THE HAWKESBURY CRIER

Welcome, to the first edition of the Hawkesbury Family History Group's newsletter. Family history now plays a very important role in our society. The popularity of genealogy can be seen by visiting the Archives, Mitchell Library or any of the sources we use to research our family, and seeing the masses of people poring over records.

Our family history group began in August 1982, due to the great demand for a meeting place for the family researchers in the Hawkesbury area. Since then the meetings have averaged 50 in attendance, peaking at our last together at Richard Gore's talk on the State Archives.

So far the standard of Guest Speakers has been excellent, with the co-operation of the Society of Australian Genealogists & other groups, we hope to continue this pattern. We also had a workshop which was very successful & we hope to repeat it soon.

If any members have any ideas for the meeting, guest speakers, material for the collection in the library, the newsletters of donations for collections please contact Michelle Nichols, c/- Hawkesbury Shire Library, Dight Street, Windsor 2756 (045) 77-3357.

A FLIGHT IN GENEALOGY.
GEO. G. REEVE.

In seventeen hundred & 93,
Great grandfather told his love,
To fair Dorothy, & said that he
Ne'er would we
d another,
So in Home-spun coat & braided vest,
A woollen scarf & button'd breast
He asked the lady he loved best,
To be my grandmother.

In seventeen hundred & 93,
Great grandmother suppress'd her glee,
Blushed & sighed & assumed to be
Quite undecided - rather;
Whether she would or would not refuse,
(In lily-white muslin & brocaded shoes)
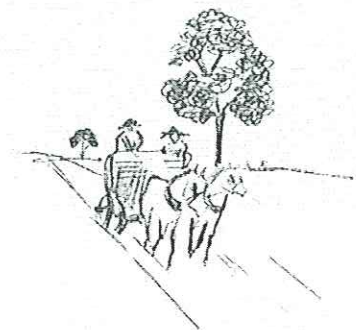At last permitted him to break the news,
To my English great-grandfather.

If, in seventeen hundred & 93,
Great grandfather had not sued for her hand, or she
Had not agreed, which seems to me,
Would have been very unhandsome
Instead of appearing on the scene
(He was 21 & she was 17 in the above-named year),
I might have been somebody else's great great grandson.

WINDSOR & RICHMOND GAZETTE
9th December 1927

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ARTWORK - Mrs Jennifer Soley

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GRONO & BOOKS FAMILY.

In the Sydney Gazette in November 1809 there appeared the following optimistic advertisement: "Wanted for the Brig "Active" shortly about to sail on a promising and pleasant voyage several active and able men, who will find proper encouragement"..

One of the able sailors who answered this advertisement was a young man named Alexander Brooks. He, at 23 years of age, could not have been prepared for the ordeal that was to result from taking this job. The voyage under Captain Bader Was to be a sealing expedition to the west coast of the South Island of New Zealand.

Since the sealing trade began in New South Wales in the 1790's voyages such as the one advertised had become common, as the catching of seals for both skins and oil content had proven to be a profitable enterprise. The seasons most suitable for taking seals were around April and December and all that sailors required were knives and steels, and salt with which to cure their skins. The wages the sealers received were determined by the prices paid back in Sydney for each skin and the "Lay" they netotiated with their Captain. For example if their wages were determined as the 75th "Lay"it meant that sailors each received one skin out of every 75.

Charles and Neil Begg in their book "The World of Joh n Boultbee" describe sealing thus"... Bloo dy and brutal , th e conditions crude and harsh but the freedom and companionship together with the challenge and beauty of the surroundings had a compelling attraction for some.

The "Active" left Sydney for New Zealand with Alexander Books on board on 11th December 1809 according to Charles and Neil Begg. He and nine other men were left on a small island (Secretary Island) just off the New Zealand mainland with a scanty supply of provisions a whale boat and only an axe, an adze a d a cooper's drawing knife it is stated in a report in the Sydney Gazette of 1813 and the "Active" was to return for them later. However, the "Active" while on her return to Sydney was lost at sea and never heard of again. The ten men left behind while their provisions lasted collected 11,000 seal skins and set out for the mainland in a whaleboat which, though rotten and falling apart, floated. long enough for them to reach shore. Here they discovered another boat which Captain John Grono had left on a previous voyage and decided to reach Faveaux Strait, where they would have a better chance of being rescued. A hurricane then completely destroyed both the old whaleboat and the one Grono left so again they were marooned, now on the South Island . The Sydney Gazette then reports that: "With an axe and adze and a drawing knife they afterwards built a small boat, but with intense labour, as without saws they could only cut one board out of each tree. The hoops upon their provision casks were beaten into nails, and by the same patient and labourious process they were engaged in building a small vessel and had eighty half inch boards cut for that purpose all in the way described, when Captain Grono in the "Governor Bligh" hove in sight. The ten men rescued returned with Captain Grono on the " Governor Bligh" reaching Sydney on the 15th December 1813".

Capatin Grono had come across Alexander Books and the rest of the stranded sealers by accident while on his own sealing voyage in the area. The Captain and his ship the "Governor Bligh" were familiar sights in these New Zealand sealing grounds, having made many trips there since Grono himself built the "Governor Bligh" in 1807. He had become skilfull at navigating the hazardous New Zealand coast, and had named many of its features, for example, Thompson Sound, Bligh Sound, Milford Sound and Windsor Point.

While John Grono seems to have been an exceptional sailor, his talents also extended to ship building and farming. Prior to his New Zealand sealing trips, he had acquired a property on the Hawkesbury River at Pitt Town, and it was here he built the beforementioned ship "Governor Bligh" and several other ships.

After the rescue of Alexander Books and the others, Grono continued
to Captain this vessel until 1818 when he resumed shipbuilding,
building the ships on his Hawkesbury property and launching them
on the river bank below his farm. Among the ships he built were
the brig "Elizabeth" 130 tons (named after his wife) which was
launched on December 7th, 1821, the "Industry" 170 tons in 1826,
the "Australian" 270 tons in 1829 and the Governor Bourke" 200 tons
in 1833. In his book "Macquarie Country" D.G.Bowd states:
"Beyond doubt John Grono was the greatest shipbuilder on the
Hawkesbury and possibly in the colony".

