

EPG GAZETTE

January 2018

Vol 19 No 1



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

www.wags.org.au/groups/sigepg.html

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**Next Meeting
To be on**

20th January 2018

**Come and see a sample of our
EPG Website**

Our Meeting will be at WAGS
at 10.00am.- 1,00pm on

Unit 4– 48 May Street
Bayswater 6053



Ships Project From the Admirals Diary

As you will have noticed in both this and the previous gazette we have published what we consider confirmed names for many of the ships that our Enrolled Pensioner Force arrived. These names haven't been included until the person conducting the research has seen documentary proof that this man was on the ship we state. This proof is primary source information. That means it has appeared on official documents and not on such material as obituaries, or family stories. While some of this information is correct much has been confused or changed over the years. Now is the time if you see something you believe is incorrect to change; or let us take another look at before it goes on the Internet. Once it goes onto the Internet it is there **forever**. We can change the information to correct, however, the incorrect information will be buried in the back of the Internet and come up if searched deep enough. Our aim is to have as much as possible correct before it is published for the first time.

My thanks to Gillian and the Captains for their list of names on the ships that they're currently researching. If the ship you're interested in doesn't appear this means either it will appear in the next Gazette or sadly it isn't currently having research conducted on the ship. Hopefully, in the future when somebody has some spare time research will be done.

What else is the Admiral currently doing? I'm afraid it's only more of the routine research and filling in holes that still exist with many of our "Men". My admiration goes out to those of our Captains still hanging in there with their research. We have now been working on the Ships Project for six years and except for the fact that different organisations keep releasing information I would imagine that we would have been able to release information earlier. However, the information we will now be able to release will be far more extensive so it will be worth the wait. This doesn't mean we are doing all the research for those with Enrolled

Pensioners. It will mean that we will be able to suggest where information may be found for researchers to have the excitement of finding information for ourselves.

Remember – and I'll keep reminding all members – we are still happy to accept your research on your men to add to what we will soon start to put online.

Margaret Hickey
"Admiral of the Fleet"
email: kintore2011@gmail.com



Our visit to Fremantle – The Army Museum
Photo from Gillian

Convenor's Report

The Hougoumont 150th Anniversary will be the focus of our meeting on the 20th January. It is also part of a series of talks to celebrate the end of Transportation: which includes presentations by the Convict Special Interest Group and the Royal Western Australian Historical Society. See you there! Details are in Western Ancestor.

Our special thanks to Joanne Hyland, Bevan Carter and the Convict SIG, for their help in preparing our part of the displays.

The Convict Group has advised that Hesperian Press is doing a book on extended convict biographies. As many of our men's families married into convict families, you may wish to assist – see the document 'submission' at <http://www.hesperianpress.com>

Our meeting dates for 2018 are:

January 20
April 21 – AGM,
July 14,
October 20.

Mark them in your Calendar or Diary now.

Thanks to Marilyn, our Facebook is page available. Please use it.

Our Ship's Project is continuing and our website development is moving quickly. We do need the help of some members with moderate computer skills to continue the uploading of data and maintenance. The website uses

WordPress which some may already have experience with. After some training, you will be able to do it at home. So please contact me if you can help.

As we continue towards the publication of our Ship's Project, please check your information has been given to a captain!

As I have been the Convenor or deputy since ~ 2008, I will be stepping down at the June 2018 AGM. Ten years is enough and I have other roles within WAGS. Many thanks for all the support from the committee and members during this time. Please consider how you can help our SIG by volunteering to be on the committee. It is not onerous with eight meetings a year!

As always see our forum, WAGS events, or sign up for the e-news to get the latest.

We wish you all a happy and healthy Christmas and 2018!

Ian Barnes
Convenor (# 9003)



Cap Badge of the South Wales Borderers showing the Sphinx
24th Regiment of Foot Source: Wikipedia

Drama in the Barracks

By Jeanette Lee

On the 14th of January 1899 Sergeant-Major Henry McIlwaine wrote to the Acting Under Secretary regarding the problems he was having in his role of caretaker of the Fremantle Barracks. It was his duty to inspect the barracks each week as the cleanliness roster was the responsibility of the individual residents rotating on a weekly basis. On this particular week the tenant of No 1 quarters Mrs Calvert had completed her roster satisfactorily and he went to No 2 quarters occupied by Mrs Bree to read to her the regulations for maintaining the cleanliness of the Barracks. He was met with a torrent of abuse and she declared she did not recognise his authority and would not take her turn at cleaning up. She had previously avoided doing her share of the cleaning by being violent and abusive and on one occasion thrown a bucket of dirty water over Mrs Attwood, another resident. He asked that firm action be taken as he regarded it as a test case. The Acting Under Secretary advised him that he was to inform Mrs Bree that she would be thrown out of Barracks unless she observed the regulations.

The stalwart Major reported again to the Under Secretary of the outcome of his next visit to Mrs Bree; when he tried to read the regulations to Mrs Bree she slammed the door in his face and told him to “go to Hell.” He continued to read the regulations but doubted she heard them against her ongoing tirade. He noted here that her son Thomas (20) usually lived with her but he was undergoing a gaol sentence of 2 months for larceny. He added her husband, Thomas Bree, who was still alive and living in South Australia allowed her half his pension – he considered her place was with her husband. This resulted in the Colonial Secretary’s Office giving her notice to quit and deliver up possession of the premises within one week and hand over the keys to Sergeant-Major McIlwaine. If she did not do so she would be put out by force. Once again it fell upon the luckless Sergeant-Major to serve the

notice on Mrs Bree this time not only was he met with a barrage of abuse but also the contents of her night stool, as did the witness he took with him. By this time Sergeant-Major McIlwaine realising her was out of his depth requested any further dealing with Mrs Bree be carried out by the police or under police protection as he thought “my presence excites the woman to violence.” He also asked that the police to be ready to act on the eviction as he considered her capable of any act even setting fire to the building. The police, however, were not prepared to act unless a “breach of the peace” took place and advised McIlwaine he would have to remove all her furniture and lock the door.

On 2 February 1899 Sergeant –Major McIlwaine requested the Under Secretary to sanction the employment of two men “so the work may be carried out expeditiously under my supervision. Eight shillings will cover the cost.”

On the 4th February Mrs Bree was brought before the Resident magistrate and charged with being destitute and having no means of support, he discharged her and said he would allow her some relief. Defiant to the end Mrs Bree said she had a place to live and she would not accept relief.

McIlwaine reported on the 6th February that “Mrs Bree was successfully removed without much of a scene on Friday.”

