



Pensioner Barracks & Parade, 1860s.
(W.A. Museum)

ENROLLED PENSIONER GUARDS
A Special Interest Group of the
Western Australian Genealogical Society Inc.
Unit 6/48 May Street,
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Seasons Greetings

From the Editor,

Where did the time go? It wasn't that long ago that we were all worried about the millennium bug in our computers and the problems that the year 2000 would befall upon us all. Well none of that happened except that we are a little bit older and that much wiser. I would like you to take time out to reflect on the last five years and how much wiser we have become. In wiser, I mean how we have overcome the obstacles in researching our man and understanding the tribulations that our ancestors had to endure. In the last five years I have filled in a number of gaps in my Great Grand Fathers history, however, despite the indicators that point to his belonging to an extended family of Suttons from Loughborough, Leicestershire, I cannot confirm his birthright. Was he actually born a Sutton? Was he illegitimate? Was he adopted as a waif? Why did he join the Royal Marines and not follow the path of the family trade of tailors. Well I am none the wiser.

It has been drawn to my attention that editors of registered newsletters must include their name and contact details in the publication, so I have had that little problem rectified. Maybe I will now be inundated with submissions for publication.

On behalf of the Committee, I extend Season's Greetings to all our members and their families and we trust 2005 will be an interesting and challenging year. Enclosed with this newsletter is the application form for renewal of your newsletter subscription fees for the year ending 31st March 2006.

Ron Sutton

General Meeting Dates for 2005
5th February Commencing at 1.00 pm
Guest Speaker: Bevan Carter
President, WAGS
16th April Commencing at 1.00 pm
Annual General Meeting
Election of Office Bearers

Letter to the Editor

Dear Ron,

Having just finished reading the latest newsletter, I would like to say thank you for representing our group on the day at Kojonup.

The spelling of the name of my esteemed ancestor is Michael Reilly, not Riley as written in your article about the members of the Enrolled Pensioner Force in Kojonup. Perhaps you have picked up the incorrect spelling from the map displayed at the site of the cottage there on the day. I spoke to the President of the Kojonup Historical Society about the incorrect spelling on the day, and found it quite amazing that they did not resort to either 'The Veterans', or other documentation to make sure that their display was correct. Likewise with the passages read out on the day about the members of the EPG, the offering about Michael Reilly was sadly lacking.

I was pleased to have the opportunity to meet up with about 19 other descendants of our old soldier Michael Reilly and his wife Ellen Stubbs. I have been researching this family now for approximately the past ten years, and it was as a result of a 'family grapevine' commenced back then, that we all came to be present on the day. This gave me the opportunity to share my research with them, and hopefully we will meet up again.

For the record, Michael Reilly served with the Honourable East India Company in the 2nd Bombay European Infantry Regiment after enlisting in Dublin, Ireland. An educated man from humble beginnings, he achieved the rank of Sergeant both in India where he served for a month short of 17 years, and in Western Australia with the Enrolled Pensioner Force. At the age of 40, he arrived in Western Australia with his new wife and son aboard the Edwin Fox on 24th November 1858. Shortly after he was sent to Kojonup, and there he settled and raised a family enduring joy, hardship, tragedy and prejudice. He purchased land in Kojonup—**Suburban Lot 13** on 13th November 1863, and on the 11th December 1866 received the title to the Land Grant of 10 acres in consideration of his Military service— the said piece of land being **Kojonup Suburban Lot P3**, to have and to hold for Michael Reilly, his heirs and assigns forever. These two lots adjoin. We that are descended from this family are proud of their achievements and sad for their despair.

I would like to include a few tips that I have used in my research that may help others. Having spent many days looking through records at Batty, and the SRO, WAGS and The Latter Day Saints libraries, there were many gaps in my knowledge.

Ten years ago I placed a notice in the 'Can You Help' column, at this time knowing nothing of the family. I received my first contact with family descended from my grandmother's sister, and from then the grapevine has grown. Each time I made new contacts there were new clues to follow up. Many letters came from people who had just known of my family with stories to tell, or in the case of others that were in Kojonup at the time, descendants informed me that Michael Reilly's wife Ellen had delivered their aunts and uncles, this information from documentation in their own research.

I had found no reference at all to the regiment that Michael Reilly was in, but had been told about the Land Grant, so I applied at DOLA for a copy of the grant to find that his regiment was written there.

Whenever I was talking to elderly relatives I would carry a small recording tape. One can't write as fast as the conversation, and it is amazing what little tit bits one picks up on typing up the conversation. The Police Occurrence Books available on request at the SRO are a valuable source of information. In the early days police matters covered every occurrence. I found another relative spending the night in the Kojonup lockup for being D & D. I was delighted because it gave me a time and place in my research. I am however glad that he didn't seem to repeat the occurrence.

I knew that my father's father came from the New Forest in Hampshire in England, and found the address for the Historical Society in the booklets on WAGS shelves, and wrote asking for any information about the family. It took several months but I received several letters from other descendants and even the historian at the History Society with some great information about the family going back to the eleven hundreds.

I found it almost impossible and pretty expensive booking out film after film looking for the Military records, so I employed the services of a Military Historian in the UK. This was a very good move because it gave me far more than the military records. From the Attestation and Discharge papers I found the personal information of date of birth, place of birth, intended place of abode on discharge, former occupation and description. More clues to follow up on.

Phillippa Ward

Footnote: Phillippa is correct in assuming that I picked up her ancestors name from the maps provided by the Kojonup Historical Society. I have openly apologised to Phillippa and her family at the General Meeting held on 23rd October 2004 for my oversight. The tips in Phillippa's letter are valid and one should not overlook any source that may produce that magic piece for your jigsaw.

Ed.

CONVENOR'S REPORT

In writing a Report in the first month of a new year, it is daunting to predict events and outcomes during the coming year.

It is not so difficult to look back at 2004 and feel a small sense of achievement for your Enrolled Pensioner Guard Group.

General awareness of the role played by our EPG ancestors in the early history of Western Australia is gradually growing. Involvement in events and projects in various districts acknowledged by local Historical Societies must surely filter down to members of the local community. Casual conversation with the general public also sows the seeds of interest in the subject.

In brief, we can nominate areas such as Perth, Kings Park, Army Museum of Western Australia, Fremantle Prison, Toodyay, Kojonup, Cockburn etc.

Response from members of the public to paragraphs in the 'Can You Help' column of "The West Australian" newspaper reveal there are still descendants of Enrolled Pensioner Guards unaware of the existence of our Group and its purpose and aims.

A number of members have taken advantage of the offer to purchase a 'brick' in the "Welcome Walls" at the Maritime Museum in Fremantle. The arrival of their EPG ancestors through the port of Fremantle will have their name, the name of the ship and year of arrival recorded on a 'brick' in the Wall. More detailed information can be lodged for inclusion in the Museum's planned database.

Descendants of Enrolled Pensioner Guards who had Crimea war service may be interested to know of the availability of access to visiting the Crimean battle sites in the Ukraine. Until recently, the battle sites of the Crimean campaigns were almost entirely off limits to foreigners. Sebastopol and Balaclava, now part of the Ukraine, were closed cities where even Soviet citizens required special permission to enter.

During the years since the battles, many of the original war cemeteries have been destroyed or churned up during intense fighting in World War II. The original obelisk marking the slaughter of the charge of the Light Brigade has received a fresh lick of paint and wreaths of poppies. Descendants of veterans and British soldiers with historical links to the Light Brigade have already visited in numbers.

If following the hoof beats of your ancestor's trusty steed up the Valley of Death has a special interest for you – trot into your local travel agent.

Footnote: *Since appearance of this news in "The West Australian" of 25th November, 2004, there were public demonstrations and unrest in the Ukraine over the result of the recent Presidential elections.*

On a more positive note, it is with great pleasure and gratitude we can announce the acceptance of our application for a Cultural Grant from the City of Cockburn for the sum of \$1800 to complete the limestone block base for the installation of the Mosaic depicting the involvement of the Enrolled Pensioner Guards in the history of the Lake Coogee area. The ruins of the cottage are still visible, and a suitable ceremony will be conducted when the work is completed.

2005 therefore may not be as daunting as first thought – just a case of continued commitment

Jean McDonald

Convenor

Articles for your Newsletter

The response for articles for this newsletter has been quite pleasing and the Committee look forward to receiving additional articles for the April newsletter. Special thanks go to Jean McDonald, Brian and Lynn Gray and Jeanette Lee for their contributions. Jeanette Lee also wishes to acknowledge the contribution made by John Kelly for her article on William Hill. To assist in the editing process and to ensure that we can squeeze in as much as possible, it is desirable, but not compulsory to have computer copies typed in Times New Roman 10.

Ed.

One of our Own

Micheal Carty, Enrolled Pensioner Guard charged by LC McCafery and PC Payne at Perth on 4th April 1877, with stabbing David Marchant with a bayonet, on the same date with intent to do grievous bodily harm. Appeared in Court on 6th April 1877 and committed for trial at the Supreme Court.

Source:

Police Gazette 11 April 1877.

AJCP REEL 3212 PIECE 74
"WILLIAM HAMMOND"

ADM 101 ADMIRALTY PART 7 (Adm.)
(LISWA H&SS)

SURGEONS JOURNAL - GENERAL REMARKS

During the period of this Journal the "William Hammond" has been employed in embarking male convicts in England and conveying them to Fremantle, Western Australia. The embarkation took place during the winter season of the year at several of the ports along the coast of England yet, notwithstanding the very heavy gales and cold wet weather which prevailed in the channel, the general health of the convicts and others did not suffer but continued remarkably good during the whole of the voyage which was performed without touching at any intermediate port. There were a few cases of Diarrhoea which were speedily relieved by the exhibition of aperients, astringents, and restoring the proper action of the surface combined with light unirritating diet. On getting into cool weather south of the line, a few cases of Catarrh and Rheumatism appeared but these were of no import and soon disposed of by the remedial measures usually adopted in such cases. There were two cases phthisis pulmonalis under treatment. One patient was a convict who had evidently suffered from disease of the lung previous to embarkation and was sent to hospital on arriving in Australia.

The other subject of this disease was a **CORPORAL IN THE PENSIONER GUARD** who came on board in an emaciated state having been recently discharged from the Military Hospital at Plymouth where he had been for some months under treatment for disease of the chest. Haemoptysis accelerated the fatal event, and this was the only death which occurred during the voyage.

The Dysentery ... was removed by aperients calomel and opiumetc but when the patient was in a state of convalescence – much emaciation being present, he was seized with headache wandering and other symptoms of diseased action within the head followed by coma and hemeplegia. Cold lotions to the shaved head epispastics (?) aperients stimulants, after a time mercurials ... had recourse to and after lying in a hopeless state for some days consciousness returned with the gradual restoration of power and sensibility in the side and lower limb but without any improvement in the paralytic condition of the arm. On being sent to the hospital at Fremantle the general health had much improved – appetite keen with some increase in the muscular development.

The Ophthalmias soon disappeared under the use of the Nitrate of Silver in strong solution as will be seen by a reference to the cases Nos. 8 and 9.

In the cases of Nyctalopia the retina was no doubt in a state of impaired sensibility arising from exposure to the brilliant light of the day and must have been rendered prone to irregularity of action in consequence of the sudden transitions to which the prisoners were necessarily subjected in passing from the obscure light of the prison to the glare of the upper deck and vice versa. There was no scorbutic tendency in any of the prisoners and in no way did the complaint appear to be connected with that particular state of the system though some seizures were entirely confined to the inmates of the prison it is to be supposed that an impaired condition of the nervous energy peculiar to this unfortunate class of men lent a pre-disposing influence in promoting the accession of the disease. Aperients repeated blistering etc. combined in one or two cases with generous diet effected the cure.

Nos. 12, 16 and 17 in the Journal are examples

On embarkation the general state of health of the convicts was good and as already mentioned continued so during the whole of the voyage.

At Woolwich, 67 male prisoners were embarked on the 8th of December 1855, 58 at Portsmouth on the 17th, 80 at ...land on the 18th and 45 were received in Plymouth Sound from Dartmoor on the 31st of the same month making in all 250. The whole number were disembarked at Fremantle Western Australia on the 1st and 2nd of April 1856 at which time the general condition was very high indeed the appearance of the prisoners was far superior to what it was on embarkation – many having become quite stout -

The Guard consisted of thirty Pensioners, accompanied by a train of 20 women and 40 children.

It now becomes necessary to mention some of those points of economy which in all probability were the means of contributing to the high tone of health on board the "William Hammond".

Those grand adjuvants in the preservation of human health on board ship- cleanliness, dryness and ventilation were made the subject of constant and serious attention and became especially necessary where so many persons were huddled together in a small place - with the nervous system depressed and agitated by a variety of conflicting influences inseparable from convicted criminals on their way to a penal settlement

The dietary scale included the occasional use of preserved meat and potato, wine and the daily issue of lemonade.

The bedding was stowed on deck during the day and frequently spread open to the air - personal cleanliness was strictly attended to and every opportunity for employment and amusement embraced.

The Chloride of Zinc was in constant use and by virtue of its power in decomposing putrid emanations lent much to health and comfort.

But there is yet another circumstance to which I am inclined to attribute in no small degree the excellent state of health on board. It was the frequent removal of the convicts in part or in whole when practicable especially before sunset to the upper deck so as to allow the atmosphere of the prison to become pure and wholesome while at the same time the men had the beneficial influence of the open air for in my opinion without this all other sanitary efforts would have proved ?...gatory.