John Grono actually sailed the "Elizabeth" to New Zealand
on a few trips after 1822 with Alexander Books as mate. On a trip
in 1823 the two together with Edward Norton scratched a message
on a piece of slate which they left in a cave at Cape Providence -
it still survives today and is on display in the Southland Musuem,
Invercargill, New Zealand. By October 1823 , Alexander Books is
listed as taking over captaincy of the "Elizabeth".

Alexander continued voyages to the sealing grounds until 1826.
About this time he settled at Webb's Creek, Wiseman's Ferry (Lower
Portland Head) with his wife Margaret - one of Captain John Grono's
daughters whom he had married in 1819 - and three of his children
John, Elizabeth and Margaret, who had been born at Pitt Town.

The incident of being marooned in New Zealand was not
Alexander's first sea adventure - that had been in his travelling
from England in the 3rd Fleet on the "Active" in 1791 as a small
child of four - having been born in Montrose Scotland in 1787. By
1841 Alexander had built a fine schooner the "Highland Lass" and he
was involved in building the "St Mary Magdalene" Church at Wisemans
Ferry where some of his were married. Alexander & Margaret had 7
sons (who were involved with the Grono family, building ships) and 6
daughters:-John born circa 1819; Elizabeth 1820; Margaret 1824;
Matilda 1826; Jane 1828; David 1832; Robert 1834; Frances 1836;
Alexander 1837; Thomas 1838; William 1840; Mary 1842 and George 1845.
Since Alexander's death in 1864 there have been four more generations
of the Books family involved in ship & boat building at Webbs Creek,
Wisemans Ferry.

The death of Capt. John Grono R.N. in 1847 meant a link was lost
with the pioneering days in the Hawkesbury. Capt. Grono had been born
in Pembroke, Wales in 1763 and arrived as a boatswain mate on the
H.M.S. Buffalo in 1799 with his wife Elizabeth Bristow, (daughter
of Captain John Bristow R.N. who was commander of H.M.S. Oceanic
under Lord Nelson) With him came two daughters Elizabeth & Frances
but his son John was left with his grandmother in Bristol in England.
After coming to the Hawkesbury John & Elizabeth had several additions
to the family:- Maria born 1800; Jane 1803; Margaret 1804; Willaim 1805;
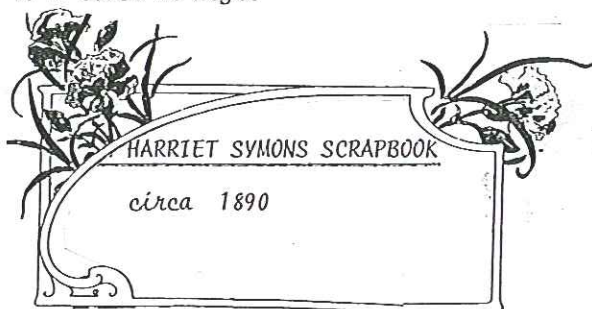Ann 1806; John Joel 1809; James Alexander 1810; Matilda 1815 &
Thomas 1818.

REUNION - 12TH JUNE 1983

A chilly morning followed by a warm sunny day , on Sunday the
12th June, allowed over 400 Grono-Books descendants to enjoy a pleasant
gathering at Ebenezer Church. Most came from the Sydney region but
some came as far as field as Narrabri and Port Macquarie. A church
service was conducted at 11am, by Rev. Alan Russell with guest
speaker Mr. Doug Bowd (Local Historian) speaking about the early
pioneers. The Hawkesbury Shire President, Mr. Bruce Brown (himself
a Grono Descendant) welcomed the descendants and Mr. Ted Books
finished the service by launching the Restoration Appeal to restore
the Grono vault.

A display of the Grono / Books family trees were displayed in
the outer buildings of the church ground. Everyone then enjoyed a
picnic lunch and friendly get together. Some of the highlights of the
day were a brooch with Capt. Grono on oneside and his wife on the other.
Capt. John Grono's sextant, which he used for navigating with his name
and date of birth inscribed on it. A muzzle loaded shot-gun that
belonged to Alexander Books dated 1840. The reunion was organized
by Ted Books of South Windsor and Miss Jeannie Scott of Dee Why.

2   TED BOOKS

The Wife's Commandments

I. Thou shalt have no other wife but me

II. Thou shalt not take into thy house any beautiful brazen image to bow down to her, for I am a jealous wife visiting, etc

III. Thou shalt not take the name of thy wife in vain

IV. Remember to keep her repectably

V. Honour thy wife's father & mother

VI. Thou shalt not scold

VII. Thou shalt not find fault with thy dinners

VIII. Thou shalt rock the cradle in my absence & prepare the tea for my return

IX. Thou shalt not be behind my neighbours

X. Thou shalt not visit the rum tavern keeper nor his brandy nor his gin, nor his whisky nor his wine, nor anything that is behind the bar of the rum seller

XI. Thou shalt not visit the billiard saloon, neither for worshipping the dance, nor the heaps of money that lay on the table & the twelvth commandment

XII. Thou shalt not stay out later than 10 o'clock at night

HARRIET SYMONS SCRAPBOOK

circa 1890

The Husband's Commandments

I. I am thy husband, whom thou didst vow to love, honour & obey, for I saved thee from maidism & the terror of sing-le blessedness

II. Thou shalt not look upon any other man to love & admire him; for I thy husband am a jealous husband, who will visit the sins of the wife upon her followers, wherefore keep thou faithfully to thy marriage vows

III. Thou shalt not backbite thy husband nor speak lightly of him; neither shalt thou expose his faults to thy neighbours lest he should hear of it & punish thy perfidy by a deprivation of sundry items such as bonnets, dresses etc.

