner came after him with a knife in his hand and made a blow at him, but Poidevin knocked up his arm and ran away. Prisoner then picked up a hammer and followed Poidevin but did not catch him. He subsequently went into Poidevin's tent and took up a gun, put a cartridge in it, and followed Poidevin with the gun. Poidevin then went for the Police.*

Prisoner made a statement that he did not attempt to use the knife against Poidevin, but was cutting tobacco with it, and that he took the gun to prevent Poidevin from using it."

"His Honor ... (said) ... the mere aiming of a blow constitutes an assault."

The jury returned a verdict of guilty of common assault.

His Honor addressing prisoner said that it was clear he had made a blow with an open knife and a hammer...., the sentence ... imprisoned for twelve months in Goulburn jail with hard labour."

In the early morning of Saturday 29th April 1899 Francis POIDEVIN was found dead in his tent from gunshot wounds. He was carrying out road works at Woolshed Creek, near Taralga, when some of his workers heard a gunshot come from Francis's tent. They found him lying in his bunk dead with severe wounds to his face.

At an inquest at Goulburn Court House later that day witnesses, including Francis's son William POIDEVIN, all told a similar story. Francis was always careful with guns, especially when his children were around. He was well-known and liked in the district and was *"of a good character"*.

After the jury deliberated, the coroner returned the following: *"Deceased met his death by gunshot wound, self-inflicted, but whether accidentally or otherwise, there was not sufficient evidence to show."*

This left Catherine to bring up nine children and run a property. She did this, along with her eldest sons, for many years. Catherine involved herself with many fund-raising events for her community. In 1916 she moved to Goulburn

to be closer to her family. She died in 1933 and is buried with Francis in Collector Cemetery, NSW.

Mary Ann TURNER, born in 1849 at Lake George, NSW, married Denis Joseph KENNY, at Cootamundra, NSW. They had six children; Mary died on 31st March 1928 at South Gundagai, NSW and was buried in the local cemetery next to Denis, who died three years earlier.

The newspaper obituary of Mary Ann answered my earlier question about what happened to the children of John and Ann Turner. Mary's obituary stated: *"Deceased ... patiently bore her long illness with much fortitude, being carefully nursed and cared for by members of her loving family and the solace of the Sisters of Mercy and the Rev. Father Treacy.... born at Yass 80 years ago ... reared with the Leary family, ... head of one of the most hospitable homes in the district, and made a host of friends among all classes of the community."*

The LEARY family were also mentioned in the newspaper reports for the marriage of Catherine KENNY, Denis and Mary TURNER's eldest daughter, to Patrick O'KEEFE in 1907.

Without these newspaper reports, I may never have found out what happened to James, Mary Ann and Catherine TURNER and the lives they went on to live, even with all of the tragedies that they experienced.

Sources:

NSW Registry of BDMs
National Library of Australia TROVE Newspaper Collection
Family history research
NSW Register of Coroners' Inquests
Cemetery Records
Ancestry.com.au

Tour of May's Hill Cemetery and Heritage Sites of Parramatta

Thursday, 25th May

\$35 per head

By bus we visit May's Hill Cemetery for a short tour of interesting headstones by Kerrima-Gae of Topp Tours which includes morning tea. After a picnic lunch in Parramatta Park we'll have an on-board commentary from Kerrima-Gae as we tour heritage sights and buildings of Parramatta.

Devonshire Street Cemetery

Helen Fatouros, Research Officer

A short while ago, I found this photograph showing the sandstone pillars that once supported the front gates leading to the Devonshire Street Cemetery in Sydney. A large portion of the research inquiries I receive relate to this old cemetery and I thought a brief outline its history may be of interest to readers.



Of course, the very first recorded grave in the early colony is that of Pere le Receveur, a French Priest of the ill-fated La Perouse Expedition, whose tomb is in the La Perouse area of Kamay Botany Bay National Park, next to the La Perouse Museum.

However, the “oldest” cemetery in New South Wales is the St John’s Cemetery in Parramatta, with the first internment mentioned being a small child, in 1790.

Sydney's first official cemetery is where Sydney Town Hall now stands. Dating back to the 1790s, the site is commonly called the Old Sydney Burial Ground. It is also known as the George Street Burial Ground, the Cathedral Close Cemetery and, retrospectively, the Town Hall Cemetery.