George MacLaren

Surgeon Superintendent

PENSIONERS LISTED IN DAILY SICK BOOK

1856

Jan. 15	..	McGuire	43	??	9 days sick list
Jan 20		Robert Sly	42	Catarrhus	34 days sick list
Feb 7		Bernard McCaffrey	40	Furunculus	3 days sick list
Feb 13		Henry Fraser	47	Phthisis	29 days sick list
		Corporal			Died March 13
Feb 16		Robert Hellewell	37	??	6 days sick list
Feb 29		Robert Hellewell	37	Ulcur	8 days sick list
Mar 2		Robert Frett	42	Ulcur	16 days sick list
Mar 4		Joseph Kelly	45	Otitis	5 days sick list
Mar 14		Robert Hellewell	37	?Phlemon	11 days sick list
Mar 17		Joseph Cable	41	Pneumat	1 day sick list

Editors Note: We thank Jean McDonald for this interesting piece of history.

Extract from "The West Australian" 10th September 1936

Coastal Trade - Retired Captain Memories

Now in Fremantle, revisiting the scenes of his boy hood, is Captain John Sheridan, aged 88 years, a retired sheep farmer of Kangaroo Island, South Australia. He arrived in this state recently by the "*Katoomba*", and intends to leave again on September 17. One of his first visits was to the Fremantle Round House, where he spent one of the best remembered nights of his long and varied career for refusing to pay a fine inflicted for throwing stones, a misdemeanour of which he says he was wrongly accused. In recent years Captain Sheridan has several times revisited the State, and on one occasion he flew across. An interview with the captain recalled vividly to mind the romance of the early convict days, when Fremantle, then a straggling limestone town, was the centre of a flourishing whaling industry. He arrived in this State at the age of nine with his family in the convict vessel "*Clara*", the date of its arrival was 10th July, 1857. His father, a corporal in the 47th Royal Irish Regiment, was an officer in charge of the contingent of convicts aboard the vessel, and on his arrival they took up quarters on the site of the present Immigrants' Home. Perilously near to being blown ashore south of Garden Island in a gale, the "*Clara*" had a stiff time of it for several days, but eventually the vessel was brought into Gage Roads and the complement transhipped into flats which were run up the beach. Then followed several happy years for young Sheridan, whose eyes were agog at the bustling activity along the waterfront, where Bateman's whalers used to beach their boats after stirring tussles out by the Stragglers and Garden Island. Twice he heard of the open whaleboats being bitten in halves by ferocious whales. Many times he had heard of missing men and missing ships. But the sea was in his blood, and when 17 years of age he signed aboard the barque "*Tien-Tsin*" (Captain Jarman) for one pound a month.

Genesis of North-West Settlement

This vessel had an interesting history. In 1863 it conveyed Walter Padbury's party, with stock and requirements, to the site of the present town of Cossack (originally called Tien- Tsin harbour) for the first attempt at opening up the North-West. When Sheridan signed on the "*Tien-Tsin*" Padbury's

settlement had been established a couple of years, and the activities of the Camden Harbour (now Derby) Pastoral Association of Melbourne were in full swing. 'I well remember' said Captain Sheridan, 'Mr George (afterwards Sir George) Shenton coming aboard on my very first trip, to superintend the transport of a number of sheep to the new settlement. When we got there, we found the new settlement a hive of activity. Tents were pitched everywhere. It was a real canvas town. Things, however, were not too good there. There was no magistrate, and it was said lynch law ruled in the settlement. We heard reports of some floggings, and believed that complaints had been sent from Melbourne to the West Australian Government. We were not surprised then, on our next trip up, to see Mr R. J. Sholl and a number of policemen come aboard, Mr Sholl having been appointed Resident Magistrate.' I will never forget' he continued, 'the spectacle presented by the big ship "*Calliance*", from Melbourne, when it lay broken-backed on a reef in the harbour at low tide. It was one of the biggest ships I had seen in local waters, and it was a sad sight to see it wrecked in such a way'. The "*Calliance*" was a vessel chartered by the association to carry passengers and stock to the settlement, it struck a reef on the way up to Camden Harbour, and after arrival was being examined for damage when wind drove her on to a reef in the harbour. The captain and a large number of stock were drowned.

By the time the magistrate arrived, discontent at the settlement had reached its highest point. Sheep were dying in hundreds from some unknown cause, and the "*Calliance*" accident was the last straw. An exodus then commenced, and the "*Tien-Tsin*" carried part of the first contingent. 'It was a hard trip' remarked Captain Sheridan. 'We were tacking against head winds all the way, and struck a reef off the North-West Cape on Christmas Eve. From then on it was pump or sink, and I got together some biscuits in case we should be forced to leave the boat. Luckily, however, seaweed had plugged much of the hole'.

Trips to England

Later the "*Tien-Tsin*" went to England with a cargo and copper ore; but after his trip from Camden Harbour young Sheridan considered that he had had enough of her. Shortly after he went to London in another vessel, the "*Fitzroy*", and made three voyages on her. His last return trip to Australia, however, was in the "*Elizabeth Oliver*". Paid off the "*Elizabeth Oliver*" at Fremantle, he served for a time in Captain Littlejohn's "*Argo*", trading between Fremantle and Champion Bay, and the "*Bungaree*" (owned by Batemans) on the Batavia trade, following which he was for a time in harbour service at Fremantle under Captain Croke, the harbour master.

Tiring of harbour work, he got his master's certificate and shipped aboard the "*Laughing Wav*", carrying horses for Singapore. On its return, the vessel called in at Fremantle to take whale oil for Melbourne, where Sheridan was paid off.

The year 1872 found him in Adelaide. Here the rolling stone began to settle and gather a little moss. As an able seaman he joined the crew of the yacht of the then Governor, Sir James Ferguson, and when that vessel passed into the hands of Sir Thomas Elder he went with her. He raced the yacht for Sir Thomas in Melbourne, and gave instruction on it to youths from the old Colonial man-o'-war "*Protector*". Sir Thomas, he said, was willing and anxious that naval recruits should be given training on the yacht. 'Training youths straight from the reformatory was no sweet job' he said. He later joined the "*Protector*" as captain's coxswain and chief quartermaster.

Followed then a period in Government service. With the steamer "*Lady Diana*" he landed mails at Glenelg from the P & O Service, and tended lighthouses along the coast. Later he began to acquire a fleet of his own, and among his boats was the former Governor's yacht which he bought off Sir Thomas Elder and turned into a fishing boat. He also bought another boat, the "*Enchantress*", which was later wrecked when running mails along St Vincent's Gulf. But, withal, his ventures in marine finance were on the whole successful, and near the beginning of the present century he took up 35,000 acres for sheep farming on Kangaroo Island. Until a few years ago he managed this business, but his son now has charge.

Editors Note:

We thank Lynn and Brian Gray for this interesting extract from the West Australian. Minor editing and formatting was carried out with the permission of Lynn and Brian. This story has special significance to me and I refer our members to the story of "North West Odyssey" in our January 2004 edition of the newsletter. It is a wonderful coincidence that a fellow member has a link in history with another member.

William Hill, 63rd Regiment.

William Hill, his wife Margaret and their daughter arrived in Western Australia as part of the guard on the convict ship Pyrenees in 1853. After serving 21 years with the 63rd Regiment of Foot he retired to pension at 1/- (one shilling) per day in 1852. He served for a further 4 years 'on the force' stationed at Albany where he was allocated a pensioner grant of 3 acres and a further £15 for the erection of a cottage. In May 1857 William Hill and three other men applied to the Acting Comptroller General Henry Wray for the position of assistant lighthouse keeper at Albany. Henry Wray advising the Colonial Secretary where a married man with daughters was employed it was better that a single man was not employed as an assistant.

Pensioner W. Hill (from 63rd Regt.) is now on local force here and receiving 2/- (two shillings) a day – is married – has three well grown daughters, and an increasing family, is anxious for the appointment in order to secure a certainty means of living, which the employment in the force cannot be called. Was formerly a Pay Sergeant in his regiment and produced good certificates of conduct and ability. Was reduced from the rank of Sergeant for a breach of military discipline just prior to his discharge – is well spoken of as a steady sober well conducted man.

Acting Comptroller General.

Of the applicants Governor Kennedy chose William Hill to be lighthouse keeper at Point King at a salary of £68 per annum from January 1st 1858. Colonial Secretary Barlee advised the Resident Magistrate, A. Cockburn Campbell Esq., accordingly. The appointment of William Hill, pensioner, to the post of light keeper without his sanction raised the ire of his Commanding Officer Lt. Col., Bruce that resulted in the Colonial Secretary again writing to the Resident Magistrate, Albany on January 9th 1858.

The Staff Officer of Pensioners having reported that pensioner W. Hill appointed Lighthouse Keeper at Point King had no business to accept such an appointment, he being on the Enrolled Force at Albany and under Military Law, I have the honor to inform you thereof – Hill has however been permitted by his Officer to retain his present position on certain conditions or to return to the Local Force.

You will be good enough to inform yourself of Hill's choice, so as to make the necessary arrangements for relieving him of his duties at Point King in the event of his rejoining the local force.

The only applicants registered in this Office for the appointment in question are from Foot Police Constable and two Conditionally Pardoned men of the name of Palmer and Masters.

His Excellency the Governor considers it advisable that a free man should be appointed to this Office in preference to any man convicted of a Criminal Offence, whether Conditionally Pardoned or otherwise".

The conditions laid down by Lt. Col. Bruce were that in the event of retaining the position as lighthouse keeper William would be unable to fulfil his military duties and he would therefore be required to surrender his allotment and the £15 he had received in aid of building his cottage. In the likelihood of him returning to military duty, Bruce was unable to promise him an immediate return to duty. The Resident Magistrate wrote back to the Colonial Secretary on January 21st 1858 saying William Hill accepted the conditions laid down by Lt. Col. Bruce and retained the position of lighthouse keeper. Bruce suspended Hill's pension until the £15 was repaid. All appears to have gone along smoothly until August 1860 when the accidental death of the lightkeeper at Breaksea (Linthorne) necessitated a change in the staffing arrangements and the job of lightkeeper at Breaksea was offered to William Hill which he refused, however he had a change of heart and the Resident Magistrate wrote to the Colonial Secretary withdrawing the refusal.

On the 11th October 1861 William Hill, lightkeeper, Breaksea Island wrote to the Resident Magistrate a very surprising and alarming letter whereby he complained of the irrational behaviour of Assistant Thomas Lamming in August of the same year. William accused him of being neglectful of his duties but his conduct towards the Hill family was very questionable.

'His private conduct is anything but agreeable. He orders my children away from any part of the island they might chance to go where he is, in the most stern and unfeeling manner possible. The children tell me as were they at the door playing, that he ordered them to go out or he would kick there (sic) guts out, so that they have come in crying in dread of him. He seems to hate the sight of them, and told me he would twist there dam'd necks or heads off.

This morning words occurred about the children and his dog. I was not there present, but on being called, the first I heard was that he was damning my wife at the top of his voice. He called my little girl (9 years old) a dam'd young bitch because she told us she saw him at my fowl house, and that he went away when hearing her coming and left the door open, two of them got out and she put them in again (he denied it.) He called me a dam'd liar and said he did not care for me – he called my wife a dam'd dirty sweep, a bitch, and whole of us dam'd trash &c –that we nothing but a

nuisance that I acted anything but a man he would not explain but clenching his fist and swore we might be ashamed of ourselves, he called me deceitful and accused me falsely, which on denying he called me a dam'd liar, although he said he only heard it. My family is in danger of his hasty passions - I gave no cause for his passion, as I spoke collectedly all the time - I have never said anything to give him cause either for his anger or ill will, but if I only ask a simple question he says that I am finding fault.ⁱⁱⁱ

Unfortunately the Resident Magistrate merely queried the time lapse between the events and the report and in his memo to lightkeeper Hill dated 18th October 1861 said: *'If the Lightkeepers continue to quarrel, it will be necessary to hold an investigation on the Island, but I trust that this will not be requisite'.^{iv}*

Lightkeeper Taking note of the remarks Hill wrote another letter dated 21st October 1861 of events which occurred on the 20th & 21st October concerning Thomas Lamming's negligent attitude to his duties and his fear he would be held responsible for Lamming's actions. William also felt very aggrieved of Thomas' attitude to himself objecting very strongly to being called *'a dam'd scoundrel'.^v*

The relationship between the two men continued to deteriorate and again on the 3rd December 1861 William Hill again wrote to the Resident Magistrate regarding Thomas's negligence in not refilling the oil in the lamps and cracking a pane in the lantern.