IV. Thou shalt purchase cigars for thy husband for thy husband rather than ribbons for thyself

V. Thou shalt not go to Opera or evening parties without thy husband; neither shalt thou dance to frequently with thy cousins or thy husbands friend

VI. Thou shalt not listen to flattery nor accept gifts or trinkets from any man save thy husband

VII. Thou shalt not rifle thy husband's pockets for money when he is asleep, neither shalt thy read any letters thou mayest find therein, for it is his business to look after his own affairs & thine to let his alone

VIII. Thou shalt conceal nothing from thy husband

IX. Thou shalt make up false representation of thy pantry, thy purse or thy wardrobe

X. Remember to rise early in the morning & be prepared with becoming good humour to welcome thy husband at the breakfast table

XI. Look for no jewellery from thy husband on the anniversary of thy wedding, for it is written, blessed are they who expect nothing for they shall not be disappointed

THOMAS EATHER.

When the hell ship Neptune dropped anchor in Port Jackson on June 28, 1790, among the survivors of that horrific voyage, which had taken 159 convicts, with a further 84 dying onshore, was a young man of 19 years, Thomas Heather.

Born in Kent in 1771, Thomas had been sentenced to 14 years transportation on 17th March 1788 at Maidstone, Kent. Thomas had held up a man named Cotton and had stolen his watch and fifty shillings. Official spelling of the name resulted in the 'H' being dropped and the name was recorded as Eather.

In 1792 he married a young convict girl from Lancashire, Elizabeth Lee, who had arrived in the Mary Ann in 1791. She was charged with stealing a piece of material, valued at five shillings and sentenced to 7 years transportation.

Today , Thomas & Elizabeth's descendants are represented in every state of Australia and have distinguished themselves in a great variety of fields. Included in their number are Major-General Kenneth William Eather, who was executive director of the Water Foundation Research. During World War II he was officer in command of the 25th brigade, 7th division in the Markham Valley and Lae campaign in New Guinea.

At the end of the war he was selected to lead the the Australian contingent in the Victory Parade in: London. The three daughters of Robert Vincent Eather of Kurrajong became Mother Superiors in the Roman Catholic Church. Another branch of the family was : distinguished by a noted layman of the Anglican Church. Beatrice Eather came from a strong Catholic line of Eathers from Bellinger. However, she married the Rev. A. James and it was one of her sons, Francis James, who achieved distinction as the editor of "The Anglican" newspaper. He became the subject of international concern when he was imprisoned by the Chinese Government from November 1969 to January 1973. In the T.V. industry, Rosemary Eather, grand-daughter ofWilliam Abel Eather, won the "T.V. person- lity of the Year" award in 1973.

A descendant of Charles Eather from Narrabri was Barbara Eather, a journalist and actress who appeared in the Australian film "Smiley Gets a Gun" with Chips Rafferty.

The Eathers migrated west to Bathurst and Orange, north to the Hunter River, then on to the north-west of N.S.W., across the border into Queensland, establishing proper- ties as far north as Blackall in Central Queensland.

Thomas & Elizabeth had eight children. They all reached maturity and most lived long lives. Thomas Eather died in 1827. He was described as a storekeeper, although he was believed to have kept an inn, "The Cockfighter" at one stage. Elizabeth survived until 11th June 1860, when she died at Richmond, aged 89 years. At that time the number. of descendantswas reckoned at 157.

Children of Thomas and Elizabeth were:-

ANN	born 18 April 1793, Parramatta -died 7 April 1865, Richmond married (i) Joseph Onus (ii) William Sharp
ROBERT	born 29 April 1795, Parramatta - died 29 April 1881, Richmond married (i) Mary Lynch (ii) Elizabeth Brown
CHARLOTTE	born 5 June 1797, - died 8 November 1862, Richmond married (i) Robert Williams (ii) William Maloney
CHARLES	born 1 October 1800 - died 30 May 1891, Richmond married Anne Raynor
THOMAS	born 1 October 1800,Hawkesbury (twin brother of Charles) died 19 November 1886, Richmond - married Sarah McAlpin
RACHEL	born 26 October 1807 - died 3 August 1875, Orange married John Norris
JOHN	born 3 October, 1804, Hawkesbury - died 5 November, 1888, Windsor
JAMES	born 4 March, 1811, Windsor - died 26 May, 1899, Narrabri. married Mary Ann Hand

Joseph Onus, who married Ann Elizabeth Eather, c.1810, had arrived in the colony on the Glatton on March 11, 1803.

In partnership with his wife's brother-in-law, Robert Williams, he sent cattle across the mountains to the Hunter River district. They extended their interest far northward to the Liverpool Plains.

Joseph Onus also accumulated property in his own right at Wollombi and Howe's Valley.

He died in June, 1835 and is buried in Richmond. His widow re-married William Sharp in 1837. Joseph and Ann Onus had six children of whom Joseph was an alderman of the first municipal council in 1872. He built Josieville on the corner of Francis and Chapel Streets, a two-story masnion which was linked by an avenue of plane trees with Hobartville, the residence of his daughter, Emma (Mrs Andrew Towns).

The two younger sons of Ann and Joseph were Thomas and William. After their deaths in 1855, their widows turned to inn keeping as a means of support. William's widow (formerly Ann Hough) kept the "Prince of Wales" at Windsor, and Thomas' widow, Elizabeth Eather (she was his first cousin, daughter of Thomas Eather), conducted the "Queen's Arms" at Richmond.

The three Onus daughters were: Elizabeth, who married John Town Jr.; Susannah, who married William Glass McAlpin; and Mary Ann, who married John Eaton. John Eaton and his brother, Daniel, had travelled as far as the present town of Inverell as early as 1836. By 1854, Mary Ann and John Eaton had moved to "Teebar", a consolidated property of 23,472 hectares, which he had acquired near Maryborough in Queensland.