Governor Macquarie, back in 1820, ordered the consecration of the Devonshire Street Cemetery. A burial ground was set aside on Brickfield Hill and the layout and location of Devonshire Street Cemetery placed Sydney at the forefront of cemetery design. This was the colonials' first clear response to the garden cemetery movement in Britain. It was located on the outskirts of a populous town, on an elevated site, with picturesque views of the city and the harbour.

As the principal burial ground in Sydney from 1820 to 1866, the cemetery was often referred to as "Sandhill's Cemetery", a colloquial name found on some death certificates, which reflects the land at the edge of Surry Hills.

Before any internments took place, a brick wall was erected to enclose its four acres. Within a four year period the cemetery was expanded by the addition of seven acres to its south. In the first half of the 1830s along the southern boundary of the cemetery, a road was formed and they named it Devonshire Street.

Many of the early settlers were buried there; but it was later moved in order to build the Sydney railway terminus. In 1901 the cemetery was resumed to allow for the development of Sydney's Central Railway Station, (which was opened on 4 August 1906) and representatives of deceased persons buried in the Cemetery were given two months to arrange for exhumation and removal of remains. All reasonable costs were born by the Government of New South Wales.

Unclaimed remains were transferred to a number of cemeteries. Bunnerong Cemetery, situated south of the city, had a tram line constructed to make the removal of re-casketed remains as simple as possible. Bunnerong Cemetery was next to the Botany Cemetery and in the early 1970s, was absorbed by that cemetery, to create the Eastern Suburbs Memorial Park.

The total number of burials may never be known with certainty. Approximately 8,500 remains were claimed by descendants and removed, with the associated monumentation, to other cemeteries. In the Eastern Suburbs, Waverley, Randwick General, South Head General and Bunnerong Cemeteries took re-internments from Devonshire Street Cemetery.

Those unclaimed – somewhere around 30,000 – were removed to La Perouse, along with about 2800 memorials. Many of the new burial sites have not survived but in 1973 the remaining monuments were consolidated and moved again to create the Pioneer Memorial Park.

An index created from a number of previous collections of information, including some remaining original cemetery registers, called the Devonshire Street Cemetery re-internment register and index (“microform” format) was produced by the Library of Australian History, North Sydney in 1999. A copy is held by the State Library of New South Wales, while a hardback version was also produced.

Sources

- ◇ NSW State Library, The Dictionary of Sydney – Devonshire Street Cemetery,
- ◇ AG Foster, 'The Sandhills. An Historic Cemetery', *Journal of the Royal Australian Historical Society*, Vol 5, part 4, 1919.
- ◇ Keith A Johnson & Malcolm R Sainty, *Sydney Burial Ground 1819–1901: Elizabeth and Devonshire Streets and History of Sydney's Early Cemeteries from 1788*, Library of Australian History, Sydney, 2001
- ◇ Lisa Murray, *Sydney Cemeteries: a field guide*, New South Publishing, Sydney, 2016
- ◇ Sue Zelinka, *Tender sympathies : a social history of Botany Cemetery and the Eastern Suburbs Crematorium*, Hale & Iremonger, Sydney, 1991
- ◇ Google




Manslaughter or Misadventure

Lindsay Harden,
Member No 468

BOXING DAY,
WEDNESDAY, 20th INSTANT.
ALBERT GROUND.
GIGANTIC ATTRACTIONS.

Balloon Ascent,
Athletic Sports,
Richardson's Show,
Pantomime, &c., &c.

Mr. J. BENNETT has much pleasure in informing
the public that he has made arrangements with
Professor RUFUS G. WELLS,
THE RENOWNED AERONAUT,
who has recently returned from EUROPE, AFRICA, and
INDIA, accompanied with his wife, to make his
FIRST ASCENT,
at the
ALBERT GROUND,
on
BOXING DAY.



Professor Rufus G. Wells,
Boxing Day, Albert Ground.

There was excitement in the crowd of almost 5,000 attended to enjoy the balmy day at the Alfred Grounds with the main attraction being the appearance of the internationally renowned American aeronaut, Professor Rufus Gibbon Wells and the proposed ascension of his hot air balloon. However the balloon, for reasons of safety, did not go up and *“to satisfy the disappointed, and make amends for the omission from the programme, tickets of free admission to the ground next Saturday were given to all present to witness, on that day, the ascent, or another attempted ascent, of the balloon, for past experience of this kind of entertainment in Sydney, hardly justifies the positive announcement.”*

On the attempt the following Saturday, 5th January, while the balloon was being inflated with hot air, Mr. Rufus G. Wells delivered *“... an oration on ... ballooning, and mentioning his own feats of that kind”*. It ended in another *“contemptible fiasco”* during which Wells, himself, received some rather nasty injuries.