This time Resident Magistrate Campbell forwarded Hill's reports to the Colonial Secretary on the 14th December 1861 saying

'The men agreed very well till Lamming married, since which time they have been continually quarrelling. I warned Lamming personally that if it continued he would be removed until there was such evidence of his being blameless, as under the circumstances it would be near impossible to obtain. I would suggest that a re-convicted man be sent as Hill's Assistant as a prospect of a reduction of his sentence on good behaviour'^{vi}

Governor Kennedy decided it was time to remove Thomas Lamming and ordered the Resident Magistrate to replace him with a proper and fit person. Life appeared to settle down on the Island until on the 23rd March 1864 the Resident Magistrate received another letter this time from James McGuinness, lightkeeper. He asserted light keeper Hill had returned from Albany

'somewhat under the influence of liquor. He had a sore leg and has done no duty since his return. He brought four bottles of Rum for me. I had given an order for a gallon. I saw another bottle in his room. He said he got half a gallon for himself. ⁱThere is no grog in the place now. The spirits were left in Hill's room. I took what I wanted. Hill kept mostly in his own room on account of his leg. I have seen him only once the worse for liquor since coming over last Wednesday. I have drunk myself between two and three bottles during the last week. The drink (I believe) finished on Sunday. I have seen none since'^{vii}

At the time Probationary Prisoner Hugh Levorne was employed painting the lighthouse and William Hill accused both McGuinness and Levorne of conspiring against him. William was at this time quite incapable of doing any work due to a sore leg and accused McGuinness of wanting to cut his throat.

By the following Tuesday morning William seemed a little better and washed himself and his clothing and said he was going to hoist the signal to go to the hospital. (His family had been in Albany for some time). Unfortunately his condition deteriorated in the afternoon and he was threatening to cut his throat and declared the painter wanted to murder him as he had murdered others.

At 4pm an explosion possibly from a canister of powder in William bedroom shattered the window and blew two holes in the ceiling. When McGuinness attempted to reason with him he jumped on the window sill and said *'D—n your eyes if you would get out of that, I'll sacrifice you'.*

McGuinness's report stated he ran down the hill pursued by Hill who was shouting and brandishing a knife in one hand and a poker in the other. He ran until he perceived the pursuit had stopped and hid in the bushes for 7 hours until 11pm when the Pilot boat arrived.

ⁱ I have ascertained that Hill took over 8 bottles of Rum and a gallon of beer consumed, it appears by McGuinness' statement between Wednesday night and Sunday forenoon. McGuinness assured me that the painter drank none.

A. Cockburn Campbell

Hugh Levorne's account of the final hours differed only in that he said Hill's moods at times were childish and he was drunk a lot of the time. When he saw him on the fateful Tuesday afternoon Hill said to him: *'don't come close to me, I can't command myself like this.'*ⁱⁱⁱ Apparently McGuinness ran to the left and Levorne ran to the right with Hill in hot pursuit of McGuinness. Levorne said he went back to the lighthouse and put up the cone presumably to summons help before looking around for Hill and McGuinness. Failing to find them he went back to the lighthouse and locked himself in. The last he saw of Hill he had left the path and was going down the bank to the right he did not hear him shout after that.

When the lighthouse keeper at Point King, Mr. Nelson, noticed the Breaksea light did not come on at the appropriate time he and the pilot went to the island and found McGuinness and Levorne in a state of abject terror, they notified the Resident Magistrate who set off for the island with a constable and two native trackers. Although they spent two and a half days searching the trackers were only able to find a single set of tracks leading to a rock overhanging the sea, (William Hill was barefoot at the time of his rampage.)

The entry in the Police occurrence book records: *'PC Crow and 2 natives goes to Breaksea Island with RM A. C. Campbell to search for one of the light keepers who is supposed to have destroyed himself when in a state of delirium.'*^{ix} They returned without finding him.

The Resident Magistrate advised the Governor that McGuinness and Levorne *'cannot be too heavily censured for their pusillanimous conduct'*^x and McGuinness being under caution for his heavy drinking would be dismissed.

Margaret Hill, left without any means of support for herself and her family, applied to Lt. Col Bruce to no avail, she then wrote a memorial to Edward Cardwell, Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies on the 1st November 1865 whereby she claimed Colonel's Bruce's stopping of William's pension until the £15 grant was repaid *'was entirely at variance with the instructions and regulations in force at that time'*. She requested the Fee Simple for the pensioner grant formerly awarded to her husband where she stated *'she and her family have resided since the death of her husband as they have no other place of shelter for either them or her.'*^{xi}

Not one to relish challenges to his authority Lt. Colonel Bruce sent a detailed account of his dealings with Hill regarding the allotment and subsequent replies to Mrs Hill. He further wrote: *'Mrs Hill is at present occupying the allotment and I believe her only object in seeking the land was to convert it into money, which if obtained, would in my opinion, from what I can learn, be very questionably spent. I shall never propose to Your Excellency to dispossess her, so long as she conducts herself with even moderate propriety, and, if not interfered with by the Government, she can enjoy all the privileges connected with the land except the power of sale'*^{xii}

Like many of the pensioners' destitute widows with families to support Margaret Hill married an expirée, Patrick Nearney, in 1865 at Albany^{xiii}.

On the 5th October 1872 Margaret Ann Nearney was granted title of Albany Suburban lot P13 for the sum of £4.10.0 A peppercorn rental was payable annually^{xiv}

On her death in 1903 Margaret willed her allotment together with the house to her daughters Pricilla and Matilda^{xv} Colonel Bruce would have been disappointed with her not living up to his expectations

© Jeanette Lee, 2004.

ⁱ SROWA, Cons 36, vol 381, folio 121

ⁱⁱ SROWA, Cons 49, vol 41, folio 871

ⁱⁱⁱ SROWA, Cons 36, vol 482, folio 183

^{iv} SROWA, Cons 36, vol 482, folio 185

^v SROWA, Cons 36, vol 482, folio 186

^{vi} SROWA, Cons 36, vol 482, folio 188

^{vii} SROWA, Cons 36, vol 541, folio 76

^{viii} SROWA, Cons 36, vol 541, folio 78

^{ix} SROWA, An 5, Cons 364, Item 1, Wed. 23 March 1864

^x SROWA, Cons 36, vol 541, folio 80

^{xi} Battye Library AJCP reel 1648, CO 18, piece 146, pages 312-3

^{xii} Battye Library AJCP reel 1650, CO 18, piece 149, pages 75-83

^{xiii} Battye Library, Pioneers Index 1865/2296

^{xiv} SROWA Cons 5713

^{xv} SROWA Cons 1804

The Saga of Sutton Way

Sutton Way is the name of a street in Busselton which has no recorded history. The background to this story originates with Samuel Sutton, a former Royal Marine who came out to the Swan River Colony aboard the "*Scindian*" as a Pensioner Guard with his wife Ann. (nee Twining) daughter Sarah Ann and son Charles. Another daughter Francis died at sea en route. Another son, Benjamin and another daughter Francis Twining were born in Claremont, probably at Freshwater Bay. This story relates to Benjamin who became a mounted policeman and served in the areas of Geraldton, Cossack, Bunbury and Busselton. On the death of his father Samuel, on the 20th February 1891, Benjamin inherited the properties at Freshwater Bay, namely Swan locations P256 of ½ an acre and P253 of 1 ½ acres, the latter having been placed on one title after Samuel had purchased locations P253, P254 and P255. At this time of Benjamin's police career, he was stationed at Busselton and was considering his retirement plans for the 3rd August 1894. Prior to his retirement, Benjamin purchased on the 18th March 1893 at Busselton Sussex Location 5 Lot 91 of 11 ½ acres (Title Deed Sussex Location 5 Vol xlix folio 365) where with his sons he set about establishing a small dairy. This land included a small swamp. He had already purchased Lot 44 of 1 acre (now part of 21 High Street) where the family home was built. Even though there were established farms in the outer district such as "Cattle Chosen" they were out of town. This gave Benjamin the opportunity to set up the first door to door milk round in Busselton and the business was successful to and beyond the early century. He later expanded to a larger leasehold at "Marbalup" Vasse.

Benjamin died on 29th April 1936 at Vasse and was buried in what is now known as the Busselton Pioneer Cemetery. His name is now recorded on the front entrance as a pioneer of the district.

After his death, and as family stories go, recognition of Benjamin's contribution to the district were canvassed by the family through the local district Roads Board Office. The relative who sought the recognition was confronted with an obnoxious clerk and told in uncertain terms that the Sutton recognition was in the name of "Sutton Swamp". The irony of this being that the swamp had long since been filled in and Benjamin's land had been subdivided into town blocks.

After my Army service, I returned to Busselton to review my family roots and found a street named "Sutton Way" which gave me much delight presuming that at last Benjamin's contribution had been recognised. I also knew that other Sutton families had passed through the town in intervening years so I set about establishing confirmation of the recognition. The first port of call was to the Shire of Busselton and a pleasant lady clerk started the chain rolling. The Busselton Historical Society was also called upon to support the enquiry. The subsequent news was disappointing if not shattering. The Shire of Busselton did not have any records of the naming of streets before 1979 and therefore the enquiry was directed to the Geographic Names Committee at the Department of Land Administration, Midland. The advice received was that although the name was registered, the origin of the name was unknown. Not to be deterred, I wrote to the Shire of Busselton and applied to have the recognition in the street name made in retrospect but this was denied. I then wrote to the Geographic Names Committee enclosing a copy of the family history and although they were sympathetic to my cause, the best they could do was file the family history with the registered street name for further reference.

Since this saga evolved, I have found out that the reason that there are no records prior to 1979 is that at the time the Shire of Busselton moved to new buildings, the old records were stored in the old Roads Board Office. The old Roads Boards Office subsequently became a youth centre and we know what young'uns do when they find a faulty Coke machine.

The end result: We have claimed the street name "Sutton Way" in Busselton as our own.

Ron Sutton

EPG at Rottnest

Did you have an EPG ancestor who served on Rottnest as a guard of the prison during the period April 1883 to September 1884?

Names to hand are Corporals Henry Cook, John Hyland and John Reilly, Privates James Hodgson, John Hanes, Joseph Valentine, John Gallagher, Richard Williams, and Edward Hughes. The story next issue.

Ed



Pensioner Barracks & Parade, 1860s.
(W.A. Museum)

ENROLLED PENSIONER GUARDS
A Special Interest Group of the
Western Australian Genealogical Society Inc.
Unit 6/48 May Street,
Bayswater 6053.

Quarterly Newsletter
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Editor: Ron Sutton
rythie@hotmail.com

April 2005
Vol 6, No. 2

Convenor's Report

Jean McDonald

I try to take one day at a time, but sometimes several days attack me at once! (unknown). Summer days planned for a little rest and reflection became a rare pleasure. However, activity breeds success. Our latest major project to have a Limestone Wall with Mosaic commemorating the Enrolled Pensioner Force site in Coogee is nearing fruition. It is hoped a notice can be inserted in the "Can You Help" column of "The West Australian" newspaper advising members of the proposed date of the small ceremony.

After our February Meeting, our Speaker was Bevan Carter, President of Western Australian Genealogical Society. He gave a most interesting resume of his recent trip to Ireland and his visit to the site of the Barracks where quite a number of Irish men enlisted in the British Army. After service in the Army at various postings, some of those men were accepted to become Enrolled Pensioner Guards. Bevan's talk also covered the area in Bassendean (West Guildford) where Enrolled Pensioner Guards received grants of land.

We have been in correspondence with Stan Gratte, Walkaway Railway Museum (Geraldton), where they have examples of firearms used by the Enrolled Pensioner Force. His research also covers individual members of the EPG who settled in the area, including one who had enlisted in the British Army under an alias. *[Makes researching your ancestor just a little more difficult]*

The Noonan Family (Kojonup EPG) gathered for a family reunion in March. By invitation, Pam Anspach and Ron Sutton, Committee members of our Group, attended and presented a short talk on "Who Were the EPG?" and "William Noonan's home town and his Regiment" Their presentation created quite a deal of interest among those present. In the same week I attended a Meeting of the Fremantle Historical Society where I was invited to speak on the Enrolled Pensioner Guards in North Fremantle. Colin Jameson, a resident of North Fremantle and a member of our Group, has shown a great interest in the area and he advised members of the Society he hoped to be able to document and identify how the original Pensioner Village has evolved since the '1850's. The Army Museum of Western Australia in Burt Street, Fremantle has been closed for a month for renovation as a result of the Museum at last being accorded a long term lease. The Museum has intimated their desire for our Group display to remain. Our Display Coordinator, Jeanette Lee, has therefore upgraded some items. We now look forward to our ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING scheduled for SATURDAY 16th APRIL at 1 p.m. in Unit 1, Western Australian Genealogical Society, 48 May Street, Bayswater. Dr. Michael Bell has accepted our invitation to speak. His interest and subject covers uniforms, weapons and accoutrements of the EPG era. We look forward to the continued support of members.

Definitions

Genealogy - account of descent from ancestor by enumeration of intermediate persons, pedigree, investigation of pedigrees.....

Family History - all descendants of common ancestor, house, lineage.....