Robert Eather, the eldest of the sons of Thomas and Elizabeth, married Mary Lynch in 1824. They had 14 children. Robert leased a 24.2 hectare farm at Cornwallis. However, 10 years later he had moved to Richmond where he had obtained a six-year lease of the farm of Jonathan Griffiths, taking as wards three of Griffith's orphaned grandchildren. Robert was also interested in land to the north and was a lessee at various times of a number of runs in the far north-west of New South Wales. After the death of his first wife Mary in June, 1853, he married Elizabeth Brown. Robert died at Richmond on May 7, 1881, aged 86 years. The eldest son of Robert and Mary Eather, Thomas (111) married Susannah Merrick at Kurrajong on August 26, 1844. He was a wheelwright at Windsor, however, unwise financial speculations resulted in him being reduced to working as a drayman for his son-in-law, Thomas Pyke, by 1862. He later went to Orange and it was there he was accidentally crushed to death by a waggon on June 25, 1874.

James Eather (11), the second son of Robert and Mary, was born in 1821. He married Bridget Harriet Honan. They settled in the Bellinger District, arriving at Urunga Heads in a sailing ship and travelling with horse and slides to the spot where they settled at Boat Harbour, near the present town of Bellingen. The northern rivers of New South Wales, like the Hawkesbury in the early days was the highway for these early river settlements. Although the Bellinger Eathers were a strong Roman Catholic group, as both father and grandfather had married Catholics, several branches have become Protestant through marriage.

Abraham Eather who was born in 1828 was the seventh child of Robert and Mary. He was a noted athlete, and won two pedestrian races which have been recorded in the history of Australian sport. The first of the contests was held on the Cooks River sporting paddock on Easter Monday, 1853, with each contestant backed for 50 pounds. Abraham Eather won easily. With this successful race, he was again matched against Farnell at Cooks River on April 25, 1853, backed by his brother, James, and Michael Despointes for 100 pounds each over 137 metres. Abe eather won and an imaginative doggerel of the day recorded:-

> Parramatta says "Farnell
> Is a real Nonpareil" -
> Windsor answers from afar,
> "Look at Eather, see a star."

Abraham married (i) Margaret McElligott, who died at Ultimo in 1856, leaving one daughter Mary. (ii) Ellen Farrell, of Yarramundi. Ellen was a tiny woman no more than 137 to 142 centimetres tall. On their family of 11 children, seven daughters graduated from The Conservatorium of Music. Ellen survived her husband by many years and died at Belmore on September 8, 1928.

Charlotte Eather married Robert Williams and their descendants include the families of Devlin, McQuade, Markwell and Farlow. Robert Williams and his brother-in-law, Joseph Onus, were noted pastoralists, opening up large tracts of land in the northern districts of New South Wales. Two of their children married into the Eaton family. Ben Richards, son of Mary Ann Eaton, married Elizabeth Williams and Susannah Eaton, daughter of Daniel Eaton, married James William.

Charles Eather and Ann Kain had five children:-
(i) Charles (II) born c.1825; died at Blackall, Queensland, September 6, 1899.
   Married (i) Frances Emma Watts (ii) Mrs Marie Summers.

(ii) Thomas (IV) born c.1826; died Windsor, November 14, 1916. Married (i) Emma
Staples (ii) Sarah Louise McKellar. Emma was drowned with five children in
in the 1867 flood. The only surviving child Charles, married Mary Ann McKellar.
(iii) William, born Richmond c.1833; died Rockdale September 8, 1899. Married
(i) Catherine McMahon (ii) Emma Jasper, nee Dodd. Catherine also was drowned
with her children in the floods of 1867.
(iv) George, born c.1834; died Richmond, May 16, 1912. Married Dora Kinsela.
(v) Rosina, born December 13, 1836 married Alfred Dalton.

Charles Eather died at the home of his son George on May 30, 1891 at Richmond.
Thomas Eather and Sarah McAlpin had 13 children. Unlike his twin brother Charles,
Thomas Eather (II) life was one of prosperity, with his sons establishing large pastoral
properties on the Liverpool Plains. "Muggarie", totalling 32,000 acres on Narran Creek,
was occupied by Robert Eather, while Thomas' holding, measuring 15 square miles, was
"Henryandie". Thomas died at Richmond on November 19, 1886 surviving his wife by two years.
Rachel Eather married John Norris on December 17, 1823. They had 10 children, of
whom Elizabeth, born 1834, married Cornelius McMahon and Rebecca, born c.1844, married
John Cook. John Norris met his death at Sally's Bottoms, Kurrajong on September, 26, 1864
when he was thrown from a loaded cart and crushed beneath the wheel. His widow later went
to live at Spring Creek, near Orange, where she died on August 3, 1875.

James Eather and Mary Ann Hand had 13 children. They are most commonly identified
with the district of Narrabri. James was trained as a wheelwright, but he developed
interests in the western part of the State, taking up a selection at Walls Creek, near
Narrabri. During the 1880's his son, John Eather, conducted the Mountain View Hotel,
situated 2½ miles from Narrabri. He later moved to the Inverell district, where he kept
the Royal Hotel at Bundarra. On Saturday and Sunday, March 12 and 13, the Eather family
held a family reunion at St Ives Showground, with members attending from all States
of Australia. There are today some thousands of descendants of Thomas and Elizabeth
Eather, many of them still bearing the surname. Although the interest and activities
of the members of the family have diversified, they still possess the tenacity and
determination which was so pronounced in the early generation.

PITT TOWN BRICKWORKS.

It is believed that the Pitt Town Brickworks began business in the year 1928. The
brickworks was built entirely from local materials, except for the tin roof. The drying
room was added later in 1930.

The clay was dug from the waterhole and brought to the yard by horse & cart, the
sand was also local. When the bricks were shaped they were put in the drying room for
the sun to dry them. As there was no kiln, the bricks were built into an igloo shape
over an open fire and cooked for a few days. The inside bricks were very dark and the
outside a nice light colour.

In the Brickwork's prime there were six men working full-time. When Sydney began
making bricks so much cheaper than Pitt Town, the brickworks closed down. The yard
has been left very much as it was, over half a century ago. As the brickworks is now
on private property, it is not available for public viewing.

D. BREWIN.

"NEPTUNE" - HELL SHIP OF THE SECOND FLEET.