It was decided that the next attempt would be not at the Alfred Ground in a pavilion in the Outer Domain. Amongst the considerable crowd were 34 year old Charles Tapley HARDEN and his boyhood friend, Peter FORD.

Born in Sydney in 1843 to James and Isabel (née CASTLE) HARDEN, Charles was the third son and fourth child of their five surviving children. They lived in Balmain but Charles moved to Woolloomooloo after his marriage to Mary Jane WATTS in 1869. Charles worked at the Government Printers as a compositor on a salary of £150 p.a. It seems that Mary may have been a seamstress as, in his 1877 insolvency application, many of his creditors wanted payment for orders of fabric and sewing materials including “1 yard of parachute silk”.

Sadly it seems that 1 yard of it was not enough to save Charles in this air-borne adventure!

There are numerous newspaper reports of what took place in the Domain on the night of Saturday 12th January, 1878 – some florid and others plainly sensational. The following account of the events of that night is primarily taken from one detailed account of the Coroners’ Inquest into the death of Charles Tapley HARDEN. Peter FORD attested that *“between 10.30 and 11 o’clock, he was standing alongside the deceased in a pavilion in the Domain. ... The balloon was inflated, and had risen to a height of about 600 feet in the air...a rope attached to the car of the balloon ... passed through a ‘stop block’ and wound ... round the barrel of a winch. The end of the rope was held behind the winch by two persons engaged in paying it out... (we) were standing about seven or eight yards from the winch... balloon was 700 or 800 feet in the air ... one man-of-war’s-man who had hold of the rope endeavoured to take a turn with the rope around the winch... to stop the balloon ... going at a rate ... of 6 or 7 miles an hour. When the turn was made the rope gave a sudden jerk, and broke around the barrel of the windlass. Deceased, who was standing up close by... was violently struck down by the end of the rope attached to the balloon. Deceased had not been in the balloon ... Before the balloon ascended deceased may have had hold of the car, but it was after the balloon went up that the deceased was injured.”*

In the car of the balloon was a young volunteer, James M. STEWART, who supposedly had experience with Irish balloons. He *“...was accompanied by another would-be aeronaut named FRANCIS ...who jumped out of the car...when it had risen a few feet from the ground.”* It seems that, despite the devastation on the ground, there were... *splendid sailing conditions...*” and Mr Stewart sailed off, solo, towards the harbour and into the wide blue yonder.

Peter FORD , his friend, conveyed Charles HARDEN to the Sydney Infirmary where he died from spinal injuries two days later on Monday 14th January, 1878. The Coroner’s Inquest was held on Tuesday 15th January and Charles was buried in Balmain Cemetery on the following day, Wednesday,16th January 1878 .

George Lord CARTER was lessee and employed in assisting Professor Wells on this evening of ignominy. He attested at the inquest he " ... saw the deceased, Mr. HARDEN, several times... walking round and round the outskirts of the balloon while it was being inflated... smoking a cigar. Witness cautioned him several times saying, "For God's sake Charlie, keep away from the balloon with that cigar in your mouth"."

He then went on to describe the sequence of events that led to these mishaps adding he "... was satisfied with WELLS's competency, as he had called at the WELLS's residence and had seen his medals, papers, and testimonials." During his testimony he also explained the safety preparations and financial arrangements that were made beforehand.

A juror asked, " Professor WELLS no doubt would not go up in the balloon himself. It was a pretty thing to endanger peoples' lives in this way. If you had unbounded confidence in Mr Wells, why did you get a chain?"

CARTER: "I thought it best to take every caution. "

When Professor Rufus Gibbon WELLS was called the Coroner "... deemed it his duty to state ... if there was evidence of a want of sufficient skill and knowledge ... so as to have contributed to the deceased's death, the jury might bring in a verdict of manslaughter... warn him against giving evidence that might incriminate himself."