Source:

SROWA Cons 527/180/99

This information was found at the SROWA Cons 527 -1892/0326

More Ships Project Men

Departed London 26th April 1853 (via
Cork & Rio de Janeiro)

Arrived Fremantle 19th August 1853

Number of names officially listed to
arrive – 29

Confirmed names by “Ships Project” –
28

ANGUS, James	RHA
ARTHURS, Joseph	99th Ft
BAILEY, Job	RM
BATEMAN, Edward	15th Drgns / Hus
BUTT, Samuel	91st Ft
CALLAGHAN, Cornelius	2nd Ft
CALLENAN, John	5th Drgns
CONROY, John	45th
DAVIS, William	51st Ft
DAVIS, William	80th Ft
FAY, Henry	45th
FLYNN, John	St Helena Art Corps
GRIFFIN, Thomas	95th Ft
HACKETT, Owen (Onifred)	47th Ft
JOYCE, John	37th Ft
KNOX, James	21st Ft
LOTON, Robert	58th Ft
MANNING, Thomas	68th Ft
McCAUGHRAN, William	EIC
McKELLAR, Duncan	7th RA
McQUADE, Peter	72nd Ft
MULLIGAN, Christopher	86th Ft
OWENS, Patrick	12th Ft
RICKEY, Walter	63rd Ft
ROWE, William	16th Ft
SCULL, James	EIC
SMITH, James	Newfoundland Co
WARD, John	38th Ft

Vale



**Terry and Pauline
CARROLL**

I spent February catching up on the last three issues of the “*Western Ancestor*” and noticed that my Dad was mentioned in a report on the EPG group as having been its inaugural Deputy Convenor. Belatedly that reminded me that both Dad and Mum, since she invariably accompanied him to EPG meetings, had friends who should perhaps be advised of their passing.

Terence William Carroll was born in Adelaide in 1933 to Helen O’Brien and Herbert Carroll. He married Ann Lynch at a young age and they had four children before separating and divorcing. In the mid 1960’s he met a girl from Western Australia where they had two daughters. For the most part they lived in the South West, at Waroona where Pauline had grown up and at Cookernup where Terry became interested in amateur radio and then computers.

While it was Pauline who accompanied me in the beginning to the Family History Library at Australind, it was Terry who got the bit between his teeth with his interest in his Carroll ancestry becoming something of an obsession. The EPG may have been made for him! In fact, the file on Michael Carroll who arrived as an Enrolled Pensioner Guard on the Pyrenees in 1851 is the largest in his collection. He enjoyed working with those who formed the EPG group and was glad to help out with his computing skills.

Terry and Pauline moved to Dongara in the early 2000’s where Pauline took up painting and Terry took up fishing as well as putting his radio skills to use with Sea Rescue.

Terry passed away at Nazareth House in Geraldton in March 2014. Pauline passed away at the end of April 2015, the day before her 81st birthday

Fiona Carroll (6006)

*Index to Articles in the
EPG Gazette Newsletter
continued from the
Edition of Feb 2015 to
Vol 15 No 4 in 2015.*

Compiled by Gillian O'Mara

This issue commences from Vol 15 No 1 January 2014.

Vol 16 No 1 – February 2015

Ask Advice on Your Pensioner Guard Mounted Soldier (photo)

Ships Project - Admirals Diary includes Shinnors/Gleeson, information on, archersoftware, familysearch.org, nli.ie, new Captain for Sultana – Jeanette Lee Convenors Report, David BurrIDGE, purchased 2 Vols Kipling Books available in WAGS Library, Descendant Certificates to 5 people, Daniel Stuart/Stewart, George Costigan (Photo) other certificates mailed. Communication to our Treasurer – Trails in Spain of Judith Standing February Meeting, Gazette Contributions. Next Meeting April

Saved by an Emu by Jeanette Lee - Photo of Emu included are James Fallon, Royal Charlotte transport, NSW to India, the Royal Princess, Port Jackson, Frederick Reef off Queensland Coast, Commanding Officer Lieut. Clinton, John Hughes, Sgt McDonnell, William Banks, Moreton Bay, brig Amity, Norfolk for Madras, ANMM website, wreck found

Change to Fremantle Prison Descendant Certificate

Major Robert Henry Crampton of the EPG by Peter Conole, family included, William Hogan of Police, Volunteer Fire Brigade in Perth, Metropolitan Corps of Rifle Volunteers. Gustavus Hare, Prince Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh visits, Albany, East Perth Cemetery

Enrolled Pensioner Guard Special Interest Group, Lloyd Stuart of Myree re West Australian "Can You Help" to form

Group, Phillippa Ward and Lawrence Doran, 47 people attended meeting Feb 2000. WAGS Meeting Lawrence Doran Convenor, Phillippa Ward Editor. Terry Carroll, Jack Herbert, Ray Hartnett, Sue Badderley, Derrick Prall designed Badge, Marching On, now have Banner, teacher of Embroiders Guild of WA, Claremont Museum, Displays, Woodloes Historical Society Canning, Paul Bridges, Army Museum, Bassendean, Professor Geoffrey Bolton, John Kelly, Lighthouses, Nicholas Reynolds, Ron Benton gift Fitzpatrick Opalotype photograph of Michael Fitzpatrick, conservation, Lotteries Grant, Greg Manzie of Glyde Conservation Gallery, Speakers for Mandurah & Rockingham, Toodyay tour of PG original land grants, John Clydesdale, Pioneer of the Road, first self-powered vehicle in Australia, Greenough/Port Gregory first stone roads, Carol Cahill re grants in Greenough area, Jean McDonald now Convenor 2003.

Vol 16 No 2 –April 2015

15th Anniversary Meeting Guest Speaker Graham McEwan of The Australian Army Museum, Fremantle Ships Project contact Ship Captains – all listed as of this date.

Edwin Fox at Nelson, NZ (photo)

Tom Joynes Convenor's Report includes names of members and their Pensioner Guard

Descendant Certificates sent to Susan Felton – George Swift Pyrenees 1 & Stephen Jackson – William Fortescue Terry Edwards our Scribe WAGS for e-News

Next Meeting our AGM and General Meeting, 15th Anniversary Group Started 15 Apr 2000

Graham McEwan guest speaker – John Hyland, with group invited to view new EPG Gallery as a visit

Next Meeting 18 July,

Photo of Ship and Images of Military Uniforms

Soldiers Who Went to Pension in WA by Jeanette Lee

Anna and the King of Siam by Sue White –

The Background to the arrival of
Convicts and Pensioner Guards in WA
by Peter Conole
God Bless Sultana and All Who Sailed
in Her (and some who didn't) Part 1
Edward Metcalfe Grain (photo)
Arthur Portrait Chelsea Pensioner
(photo)

Vol 16 No 3 – July 2015

Library Meeting
Ships Project – Admiral's Diary –
Margaret in London
Convenors Report by Ian Barnes –
Committee Listed
15th Anniversary cake made by Katrina
O'Mara
Quarter Sessions article from the Perth
Gazette 8 Oct 1852 re James Rourke
God Bless Sultana and All Who Sailed
In Her, Part 2 by Diane Oldman and
Jeanette Lee – several EPG mentioned
Journal of Her Majesty's Hired Convict
Ship "Robert Small" – by Ian Barnes
Includes Daily Sick Book on board
between 4 April 1853 and 13 Sep 1853
AJCP Reel M711, frame 288

Vol 16 No 4 – October 2015

Next Meeting – Guildford Historical
Society Museum
99th Rgt (photo)
Ships Project – From the Admiral
returned from England
Convenor's Report – Ian Barnes WAGS
Hacked
WO22.226a document for the "York"
(photo)
Letter to the Editor from Victor Stuart re
Can Anyone Identify the Photo in Court
& Camera on p82-83?
Army Museum Visit in May & Lunch
Afterwards
John Phillip Litton with Wife (Photo
taken by John Knowles)
Lunch at Trade Winds (Photo taken by
John's Wife)
From Ian Barnes – Items of Interest
article taken from the Perth Gazette and
West Australian Times Friday 12 March
1869 re John Callegan & Mrs Pidgeon
(EPG Wife)
Guildford Visit –see their website at
[http://www.swanguildfordhistoricalsociet
y.org.au/](http://www.swanguildfordhistoricalsociety.org.au/)
Lunch at Rose and Crown afterwards

Train Visitors information
Editorial – re items wanted

Editorial:

Please consider writing up your
EPG story for the Gazette.