While the little group of convicts waited at Sydney Cove in early 1790, for much needed provisions to arrive from England, some extra 1,200 convicts were being embarked there, for transportation to the infant colony.

The first ship away from England after the First Fleet was the "Lady Juliana", carrying some 222 women convicts, mostly shoplifters and pickpockets, or prostitutes from the slums of London. The Lady Juliana had a protracted voyage, taking ten months to reach Sydney Cove. On the passage to N.S.W. this ship was nothing more than a floating brothel.

"When we were fairly out to sea", recalls Nicol, "every man on board took a wife from among the convicts, they nothing loath". The women proved to be noisy and troublesome, but conditions were good, and there was little sickness, only five women dying en route.

The "Suprise" and "Scarborough" also set sail with convicts bound for N.S.W. at this time, but it was aboard the ill-fated sip Neptune that man's inhumanity became evident.

The Neptune lay at anchor in the Thames throughout a harsh winter, that of 1789. Shipowners were paid 17. 7s. 6d for every convict taken aboard, irrespective of whether they reached Sydney or not. The Captain of the Neptune, Donald Trail, was sadistic, unscrupulous, callous and entirely without thought or compassion for his charges. The convicts were shamefully starved, kept heavily ironed and refused access to the deck for exercise. In such conditions disease was rampant, dysentry, fever and scurvy took their toll of the already weakened prisioners.

Upon arrival at Port Jackson, on the 28th of June 1790, the landing of these felons presented a sickening sight. Indeed, even as the ship entered the harbour bodies were being thrown overboard. Upon the convicts being brought up from below deck, some fainted in the fresh air, some died on deck and others died in the boats before they reached the shore, some had to crawl on their hands and knees and some of the stronger carried the weak convicts on their backs.
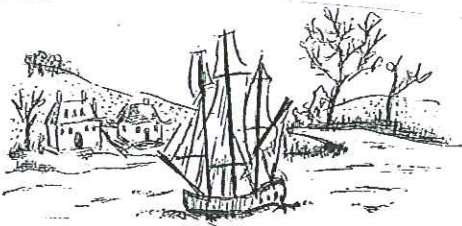
So many of them were ill that one hundred tents were erected to provide shelter, and one blanket for every four men.

"The slave trade", declared one Captain Hill, " is merciful compared with what I have seen in this fleet".

When the Neptune returned to England, some of the crew laid charges against her master, however he absconded to the Continent to escape punishment. Of three hundred convicts embarked, only one hundred reached Sydney.

The publicity given to the treatment of the second fleet convicts led to a general improvement in the treatment of the convicts on later voyages.

JEANETTE BELL

HAWKESBURY FAMILY HISTORY GROUP
MEETS EVERY SECOND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH,
VENUE: TEBBUTT ROOM, WINDSOR LIBRARY
DIGHT STREET, WINDSOR 2756
CONTACT: MICHELLE NICHOLS 045-77-3357
ALL WELCOME!!!

THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE HAWKESBURY CRIER SHOULD BE PUBLISHED FOR THE SEPTEMBER MEETING. ALL ARTICLES AND ENQUIRIES SHOULD BE GIVEN TO MICHELLE NICHOLS, BY THE LATEST, 31ST AUGUST. ARTICLES MUST BE CLEARLY WRITTEN (OR TYPED) AND CAN INCLUDE DIAGRAMS, SKETCHES AND PHOTOGRAPHS.

GREVILLE'S OFFICIAL POST OFFICE DIRECTORY AND GAZETTEER OF N.S.W. 1875-1877

-Compiled by Edgar Ray

WILBERFORCE

A small township in the police district of Windsor, electorate of the Hawkesbury, County Cook, is 38 miles west from Sydney. Route:-Rail to Windsor thence four miles. Office:-Post only. Mails close at G.P.O. daily at 8.30am, and arrive at post town town daily (Sundays excepted) at 12.30pm, leave for Sydney on Saturdays, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6.30pm, and on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 2.15pm & arrive on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 9.20am, and on Tuesday and Thursdays & Saturdays at 7.20am. The township is situated on the Hawkesbury River, in a rich agricultural and pastoral district. The immediate neighbourhood is flat and low, & subject to floods from the river's overflow. The geological formation is slate and sandstone.

ADAMSON, Robert
ATKINS, George, blacksmith
BALDWIN, D. farmer
BALDWIB, H., farmer
BALDWIN, Mrs., farmer
BARRETT, John, farmer
BECROFT, Edward, farmer
BENNETT, George, carpenter
BETTSWORTH, Nathaniel, farmer
BLOWES, James
BOWD, Thomas, farmer
BOWMAN, William, farmer
BRETT, Thomas, farmer
BREWER, John
BROWN, John, farmer
BROWNETT, James, gardener
BUSHELL, David, farmer
BUSHELL, Paul, farmer
BUTTSWORTH, George, farmer
BUTTSWORTH, Henry, farmer
BUTTSWORTH, James, farmer
BUTTSWORTH, John, farmer
BUTTSWORTH, Josiah, farmer
BUTTSWORTH, Richard, farmer
BUTTSWORTH, William, miller
CARTER, Mrs. C., farmer
CASE, Alfred, sawyer
CASE, Walter, sawyer
CLARKE, Samuel, farmer
COBCROFT, G. A., innkeeper
COBCROFT, James, farmer
COBCROFT, James
COBCROFT, John
CONLIN, Bernard, farmer
CROSS, Thomas, farmer
CROSS, William, farmer
DALEY, John, farmer
DALEY, Patrick, farmer
DUNSTON, Benjamin, farmer
DUNSTON, David, farmer
DUNSTON, John, farmer
DUNSTON, John T.
DUNSTON, Stephen, farmer
DUNSTON, William, farmer
FARLON, James, farmer
FLEMING, John H., farmer
FORD, John, farmer
FORD, John, farmer
FORD, Mrs. Mary Ann, farmer
GEEHAN, James, farmer
GIBBS, Henry, farmer
GLEESON, Patrick, farmer
GRAHAM, George, farmer
GRAHAN, James, farmer
GRAHAM, Thomas
GREEN, John, farmer