WELLS contradicted the previous witness and, by his own testimony, was shown to be totally free of blame and seemed to be unaware of much that was happening. However the jury thought otherwise and after an hour of deliberations came back with the verdict "... that ... Charles Tapley HARDEN died from injuries to his spinal cord ... caused by the negligence and want of care of Rufus Gibbon WELLS in the management of a balloon. The jury added ... 'That the jury are of the opinion that great blame attaches to the fireworks committee'."

The coroner committed him for trial at the Central Criminal Court, to be held at Darlinghurst on Monday, February 13th. Bail was allowed in his own recognizances of £200, and two sureties of £100 each. However the Attorney General later declined to file a bill against WELLS.

And what happened to Mr Stewart and the run-away balloon?
Well, that's another story.

Sources:

- TROVE: Sydney Mail and New South Wales Advertiser, Saturday 5 January 1878, p. 22:
- TROVE: Sydney Morning Herald, Friday, 11 January, 1878
- NSW BDM
- Insolvent Estate of Charles T. Harden No13566 26/07/1877: NSW State Records
- TROVE: Australian Town and Country Journal , Saturday 19 January 1878, p 13
- TROVE: The Sydney Mail, Saturday 19 January, 1878
- NSW Police Gazette 23 January, 1878, p. 35

Strangers in a Box

Submitted by Denise O'Connor, Member 501

I found this note from poet, Pamela Harazim in the Australian Family Tree Connections October 2014 as well as her poem, 'Strangers in a Box'.

I am always amazed at how many lives that little poem has touched! In 1997, I authored the poem titled 'Strangers in the Box'. At the time I was teaching scrapbooking classes and used the poem in my presentations. I have found it in so many places printed as 'Author unknown' but I am trying to correct this and ask that you credit me. I originally wrote the poem when my mother had dementia and realised that the stories she loved to tell me about her youth and her family were locked inside her and I didn't remember them like I was so sure I always would. Hence, the box of strangers. I have a few stories of family before my grandparents - I need to do some genealogy hunting for myself!

1997 by Pamela A. Harazim. All Rights Reserved. May be used in unchanged form for non-commercial purposes if accompanied by this copyright message'.

I sent this poem to our Kith & Kin editor, Lindsay, as I thought this was a delightful reminder of how important it is for us to try to flesh out a second-in-time, as best we can, with descriptions of 'who, what, where and when'.

As her mother came from Shropshire, Lindsay had borrowed the September 2022 Shropshire Family History Society Journal from our library and came across a poem titled 'INSIDE THE DRAWER' by Anon' and, yes, it was the same poem. I emailed the editor of that journal to advise her of the name of the author and the correct title and had a lovely reply from her.

We couldn't believe the co-incidence of that poem appearing in both our lives within seven days of each other. I had taken home a number of old magazines and came across the poem in that 2014 magazine. The chances of my taking home that particular one and reading the poem and for Lindsay to find it in the Shropshire Journal must be quite extraordinary.

STRANGERS IN THE BOX

(c) 1997 Pamela A Harazim

COME, look with me inside this drawer
In this box I've often seen
At the pictures, black and white,
Faces proud... still... serene...

I wish I knew the people,
These strangers in the box,
Their names and all their memories
Are lost among my socks.

I wonder what their lives were like?
How did they spend their days?
What about their special times?
I'll never know their ways.

If someone had taken time
To tell who, what, where, when...
These faces of my heritage
Would come to life, again.

Could this become the fate
Of the pictures we take today?
The faces and the memories
Someday to be tossed away?

Make time to save your pictures
Seize the opportunity when it knocks,
Or someday you and yours could be
THE STRANGERS IN THE BOX...



Guest Speakers

November, 2022



**Jane Britten and
Barbara Swebeck**
from the
Woollahra Libraries
Local History Librarians

Jane and Barbara spoke about historic *'Maps and Mansions'* formerly located in the Woollahra Council area. The twelve magnificent, nineteenth century stately homes chosen to illustrate their talk and PowerPoint presentation sadly no longer exist, having been demolished in the twentieth century to be replaced by concrete and glass towers. Fortunately many photos were taken of the interior of several of these houses as well as exterior shots of all the properties and their locations were shown on the maps. A selection of these early maps were displayed on the tables in the art room which was pleasurable for the cartophiles amongst us.



Along with Randwick and Bayside Libraries, Woollahra Library belongs to Cape Banks FHS and we welcome their support and interest.