Without which we couldn't put the
Gazette together.

In 2018 I will bring the index of
Gazettes up to 2017 -

*Merry Xmas and
New Year -
Have a Safe and
Happy Time*



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Telephone 9401 2835
gomara@inet.net.au

Date for Next Meeting

To be on

21st April 2018

**Ian Simon
Family Search Records**

Our Meeting will be at WAGS
at **10.00am.**

48 May Street

Ships Project From the Admirals Diary

Having celebrated the 150th Anniversary of the last convict transportation arrival in January and many functions held by various groups including the Convict Special Interest Group, Enrolled Pensioner Special Interest Group, SLWA and RWAHS I can only commend all those involved in a very successful series of talks. My thanks to those connected with the "Hougoumont" talks.

To coincide with this event we managed to get the profiles for all men who arrived on the "Hougoumont" onto our new website. I would like to thank Peter Short and Ian Barnes for their help in inputting information onto the website. It has been a long drawn-out process; with many hours spent in our training to use the website data-base. Hopefully we now have most of the 'bugs' ironed out and now will be full steam ahead in inputting data online. As we all needed a break after the speed that we worked to get the "Hougoumont" online for the anniversary we took some time off before we get into full swing. As advised previously this is a work in progress, however, you should now see things happening.

By the time you read this article we will have the profiles of 'men' from several ships online. You will be advised at the next meeting exactly what ships are online at that date. Please keep checking your 'Man's' name to see if it is yet available.

This leaves only to advise what I have been doing. I was fortunate enough to attend with many Family Historians the 15th Australasian Congress on Genealogy and Heraldry held in Sydney the second week of March. Over six hundreds of us were lucky enough to listen to speakers for four days from all around the world to exactly what is happening in the Family History world. These Congress' happen every three years somewhere in Australia or New Zealand and bring us all up to date with both new technology and research in many fields. Hopefully you'll be able to talk with one of the over twenty Western Australians who attended to hear what was discussed. Western Australian Genealogical Society had an information desk as part of the Congress. Thanks to them we received extensive exposure with our new website and I was fortunate enough to talk to several who have men in the Enrolled Pensioner Force. We exchanged information on these 'Men'.

Personally one of the most interesting subjects I heard was from Family Search who is now adding thousands of records daily to their website to enable research. This will assist us with the "Ships Project" to find those elusive records for our 'Men'. Ian Simon will talk at our next meeting on this subject and will be worth listening to.

Margaret Hickey

"Admiral of the Fleet"

email: kintore2011@gmail.com

Convenor's Report

WAGS Special Event – The Landing in the Dawn: Dissecting a Legend - The Landing at Anzac, Gallipoli, 25 April 1915

21 April 2018
1.30pm – 4pm
Unit 4, 48 May Street, Bayswater

Members - \$10, Non-members - \$15

Ahead of ANZAC Day, the Western Australian Genealogical Society is very pleased to host a talk by James Hurst, author of the recently released book *'The Landing in the Dawn: Dissecting a Legend – The Landing at ANZAC, Gallipoli, 25 April 1915*.

The Gallipoli Landing of 25 April 1915 is arguably Australia's best known battle. It is commemorated each year with a national holiday, services, parades and great media attention. Despite this, the Landing is still a poorly understood battle, coloured by a century of generalisation, misinformation, assumption, folklore, myth and legend.

James Hurst has undertaken a detailed re-examination and reconstruction of the Landing, focussing on the experiences of the 11th Battalion. His approach was to use veteran accounts, supported by a range of sources, in a way that elevates participant's accounts from anecdote to eyewitness account, thereby providing a new and important perspective on this historic battle.

This book is the outcome of James' PhD research at the Australian National University, completed in 2014.

HOW TO BOOK

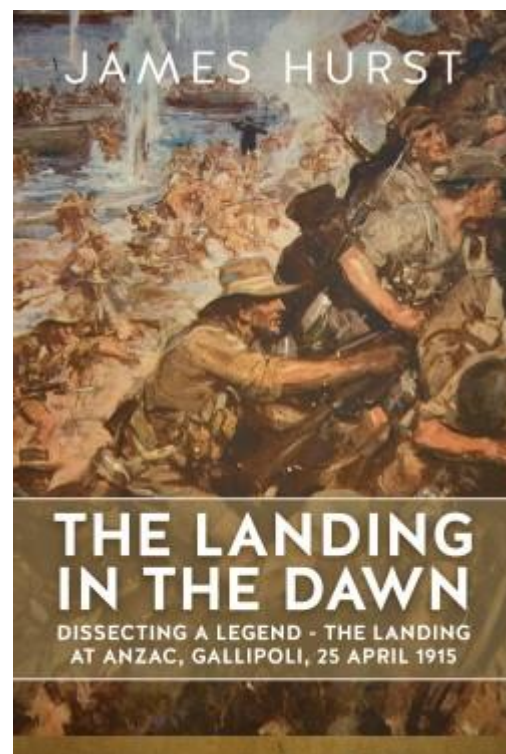
Payment is required at time of booking

Refer to the Events Calendar for further details:

www.wags.org.au, or

Phone 9271 4311 during WAGS library hours, or

Email: military@wags.org.au



Vale
Thomas Edward Joynes
24 Nov 1936-28 Mar 2018

Tom as we all called him was born in Narogin to parents Annie and Edward Joynes and then raised in Kalgoorlie from 1941 for around 40 years. Tom moved to Perth in the 1980's where he met his wife when they were both at a Conference in Perth for the Catholic Church. He married Kathleen Healy in 1982 by the same Bishop who served at his funeral service.

Tom was the Convenor of our Group for several years and was such a special person and was Ships Captain for the "Edwin Fox" along with Marilyn Dimond.

Tom and Kath lived for their religious belief and would always be found helping people. He was an Acolyte at St Kierans Roman Catholic Church in Yokine.



Tom presenting Certificate of Descendancy
To WAGS Member Victor Stuart in 2015
(Photo Courtesy of Carol Periam)

The Fenians Escape

Found By Jeanette Lee

THE WEST AUSTRALIAN,
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11,
1937

THE FENIANS ESCAPE.

What a Boy Saw at Fremantle.

From two old colonists we received first-hand accounts of the sensational incidents of April 1876, when six Fenian prisoners escaped from Fremantle. The prisoners were picked up by an American whaler, the Catalpa. The colonial steamer Georgette went out in pursuit and, after firing several warning shots, demanded that the convicts be surrendered, but the American being on the high seas, defied the challenger and sailed off in safety. The excitement caused in the colony is well described below.