GREENTREE, George, farmer
GREENTREE, Henry, farmer
GREENTREE, Henry, (jun.) farmer
GREENTREE, Reuben, farmer
GREENTREE, Reuben, (jun.) farmer
GREENTREE, Robert, farmer
GRIFFITHS, William
HALL, Henry, splitter
HAND, Mrs. Mary
HAWKINS, Charles, farmer
HAYS, Edward, farmer
HAYS, James, farmer
HAYS, John, farmer
HAYES, Richard, farmer
HIBBERT, Joseph, (jun.) farmer
IZZARD, Edward
IZZARD, John
JACKEWAY, Edward
JONES, William, farmer
KING, James
LILLIS, Charles, farmer
LILLIS, Sylvester, farmer
MALONEY, John, farmer
MALONEY, Thomas (jun.) farmer
MARKWELL, John, carpenter
MARTIN, Charles, farmer
MARTIN, William, farmer
MILLS, Mary Ann, farmer
NEIGLE, William, farmer, Wilberforce Road
NICHOLLS, Frederick, farmer
NICHOLLS, William, farmer
REYNOLDS, Thomas, farmer
RIGELSFORD, Jonathan, farmer
ROBINSON, Mrs. John, farmer
ROSE, Charles, farmer
ROSE, George, farmer
ROSE, James, farmer
ROSE, Richard, farmer
ROBERTS, - ,constable, Wilberforce
RUSSELL, Samuel, teacher, Wilberforce
RYAN, Thomas, farmer, Windsor
RYAN, John, farmer, Windsor punt
SALTER, James, farmer
SCARF, William, Freemans Reach
SHEEHY, Morgan, farmer, Freemans Reach
SHEPHARD, Stephen
SIMPSON, Alexander, storekeeper
SIMPSON and SONS, tanners
SIMPSON, Louis, tanner
SMITH, Alexander, farmer
SMITH, Robert, farmer
SMITH, Sarah, storekeeper
SMITH, Thomas, farmer
STAPLES, James, farmer
STENFIELD, Hnery, farmer
SULLIVAN, James, farmer

WILBERFORCE (cont'd)

TEALE, Henry, farmer
TURNBULL, George, farmer
TURNBULL, Ralph, farmer
TURNBULL, Ralph, (jun.) farmer
TURNBULL, John, farmer
TURNBULL, James, farmer
VOLLAR, Maurice, farmer

WESTALL, Charles, farmer, Freemans Reach
WOOD, G., farmer
WOOD, James, farmer, Freemans Reach
WOOD, Joseph, farmer, Freemans Reach
WOOLFORD, Thomas, farmer
WRIGHT, James, chairmaker
WOODS, John, farmer, Lower Wilberforce
YOUNG, Charles

LOWER PORTLAND

A settlement on the Hawkesbury river, in the police district of Windsor, electorate of the Hawkesbury, counties of Cumberland and Cook, is 53 miles north-west from Sydney.   Route: Rail to Windsor, thence by coach via Sackville Reach. Office: Post only. Mails close at G.P.O. on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 8.30 a.m., and arrive at post town same days at 4 p.m.; leave for Sydney on Saturdays, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11.30 a.m. and arrive on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 7.20 a.m.   The district is taken up in agricultural farms, the surrounding country being flat, with occasional hills much broken. Geological formation - Sandstone.

ATTWELL, John, farmer
BLUNDER, Joseph, farmer, Colo
BROWN, John, farmer
BROWN, William, farmer
BURGESS, William, farmer, Colo
CAVANOUGH, Owen, farmer
CHASELING, John, farmer
CHRISTIE, Mary, farmer
CHRISTIE, Thomas, farmer
DAYNES, Myles, farmer
EALES, William II, farmer
EVERINGHAM, Henry, farmer
GOTTS, John, farmer
GREEN, Edward, farmer
GREEN, Henry, farmer
GREEN, John, farmer
HAYMAN, George, farmer, Colo
HERPS, John, farmer
HERPS, Matthew, farmer
HOWARTH, Robert, farmer
JOHNSTON, George T. farmer

JONES, John, farmer, Colo
JONES, William, farmer, Colo
JONES, William, jun., farmer, Colo
KEMP, Peter, farmer
LAMB, John, farmer
LAW, Henry, farmer
LEET, Jonathan, farmer
LEWIS, John, farmer
LOWE, John, farmer
METHRELL, William, farmer, Colo
MITCHELL, Edward H., farmer
MITCHELL, John, farmer, Colo
MITCHELL, John N., farmer
MITCHELL, Thomas, farmer
MORAN, James, farmer
O'BRIEN, Denis, farmer
SANDERS, William, farmer
SMITH, John, farmer
SMITH, John, farmer, Colo
TURNBULL, Bartholomew, farmer, Colo
WEBBER, Samuel, mariner

CASTLEREAGH

A small township in the police district of Penrith, electoral district of The Nepean, county of Cumberland, is 40 miles west from Sydney.   Route: Rail to Penrith, thence six miles by horse. Office: Post only. Mails close at G.P.O. on Tuesday, Thursdays and Saturdays at 8.30 a.m. via Penrith, and same days at 4 p.m. via Richmond, and arrive at post town at 1 p.m. via Penrith on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays and at 8 a.m. via Richmond on Wednesdays, Fridays and Mondays; leave for Sydney on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays via Penrith, at 8 a.m. and on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays via Richmond at 1 p.m. arriving in Sydney on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays via Penrith at 7.20 a.m. and same days via Richmond at 6 p.m.   An agricultural district, with rich alluvial soil, the surrounding country mountainous and heavily timbered.