Source unknown. Ed

EPG at Rottnest Island

Whilst researching amongst the numerous police correspondence at the Perth PRO, I accidentally came across references to a contingent of Enrolled Pensioner Guards being stationed at Rottnest for the purpose of providing a guard over the prison. The guard was raised in April 1883 but was subsequently disbanded in September 1884. From the references, I found that our friend, Micheal Fritzpatrick offered to go over to Rottnest but did not make the first contingent. The first contingent comprised of Corporal Henry Cook, formerly of 35th Regt and came from the Fremantle Barracks. Granted North Fremantle Lot P74 on 5th August 1884. Corporal Cook remained on the roll of the Enrolled Pensioner Guard until disbandment on 31st March 1887 having provided nearly 15 years E.P.F service. He would have been 56 years old when stationed at Rottnest in 1883 and died on 3rd June 1892 aged 75 years. And; Corporal John Reilly Reilly formally of the 57th Regt and holder of the Crimea and Turkish-Crimean medals came from the Guildford Depot. Reilly died on 16th September 1902 aged 82 years. The privates were James Hodgson. (The spelling of the name is Hodgings in the police file) formally of 94th Regt who came out on the "York" on 31st January 1862. Granted Perth Lot H33 on 5th August 1884. Edward Hughes formally of 74th Regt and arrived per "Clyde" on 27th May 1863. A turbulent character. Granted Perth Lot H24 on 1st April 1884. Died on 21st September 1895 aged 83. John Haines formally of 87th Regt and arrived per the "Norwood" on 13th July 1867. Granted Perth Lot H32. Died on 11th April 1885 aged 58. Joseph Valentine formally of the Royal Canadian Rifles. Arrived per "Norwood" on 13th July 1867. Granted Perth Lot V147 on 26th November 1883. He was 60 years old when deployed to Rottnest in 1883. Died 3rd June 1895 aged 72 years. John Gallagher formally of 31st Regt and arrived on 12th September 1864 per "Merchantman". Pte Gallagher died at Fremantle on 27th October 1883 after serving 14 years in the E.P.F. It is not known if he actually served on Rottnest after being named in the first contingent. His wife was granted Cockburn Sound Lot P19 of 20 acres on 15th September 1884. I could not establish how long each EPG stayed on Rottnest however; Pte Richard Williams formally of the East India Army Coy and arriving on the "Merchantman" on 15th February 1863 is listed as serving on Rottnest as a prison Guard having resigned this post on 9th January 1884. It is shown on the disbandment notice that Corporal John Hyland, formally of the 87th Regt advised the men under his command that they would no longer be required on Rottnest therefore; it appears that the men changed over at various times during the period the Guard was in existence. Given the time of the year, approaching winter, it is not surprising that I also found an order for the men to have greatcoats and blankets in their possession. I have attached the Guards duties for interested members that may have had ancestors that served on Rottnest as Prison Guards. I would appreciate any further information on other pensioners that may have served on Rottnest as Prison Guards (not warders) so that we can assemble the data in our Resource File.

Note: Acknowledgment is given to the Public Records Office, Perth for permission to reproduce the correspondence from ACC 129 for genuine research purposes. Other information was extracted from the "Veterans, a History of the Enrolled Pensioner Force 1850-1880". FH Broomhall, Hesperian Press. and; the "Bicentennial Dictionary of Western Australians" pre 1829-1888 Vol iv, Rica Erikson, UWA Press. I also acknowledge the supplementary research undertaken by Daphne Byrne in attempting to establish the links of wives and children that may have been on Rottnest with their husbands during this period of Guard Duty. Thank you, Daphne for your detailed submission. Ron Sutton

ALBANY DEATH RECORDS (WA) 1841-1856

The abovenamed book title has been compiled by the courtesy of the Register-General by Dora M Bulbeck, Albany Historical Society Inc and is now available at the WAGS bookshop. The book has references to Pensioner Guards and should be of interest to EPG researchers.

Ed

Transcript of letter written by Richard Daly to Sergeant Conley from Camden Harbour, March 15 1865, by Myra Stanbury, Curator, Maritime Archaeology. Acc. Nos W1 1897 & WA 1898.

Reproduced courtesy of the Western Australian Maritime Museum. Originals donated by Ms. B. Clinch

Camden Harbour
March 15 1865

My Dear Sergt Conley

In compliance with my promise I send you a letter from here in order to let you know how we all are etc. etc. etc.

We arrived on board the Friends as you know well and soon after my friend Patt Hogan brought me down a suit of new blues into which I changed myself and proceeded on a very pleasant voyage to Freemantle (sic). I joined the Freemantle party at Captain Finnerty's Quarters and went with them on board the Tein Tsing and I sailed away the same evening with a good breeze. My wife & the Perth party were onboard about 2 hours before us, I did not get a chance of curing my head until I was on board the ship about 3 hours when I had (Two in a tin pot). I felt a little shook for 2 or 3 days but soon became all right again all were Sea Sick for a few days, and our voyage was a very pleasant one as we had no unnecessary parades nor roll calls but only an inspection of rifles every 2 or 3 days to keep them all right. Johny Smith commenced shaking after 3 or 4 days and we feared he would get Delirium Tremens but Sergt Ahern gave him some of what is considered most efficient in all such cases and Smith became steadier each day until he got all right and of course all thoughts of drink is out of our ideas long ago.

We called into Champion Bay which is built upon the only patch of sand which I could see up on the coast, it is a most miserable place to look at yet I am told that a person could get work there if he felt inclined to work. There was a large ship called the Hastings loading there

We took in some hay, posts and nails etc. & 2 horses in here & Mrs Sholl sent us in some Water Melons and after 3 or 4 days we sailed for Camden Harbour. There being light winds our voyage was a long one. We disembarked upon a point of land in the bay and commenced unloading. When the tide was in we got goods unloaded from the boats at the foot of the hill but when it was out we had to roll casks of Beef & Pork nearly half a mile of wet sand before we came to the foot of the hill and some of the cases were so large that they were almost unmanageable (sic) and had to be packed and their contents brought in by hand, as we had only a certain number of days to unload and should pay 10 £ a day after the expiration of these days for the use of the ship all hands were employed at unloading Mr Sholl himself taking part. It was very difficult to get anything of a large package up the side of the hill. The Ship Calliance which came in here before us, struck on a reef about 70 miles from here and her Captain enabled by constant pumping to keep his ship afloat until she came here beached her and thought to heave her down and repair her but the Spring tide threw her up on the rocks where she became a total wreck and was sold for a mere trifle. There is an island called Timor about 400 miles from here & a schooner was coming from there for the crew of the Calliance's boat and the boat was also upset but one of the men dived down and unstepped the boat's mast when the turned the boat right again, baled her out, got into her again and arrived here in safety.

I believe this Colony will not answer pastoral purposes as all the sheep are dropping off by degrees so that out of 15000 sheep brought here by the Melbourne (sic) association only 1100 remains alive now and they are not here 4 months yet. On approaching the entrance no opening can be seen and islands are so scattered about that you can scarcely tell which is the main land but when you get inside the harbour is 5 or 6 miles across and studded all over with islands and numerous creeks runs into the shores some of these creeks the tide leaves when out but others are always deep. The Mangrove trees grow in those creeks from which the tide recedes and the roots of this tree sprouts out from its stem and are as numerous as its branches. Sharks & Alligators are often seen in the harbour which contains good holding anchorage & deep water. Some of the Melbourne Association are going away with this ship and all the crew of the Calliance are also going away in it.

We had a very hard gale here ere we were here long and a more terrific one I had not seen even in India. Thunder rolled and cracked for hours without ever ceasing and the lightning resembled the blaze of a stack of straw sometimes more brilliant than others but never ceasing altogether for several hours. The flies are numerous and as bold as the devil (y) our hands are always busy striving to keep the flies out

of our eyes whilst if we have any scratch at all on (you) us heaps of flies collect on it and fester it if (you) we do not keep it covered.

We mount picquet with 2 nights in bed and we worked 8 days at 2s 6d per day since we came here there are not any persons here on this point but ourselves & 2 more men & I don't think we will remain here as the place don't answer sheep nor is there any agriculture. This country is hilly & stony but earthy & no sand and grass at this season is high and green but I believe it is like India and that all the green grass will burn up as soon as the hot weather comes in. Shew this letter to Patk Hogan giving himself and family and all hands our best respects. Dullard is sick but I hope he will mend. M Wife was very sick in the ship but is quite well now. Dunlop left the commissary at his own request and Swift is appointed. We are living in tents and cook under the sun and I don't think we will erect the huts at all as it is thought we will leave here which none of us will regret. Tell me how Peter Lynch got on and all Perth news and with my compliments to yourself and family I am etc Richard Daly.

Transcript of note on reverse of sketch plan of Camden Harbour
Registration number: WI 1898

I hereby send you such a rough sketch of Camden Harbour as I can take at random and tho the place is good to look at it is the devil to live in on account of the flies they are the common house fl(y)ies with an occasional Blood sucking fly and a few mosquitoes. Violent gales are quite common and stones superabundant here.

Oysters and Fish are plenty and there is a description of Rock Cod here which is all over as green as young corn not one spot nor fin of any other colour on it. The monsters which I took for Alligators & which I was told was such by men who were in India and who followed them in a boat and when about 20 yards from them fired at them I find are a description of Brutes Called Gorgons. This I was told by one of the Melbourn Party I never saw an alligator in the sea.

Tell Hogan that I have nothing to say more than I had said in my letter to you until I write again. RD

Note: We thank Jeannette Lee for the submission of this interesting letter from the past.

Extract from a letter from Sandra Simkin in Reference to the Northampton Historical Society and the Lynton Heritage Site

"I have been given your letter regarding the 'cottage' and the member who has asked about the Enrolled Pensioner Guard 'cottage' on a visit to Lynton.

This historic site is visited by many, and I do have a visitors' book handy for people to sign as there are descendants of those who were here in colonial times, who come, sometimes tell me of their connection, or leave a note in the visitors' book.

I have a tour operator from Kalbarri who comes in for Devonshire Tea & a tour of the site, and this lady may have been on such a tour.

A 'restored cottage' is rather a strange comment to make, as Sanford House, a 2-storied building, would not be described as a 'cottage'? as this is the only 'restored' building. (major restoration works). The only other 'cottage' is the Magistrates quarters/cottage, which would have been used by the EPG after the depot was officially closed, as some of the guards stayed on.

This building has not been restored, but over the years has been utilised by previous owners as a boundary riders hut. The walls have been cement rendered, the roof replaced & a Metters stove installed. It probably does appear to some as being 'restored.'

Sandra Simkin

A Plea

The committee have previously expressed the difficulty in obtaining photographs of our Enrolled Pensioners Guards in uniform and we would now like to suggest we amass a database of photographs of our men and women in any period of dress of the time. With this in mind we ask our members if they have any photographs of their man and/or wife that the committee can scan for inclusion in the database. Photographs of course will be returned. For more information please contact a member of the Committee

Ed.

THE OLD BARRACKS

Extracts from "The West Australian"

Saturday 13 July 1929

by J. S. Battye

When Western Australia was compelled, through stress of circumstances and in face of possible failure, to become a convict settlement, the promise was given (and kept) that for every felon transported, one free person should be sent to the colony at the expense of the British Government. The local Government also required that in addition to the soldiers sent out in charge of the convicts, continued military protection should be afforded to the settler.

In order to meet both phases in as economical a manner as possible, the home authorities arranged that with every convict ship there should be sent a guard consisting of time-expired soldiers. These were to be accompanied, when married, by their wives and families, and upon arrival of the vessel to be open to engagement as labourers, but might be called upon, at any time, to assist in case of an outbreak amongst the convicts. They were also promised, if they made good, a lease of ten acres of ground upon a nominal lease of seven years, with the inducement that if they improved the property within that time they would receive the free title of it. They were to have the assistance of convict labour to develop it and a grant of ten pounds towards initial expenses.

In 1862 the British Government decided that the regular troops of the line should be removed from Western Australia and protection placed entirely in the hands of the pensioner guards

In order that this new idea might be carried out satisfactorily, the Governor, the Commandant and the prison officials determined that the guard should be housed in permanent pensioner barracks on a large scale, which should be erected in Perth. It was essential that there should be a sufficiently large area close to the inhabited part of Perth to provide for the necessary buildings, as well as for a barrack yard, parade ground, hospital, magazine and other accommodation. An establishment of that kind could not be poked away in the bush or even placed in a remote quarter of the town, as the services of the guard might be required at any moment, and they must be stationed where they could be easily reached.

Ultimately, the sites under consideration were narrowed down to two, one the area below the boy's school, now part of the Technical College ground, and the other at the head of St. George's Terrace, on the rising ground towards Mount Eliza. This latter site was chosen partly because of its commanding position and partly because it was all, at the time, vacant land.

Plans and estimates of the buildings were rapidly prepared and sent to England for approval in September 1862. These were referred to the War Office which suggested that the buildings should be erected at Fremantle, which was the headquarters of the convict department, but the Secretary of State for the Colonies, Duke of Newcastle was of the opinion that the question of site should be left to the colonial authorities who were in a better position to judge the local requirements. He therefore agreed to the plans and the cost, 6,710 pounds, which was to be paid for in equal shares from the Imperial and local funds. The Barracks were to provide for the accommodation of fifty married men and twenty single men, the total number of rooms being 120.

The whole contract was let on June 12 1863 to a partnership consisting of Alexander Halliday and James Brittain, Halliday being responsible for the woodwork and Brittain for the brickwork.

James Brittain arrived on the "Sir Walter Raleigh" in May 1852 and started business at once as a builder and contractor. His name is also identified with the old Bank of New South Wales, the Cloisters Bishop's House, the Deanery and a portion of the public office. He also carried on an extensive brickmaking business in East Perth, on the site of which is now Queen's Gardens.

Alexander Halliday was a carpenter and joiner who had been resident in Perth for many years and who is said to have made a curious mistake in estimating his portion of the contract – a mistake which very seriously affected his financial position. The Barracks consists of two wings. Halliday estimated the cost of one wing, intending to double it, but forgot to do so and an unsympathetic Government held him to his contract.

The buildings were actually started about August 1863, but through various delays were not completed until April 1866, possibly owing to the slowness with which the bricks were supplied by the convicts.