Mr. "Bill" Lynch, of Elizabeth Street, Geraldton, writes as follows:-

"I was 13 years old at the time, and was living in the top barracks in Fremantle, my father being a military pensioner, and one who went on the Georgette to bring back the prisoners. Being a school holiday on Easter Monday morning, the boys of the barracks got together to see how we would spend the day. We decided to go bird-nesting out in the bush along the Rockingham road. We got as far as the Government house on that road, and after another 'confab' we decided to go swimming. Going down the street towards the beach we met four men in convicts dress coming towards us. One I knew well to be Big Bob, the prison letter carrier. I spoke to him like I had done before, but he told me to go away. I watched them go across some spare ground to the

Rockingham-road corner, and then took no more notice of them.

We went on to the beach but again I and another boy decided to go to the north jetty on the river where the paddle steamer, the Lady Stirling, was taking on passengers to go to Perth for the regatta; and we tried to steal our passage but were hunted off twice. So we watched the steamer going to Perth with a full load of passengers. Then I decided to go to the long jetty fishing.

Coming at Full Gallop

I went along Cliff-street, and when I got to High-street I saw a horse and rider coming down the street at a full gallop. The horse was frothing at the mouth and the rider had no coat on, his hat was tucked on his head and, with his red whiskers and his legs bare he looked every inch a madman. He pulled up at the police station, not 50 yards from me, and dismounted.

I stood there for a while and then I saw a mounted policeman and his black tracker go galloping towards the water police quarters, and when I got that far I saw the water police in a great excitement running about everywhere, and then launching their boat from the shed and sailing off towards Rockingham. Now with all the water police gone I was safe to go on to the jetty fishing, because fishing on the long jetty was not allowed at this time. So, after catching a couple of dozen herring, I got home about 1 o'clock; and it was then I got the news that those prisoners I met at 9 o'clock that morning were making their escape. All pensioners were ordered to be confined to barracks until further notice.

At 3 o'clock that evening the water police boat came back from their chase and reported that they had sighted the runaways and then the excitement started. About 60 pensioners were called on for duty. They were all served out with 25 rounds of ball ammunition, and in marching order went to the jetty and

embarked aboard the Georgette. The first casualty took place just before going on board, when one of the old men collapsed and was sent back to hospital. Now there were two old cannon that had been in a yard at the end of the jetty for years, and these were run down the jetty and put aboard with some shot a bit bigger than a cricket ball. This was the ammunition for the cannon.

The Watching Women

Late that night the Georgette got away. Now I will not try to describe the scene among the wives of those old pensioners who were away on war duty that night, except to say that, like my mother none went to bed, and they were very pleased women next day when their husbands returned safe.

On the night of the Georgette's return I went with my father to the single men's room, and I listened to the story of the encounter from the gunner who fired the two shots at the Yankee ship. He said that Mr. Stone, who was Comptroller of the Fremantle Prison, called on the captain of the Catalpa to stop and to hand over his ship. The answer came back that he had no convicts on his ship, and his captain was on shore. Stone replied, "Unless you stop I will sink your ship." The man on board replied that his ship sailed under the American flag and he was on the high seas, and for any damage done to his boat they would be responsible to the United States government. The gunner continued: So I received orders to fire the first shot at her stern but not to hit her. She did not stop and I was ordered to fire the next shot across her bows, but again not to hit her. This shot went close to her bows and at once the stars and stripes went up to the masthead, but she did not stop. Stone and Major Finnerty, who was in charge of the pensioners, now consulted and, having no orders to fight on the high seas, returned back to Fremantle and abandoned the chase.

A Song Banned

Mr. Lynch also gives a fuller version of the song which was sung to celebrate the escape. He agrees with other correspondents that the ditty was banned by the Government, and it meant gaol for one to be singing it.

His version is:-

*She was a Yankee whale ship and
commander*

*Called the Catalpa by name
Came out to Western Australia
And stole six of our convicts away*

CHORUS

So come all you screw warders and jailers

*Remember the Perth regatta day
Take care of the rest of your Fenians
Or the yanks they will take them away.
The Georgette well maned with bold
warriors*

*Went after this yank to arrest
But then she hoisted her star-spangled
banner*

*Saying "You better not board me I guess"
For seven long years have they served
you*

*And seven more would have stayed,
For defending their country, Ould Ireland;
It was for that they were banished away.
You remember those six Fenians colonial
And sing o'er these few verses with skill
And remember the Yankee that stole them
And the home that they left on the hill.*

*For now there in the States of America
When all will be able to cry*

*'We will hoist the green flag with the
shamrock*

Saying "Hurrah for Ould Ireland we die"

Mr. Lynch also refers to another song which suggested that certain warders had a hand in the escape and refers to "Fenian gold."

Hatching the Plot

Mr. Alfred Douglas, of South Perth, giving his version of the affair, refers to the fact that in 1867, several years before the deliverance of the prisoners the American whaling ship Catherine put into the coast

of Fremantle and lay in Careening bay at Garden island for three days. A certain Captain Fisher landed at Fremantle from the Catherine. Mr. Douglas says that Captain Fisher remained at Fremantle for two years whaling for the late Mr. John Bateman, and prepared a chart of the coast of Fremantle and the landing places on the coast. Then he moved on to Albany, and went whaling for the late Captain Thomas. In March 1875, there was a vacancy for the caretaker at the Albany Quarantine station and this Captain Fisher for the situation. In March 1876, three American gentlemen arrived at Albany on board the outward bound P. and O. Royal Mail Steamer Siam. They were the only three passengers for this state, and they were quarantined for nine days. These three Americans, Mr. Douglas alleges, were the real accomplices working on behalf of the Fenians. After they were freed from quarantine they left Albany for Fremantle by the Rob Roy and stayed at a boarding house in High-street, Fremantle." I can prove this," the correspondent says, "as I was in their company three times – twice in Albany with Captain Fisher and once in Fremantle by chance at a boarding house. In March, 1876, the Catalpa put into Frenchman's Bay Albany, and took fresh water on board and she put out to sea the same day. Captain Fisher was the only person who went on board her at Albany on this occasion. I beg to say the Catalpa was not the first ship that came to rescue these three Fenians. The first ship was wrecked on the West Australian coast, and I know where her bones lay."

If you have any photographs or drawings of any of Pensioner Guard Ships please let the Editor know so she can pass them on to John Knowles who is searching for these for our Ship's Project Website.

*Index to Articles in the
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continued from the
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January 2014.