BURNS, John, carpenter
BURNS, Samuel, farmer
BROWN, Thomas, farmer
CHILDS, George, farmer
CHILDS, Louisa
CHILDS, Richard, farmer
CLARK, Mary, farmer
CLARK, Patrick, sawyer
CLARK, Peter, sawyer
CLEMSON, Edward, farmer
COFFAY, William, farmer
COLLISS, George, farmer

COLLISS, Horatio
COLLISS, John, farmer
COMPTON, Richard, farmer
CUMMINS, James, laborer
DALEY, Elizabeth
DURBEN, Henry, farmer
EVANS, Charles, farmer
EVANS, George
EVANS, James, farmer
FISHER, John, farmer
FRASER, Henry, mariner
FULTON, Clara

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CASTLEREAGH (cont'd)

FULTON, Clara
FULTON, Eliza
GORMAN, Charles, storekeeper
GORMAN, Esther, housekeeper
GOSLING, William, farmer
GREENHALGH, William, farmer
GOSLING, Ann
GREENHALGH, John
GREENHALGH, Robert, drover
GREENHALGH, Thomas, drover
HADLEY, Charles, jun., farmer
HADLEY, Charles, sen., farmer
HADLEY, Hannah
HADLEY, Thomas, farmer
HADLEY, William, butcher
HERBERT, Elizabeth
HERBERT, James, jun., farmer
HERBERT, James, sen., farmer
HERBERT, William,
HOBBY, Thomas, farmer
HOWELL, Elizabeth
HOWELL, Thomas, farmer
HOWELL, George, farmer
HOWELL, Lucy
HOWELL, Peter, miller
JACKSON, John, farmer
JONES, Eleanor
LANDERS, William, farmer
LEWIS, Edward, farmer
LONG, Michael, laborer
LAVENDER, Sarah, farmer
MASON, John, drover
MAHON, M

MELLISH, William, drover
MILLS, James, farmer
MORGAN, Lawrence, farmer
McCANN, Catherine, householder
McCANN, James, farmer
McCREE, Andrew, squatter
PARKER, Henry, farmer
PARKER, Ilexekiah, blacksmith
PARKER, John, jun., storekeeper
PARSONS, William, storekeeper
PURCELLY, Edwin, laborer
RIGNEY, Bridget
ROBERTSON, Robert, farmer
ROSEBY, Samuel, teacher
REID, Henry, teacher
RITCHIE, James, farmer
RUSHTON, Thomas, farmer
SHAW, John, farmer
SHAW, Mary, farmer
SHAW, Robert, farmer
SHEENS, Henry
SHELDON, Joseph, drover
SINGLE, Alfred, householder
SINGLE, Ann, householder
SINGLE, Charles, householder
SINGLE, Joseph D. J.P., squatter
SMITH, Isaac, farmer
WALKER, Edward, bushman
WARD, Joseph, laborer
WILCOME, Levi, laborer
WRIGHT, William, farmer

** ENQUIRIES

JAMES WARD
Died late 1830's, resided at Richmond. Spouse Elizabeth McGrath(was married first to Michael MacGrath)Mrs. M. Lake, 24 Abigail Street, Seven Hills 2147

DR. THOMAS PARMENTER
Arrived 1816, lived at Windsor 1818, died Patrick Plains, 1836. Mrs. W. Croft, 98 Racecourse Road, Penrith 2750.

MAGRATH
1801-1840, Windsor, Other surnames connected Eades, Brackenrig, Armour and Pendergast. Mr. A. C. Loney, 15 Staples Street, Kingsgrove 2208.

ROBERT THOMSON
Born 8-9-1835, Scotland, married Catherine Watson. Died 1882 at Campbell-town. Mr. J. Thomson, 34 Faithfull Street, Richmond 2753.

HOLLAND
1820 -1900 Windsor area. Surnames connected Roberts & Dolley. Mrs. R. Maddock, 12/70 Bay Road, Waverton.

TURLEY-SMITH
Arrived 1796, Marquis Cornwallis from Dublin. Died At Richmond 1821. names related Aldridge and Readford. Miss M. Haylock, 17 Warne Street, Pennant Hills .

THOMAS WRIGHT
1852 - 1862 in the Kurrajong/Richmond area. Married Martha Riley on the 17-5-1852. F. Wright, 4 Corrie Road, Woonona 2517.

BEEDALL
Arrived 9-2-1853 with their family SHEENS. Other names connected Hobbs, Byrnes & Cavanough. R. & J. Sheens, 47 Marks Road, Gorakan 2263.

YOUDALE
Lived in the Windsor area in the late 1880's. Latimer connected surname. Mrs. E. Reynolds, "Gunta" Carrs road, Wilberforce 2756

BAKER
Died at Windsor 3-9-1829. Other surnames connected include Single, Parry, Smith, and Fernance. Mrs Vera Baker, 5 Robert Street, North Richmond 2754.

THE HERITAGE OF PITT TOWN.

Pitt Town is one of the Five Macquarie Towns, situated on the Hawkesbury River.

The area now known as Pitt Town was first settled in January, 1794. This settlement at Mulgrave Place was established to provide a struggling settlement at Sydney Cove with food.

Soon after his appointment as Governor, William Bligh purchased a farm in the Nelson District. Andrew Thompson managed the farm to demonstrate what could be achieved by "good management and persevering industry". The Governor consented to a request that the town be named "Blighton". His daughter, Mary Putland, planted several English oaks, which survived until cut down to make way for an orchard in 1947. During the Rum Rebellion, on 28th January, 1808 (175 years ago this year), Bligh received strong support from the citizens of the Hawkesbury, as he had given them his support earlier.
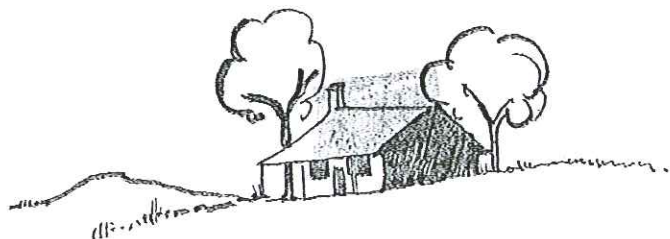
On 6th December, 1810, Governor Macquarie named the town in the Nelson District Pitt Town. On 24th October, 1815, Pitt Town was moved to its present site. By 1822 Macquarie had established a chapel, school house and burial ground. He had also marked out and named the streets.

