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*Port Stephens
Family History Society Inc.*



*Journal Lemon Tree
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2

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Port Stephens Family History Society Inc.

Established 1986

RESEARCH DAYS are held 1pm-4pm each Tuesday and second and fourth Saturday afternoons. Non-member entry fee \$10. Member's entry fee is \$2. Closed Public Holiday weekends.

VENUE: TILLIGERRY COMMUNITY CENTRE Kenneth Pde Lemon Tree Passage.

MEMBERSHIP FEES are due on the 1st April each year, proportional fees apply after Sept.

MEMBERSHIP ENTITLEMENTS 3 months probationary period applies before borrowing Microfiche, Readers, Books & Journals. Computer discs & CDs are not to be borrowed. Several books also marked not to be borrowed.

POSTAL ADDRESS: PO Box 32 Tanilba Bay NSW 2319

Non Members Research Enquiries: The Society is willing to undertake research for non-members. Send details to above address. Fee \$20.

www.portstephensfamilyhistory.com.au

Email: psfhs@yahoo.com.au

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ITEMS ARE INCLUDED IN THIS JOURNAL IN THE BELIEF THEY DO NOT CONTRAVENE COPYRIGHT LAWS. RAE HICKSON - EDITOR.

Society Publications

Bench Book of Magistrates Port Stephens Bench Book May to December 1832

This book covers Convicts, Indented Servants & staff of the Australian Agricultural Co. Some of the areas covered are Booral, Stroud, Karuah and Port Stephens. The Bench Book is a companion book to the convicts of the Australian Agricultural Company 1825-1850. Softcover \$25 + \$10 postage

Nelson Bay Cemetery, Carumbah Bushland Memorial Gardens & Columbarium

Includes colour photos and inscriptions. This CD is an E-Book and will self install. CD Rom \$20 + \$5 postage

Port Stephens Pilot Indexes

This CD contains entries from the paper covering Port Stephens and the wider Hunter Valley area. CD Rom PDF format \$10 + \$5 postage

Sydney Morning Herald 1868 April, May & June.

Extracts of Births, Deaths, Marriages, Funeral Notices and Inquests.

This book contains extracts of the above items. Soft Cover 180 pages \$15 + \$10 postage

Anna Bay Lawn Cemetery:

Headstone Inscriptions and Photographs. This CD requires Internet Explorer to run. CD Rom, \$20 + \$5 p&p

Convicts of the Australian Agricultural Company, 1825-1850

Biographical Index of 1329 Convicts who served with the A.A.Co. Softcover, 206 pages, \$30 + \$10 p&p

Henry Halloran.

Henry Ferdinand Halloran (1869-1953)

Realtor, Surveyor, Valuer, Auctioneer, Town Planner, Conveyancer & Local Government Engineer. Softcover, 44 Pages, \$15 + \$5 p&p

A History of the Tilligerry Peninsula

A look at the history of the area. Softcover, 70 pages, \$15 + \$5 p&p

TELEGRAPHIC MESSAGES FROM THE 1868 SYDNEY MORNING HERALD

A selection of messages from correspondents

ADELAIDE	
Thursday 2nd April	The report from the miners who left Wallaroo for the Peak Downs, states that living is quite as dear there as here and the climate is very un-healthy [9320 Friday 3 rd April p5c3]
Monday 6th April	The elections for East and West Adelaide are now on, but there is little excitement [9323 Tuesday 7 th April p5c1]
Wednesday 8th April	The squatters are at last subscribing towards experiments in meat preserving [9325 Thursday 9 th April p5c1]
Thursday 9th April	Mr A. Bean has commenced proceedings against the South Australian Insurance company for the recovery of his loss by the late fire [9326 Friday 10 th April p5c1]
Thursday 16th April	-- Mr W. D. Wigzell was accidentally shot at the Port on Easter Monday and died today -- Mr Varley, late clerk in the Adelaide Local Court has been appointed a Stipendiary Magistrate [9332 Friday 17 th April p5c2]
Saturday 18th April	-- Albert Barnes charged with the murder of John Stacey at Hassan's Wall was found and sentenced to death [9333 Saturday 18 th April p7c2] -- Mr P. B. Coglin proposes to raffle his well known racing stud, cattle, sheep, mineral and other lands and farming implements in 1,350 shares of £10 each - there are 201 prizes valued at £14,700. The drawing is to take place in 3 months -- No business doing this week owing to the races [9334 Monday 20 th April p5c3]
Monday 20th April	The <i>Jane Bell</i> from Mauritius, encountered severe weather on the 13 th March, 3 days after leaving there, which, from its course, the captain thinks must have passed over the island; he afterwards saw part of a wreck which he supposes to be the <i>Isabella</i> bound for Melbourne, that sailed a day before the <i>Jane Bell</i> . The captain and crew all more or less down with the fever and the papers think it unsafe to public health in passing Mauritius ships without quarantine [9335 Tuesday 21 st April p5c2]