Vol 16 No 1 – February 2015

Ask Advice on Your Pensioner Guard
Mounted Soldier (photo)

Ships Project - Admirals Diary includes
Shinners/Gleeson, information on,
archersoftware, familysearch.org, nli.ie,
new Captain for Sultana – Jeanette
LeeConvenors Report, David BurrIDGE,
purchased 2 Vols Kipling Books available
in WAGS Library, Descendant Certificates
to 5 people, Daniel Stuart/Stewart,
George Costigan (Photo) other certificates
mailed.Communication to our Treasurer –
Trails in Spain of Judith Standing
February Meeting, Gazette Contributions.
Next Meeting April

Saved by an Emu by Jeanette Lee -
Photo of Emu included are James Fallon,
Royal Charlotte transport, NSW to India,
the Royal Princess, Port Jackson,
Frederick Reef off Queensland Coast,
Commanding Officer Lieut. Clinton, John
Hughes, Sgt McDonnell, William Banks,
Moreton Bay, brig Amity, Norfolk for
Madras,ANMM website, wreck found
Change to Fremantle Prison Descendant
Certificate

Major Robert Henry Crampton of the EPG
by Peter Conole, family included, William
Hogan of Police, Volunteer Fire Brigade in
Perth, Metropolitan Corps of Rifle
Volunteers. Gustavus Hare, Prince Alfred,
Duke of Edinburgh visits, Albany, East
Perth Cemetery

Enrolled Pensioner Guard Special Interest
Group, Lloyd Stuart of Myree re West
Australian "Can You Help" to form Group,
Phillippa Ward and Lawrence Doran, 47
people attended meeting Feb 2000.
WAGS Meeting Lawrence Doran
Convenor, Phillippa Ward Editor. Terry
Carroll, Jack Herbert, Ray Hartnett, Sue
Badderley, Derrick Prall designed Badge,
Marching On, now have Banner, teacher
of Embroiders Guild of WA, Claremont
Museum, Displays, Woodloes Historical
Society Canning, Paul Bridges, Army
Museum, Bassendean, Professor
Geoffrey Bolton, John Kelly, Lighthouses,
Nicholas Reynolds, Ron Benton gift
Fitzpatrick Opalotype photograph of
Michael Fitzpatrick, conservation,
Lotteries Grant, Greg Manzie of Glyde
Conservation Gallery, Speakers for
Mandurah & Rockingham, Toodyay tour of
PG original land grants, John Clydesdale,
Pioneer of the Road, first self-powered
vehicle in Australia, Greenough/Port
Gregory first stone roads, Carol Cahill re
grants in Greenough area, Jean
McDonald now Convenor 2003.

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15th Anniversary Meeting Guest Speaker
Graham McEwan of The Australian Army
Museum, Fremantle

Ships Project contact Ship Captains – all
listed as of this date.

Edwin Fox at Nelson, NZ (photo)

Tom Joynes Convenor's Report includes
names of members and their Pensioner
Guard

Descendant Certificates sent to Susan
Felton – George Swift Pyrenees 1 &
Stephen Jackson – William Fortescue
Terry Edwards our Scribe WAGS for e-
News

Next Meeting our AGM and General
Meeting, 15th Anniversary Group Started
15 Apr 2000

Graham McEwan guest speaker – John Hyland, with group invited to view new EPG Gallery as a visit
 Next Meeting 18 July,
 Photo of Ship and Images of Military Uniforms
 Soldiers Who Went to Pension in WA by Jeanette Lee
 Anna and the King of Siam by Sue White –
 The Background to the arrival of Convicts and Pensioner Guards in WA by Peter Conole
 God Bless Sultana and All Who Sailed in Her (and some who didn't) Part 1
 Edward Metcalfe Grain (photo)
 Arthur Portrait Chelsea Pensioner (photo)

Thomas Bishop, Arthur Allen, Military Uniforms (photo)
 Pensioner William Lennox late of the 77th Rgt of Foot by Diane Oldman and Peter Conole
 Crimean War (Photo)

More items of Interest found in WA Newspapers on internet NLA Trove
 Sergeant J F Hyland with photo of High St Fremantle
 Mr Joseph Jarvis Deceased articles and notices
 Benjamin Shemeld Death, Funeral Notices and article on An old colonist
 William Finlay at Mt Eliza
 Mt Eliza Depot (Old Mens Home photo)
 Bernard Kelly etc
 Robert Trett
 Hougoumont with some Fenian convicts listed who were ex-Military Men

Vol 16 No 3 – July 2015

Library Meeting
 Ships Project – Admiral's Diary – Margaret in London
 Convenors Report by Ian Barnes – Committee Listed
 15th Anniversary cake made by Katrina O'Mara
 Quarter Sessions article from the Perth Gazette 8 Oct 1852 re James Rourke
 God Bless Sultana and All Who Sailed In Her, Part 2 by Diane Oldman and Jeanette Lee – several EPG mentioned
 Journal of Her Majesty's Hired Convict Ship "Robert Small" – by Ian Barnes
 Descendants Dianne Bramley for John Baldwin, Mark Lee for Patrick Lee, Wayne & Thomas Poland for John Pratt & Patrick Carroll, Carol Perriam for James O'Bryan, Dianne Elphick for Joseph Wright, Chris Loudon re 11th Battalion, Future Meetings, Fremantle Prison Ceremony, Dr Pamela Statham Drew, Bevan Beaver, Amberlee Hong, Peter Holland etc. EPG Gazette Distribution for 2015 on, Items of Interest found in WA Newspapers on Trove –



EPG GAZETTE

July 2018

Vol 19 No 3



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

www.wags.org.au/groups/sigepg.html

Editor: Gillian O'Mara
Telephone 9401 2835
gomara@inet.net.au

Date for Next Meeting

To be on

Saturday 21st July 2018

Marjorie Burton

Our Meeting will be at WAGS
at **10.00am.** to 12.30

Unit 4– 48 May Street
Bayswater 6053



<https://www.istockphoto.com/au/vector/king-george-ii-at-the-battle-of-dettingen-gm902571668-248960166>

Ships Project From the Admirals Diary

.....

I hope all members are enjoying the progress that our website is making. You need to go online regularly to see what has been completed. As you read this copy of the "Gazette" you might be interested to know that currently we have uploaded the men on 13 Ships which means there is now 456 profiles online.

As well as this there is another 4 ships currently being worked on at the back of the website. This means another 150 profiles. This information will be uploaded within the next month. When we reach that stage, we will have completed the profiles for half the estimated 1200 men who came as Enrolled Pensioners.

Most of the Captains are still researching in the background prior to them handing over their research to be added to the website. A couple of these Captains have been able to add names to their ships so that we now have a full complement of nearly the complete fleet of ships. This is very exciting as this has never happened before. I thank all the Captains for their continued research.

I'm happy to advise that Peter Short who has been working on

the Ships Project for many years has been appointed the Website Manager. Peter has been part of the small Publications team that has been uploading information. This will mean that after we have finished uploading our information Peter will continue to maintain the website and to keep it current. Anyone contacting us through the website their email will go directly to Peter who will arrange for it to be answered. My thanks to you Peter for his continued support.

So that just leaves what the Admiral is up to. Currently I'm part of the publications Team who are inputting the information onto the website. This leaves me very little time for anything else. However, I do every now and again take an excursion into research which I'm missing. Hopefully later in the year I'll get back to purely research.

www.pensionerguardforcewa.org.au

Margaret Hickey
"Admiral of the Fleet"
email: kintore2011@gmail.com

Deputy Convenor's Report

Our (EPG) committee had a get together early in June with the Bassendean Historical Society. This was organised between Jeanette Lee and Dr Jennie Carter. We met at the Pensioner Guard Cottage, which consists of two rooms, a kitchen and a



bedroom.

Just try to imagine what it would be like with eight children plus Mum and Dad. After looking through the cottage we looked at photos, papers and diagrams of the local land lots in Bassendean (which formerly was called West Guildford), we were privileged to be given a beautiful



afternoon tea.

At the last committee meeting in June there was a discussion about going to the Fremantle Cemetery to be shown some of our Pensioner Guard Graves. It was decided that we would do this. Arrangements are in progress and will be in the next newsletter which will include a lunch afterwards. Lunch will be optional.