Many of the items in the Woollahra collection have been digitised and these, plus research guides, are available online at :-
woollahra.nsw.gov/library/local-history

Left:
Subdivision Map of the Mayfair Estate,
Darling Point

State Library of NSW Subdivision Map
066-7/SP/D3/68

February, 2023

Leonie Bell

‘Stannumville: Suburb in the Sand ‘

The homes described by Leonie in Stannumville could not have been more different from those spoken about by our previous speakers who told us of former magnificent mansions in the Woollahra area. For the homes in this area, built by the NSW Government during World War 1 in an area south of Daceyville, were tents made of calico framed with flimsy timber. Initially it was dubbed Canvas Town and sometimes referred to as Calico Town or Tin Town but the name change to Stannumville was probably to give it an air of respectability when a school was established there. (*stannum* is the Latin word for tin, chemical symbol *Sn*)

It was purpose built and considered to be temporary emergency housing as opposed to the canvas and tin shacks that were erected by desperate people during the throes on the Great Depression of the 1930s. Each tent had two or three small rooms and only bare sand for flooring. The sanitary conditions were totally inadequate and cooking facilities not much better. However the rent was minimal in a time of low incomes and a severe housing shortage so to many it would have been preferable to sleeping on the streets or in the slums.

Leonie came across this little known area by chance when researching for another of her projects. With dogged determination she managed to find reports and photos to illustrate her fascinating talk but said that the name Stannumville was never recorded in official records.

Right:

Charmaine Piaud was delighted to not only to be able to meet up again with her distant relative, Leonie Bell, but also to be the winner of the monthly raffle which was drawn by Leonie.





Did You Know...?

Mclver's Ladies Baths Centenary – Herstory Project

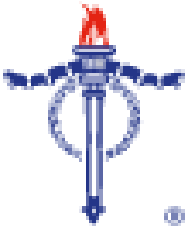


The Randwick and Coogee Ladies Swimming Association (previously Randwick and Coogee Ladies Amateur Swimming Club) is seeking photos and memorabilia from current and former members of the Club. An exhibition is being planned for August 2023 at Lionel Bowen Library in Maroubra to celebrate the 100 year anniversary of women swimming and managing the Mclver's Ladies Baths.

Did you learn to swim at Mclver's Ladies Baths? Did you participate in the Saturday morning races at the Ladies Baths in the 50s and 60s? Did you or your mother or aunt participate in social or fund-raising events at the Ladies Baths – or belong to the Thursday Married Ladies Club?

If you can provide a photo, lend a precious item or contribute a memory please contact the Association's information Line at info@rclsa.org

Your contributions will be well-cared for and returned after the exhibition.



Legacy Centenary: The commemorative event is the Legacy Torch Relay 2023 presented by Defence Health. Beginning in Pozierres, France leading up to ANZAC Day, the torch will be stopping at all 45 Legacy clubs worldwide.

In the trenches of the Western Front during World War I, a soldier said to his dying mate "*I'll look after the missus and kids*". This became known as *'The Promise'*. In 1923, realising the dire circumstances of the tens of thousands of veterans, widows and children left behind, those who returned set out to help them.

Legacy has responded to the needs of families of veterans for 100 years and is dedicated solely to their care and support. Currently it cares for families who have lost their loved ones and been affected by their partner's service in the Korean War, Malayan Emergency, Vietnam War, as well as campaigns in Iraq, Afghanistan and in peace-keeping operations across the globe.

CAPE BANKS FHS NOTICE BOARD

March

- 1 *St David's Day – Welsh National Day*
- 4 Writers Circle
- 11 Monthly meeting – *Members Stories*
- 17 *St Patrick's Day _ Irish National Day*
- 25 UK Interest Group

31/3 TO 28/4 Display cabinet at Bowen Library

April

- 1 Writers Circle
- 8 CBFHS closed for Easter
- 9 “ “ “ “

National Trust Heritage Festival 2023 10 April to 14 May, “*Shared Stories*”

- 15 Monthly meeting Speaker TBA
- 22 UK Interest Group
- 23 *St George's Day – English National Day*
- 25 ANZAC DAY – CBFHS
- 28 Lend Lease Forum
- 29 Beginners Workshop
- Committee Meeting TBA

May

- 6 Writers Circle
- 13 Monthly meeting - *Guest Speaker TBA*
Lionel Bowen Library
- 25 Bus Trip to Parramatta
- 27 UK Interest Group