The Pensioner Force was disbanded in 1878, but the old pensioners and their families were allowed to continue residing in the two wings of the buildings, but the centre portion was used from 1878 onwards by the High School. In 1884 the High School was removed to what had been the Pensioner and military

hospital which stood just across the road from the Barracks and continued to occupy that building until new premises on Observatory Hill were erected in 1914.

Gradually the old Pensioners died out and ultimately it was decided to adapt the whole building for the use of the Public Works Department. The few old remaining Pensioners and their wives, as well as the widows of those who had died were provided for elsewhere. The building as erected in 1866 was added to in 1873 by the construction of a fives court which was not roofed in and was popularly called the skittle alley.

Update 2005

The original Barracks were demolished in the 1960's with only the Archway remaining as a lonely sentinel. It has recently been reported there is a move to have the Archway removed to provide an uninterrupted vista from east to west up St. Georges Terrace.

Jean McDonald

ENROLLED PENSIONER GUARD SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

Annual Financial Statement for period 2004/2005

Opening Balance as at 1 st April 2004			4719.62
Plus Receipts	Newsletter Subs	1200.00	
	Books/Badges	360.90	
	Donations/Interest	2178.13	
	<u>Social/Raffles</u>	<u>158.20</u>	
		3897.23	8616.85
Less Expenditure	Other Items	3925.10	
	Postage	449.80	
	Office	376.29	
	<u>Social/Raffles</u>	<u>84.50</u>	
		4835.69	3781.16*
Closing Balance as at 31 st March 2005	Cash on hand	65.00	
	In trust WAGS	300.00	
	<u>Cash at Bank</u>	<u>3501.86</u>	
		3866.86	
	Less un-presented Cheques	No 024	10.00
		No 025	<u>75.70</u>
			3781.16
			3781.16

Note: Grant of \$1800.00 from the City of Cockburn committed to the Cockburn Project.

This is a true and correct statement of the financial position of the Enrolled Pensioner Guard Special Interest Group for the 2004/2005 Financial Year ending 31st March 2004.

Signed:

150 Years Ago 24th May 1855

The "Stag" arrived at Fremantle with 30 Enrolled Pensioners Guards, 24 women, 17 boys and 18 girls. We acknowledge their contribution to the development of Western Australia.

SMALL ARMS OF THE ENROLLED PENSIONER FORCE

Stan Gratte – Walkaway Museum

The British Army was equipped with 'Brown Bess' flintlock muskets for over 150 years until the 1840's when they were replaced with similar guns but ignited by a percussion cap, placed on a hollow 'nipple'. The flintlock was ignited by a piece of flint stone striking against steel to produce a spark. I am sure all the Guards would have used the Brown Bess flintlock in their army career. They later called it a 'firelock' to differentiate from a caplock musket. Of course the caplock musket was not subject to rain and was instantaneous in firing.

Both muskets were almost identical except for the firing mechanism and indeed some firelocks were converted to caplocks.

I believe at least some Guards early on were issued with 'firelocks' and this is borne out by a story which happened at Geraldton. Corporal Flanigan said he "he took his loaded firelock with him for safety." (1) He certainly would have known a firelock from a caplock in 1854.

There were still a few flintlocks in Perth Commissariat Store (2) and in 1861 there were Enfield Muskets (caplocks) issued to the Volunteer Corps in 1861. In October 1858 (3) it seems that 'percussion arms' – caplocks – are a new thing.

I believe all this may be available in a book on West Australian Firearms by Chris Hall, written about 1970. Chris was Curator of Firearms at Perth Museum.

The Enfield Rifle is another arm with a rifled barrel and is not to be confused with Enfield musket with a smooth bore. The Guards never received Enfield Rifles to my knowledge. There is no doubt that the main firearm of the Guards was the Enfield, Pattern 1847 musket, sometimes called the 'Tower' musket. Calibre .753 muzzle loaded, smooth bore, nicknamed 'Caplock'. The Guards were required to keep them at home with bayonet and full kit, for emergency.

Towards the end of the Guards days they were issued with Snider .577 breechloaders.

Therefore my contentions are:

Brown Bess Flintlocks - at least some early Guards used these.

Enfield Percussion Muskets - Pattern 1847 from at least 1858 to the last days of the Guards.

Snider Rifles – later days

Some of the old Pattern 1847 Muskets are still about. The one at Walkaway is in good order and was given to Solicitor du Boulay by an old Guard and it hung in his office for many years. He ceased business I think in about 1917. There is, or was about 15 years ago, one at Guildford Museum. In fair order I think. There is one in private hands, in good order. A broken one dug up recently near the Geraldton Pensioner Barracks site – in my hands now.

I have sighted these, so they must be common and were retained by the Guards when they retired I believe.

1. Ancient Landmarks, A Social and Economic History of the Victoria District of Western Australia 1839-1894. Mary Albertus Bain. UWA Press. 1975. p131
2. The Volunteer Movement of W.A. B.F. Wieck. Patterson Brokenshaw. P60.
3. The Veterans a History of the Enrolled Pensioner Force in Western Australia. 1850-1880. Frank H. Broomhall, Hesperian Press. 1989. p33
- 4.

Stan Gratte

Walkaway Station Museum

Editors Note: We thank Stan for bringing us up to date with his research in the weapons used by the Enrolled Pensioner Force.



ROTTNEST PRISON GUARD.

His Excellency the Administrator has been pleased to approve the establishment at Rottnest of a Force composed of Army Pensioners, for the purpose of furnishing a Guard over the Prison on the Island.

The Force will consist of two Corporals and six Privates. One Corporal and three Privates being detailed for Guard each day.

The salary of the members of the Force will be as follows: Corporals, four shillings a day; Privates, three shillings and sixpence a day; from which the cost of rations issued daily to them will be deducted.

The senior Corporal will be in immediate charge of the Force, although taking his turn of duty.

The Guard will mount each morning at nine o'clock, and will occupy a room at the entrance of the Prison.

The Guard will mount with side arms and revolvers.

The Guard will furnish one Sentry, day and night.

During the day, while the Prisoners are out of the Prison, the Sentry's post will be outside and in front of the entrance to the Prison; he will occasionally pay a visit to the interior of the Prison.

When the Prisoners come in for their meals his post will be inside, and in front of the Guard Room.

During the night, the Sentry will be posted within the Prison Yard, and will patrol round the Yard, satisfying himself that the doors of the various cells are secure.

The Sentry is always to be on the alert; any want of vigilance on his part being reported by the Corporal in charge, who will visit him periodically at uncertain hours during the day and night. The Corporal will also relieve all Sentries himself.

The Corporal of the Guard will take the earliest opportunity of acquainting the Superintendent of Rottnest with any irregularities in the Prison, or unusual conduct among the Prisoners that may come to his knowledge.

In the event of any disturbance or threatened disturbance amongst the Prisoners, the Corporal of the Guard will ring the Alarm Bell, situated at the entrance of the Prison, and the Guard will fall in.

On hearing the Alarm Bell the remainder of the Force at the Barracks will fall in and proceed, without delay, to the Prison to render assistance.

On such occasions, so soon as the Superintendent of Rottnest arrives on the spot, the Guard will take their orders from him.

A Guard Book will be kept, in which is to be entered daily the hours of mounting and dismounting, and the hours the Sentries have been visited by the Corporal of the Guard; also, any occurrence, such as the visits to the Prison of the Superintendent of Rottnest, the visiting Justices, or any other persons outside the regular staff of Officials on the Island.

A Weekly Report of the form attached will be forwarded through the Superintendent of Rottnest to the Colonial Secretary.

On all occasions, the members of the Pensioner Force at Rottnest will pay due respect to the Superintendent of Rottnest, and the Corporal in charge will pay attention to, and carry out any request or suggestion that Officer may make, having in view the safe custody of the Prisoners on the Island, reporting the same in his Weekly Report.

By Command,

MALCOLM FRASER,

Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Perth, 26th April, 1883.

ROTTNEST ISLAND. WEEKLY GUARD REPORT.

Rottnest.....18

The Honorable
The Colonial Secretary,
Perth.

Sir,

I have the honor to report that the Prison Guard mounted and dismounted at the usual hours each day during the past week.

The Prison was visited by.....at.....

The entries in the Guard Book have been properly made each day.

Nothing unusual has occurred.

(Should anything have occurred, here insert it.)

(Should the Corporal in charge wish to report any other matter he should do so here.)

I have, &c.,

Corporal in Charge.

**ENROLLED PENSIONER GUARD SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP.
WESTERN AUSTRALIAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY INC.**



NOMINATIONS FOR COMMITTEE 2005/2006

Nominations are called for members willing to serve on the Committee. (All committee members must be members of both WAGS and the Enrolled Pensioner Guard Special Interest Group). If the number of persons nominated for each position does not exceed the number of vacancies, those persons shall be duly elected. If there are insufficient nominations, or; nominations exceed the number of vacancies, elections will be conducted at the Annual General Meeting to be held on the 16th April 2005

Part 1

I nominate.....for the position of.....
(Convenor – Deputy Convenor – Secretary – Treasurer – Newsletter Editor
Research Officer - Committee Member x 2)

Signed.....Date.....

I second the above nomination.

Signed.....Date.....

I accept the nomination for election to the committee in the position
of

Signed.....Date.....

Part 2

I.....nominate myself for election to the committee
in the position of.....

Signed.....Date.....

I second the above nomination.

Signed.....Date.....

**ENROLLED PENSIONER GUARD SPECIAL INTERST GROUP
WESTERN AUSTRALIAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY INC**

COMMITTEE POSITIONS 2005/2006

<u>Position</u>	<u>Incumbent</u>	<u>Avail for re-election</u>
Convenor	Jean McDonald	Retiring
Deputy Convenor	Jeanette Lee	Retiring
Secretary	Vacant	
Treasurer	Ron Sutton	Retiring
Newsletter Editor	Vacant	Task performed by Ron Sutton (Retiring)
Research Officer	Vacant	
Committee Member	Pam Anspach	Retiring
Committee Member	Margaret Hickey	Retiring



Pensioner Barracks & Parade, 1860s.
(W.A. Museum)

ENROLLED PENSIONER GUARDS
A Special Interest Group of the
Western Australian Genealogical Society Inc.
Unit 6/48 May Street,
Bayswater 6053.

Quarterly Newsletter
ISSN 1443-945X

Editor: Ron Sutton
rythie@hotmail.com

July 2005
Vol 6, No. 3

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CONVENORS REPORT

In spite of a disappointing attendance at our Annual General Meeting held in April, those present were treated to a most interesting display of rifles and other items relevant to the period of the Enrolled Pensioner Force.

Dr. Michael Bell whose interest is in the uniform, weapons and accoutrements of the period is also a member of the Perth Volunteer Rifles and has attended in that role at previous Enrolled Pensioner Guard Group ceremonies. Those who attended the Dedication Ceremony at the site of the old Enrolled Pensioner Force Rifle Range in Kings Park will remember the spectacular and noisy display enjoyed by all, including startled casual walkers. Our thanks to Dr. Bell, who has a busy professional life, but found time to share his interest with us.

We also thank our member Ian Barnes, who has generously offered to fill the role of Minutes Secretary at our General meetings (in between his busy working schedule.)

In spite of their desire to retire to follow other interests, your Committee has been re-elected to carry on until such time as we can welcome some members, perhaps new to volunteer work, who would be prepared to play a role in helping to shape the future of the Enrolled Pensioner Guard Group.

Your Enrolled Pensioner Guard ancestors were able to play a role, sometimes unheralded, in shaping the future of this State – how about you grasping the opportunity to show the same spirit of adventure and offering a little time to help your Group maintain the momentum.

The colourful, descriptive Mosaic and Plaque is now in place in Fawcett Road, Munster. It is housed in a limestone wall and commemorates the original Enrolled Pensioner Force Village at Lake Coogee, south of Fremantle.

Our gratitude is extended to the City of Cockburn for their grant to enable us to complete the project, and to Jobswest, Fremantle, in particular Manager Ian Leonard, and Danka Szolc who created and supervised the making of the Mosaic.

Our next project ?

Jean McDonald
Convenor
94504304
jeanmc2@bigpond.com

TRIBUTE TO A HERO

Frank Broomhall in "The Veterans, a History of the Enrolled Pensioner Force in Western Australia" discusses Lady Broome's "Colonial Memories" (p148) in which she mentions a "Victoria Cross man who had ridden in the charge of the Light Brigade."¹ The occasion was a dinner on 20th September 1885 to celebrate the 31st Anniversary of the Battle of Alma in the Crimea. Governor and Lady Broome sponsored the dinner for the Enrolled Guard.

In the list of surviving members of the Enrolled Pensioner Force who were present at their final parade in March 1887, again at the invitation of Governor Broome, "One Sgt. Major, and forty eight non commissioned officers and men from forty one different regiments, wore no less than one hundred and fifty five medals and clasps" won during many campaigns while serving in the British Army²

Frank Broomhall was of the opinion that there were no Victoria Cross medal winners among the Enrolled Guards. There is a possibility that Broomhall is correct but recent research has identified at least one member of the Enrolled Pensioner Force who was indeed awarded the Victoria Cross for bravery during his service with the British Army in the Crimea in 1854 and who subsequently arrived as a guard for the convicts being transported to Western Australia during 1850-1868. He remained in this State for some years before moving with his family to Victoria.