ANNIVERSARIES:

August:

William Jardine 1852
Robert Small 1853
Phoebe Dunbar 1853
Ramillies 1854
Sultana 1859
Racehorse 1865

September:

Runneymede 1856
Merchantman 2 1864

October:

Minden 1851
Hashemy 1850

Our next meeting date for 2018 is Saturday 20th October.

Where Fremantle Cemetery.

Vale Terry Edwards

4th October – 25th March 2018



Associate Professor Terence John Edwards passed away on Sunday in his apartment which overlooks Scarborough Beach. At his funeral on April 4th, the tremendous influence Terry had on so many people over the course of his life was abundantly clear. Through a career in science and engineering, Terry made major contributions to the advancement of fundamental knowledge, the development of new capabilities for industrial research and perhaps most importantly, to the education and training of countless individuals who were fortunate enough to experience his unique, highly effective teaching style. One part of Terry's legacy was the establishment in Western Australia of a research capability in oil and gas from scratch; this includes the Fluid Science & Resources group, which grew from foundations laid by Terry prior to his retirement from the University of Western Australia in 2006.

Terry was a well respected member of the EPG Committee and member for many years.

RIP Terry

Mrs Eleanor Duffy

Died 16th March 2018

It is with regret we wish to inform our members of the sad demise of Eleanor.

Mr Brendan Duffy notified us in May that she had passed away.

Rest In Peace



<https://www.pexels.com/photo/flower-nature-orchid-plant-8204/>

*Pensioner Patrick
Neeson and Perth Town
Lot L74*

After a rather complicated and spirited ownership battle Perth Town Lot L74, a small block of land of 37 perches (approx. ¼ acre), situated in Mounts Bay Road was added to Kings Park reserve in May 1918 after more than forty years occupancy by Pensioner Patrick Neeson and his family

Originally In 1878 Pensioner Patrick Neeson was given permission to occupy the land as a tenant-at-will. This rather unusual arrangement was settled upon by Sir Malcolm Fraser as he had visions of cutting into the face of Mt Eliza and reclaiming the foreshore. It was never his intention that Patrick Neeson would be granted fee simple as he was eligible to claim a pensioner allotment elsewhere but for some reason he accepted this offer quite happily.

Patrick erected a small hut and established a garden, his wife, Maria, being a laundress used the area for drying the laundry, they and their family of five children lived there reliant on the proceeds of the laundry and the produce from the garden to bolster Patricks meagre pension

of 1/- ½ per day until the death of Patrick on 21 May 1881 and Maria on 2 March 1890.

After his parents death their son James wrote to the Under Secretary asking that he be allowed to occupy the house and land formerly occupied by his parents. In May of 1890 the police conducted an inquiry into the residents of Lot 74 and reported that James, a carpenter, a private in the Volunteers and the only son of pensioner Neeson was living there with his unmarried sister Mary. His married sister was a temporary resident. His Excellency approved the application for James to occupy the land as a tenant-at-will for the Crown. The rent was set at five pounds a year subject to a notice to quit of 3 months without any compensation for any improvements.

Shortly after on August 8, 1890 James Neeson wrote to the Commissioner of Crown land requesting the transfer of the tenant-at-will agreement to his sister Ann Shaw which was granted on 13th August 1890.

On the 18 July 1899 The Under Secretary for Lands visited Perth Town Lot L74 with a view to increasing the rent and reported that the occupier was a Mrs Ann Shaw a widow with five young children the eldest aged seventeen years and the youngest five years of age. She

stated she had lived on the block for thirty years and since her husband's death six months previously has solely depended on the Tea Gardens as a source of income and is unable to pay a higher rent.

Doing a survey of the grounds he reported that there was a dilapidated shanty made of packing cases amongst the banana trees, an eight foot well, a weather board house and shop and a sitting room which Mrs Shaw said her husband had erected at a cost of twenty five pounds. There was also an old shed and a fowl house of little or no value. In view of the condition of the holding he considered it would be a hardship on the old lady to increase the rent.

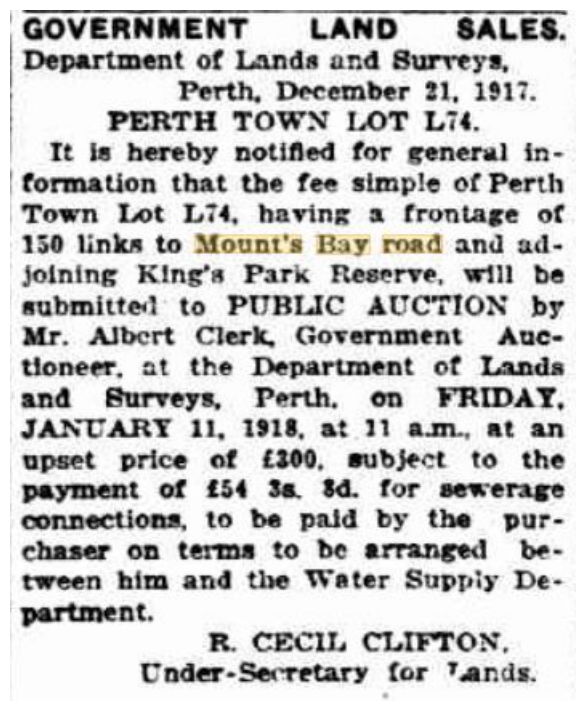
On 10 July 1900 Ann Shaw objected to being asked to pay water rates of one pound for six months as she said there was no water laid on to the block and as the land belongs to the park she considered herself practically a caretaker of the buildings. A plea the Under Secretary heeded and requested the Water Work Board to withdraw the notice.

In 1903 the Perth Electric Tramways Ltd. inquired into whether it would be possible to acquire the lease on Perth town Lots L74 and L76 as they wanted to run an inclined tramway from One Tree Point near Mounts Bay Road to Kings Park, they were

referred to the Kings Park Board and the project and nothing came of the proposal.

On 31 January 1907 Mrs Anna Shaw married Thomas Osborne who worked for the Swan River Shipping Company. Shortly after this a letter was sent to Mrs Osborne saying that as no rent had been paid for three and a half years the lease is liable to immediate cancellation. When no effort to pay the arrears was made the lease was cancelled on 1 July 1907. On 31 July 1907 Inspector JT Barrow reported Mrs Osborne was still in possession of the land and she informed him she had been for the last sixteen years and the land was held by her father as a pensioner grant. By this time Mrs Osborne had leased the Swan River Tea Gardens to a Mrs Stiles who said prior to her signing the lease she had been assured by her solicitor that Mrs Osborne's title to the land was indisputable. Despite all this the plea of poverty did not fall on deaf ears and the rent was reduced to ten shilling per annum and Mrs Osborne was to remain a tenant-at-will. Despite the rent reduction she still did not pay the rent and the debt incurred by 15 November 1915 was fifteen pounds two shilling and six pence while the capital value of the buildings was reduced to fifty pounds due to their dilapidated state.