June

- 3 Writers Circle
- 10 Monthly meeting: *Guest speaker – Greg Bond*
- 24 UK Interest Group

Cape Banks Family History Society Inc. Botany Cemetery Memorial Inscriptions on CD-ROM

53,000 Headstones from Eastern Suburbs Memorial Park

| | | |
|---|-----------|----------------------|
| Pioneer Memorial Park – | 1829-1901 | \$10.00 + \$3.00 p&p |
| Church of England – | 1893-1986 | \$16.00 + \$3.00 p&p |
| Catholic Sections – | 1893-1990 | \$28.00 + \$3.00 p&p |
| Congregational, Presbyterian, Methodist, Children and Jewish – | 1893-1992 | \$10.00 + \$3.00 p&p |
| General Sections – | 1893-1994 | \$18.00 + \$3.00 p&p |

All orders to Publications Officer

Australian Research Service

Cape Banks Family History Society provides a Research Service for non-members. We are particularly interested in assisting people from overseas and other states of Australia to trace their missing ancestors.

Research is carried out from our own records including our Eastern Suburbs Names Index (over 10,000 local names from various sources), plus the holdings of the Randwick City Council Bowen Library.

Charges: \$20.00 per hour plus cost of certificates, photocopies and return Air Mail postage.

Headstone Photographs Taken

We will photograph headstones in Botany Cemetery, St Jude's Churchyard Randwick and Randwick (formerly Long Bay) Cemetery at a cost of \$30.00 per headstone. Three photos are supplied - one of the headstone, one of the grave and one of the grave with its location to a focal point in the cemetery.

All members may submit an update of their research interests for inclusion in Kith & Kin and on our web page. Forms are available at the Research Room or from our Secretary. Forms must be signed giving permission for these details to be published.

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Editor | Lindsay Harden |
| Journal Posting Team | Jan Gallagher, Hazel Brombey, and Verna Little |
| Printing | Glory Printing, Kingsford |

Cape Banks F.H.S. Publications

Botany Cemetery Monumental Inscriptions

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| Pioneer Memorial Park – 1829-1901 | \$10.00 + \$6.00 p&p |
| Church of England – 1893-1986 | \$16.00 + \$8.00 p&p |
| Catholic Sections – 1893-1990 | \$28.00 + \$9.00 p&p |
| Congregational, Presbyterian, Methodist, Children and Jewish – 1893-1992 | \$10.00 + \$6.00 p&p |
| General Sections 1893-1994 | \$18.00 + \$8.00 p&p |
| Buried at Botany - A Cemetery Comes to Life | \$15.00 + \$5.00 p&p |

Prince Henry (Coast) Hospital Cemetery Headstones

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| 80 M.I.s from 1881, includes those who died from infectious diseases; some hospital staff | \$ 5.00 + \$5.00 p&p |
|--|----------------------|

Randwick General Cemetery Monumental Inscriptions

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 10,800 M.Is - 1874-1993 | \$28.00 + \$9.00 p&p |
|-------------------------|----------------------|

Maroubra & District Pioneer Register Pre 1945

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| Includes: Daceyville, Kingsford (south of Gardeners Road), Matraville, Malabar, Little Bay & La Perouse | \$30.00 + \$8.00 p&p |
|--|----------------------|

Maroubra Memories

\$25.00 + \$8.00 p&p

St Mary's Cathedral Chapel School Registers

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| 1820, 1830, 1833 Registers, includes the names of 498 children attending & two teachers. | \$ 2.00 + \$3.00 p&p |
|---|----------------------|

Randwick Destitute Children's Asylum

| | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Deaths & Burials 1853-1916 | \$ 2.00 + \$3.00 p&p |
|----------------------------|----------------------|

Blythswood School Register, Randwick 1906-1951

\$ 7.00 + \$5.00 p&p

Buried at Botany - A Cemetery Comes Alive

\$15.00 + \$3.00 p&p

All orders to: Publications Officer
 Cape Banks FHS Inc
 PO Box 67, Maroubra 2035
 Email ericjmc1@iinet.net.au



Location map courtesy of The Coast Centre for Seniors

Based now in Little Bay, our name comes from the northern headland of Botany Bay, named after botanist, Sir Joseph Banks. Hence our emblem is the Banksia, one of the native wildflowers discovered by Banks on arriving at Botany Bay in 1770.