This is his story.

THOMAS GRADY (O'GRADY) VICTORIA CROSS,
DISTINGUISHED CONDUCT MEDAL, CRIMEA MEDAL
with Sebastapol, Inkerman
and Alma Bars and TURKISH MEDAL.

THOMAS O'GRADY was born 18th September 1835 at Cheddah (Cheddagh), Galway, Ireland.
Son of James and Ellen O'Grady.

ENLISTED as **THOMAS GRADY** on the 18th July 1853 aged 17 years 9 months, occupation labourer, in the 99th Regiment of Foot at Liverpool, Lancaster, England.
On 14th February 1854, Thomas Grady transferred as a Volunteer to 4th Regiment of Foot.
Regimental No. 3319.

Service in the 99 th Regiment of Foot	150 days
Service in the 4 th Regiment of Foot	2 years 219 days
Service from 2nd September 1856 to 28th October 1856	<u>37 days</u>
TOTAL SERVICE on FINAL DISCHARGE	3 years 41 days³

SERVICE IN THE CRIMEA

Recommended to receive the Order of the Victoria Cross:
Act of Valour:

'For having on the 18th October 1854 volunteered to repair the Embrasures of the Sailor's Battery on the Left Attack, and effected the same, with the assistance of one other volunteer, under a very heavy fire from a Line of Batteries.
For gallant conduct on the 22nd November 1854 in the repulse of the Russian attack on the advanced Trench of the Left Attack, when on being severely wounded, he refused to quit the front, encouraging, by such determined bearing, the weak force engaged with the enemy to maintain it's position.'⁴

Thomas Grady embarked for England 20th December 1854.⁵

¹ Broomhall, F. The Veterans a History of the Enrolled Pensioner Force 1850-1880 published Hesperian Press. 1989. p79

² Ibid p79

National Archives, London, WO 97/1395

⁴ National Archives, London, WO 22/7304

⁵ National Archives, London, WO 12/2236

THOMAS GRADY VC

After his return to England, Thomas Grady, wounded in his left arm, was stationed at various places during 1856 and 1857, including time in the Invalid Depot, Chatham, in hospital, or serving on light duties.⁶

On 22nd September, 1856, at the Proceedings of a Regimental Board held at Camp Aldershot, Thomas Grady was to be discharged in consequence of "unfitness for further service". His general character was shown as "good".

A final description of Private Thomas Grady of the 4th Regiment of Foot when discharged from the service at Chatham on 28th October, 1856 –

Age 21 years.

Height 5 feet 5 1/8 inches

Hair Dark Brown

Eyes Blue

Complexion Fresh

Trade Labourer

Marks or Scars, whether on the Face, or other parts of the Body None.⁷

Thomas Grady was admitted to Out-Pension as a Chelsea Pensioner on 28th October, 1856, Pension Number 3382.⁸

Recommendation was made for Thomas Grady to receive the decoration of the Victoria Cross by "Her Majesty's Hand." Various correspondence was exchanged between the Office of Horse Guards and various Palace dignitaries and a list of those to receive the Award was sent on 19th June 1857 – two Officers, one Non-commissioned Officer and two Private Soldiers, together with a statement of the particular act of Valor for which they had been recommended for the Honorable Distinction.⁹ That official list contained the name of Thomas Grady and his Citation.

It has been quoted that "after the Cross had been pinned on the heart of Grady by the Queen he was offered the position of Ranger at Windsor Castle, but preferred to remain in "arms" and was made a Colour-Sergeant. He, however, received only a private's pension."¹⁰

In a Short History of the 4th Regiment of Foot compiled by Ron Sutton, member of the Enrolled Pensioner Guard, Special Interest Group, information on the Siege of Sevastopol mentions:

"The Russians pulled back to Sevastopol where reinforcements were already starting to arrive.

The allies, deciding not attack Sevastopol from the North, marched south east skirting the city towards Balaklava harbour which was captured without bloodshed. The British established themselves in their new base at Balaclava on the 25th September 1856 using the port to establish supply lines. The siege commenced on the 17th October 1854 with the Russians making repeated attempts to disrupt the siege.

The British forces had pushed forward a British Left Attack force consisting of the 3rd Division and a British Right Attack force and attempted to probe the enemy positions with the assistance from Artillery Batteries. It was during the initial stages of the Left Attack's attempt to breach the enemy defences on the 18th October 1854 that Private Thomas Grady of the 4th Regiment of Foot was awarded the Victoria Cross for gallantry. On the 22nd November 1854 he was further cited for refusing to leave the front when severely wounded during the repulse of a Russian Attack. His example encouraged the weak force which was engaging the enemy to maintain their position."¹¹

The recommendation for the Award was made by Captain Lushington, Royal Navy.¹²

⁶ National Archives, London WO 12/2236; 2237;2238;2239

⁷ National Archives, London WO 97/1395

⁸ Australian Archives – letter dated 18 March 1981

⁹ National Archives, London WO 32/7304

¹⁰ "Age" 22 May 1891 and "The Herald" 21.5.1891 copy from Neil Ward, Qld.

¹¹ 4th Regiment of Foot a Short History compiled by Ron Sutton.

¹² Correspondence Australian War Memorial 10.8.2004

THOMAS GRADY VC

Officers under whom Thomas Grady served included Colonel Cobb, Colonel Sadler and Colonel Jeffrey, all of the 4th Regiment of Foot. (Noted in a letter from Australian Archives, March 1891)Copy from Neil Ward Qld.)

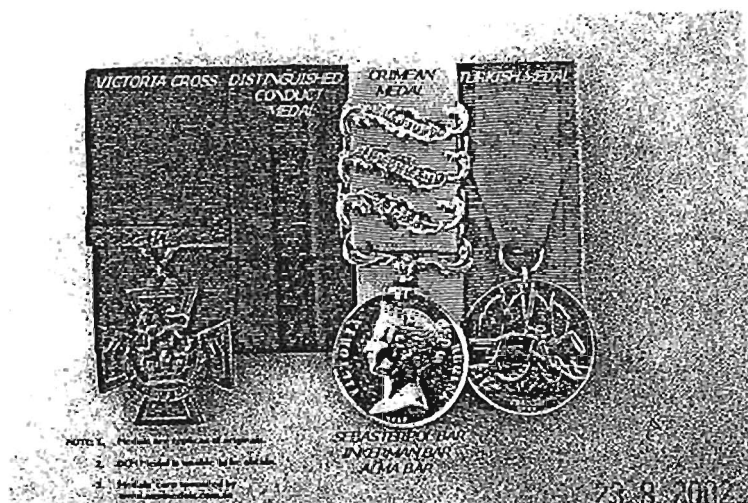
The history of the Victoria Cross is in itself interesting - it was founded by Royal Warrant in January 1856, Queen Victoria maintaining it was not an Order, offering no Knighthood, no religious significance and contained no ranks within itself. It was purely won by an act of conspicuous bravery, and could be conferred by the Sovereign alone. The actual Cross was made of bronze and cast from metal melted down from the cannons captured at Sebastapol in the Crimean War. In the form of a Maltese Cross with the Royal Crest and a scroll inscribed simply "For Valour". The Cross is suspended from a bar engraved with laurel leaves. The recipient's name is engraved on the back of the bar, and the date of the deed for which the honour was awarded is engraved on the back of the cross itself.

The Victoria Cross is a valued and highly regarded Award for Bravery.

The London Gazette published the date of Thomas Grady's Award on 23rd June 1857.¹³



Thomas Grady VC 1835-1891.



Victoria Cross, Distinguished Conduct Medal, Crimean Medal, Turkish Medal



★ ABOVE: The first presentation of Victoria Crosses by Queen Victoria in Hyde Park, London, June 26, 1856.

First Presentation by Queen Victoria, June 26 1856
"Army" Newspaper 7.2.1985. Courtesy Neil Ward

¹³ London Gazette 23 June 1957

THOMAS GRADY VC

After the death of Thomas Grady VC in 1891, Melbourne newspapers of the time covered the life and funeral of the VC winner, reporting that in spite of pain 'he did not complain however, but died peacefully and like a brave soldier'²⁴

The "Daily Telegraph" 2nd May 1891, reported it was most unusual for the funeral of a retired private soldier to be attended with military honors. It appears that came about by the interest in the death of an old pensioner soldier by Major-General Sir Alexander Bruce Tulloch, KCB, CMG of the Welsh Regiment. His position as Major-General Commanding the Victorian Military Forces from September 1889 until 1894 brought him into contact with many of the old ex-British soldiers from past campaigns. Tulloch had served with distinction in the Crimea, India and China, and when he learned that a Victoria Cross hero of Crimea had been found in a miserable way in a laneway in Fitzroy, he ordered the venerable old campaigner be given a Military Funeral.²⁵

After assembly on the parade ground at the Barracks, "the procession left accompanied by a shooting party of field artillery men, with reversed arms. Then came a gun-carriage drawn by two black horses, in which rested the coffin, covered with the Union Jack. O'Grady's rifle, helmet, and accoutrements, with the medals he had worn during his lifetime with so much just pride, were laid on the top of the coffin. Then came the band under Bandmaster Riley of the 1st Regiment, playing the solemn strains of "The Dead March in Saul".²⁶

PEACEFULLY LAID TO REST
THOMAS GRADY VICTORIA CROSS
DISTINGUISHED CONDUCT MEDAL
CRIMEAN MEDAL with
SEVASTAPOL BAR, INKERMANN BAR, ALMA BAR AND TURKISH MEDAL



*Plaque Garden of Remembrance, Springvale, Victoria.
Courtesy Anthony Staunton,
Military History Society of Australia.*

²⁴ "The Herald" 19 May 1891 – copy from Neil Ward, Qld.

²⁵ The United Service Home, Drysdale (The Romance of a Worthy Achievement) by R.H. Peacock read before the Victorian Historical Society 28.11.1938. – correspondence from Anthony Staunton, 17.3.2005.

²⁶ "Daily Telegraph" 2.5.1891 Copy from Neil Ward. Qld.

THOMAS AND CATHERINE O'GRADY (GRADY)

THOMAS O'GRADY born 18th September 1835 Claddagh (Cheddah) Ireland
Son of James and Ellen O'Grady
Married 1856 Liverpool, England
Catherine Devaney born c 1829
Daughter of Francis and Mary Devaney,
Galway, Ireland.
Died 18th May 1891 aged 65 South Melbourne, Victoria
Buried Melbourne General Cemetery
Plaque at Springvale Garden of
Remembrance, Victoria.²⁷

CATHERINE GRADY (O'Grady)

Died 12th October 1891 aged 62 years
Convent of the Little Sisters of the Poor,
Northcote, Victoria.
Buried Melbourne General Cemetery.²⁸

CHILDREN OF THOMAS AND CATHERINE GRADY (O'GRADY)

MARY ELLEN born c 1857 Liverpool, England
Note: Came to Western Australia with her parents in 1862
Married 1. aged 18 Victoria to Henry Kenworthy,
Son of George Pixton and Caroline Kenworthy.
Henry Kenworthy died 16th June 1881 aged 26
Melbourne, Victoria.²⁹
Married 2, aged 26 Melbourne, Victoria to
Daniel Coakley.
Died 15th December 1930 aged 73 (78)? Years.
Melbourne, Victoria
Buried Melbourne General Cemetery.³⁰

MARTIN born Liverpool, England ?
Died 30th April 1890 aged 28 years
Hospital, Melbourne
Resident Victoria, 21 years.
Buried General Cemetery, Melbourne.³¹

Note Other possible children (Listed in the Will of Thomas O'Grady)

*Thomas
Frederick
John Francis
Charles Augustine
William Henry³²*

²⁷ Death Certificate – Copy from Neil Ward Qld.

²⁸ Death Certificate – Copy from Neil Ward Qld.

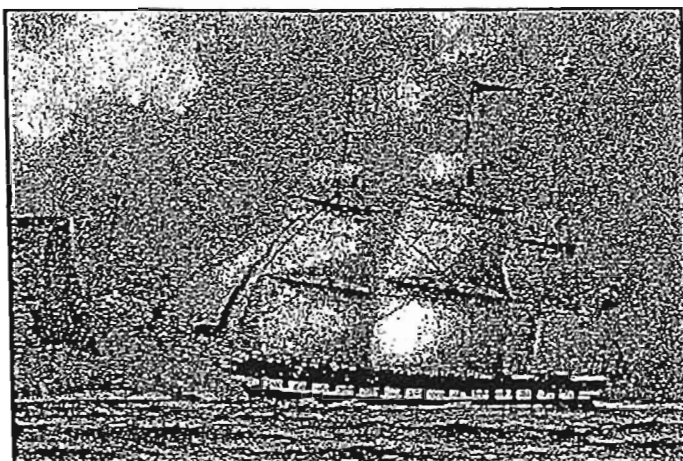
²⁹ Death Certificate – Copy from Neil Ward Qld.

³⁰ Death Certificate – Copy from Neil Ward Qld.

³¹ Death Certificate – Copy from Neil Ward Qld.

³² Information from Neil Ward, Qld.

THOMAS GRADY VC



"Norwood" Tilbury, UK – Fremantle 1862.