A further inquiry dated 10 March 1916 stated that Mrs Osborne formerly Mrs Shaw, a daughter of pensioner Patrick Neeson, was still occupying the premises at Town Lot 74. Her father and husband (Shaw) built the buildings consisting of a small weather board shop and two dwelling rooms, the shop now tenanted by Mrs Mitchell at a rent of ten shillings a week which Mrs Osborne used for her own maintenance. By this time Mrs Osborne was living alone as her youngest son had recently married and was in the Army.



After Mrs Osborne's death on 2 May 1917 the Under Secretary for Lands notified her daughter Mrs Margaret Lindsay who 'has

approached the department in connection with obtaining possession of the land and buildings. I advised them, however, that there were no circumstances which entitled the children to consideration towards occupancy of this land, and, it is quite likely therefore, that the land would be included in Kings Park'.

The solicitors Dunstan & Ackland wrote to the Under Secretary of land seeking information about title to the land L74 seeing the land has been in the family's possession for sixty years. Needless to report the answer was the land had been forfeited for non-payment of rent and was Crown land and was never alienated, the Notice of Forfeiture was published in the Government Gazette and the buildings to be submitted for auction.

The auction of the buildings had a net value of seventeen pounds two shilling, after deducting their expenses the remainder ten pounds and three pence was sent as a refund voucher to the executors of Mrs Osborne's will. The Town of Perth requested payment out of the proceeds of the auction of thirteen pound seven shilling and nine pence owing in rates but they were referred to the executor.

LOT L74

A BIT OF OLD PERTH.

It has been decided by the Minister for Lands to withdraw from sale Perth Town Lot L74, advertised to be sold by public auction at the Department of Lands and Surveys on the 11th inst. This simple official announcement covers an interesting scrap of old Perth history. Lot L74 has a frontage of 150 links to **Mount's Bay-road**, and adjoins King's Park. It will be best remembered by the people as the lot upon which stood for many years a small refreshment room. The land was held by a Crown grant. An old military pensioner named **Neeson** lived there on special terms from the authorities, and these terms were maintained so long as **Neeson's** direct descendants wanted to live there. The older generation has passed away, and the Government has now resumed possession, demolishing the old building. It was intended to sell the lot in order to benefit the revenue, but a protest from the King's Park authorities has resulted in the abandonment of that intention.

The block was offered to the Kings Park Board but they said they were not in position to buy the land and it was decided to sell the land valued at three hundred pounds with the sewage connection fee payable by the purchaser by auction on 11 January 1918. It was withdrawn from sale and on 28 February 1918 the Kings Park Board were advised it could have the land provided they level and fill the low lying areas, an offer they accepted on 2 May 1918 bringing to an end a forty year saga.

As late as 30 August 1918 the under Secretary for Water Supply

was still requesting the eighteen

GOVERNMENT LAND SALES.

Department of Lands and Surveys,

Perth, December 21, 1917.

PERTH TOWN LOT L74.

It is hereby notified for general information that the fee simple of Perth Town Lot L74, having a frontage of 150 links to **Mount's Bay road** and adjoining King's Park Reserve, will be submitted to PUBLIC AUCTION by Mr. Albert Clerk, Government Auctioneer, at the Department of Lands and Surveys, Perth, on FRIDAY, JANUARY 11, 1918, at 11 a.m., at an upset price of £300, subject to the payment of £54 3s. 3d. for sewerage connections, to be paid by the purchaser on terms to be arranged between him and the Water Supply Department.

R. CECIL CLIFTON,

Under-Secretary for Lands.

pounds raised by the sale of the buildings to pay part of the cost of the sewage connection of forty six pound one shilling and nine pence, they got similar treatment as the Town of Perth and told to contact the Kings Park Board.

Reference: SROWA Cons
541/1890/0797

EPG GAZETTE

October 2018

Vol 19 No 4



ENROLLED PENSIONER GUARDS

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Editor: Gillian O'Mara
Telephone 9401 2835
gomara@inet.net.au

Date for Next Meeting

To be on

20 October 2018

**Visit to Fremantle Cemetery
Showing Pensioner Guards
and their families Graves
including the Heritage Walk**

**Walk starts at 10.30 on the Dot
More information on page 2**



Admirals Diary

You may have noticed if you're watching the website closely that things are currently progressing very slowly. There are several reasons for this. Firstly two-thirds of the publishing team have either been away or are still away travelling in the northern hemisphere. The final third of the team is off during other duty at the moment ie: the Fremantle Cemetery tour.

Even so we are progressing well with input and you will see more profiles appearing by the end of October.

I have made a commitment to the Deputy Convenor of the group that we will have the first input of the complete men online by the first anniversary of the project. That will be 9th January 2019. Hopefully this will happen before this date and we will move on to other things such as adding images and updating the profiles.

So what else has the "Admiral" been doing? As stated above I've been involved with the planning of the Fremantle Cemetery Walk on 20th October. It is beyond my comprehension how something that will take just over an hour has taken us so much time to research. My thanks go to Glenys Fisher and Teresa Handcock for their support and input into putting the walk together. By the time we've finished on 20th October we will have walked part or the whole of the tour six times.

We plan to visit graves of Enrolled Pensioners and their families who have headstones on their graves and also headstones along the Heritage Walk. While there will obviously be many more Enrolled Pensioners and their families buried in Fremantle Cemetery we have needed to restrict the walk to just over the hour. There are a few things you need to remember. Firstly - if you are attending the tour/lunch you need to confirm this fact to the below email address as soon as possible. Please be at the Samson Pavilion no later than 10.15am on the 20th October as tour will start walking at exactly 10.30am. Parking: being Saturday some may park near Samson Pavilion, however, we must remember that there may be funerals and the Pavilion is a meeting point. The main parking area is near the café and those able to walk an additional ten minutes should use this area and walk through to Samson Pavilion. If you are attending the lunch it will be at the Trade Winds Hotel on Canning Highway East Fremantle at 12.30pm. We have confirmed a number for the lunch which is why you will need to confirm your attendance. Cost of lunch will be the responsibility of each member.

www.pensionerguardforcewa.org.au

Margaret Hickey

"Admiral of the Fleet"

email: kintore2011@gmail.com

Acting Convenor's Report

by Glenys Fuller

This is our last meeting for 2018 on 20 October, we are not meeting at WAGS but at Fremantle Cemetery instead. Arrangements are nearly all finalized.

The arrangements are to meet at Samson Pavilion 10.15am-10.30am. The entrance is the first on Carrington Street off Leach Highway.

Afterwards lunch is optional at your own expense if you wish to join with those attending. Venue is at the Trade Winds Hotel, corner of Sewell Street and Canning Highway East Fremantle.

Please **RSVP** to Margaret Hickey on kintore2011@gmail.com

Correspondence received from the President of WAGS Ian Simon acknowledged the effort put into the "Ships Project and Website". WELL DONE to all those who contributed their information and to the Ship Captains, Admiral and Peter Short for all their hard work.

Thank you to John Knowles for his time as Secretary on our Committee but a special mention to Teresa Handcock who has volunteered to be our interim Minute Secretary – Thank you Teresa.

Anniversaries: -

October: Minden 14 October 1851

Hashemy 25 October 1850

November: Edwin Fox 21 November 1858

December:

Vimeira 22 December 1865

Corona 22 December 1866

Lord Dalhousie 28 December 1863

York 31 December 1862

January: Nile 1 January 1858

Hougomont 9 January 1868

Lincelles 28 January 1862

Marion 30 January 1852

EPG

Robert Robertson

By Jeanette Lee

While researching Enrolled Pensioner Guard Robert Robertson formerly of the 99th and 12th regiments I came across three envelopes addressed to his father and brother together with two of the letters which he had written while serving with his regiment in New South Wales and Tasmania.