Early settlers at Pitt Town were Surgeon Thomas Arndell, John Benn, Thomas Biggers, John Bootle, Daniel Buckridge, James Davison, Henry Fleming, Thomas Gilberthorpe, Eleanor Gott, Captain John Grono, George Hall, Robert Hobbs, David Horton, Andrew Johnston, Benjamin Jones, John McDonald, Laurence May, Rev. Matthew Meares, Elizabeth Mitchell, John Rose, James Ryan, Captain John Scarvell, Daniel Smallwood, Sarah Stubbs, James Wilbow, John Wilkinson, and Joseph Wright.

In September, 1828, the first use of irrigation anywhere in the colony was conducted by Laurence May at his Pitt Town farm.

Pitt Town still has many buildings of major historical significance: The Macquarie Arms Inn was built by Henry Fleming in 1817; the old Manse was in existence before 1828; Lynwood was built by John MacDonald before 1825; and Clare House was mentioned in the Sydney Gazette of 1814, Bona Vista (1889), Strathmore (Partly 1828, partly 1895), The Public School (1858), St James Church (consecrated 1859), Scots Church (1862) and Maid of Australia Inn (1856), all have Heritage Council preservation orders, as do several other buildings space prevents from listing.

The Pitt Town Village Settlement was created by the NSW Government in 1893 as a means of reducing unemployment. The farm was run on socialist principles, and must rate as a milestone in the history of Australian socialism. The village settlement was later turned into a Casual Labour Farm and subsequently became part of the Dreadnought Scheme. During the First World War, it was used as a Women's Agrucultural Farm. The farm was again used to reduce unemployment in the Depression of the 1930's. During the Second World War it was used as an artillery and antiaircraft school. Between 1949 and 1965 it was used as a Migrant Receiving Centre, and between 1965 and 1973 as an Officer Training Unit. It has been part of a second campus for the Hawkesbury Agricultural College since 1978.

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Longneck Lagoon is relatively unique wetlands habitat. It is an existing conservation reserve subject to bilateral treaty with Japan. A rare species of Acacia, A.Pubescens is found in the area. There is a small residual deposit of Tertiary Alluvium in the south-west of Longneck Swamp. It is stronghold of the Turquoise Parrot. The NSW National Parks & Wildlife regard Longneck Lagoon as a major refuge for water fowl, & is one of the few areas to remain wet during prolonged periods of drought. During a drought Longneck ensures the survival of birdlife from dry inland area.

SYDNEY'S SECOND AIRPORT

DID YOU KNOW THAT IF SYDNEY'S SECOND AIRPORT IS SITED IN THE HAWKESBURY AREA:-

* It will destroy the historic village of Pitt Town, cemetery and churches.

* An airport in the Scheyville region will impose disastrous economic, social, and environmental costs on our community.

* An airport will destroy 2,000 households and impose upheaval, noise on pollution on one million people presently unaffected.

* The cost of an airport in the north western region is greater than the alternatives whilst fog and close proximity to RAAF Base at Richmond would make operations impractical.

* It would destroy the environment, the important wetlands and their unique adherent wildlife.

* If you you are not happy about Sydney's second airport being located in the Hawkesbury area, make your objections known by contacting the following people:-

Mr. Alan Cadman
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT

The National Trust
Observatory Hill
SYDNEY 2000

The Heritage Council of N.S.W.
175 Liverpool Street
SYDNEY 2000

Mr. Kevin Rozzoli
Parliament House
SYDNEY 2000

Mr. Neville Wran
Premier of N.S.W.
Parliament House
SYDNEY 2000

Mr. Robert Hawke
Prime Minister
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT

Mr. K. Beazley
Minister of Aviation
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT

LINDA & REX STUBBS

FAMILY REUNIONS

OWEN & MARY CAVANAGH
         All descendants invited to reunion to be held on 10th October 1983 at Ebenezer Uniting Church. Contact:- Judith Cavanough, 14 Robert Street,Willoughby.

WILLIAM COX
         All descendants invited to reunion to be held at Windsor, on 7th November 1983. Contact:- David Cox (02) 858-3670.

WILLIAM & SARAH STUBBS
         All descendants invited to reunion to be held on 30th October 1983, at Ebenezer Uniting Church. Contact:- Cath Harris (02)86-2052.

DID YOU SHOOT THAT BIG EVENT?

Hawkesbury Shire Council Library is anxious to contact people, who may have photographs of important district events over the past 80 years.

It is also interested in obtaining photographs of people, who played an important role in district affairs over the same period.

The material will be used in a book, which Council will publish this year dealing with the vast range of historical buildings and colonial associations, which is making this area a major tourist attraction.

Designed to promote the district and encourage tourism, the original concept of the book was limited to a coverage of the most important buildings on the Council heritage list.

However, it is being expanded to include a social history of the area and this is expected to greatly broaden its appeal.

Mr. Stan Stevens, who is supervising the project, said, that, although there was a remarkable range of photographs available of aspects of district life around the turn of the century, this was not the case, when it came to the twenties and thirties and during World War II.

"In addition, the library staff have unearthed a fascinating amount of material on the life styles of the early settlers and we feel, this will prove of great interest", he said.

"Very little has been written on the role of the Richmond RAAF Base in the early days of aviation, what the life of a H.A. College*student was like after World War I, how the corner grocery store met the everyday needs of the people and the decline of rural industry, among other aspects of local history.

* Hawkesbury Agricultural College
"There is an absorbing story in almost every avenue of district life we have investigated and we hope, that from all this, we will be able to compile a broad coverage of Hawkesbury history, which will appeal to everyone", Mr. Stevens said.

Anyone, who is able to assist with either historic material or photographs, is asked to contact the Chief Librarian, Julia Brown or Michelle Nichols. Permission should be given to reproduce photographs, which will be returned after being re-photographed. Acknowledgement will be given for photographs used and it should be appreciated, that not all of them will be suitable for publication.

Further details may be obtained by ringing 045 77 3357.