Grateful acknowledgement is extended to the following for assistance and support in the preparation of this story:

Neil Ward, Boondall, Queensland, great grandson of Thomas O'Grady
Arthur Ward, Kambalda, Western Australia, great Grandson of Thomas O'Grady
Ron Johnston, England, long time ex- Australian Army friend of Neil War
Australian War Memorial, Canberra
Anthony Staunton, Military History Society of Australia, ACT
Paul Bridges, Army Museum of Western Australia
Graham Donley, Army Museum of Western Australia
John Sweetman, Army Museum of Western Australia
Tony Munday, Enrolled Pensioner Guard Group, Western Australia
Ron Sutton, Enrolled Pensioner Guard Group, Western Australia

Jean McDonald
May 2005

150 Years Ago
18th July 1855

The "Adelaide" arrived at Fremantle with 30 Enrolled Pensioner Guards, 21 women 22 boys and 20 girls. We acknowledge their contribution to the development of Western Australia.

Correction: Albany Death Records

In the April Newsletter we advised the book "Albany Death Records (WA) 1841-1856" was available from Western Australian Genealogical Society Bookshop. The book is only available for reference and research purposes at the Society's Library.

Quarterly General Meeting

The next Quarterly General Meeting will be held on **Saturday 16th July** at 1 p.m. in Unit 1, W.A. Genealogical Society, 48 May Street, Bayswater. Speaker to be advised.

EXTRACT FROM DIARY
REVEREND ALFRED GRAY
RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTOR
"PYRENEES" (2) 1853

- 18.1.1853 Portsmouth – joined ship
23 Portsmouth – weighed 4 p.m. (*anchor*)
24 Portland Anc. 2 a.m. weighed 3.30 p.m.
25 Plymouth Anc 10 a.m.
28 Convicts, ex Dartmoor embarked via boats of "Queen" Man of War
30 Responsible for total of 296 convicts
2.2.1853 Received sailing orders 2.30 p.m. Pilot boarded
 Sailed. 3.30 p.m. Rounded Breakwater. Pilot left 6 p.m.
3 Gale increased to Hurricane – ½ gal. Ink bottle broke
4 Lizard sighted 5 miles distant and Mount's Bay
5 Bay of Biscay
10 Threatened by "OLYMPIA", a Portuguese Barque which surrounded the
 "PYRENEES". Captain Freeman commanded to make sail and they left us.
15 Hold broken open. 3 cheeses missing. 2 Pigs died.
17 Another Pig dies.
25 (Grant us thy protection to the end of the voyage through Jesus Christ. Amen.
 (Heavy rain. Hatchways closed. Heat unbearable (83oF.)
2nd and 3rd March Becalmed. (Only 11 miles and 12 miles per day respectively (83oF. & 84oF respt.
7.3.53 Shooting Match. Dr. Bowyer hit bottle on mizzen boom at 3rd shot.
7.3.54 Capt. Freeman hit bottle 1st shot. "Colt's patent revolver" used
16 Lamb born. But it died on 21.3.53
17 St. Patrick's Day. Dance on ¼ deck.
23 Nightingale Is. Sighted. 9.30 am: Inaccessible Is. 10.15 am: Tristan 12.15 am.
24 Pt. Peter Hannan EPF died. (Typhus Fever). EPF & DR> Full uniform at Burial service.
 Widow gave excruciating scream of anguish. L17.1 raised for Mrs. Son. 2 Dau.
 Prisoners promised a donation on landing.
 10'9" span Albatross caught and released and another smaller.
3.4.53 (Best Mileage of Voyage 251 miles)
 Conv. James Hounslow died (32 yr) Died 2 a.m. (Acknowledged Jesus Christ
 1.4.53)
 Baptised Pt. Thompson's dau. (born 23.3.53) Catherine Bowyer Wright Thompson"
4 Fore Top Gallant Yard snapped in two 4 p.m.
 Saw 1st Cape Hen (Petrel)
10 Killed a Sheep
12 Head Wind (Only 30 miles this day)
14 Conv. Austin, William Died in Night. Buried 1.15 p.m.. Leaves wife and 7 children
16 Passed latitude of St. Paul's last night (but 30 further North of)
 Killed a Sheep and a Pig
29 Sighted land 1.0 p.m. ("Lights")
30 Rottneest Is. 8 a.m. Pilot boarded. Anc. Gage's Rds. 5 p.m. in 8 fathoms (48 ft.)

"WA looks a perfect desolation and wretched wilderness. All seems to be in a state of uncultivation and an unfruitful barrenness broaded over all the land that met the eye"

SKINNER STREET CEMETERY
FREMANTLE

SOME BURIALS RELEVANT TO ENROLLED PENSIONER GUARDS

Taken from Burial Records appertaining to Alma St. and Skinner St. Cemeteries, Fremantle,
Compiled from Anglican and Roman Catholic Church Registers and from Records from
Tombstones removed to the present (1936) Cemetery, Carrington Street, Fremantle.
(Wendy Durrant 1998) Fremantle Library Local History Library.

ANDERSON William	51	"Scindian" 1850 (sick on board)	June 1850
SKILLEN John	45	Pensioner	Feb. 1851
RAITT Grace	31	Wife of Master on "William Jardine"	25 July 1852
JAMES Arthur	3 wks	Pensioner's child on board "Robert Small"	9 September 1853
BROWN John	13 days	Pensioners's child on board "Phoebe Dunbar"	10 September 1853
DEVENPORT Sarah	2 + mths	Pensioner's child	24 Mar 1854
TUBBS Mary	2 mths	Pensioner's daughter "Ramillies"?	26 May 1854
JONES Frederick	1 + mths	Pensioner's son	22 Nov 1854
INSKIP Eliza	11 yrs	Sgt Major, Pensioner Guard	22 March 1855
INSKIP Ellen	1 + mths	Sgt. Major, Pensioner Guard	30 March 1855
GANE Charles William	3 + mths	Pensioner's son	20 May 1855
CLARK George (Clack)	52	Pensioner	6 July 1855
SUTCLIFFE William	1	Pensioner's son	19 Jan. 1860
CABLE Abraham	18 mths	son Joseph Cable, Pensioner	5 April 1862
BROADBROOK John	?	Pensioner	23 August 1862
BROADBROOK Elizabeth	5 mths	daughter of Pensioner, J. Broadbrook	23 September 1862
NICHOLLS Lydia	15	daughter of John Nicholls, Pensioner	1 December 1862
MacDONALD William	42	Pensioner	11 June 1863
MacDonald Mary Ann	2 + mths	Daughter of William MacDonald Pensioner	30 May 1863
CHAPMAN Mrs. ?		Wife of Pensioner	1 July 1863
GREER (Green, Grear) John	10 mths	Son Pensioner John and Sarah,	10 October 1863
GREER Sarah	10 mths	daughter of J. & S. Greer Twin of above	17 October 1863
FARROW Thomas	44	Pensioner	15 November 1863
SUTCLIFFE Walter	13 mths	son Richard & Mary Sutcliffe, Pensioner	13 January 1864
CUNNINGHAM Mary Ann	22	daughter of Pensioner	28 March 1864
REDDAWAY Henry	6	son of Henry & Elizabeth Reddaway, Pensioner	30 April 1864
SUTTON William	50	Pensioner	3 May 1854
KEARNS William	42	Pensioner	6 August, 1864
PIKE Thomas	43	Pensioner	12 August 1864
LAMB Thomas William	3 days	son Thomas Lamb, Pensioner	28 August 1864
MacCREERY Catherine	38	wife Thomas MacCreery, Pensioner	19 May 1865
Nth Fremantle			
COOK Samuel	10 mths	son of Pensioner	5 August 1865
Nth Fremantle			
LOCKE Samuel	2 1/2	son Sgt. Locke, Pensioner	8 December 1865
Nth Fremantle			
FARMER John	43	Pensioner	21 February 1866
BATLEY Mary Ann	1 day	daughter of Richard Batley Pensioner	3 July 1866
RICHARDSON John	42	Pensioner	23 July 1866

LOCKE Matilda	2	daughter, Sgt. Locke, Pensioner	6 October 1866
ALCOCK Andrew	50	Pensioner	7 May 1867
Nth Fremantle			
PICKERING Sarah	36 hrs	daughter J. Pickering, Pensioner	23 August 1867
ADGATE (Holgate) Robert			
	59	Pensioner	7 January 1868
COFFIN Alfred	3 wks	son William Coffin Pensioner	3 March 1868
BULL Edwin	48	Pensioner	
		Died Military Hospital	17 May 1868
JOSLIN William	6 mths	Pensioner's child	22 June 1868
VAGG James	Infant	Son of Pensioner	9 October 1868
BIRD John	35	Pensioner, Died Military Hospital, Fremantle	13 February 1869
McMULLEN John	29	son-in-law of Pensioner Effort	31 July 1869
JONES Christina	9 mths	Infant of Pensioner	20 August 1869
HUSSEY Edward	67	Pensioner, Nth Fremantle	30 September 1869
PICKERING Lucy Harriett		Infant daughter of Pensioner	10 December 1869
TAYLOR John	Infant	Pensioner's son	22 January 1870
LUDLAM Amos	9 mths	Pensioner's son	16 April 1870
TURNER Margaret Ann	18 mths?	daughter of Pensioner	22 August 1870
LUDAM Thomas	45	Pensioner on Force	21 November 1870
JONES John	57	Warder & Pensioner	3 January 1871
GARRISH Henry	38	Pensioner	28 February 1871
"Belgravia"?			
WAREHAM Anne		Wife of Pensioner	21 March 1871
EVANS Thomas ?		Pensioner	6 July 1871
TIERNEY Richard	72	Pensioner	16 September 1871
GANDELL	50	Pensioner	24 March 1872
(Gandle)			
MELLOWES Thomas	Infant	son of Pensioner	29 October 1872
PICKERING Elizabeth	Babe	Pensioner's child	1 January 1873
JANES Robert	40	Warder (& Pensioner)	2 May 1873
OSBORNE (Osbound)			
Edward	60	Pensioner	7 April 1874
LOCKE William Reuben	50	Sgt. Pensioner	22 July 1874
COOPER George	63	Pensioner	2 November 1874
COFFIN William	54	Pensioner	15 December 1874
LOCKE Arthur	7 mths	son late Pensioner Locke	6 March 1875
PICKERING Joseph	73?	Pensioner	19 August 1897
JOSLIN Sarah	62	Wife of Pensioner, David Joslin	5 March 1898
MUNDAY Mary	69	Wife of Pensioner William Munday	17 August 1898
JONES William Stewart	80	Pensioner?	2 January 1899

NOTE: Further records are available in the Local History Library of the Fremantle Library.

Jean McDonald.

EPG GAZETTE

October, 2005

Vol 6 No 4



ENROLLED PENSIONER GUARDS

A special Interest Group of the

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
INC

Unit 6/48 May Street
Bayswater 6053

[www.wags.org.au/groups/
sigepg.html](http://www.wags.org.au/groups/sigepg.html)

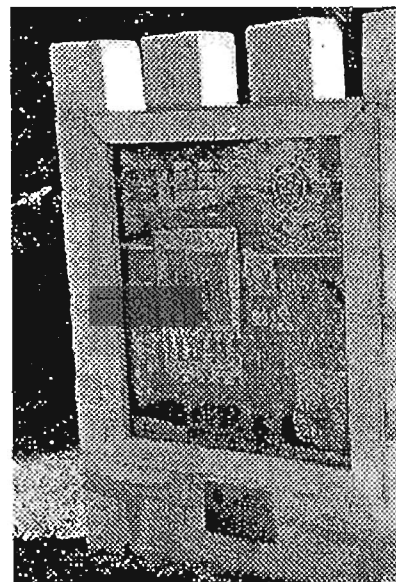
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CONVENOR'S REPORT:

On 10th June, when welcome rain reminded us it was winter, members and guests of the Enrolled Pensioner Guard Group assembled on the shores of Lake Coogee, South of Fremantle for a dedication ceremony. A limestone wall featuring a colourful descriptive Mosaic and Plaque was unveiled by Mr Stephen Lee, Mayor of the City of Cockburn to commemorate the site of the Enrolled Pensioner Force Village at Lake Coogee 1876-1885.

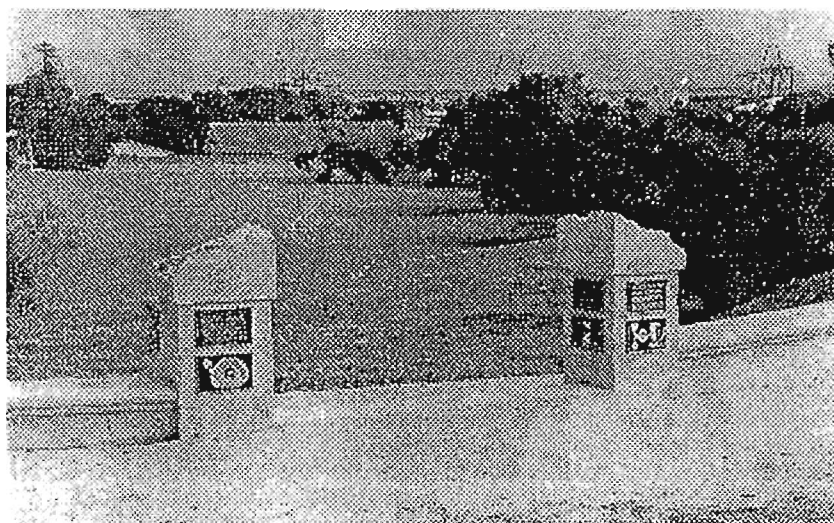
It was pleasing to meet some of the descendants of the original grantees who have compiled details of their EPG ancestor and their experiences in the British Army prior to being enrolled as guards for the convicts being transported and their subsequent experiences in the young Swan River colony.