These envelopes and letters were posted on a site run by philatelist the late Dr. Maurice Alan Mishkel and give a first-hand insight into the life of a soldier in the 1840s.ⁱ

The first letter was addressed to his father Robert Robertson, ESQ, Banker, Blairgowrie, Perthshire Scotland, it is dated 23rd July 1845 from Corporal Rt Wales. After inquiring after the health of his father and brother James, Robert told him he had two sons the elder was born at sea and was named Robert after his father and the younger Nicholas after his wife's father. He comments that despite his father's misgivings his marriage has turned out well. Days after arriving in New South Wales he was sent to Norfolk Island penal colony and was in charge of the Military hospital. After twelve months he returned to Sydney (February 1845) and was appointed to the Brigade office. He then mentioned different people they were acquainted with back in Scotland but he seemed to have been reluctant to approach them saying soldiers are not as respected as they are back home. He then went on to say "I am sure I do right in keeping aloof from all my former

Blairgowrie acquaintances for more reasons than one", a statement which to my mind raises some speculation of the reasons of his enlistment in the Army. He then wrote about the price of commodities and the war in New Zealand and although many of the 99th regiment were sent there he is exempt due to his work in the Brigade office.

He ended the letter inquiring about the health of his brothers James, Alex and David and his father's young family.

The second letter was addressed to Alexander Robertson, Banker, Blairgowrie, Perthshire, Scotland and the sender No 849, Robt. Robertson, 99 Regiment, V.D.Land from the GPO Hobart town 1850, 16 July. Unfortunately the letter was not in evidence just the envelope.

The third letter is rather short letter is also addressed to his brother Alexander Robertson Esq, Banker, Blairgowrie, Perthshire, Scotland from L(ance) Corporal Robt. Robertson, 1st Batt 12 Foot Tasmania and is dated Hobart Town 8th January 1856.

In this letter he mentioned his transfer to the 1st Battalion, 12th regiment and the depositing of one hundred pounds in the Union Bank and the interest due on a sum of money held by his brother.

He further mentioned his younger son James had broken his thigh when he fell down some steps making it impossible for his wife to contribute anything to the family's support, which showed that she was not only involved physically and emotionally as a wife and mother but also financially involved in the family's support. He ended the letter with the usual good wishes as to other members of the family.

These letters raise many questions as to why a member of a family who were obviously quite well to do should enlist as a common soldier. It is apparent from the appointments he had in the army that he

was well educated. From Robert's inquiry into the health of his father's young family it suggests his father may have remarried and that could have caused a division in the family.

From my research we know Robert Robertson married Janet Page at St. Mary's Chatham on 12 December 1842 which must have been shortly before sailing with his regiment to New South Wales.

Robert Robertson was discharged from the army on 15th June 1858 at Chatham Barracks and returned to live in Scotland. He and his family were living at Main Street, Kinnoull, Perthshire in the 1861 Census and we learn that the family consisted of five children. Son Robert was now 18 years of age and working as a brass journeyman, Nicholas aged 16 was a plumber, Alexander age 14 was a messenger boy while Mary Elizabeth aged 12 and James aged 8 who were both born at Hobart are still at school.

Retirement could not have suited Robert as he volunteered to be part of the convict guard on the Convict ship Merchantman in 1864, but this time he journeyed alone. Whether it was because Janet was ill or had died I do not know but at the time of the 1871 census Mary aged 21 and Alexander aged 23 are living with Mary Robertson at Duke Street, St. John's, Glasgow. Mary Robertson said she was a widow and her age is given as 56 she could have been Robert's second wife but alternately she could have been otherwise related. Nicholas was by this time the foreman in a chemical works and lived nearby with his family.

Meanwhile back in Western Australia Captain Finnerty had recommended that Robert be appointed schoolmaster at Rottne Island in 1864, but whether this was taken up we do not know. Robert was paid in Western Australia to 30 November

1867 when he left Western Australia for Mauritius where he was paid until March 1869. Whether he returned to Scotland or died at Mauritius remains a mystery.

By looking at the later census records we can see the children back in Scotland did surprising well for themselves.

Robert continued in his career as a brass finisher, while Nicholas in the 1881 census was a mineral water manufacturer living at Toxteth Park, Liverpool, Alexander was a dentist at Gaurock, Renfrewshire and James was a surgeon at Gavan in Lanarkshire. Unfortunately I have been unable to find who Mary Elizabeth married.

Source:

Australian Postal History and Social Philately

*Index to Articles in the
EPG Gazette Newsletter
continued from the
Edition of Apr to Vol 17
No 2 in 2016*

Compiled by Gillian O'Mara

This issue commences from Vol 17 No 2 April 2016.

Vol 17 No 2 – April 2016

AGM Notification – Special Guest Speaker Julie Martin – Facebook for Fuddy Duddies and Angela Heymens on the new WAGS Military Group – Jean McDonalds photo of Military men in Uniforms taken at the Claremont Museum – Admirals Diary – reference to WO records on the William Jardine from one of the ships captains (not named) 29 men on board – but only 16 named then all 29 men named. Several men not named in Broomhill's "The Veterans" – adding new names every day – list of ships

alphabetically noting that Belgravia was completed.

(Editors note: Scindian and Hashemy men had been completed by 2014 as all men were listed in the newspaper of the day) – Deputy Convenors Report stated next meeting AGM and to ask for nominations for the committee – Family Tree Maker FTM windows and Mac versions – WAGS Volunteer information form needed completion – doing now or in the past – Anniversaries of ships listed for Apr May and Jun. – NLA significant tool for genealogists – Trove information for museums and universities website listed. Diary Dates for 2016 meetings 10 July and Oct 15. - Vale Jack Herbert - By Friends Remember'd Part 2 by Peter Conole and Diane Oldman – Part 1 discussed re Napoleonic Wars re 13 Royal Veterans Battalions garrison service and disbanded between 1814-1816 – Developments elsewhere – Britain, Peterloo Massacre Manchester 1819 options for law enforcement – Luddite and Rebecca riots, Chartist disturbances and riots 1839 & 1848 – Manchester outbreak 1842 new act 1843 – Duke of Wellington's funeral – Police Force - Canada benefitted presence of Royal Veterans Battalions 1812 – garrison Newfoundland 1824 on – Lord Henry Grey, Governor General Lord Elgin British Army to be reduced Pensioners help in transition as garrison troops Van Dieman's Land – Tasmania Pensioners as convict guards 1826-1827 and a lot 1832 and 1850-1856. New Zealand – diagram of Howick Village – Maori Wars - Long term troops for protection – Onehunga, Otahuhu and Panmure Royal New Zealand Fencibles 721 men – Waikato – volunteers from Australian colonies – Voyage on a Convict Ship – Adelaide 1855 - By Jeanette Lee – Norwoodiana Newspaper Norwood 1867 description of ship – Pensioner Guard Lots 16C Victoria Avenue photo (From the Editor) More Indexes in next issue