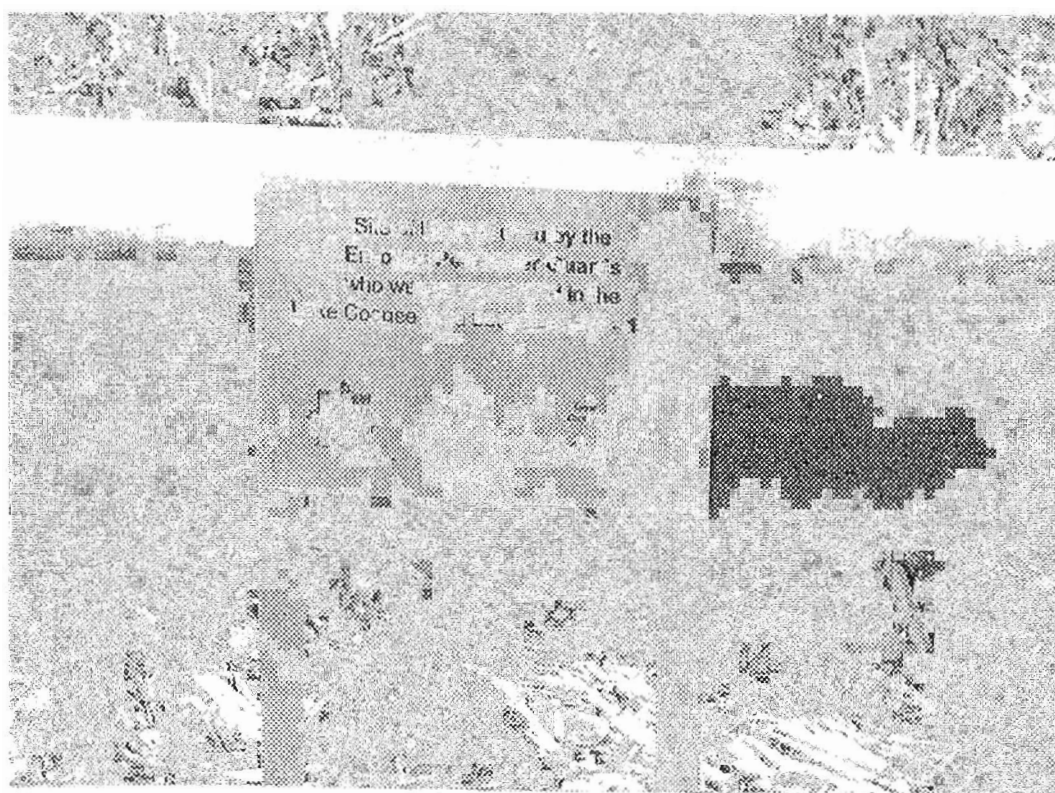
Mosaic and Plaque

Credit is due to Danka Scolz, the artist who designed and supervised the crafting of the Mosaic, the stonemasons who assembled the Wall, and the City of Cockburn who provided the grant to enable the Mosaic to be suitably mounted

The following week, members of the Group also attended the dedication ceremony of



Eastern Gates Lookout



Crimes committed at sea had to be arrested immediately before escalating to jeopardize all aboard. This was accomplished by corporal punishment. The black-box on deck was available for solitary on bread and water for a day. This was used for minor cases such as fighting between prisoners.

Serious cases such as rape, attempted murder, cutting through the deck, inciting mutiny etc. meant 18 or 36 cuts of the lash. This was meted out before the whole assignment of prisoners, paraded on deck. For this, all the guards and most of the crew were fully armed with muskets, carbines and carronades mounted up on the poop-deck to obviate any thought of mutiny.

Another obvious risk was a mass break-out from the prison-deck and subsequent taking a wife or child as hostage, then demanding the ship be re-routed to the New World. One horrifying event recorded was:-

The red ensign aloft was inverted, signifying distress, due to a reported rumour of break-out being organized. When a commotion started it caused panic. Women and children were screaming in fear of insurrection as Guards and Crew rushed to arms. After a while there was a welcome lull. The harrowing trauma took some time to recover from – and the ensign righted again.

WIVES:

The concern was tobacco. Whereas ships' officers could afford snuff made from this, ordinary people had to be content with tobacco leaf. Now, in the interest of safety, the ships' crews and the guards were only permitted to chew the leaf, but the Masters were nervous in case the wives and older children might strike a lucifer to light a pipe. It really could detonate any vessel or magazine where black-powder was stored, such as the hold and the poop. Although the mixture of charcoal, iron-filings and saltpetre is only classified as a low explosive, in dry atmosphere its dust is very sensitive and has the potential to explode. Posting warnings would not have been a solution as few people were literate in the 19th Century.

The 854 wives and their children had to be controlled by the husbands via the Sergeant-Major, Commander-of-the-Guard. This method worked well, although at least one of

our ships was to suffer the unpleasantness of having to rebuke a spouse.

However, by the grace of the Almighty, every one of Her Majesty's Hired Convict Ships completed its commission and was able to cast anchor at the Swan River Colony

Derrick Prall R.E. (ret'd)

The Inquirer 1862.

5th March 1862:

Arrival of Governor Hampton.

9th April, P3C4

Regina V Arthur Drum witness Bernard McCaffrey involving the stealing of a watch formerly belonging to McCaffrey and sold by him for £6.

21st May 1862, P2C4

We regret to have to record the death of a pensioner's wife from the effects of lightning. This accident happened on Saturday morning last, at Fremantle. The weather, although propitious to the settlers, were most inclement. On Friday night, and at about 3 a.m. on Saturday the thunder and lightning was really dreadful. The lightning struck the verandah (sic) of the Pensioners Barracks, splitting one of the mahogany verandah posts, and ripping up several shingles, passing through the wall of the building to a room occupied by the pensioners, (the inmates of which were unhurt) and from thence to another room, where a pensioner was lying asleep on a small iron bedstead. Immediately under the head of his bed the floor was struck, and the cement broken. In the corner of the room was the pensioner's musket; this appeared to attract the lightning, inasmuch as the head of the ramrod and screw below the brass-plate were much melted. Strange to say the man was unhurt. From this room the lightning penetrated through the wall to another apartment, which was occupied by Mrs. Rogers, who was found dead by her husband under the following circumstances:- At about 3 o'clock a.m. the children cried. The father who was sleeping in an adjoining room called his wife and not receiving an answer, lit a candle, went to her room, and found her dead, with the infant alive on her breast; the lightning at the time being most vivid. From enquiry, we find the Pensioner Barracks are without lightning

conductors. A building of such magnitude and in so exposed a position should have long ere this been provided with one or more of these safeguards.

2nd July, 1862 P2C3

On Friday night, at about 9 o'clock p.m. a melancholy accident occurred in Fremantle, causing the death of two children, one an infant of about 5 months old, the other the daughter of a pensioner, about 12 years of age. The accident occurred on the premises of Mr Richard Ives, Baker & Co, in Henry St., adjoining which there is a new house in course of erection by Mrs. Marmion, which had been built up to the second story, almost sufficiently high to carry the roof. Between the hours of 6 p.m. & 8.30 p.m., the rain fell in torrents, and at the hour first mentioned some heavy portions of the new building comprised of brick and stone gave way, and fell through the roof of Mr. Ives shop, and also through the floor to the cellar. The unfortunate girl and infant were at the time in a bedroom, at the back of the shop, but under the same roof; the floor gave way from the heavy mass above, and caused the death of these poor children. It was reported that at the time there was from 2 to 3 feet of water in the cellar, which, if true, would have hastened their melancholy fate. In the shop there was also an elderly man serving, who received very extensive injuries on the head. Assistance was not wanting, for the public surrounded the sad scene in a very short time. In addition to the severe affliction with which Mr. Ives too has been visited, we fear that the contents of his store must have been destroyed, and that he has also met with some loss.

9th July 1862 P2C4

4 feet of water in the Pensioners cottages at North Fremantle

20 August 1862 P2C4

re the removal of detachment of line soldiers and the increased role of pensioners whose number are to be reinforced by a supplement of 50 on each convict ship replacing the limit of 30 as previous, Barracks to house them to be erected at the NW end of St Georges Tce.

24th Sept 1862 P2C3

Quarrying of stone for barracks by convicts

8th October 1862 P2C6

Clearing of land for Rifle range and the dimensions of the Butts.

8th October 1862 P2C6

Regina V Bernard Caffrey, assault on William Weedon a butcher. John Robert Finlay the son of a pensioner gave evidence. Verdict: 4 months without hard labour as he did not intend for the injuries to be so severe

16 October 1862, P2C5

Pensioners in place of Troops of the Line also mention Barracks

29th October 1862, P2C3

A pensioner by the name of Phillips was taken suddenly ill on Friday last on Rottnest Island, and died on Sunday. The pilot boat came over on Saturday for the Doctor, who returned by the same opportunity. It is a pity provision for a resident surgeon cannot be arranged, the population on the Island now mustering over 100.

12th November 1862 P2C6

Report of an outbreak of measles on Rottnest Island and the funeral of Pensioner Phillips, the pilot Mr. Jackson read the service.

William Wilson From Pensioner to Gentleman

Recently while looking at the 1880 rate book for Fremantle I carefully recorded all the pensioners who were named as occupying or owning rateable property in the town. After finishing I was checking the index to see if I had missed anyone when I came across the name William Wilson, pensioner. Knowing I had not recorded anyone of that name I checked back and saw that William Wilson, gentleman, was the occupier of lot 189 Norfolk Street Fremantle and there were six cottages on the allotment, furthermore, he was also the occupier of 197 Suffolk St Fremantle an allotment having a value of \$100. The owner of both properties was Mrs Wilson, estate of Mrs Ware. *The Veterans* confirmed William Wilson was indeed a pensioner having arrived on the *Naval Brigade* in 1874.

Now who was Mrs Ware and where was Mr Ware?

I had a look at the Probate Indexes in the SROWA but failed to find a will in the name of Ware, however in the CSO Subject Files I did indeed find references to a Charles Ware. Charles was recorded as a carpenter and also as a builder holding mortgages over land in Cantonment Street, Cockburn and 196 Suffolk Street, Fremantle.

On going to the Pioneers' Index I found a marriage between Charles Ware and Bridget Hartigan born 1848 at Fremantle in 1872

The Bicentennial Dictionary was even more illuminating as it had Charles Ware born 1823 (England) ex-convict arrived 24 October 1850 per Hashemy, also his marriage in 1872 to Bridget Hartigan who had arrived on the *Strathmore* in 1869. Charles was listed as a brickmaker, carpenter and contractor. He had employed nineteen ticket-of-leave men including five carpenters, two quarries, a mason, a limeburner, a painter, a plasterer and an engineer

The Convicts in Western Australia 1850 – 1887 also listed convict number 138 Ware, Charles, as having been convicted in Exeter for highway robbery with violence for which he received a sentence of fourteen years. He received his ticket-of-leave on the 10 November 1851 and his conditional pardon on the 18 November 1854

Unfortunately Charles died in 1875 and is listed in the Pioneers Index as Charles Weir

The bereaved Bridget lost no time in marrying William Wilson the same year and again her surname was recorded as Weir. William living comfortably on the income derived from his wife's inheritance, must have decided he conformed to the definition of a gentleman.

There were a series of mortgages taken out on the properties this time using the correct names of William Wilson and his wife Bridget (late Bridget Ware) widow of Charles Ware.

William died in 1881 and perhaps it was just as well as he would have been bitterly disappointed to lose his status as 'gentleman' as fate had not finished with Bridget. Her first husband, Charles, having died interstate a claimant to the estate turned up, one George Sevier of Portsmouth who claimed he was the brother and 'heir to law' to Charles Ware

It now appeared Charles Ware's name was really Charles Sevier one of ten children of Moses Sevier and Hannah Deacon. As this was prior to the introduction of the Married Women's Property Acts, Bridget was dispossessed of her fortune being awarded as dower or widow relict one hundred and fifteen pounds and having the outstanding mortgages repaid. What happened to Bridget we do not know she appeared to have disappeared from Western Australia so perhaps she returned home to Ireland

Jeanette Lee

DID YOU READ?

In the HBF magazine *Well Now*, Spring 2005, there is an article *Family Ties*, (Pages 18-19) the *Case Study* is on our member Joy Pugh.

Joy says she started tracing her family history as a gift for her mother. *My mother was adopted and didn't know anything of her birth parents*

I then traced her great-great grandfather back to 1850 and found he was an enrolled pensioner guard on the first convict ship. He had been with the Royal Marines and he came to Western Australia with his wife and daughter and settled in York

Once you find out about your ancestors, you feel like you know them. There's something comforting in knowing where you come from.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING DATE

1.00pm. Saturday 15 October 2005
WA Genealogical Society Unit 1 48 May St
Bayswater

Speaker: **Colin Jameson**

Topic: **The changes from a Pensioner Village to a modern day Village.**

2006 GENERAL MEETINGS to be held in Unit 1 at 1.00pm

February	Saturday 11 th
April, AGM	Saturday 15 th
July	Saturday 15 th
October	Saturday 14 th