Tuesday 21st April	The Governor has given orders that the Quarantine regulations are to be strictly enforced with vessels arriving from the Mauritius [9336 Wednesday 22 nd April p4c6]
Wednesday 22nd April	At the sale of land at Mt. Gambier 15,000 acres were sold realizing £15,000; it was all purchased by 4 land agents; the farmers were so annoyed at the sale not being postponed that they did not attend [9337 Thursday 23 rd April p5c1]
Saturday 25th April	-- The Supreme Court has decided that the Commissioner of Insolvency has jurisdiction in the case of Levi & Co. -- The design for the Torrens Dam has been finally fixed on and it is hoped will be executed by private enterprise [9340 Monday 27 th April p5c1]
Thursday 30th April	-- Richard Gage Cooper formerly of Melbourne and lately employed as a blender of colonial wine here committed suicide by taking strychnine. An inquest was held on the body and a verdict of <i>felo de se</i> returned -- It is proposed to assist the funds for the formation of the new Torrens Dam by a grand fancy bazaar to be held in September next [9344 Friday 1 st May p5c1]
Monday 11th May	The trial of the English and Victoria preserved mutton was made on Saturday and opinions were decidedly in favour of the Victoria [9353 Tuesday 12 th May p5c1]
Friday 15th May	Mr Dahlke, the inventor of the filter by means of which salt water is filtered into fresh is now on a visit to the colony. Advantage is to be taken of his presence, and a number of merchants and squatters will test the value of his invention [9356 Friday 15 th May
Saturday 16th May	Subscriptions are being set on foot to obtain a trial of Dahlke's filter here [9358 Monday 18 th May p5c1]
Monday 25th May	A prospectus has been published of a Provincial Gas Company for supplying gas to Strathalbyn, Gawler and Kapunda [9365 Tuesday 26 th May p4c6]
Wednesday 27th May	-- Private letters state that the detachment of the 50 th Regiment stationed here are to be removed and a portion of the 18 th Royal Irish is to take their place -- Randall's store at Mannum on the west bank of the Murray was destroyed by fire on Monday night last -- Messrs Duffield & Company's new mill at Gawler was formally opened yesterday [9367 Thursday 28 th May p5c1]
Saturday 30th May	One-third of the shares of the Provincial Gas Co. have been taken up [9370 Monday 1 st June p5c1]
Monday 1st June	Dahlke is to experiment with his patent filter tomorrow morning [9471 Tuesday 2 nd June p5c3]
Tuesday 2nd June	The experiment with Dahlke's filter today, was unsatisfactory, owing to a slate in the tank giving way. The process is to be repeated [9372 Wednesday 3 rd June p5c1]
Wednesday 3rd June	Gigantic fossil remains have been found at Kooringa [9373 Thursday 4 th June p5c1]
Saturday 6th June	The boiler at the Riverton Mills, burst yesterday when Mr Schmucker, one of partners was killed being blown a distance of 70 yards. Two others were also injured [9376 Monday 8 th June p4c5]
Monday 8th June	General dissatisfaction is expressed at the rumoured appointment of Mr Pope Hennessy as Governor of South Australia [9377 Tuesday 9 th June p5c3]
Friday 12th June	Further experiments with Dahlke's filter are to be made on Monday next [9381 Saturday 13 th June p4c1]

**Port Stephens Council is proud to
host the
IRRAWANG
Exhibit and Forum**



- **The Historic Irrawang Pottery Exhibition
4 April – 6 May**

**The exhibition and opening events are located in the Council Administration Building,
at 116 Adelaide St Raymond Terrace**

In 1832, at Irrawang, on the Williams River near Raymond Terrace, James King established one of the earliest Hunter Valley vineyards producing international award winning wine.

He also set up a pottery works supplying the Colony with utilitarian and decorative ceramics and stoneware bottles for his wine. The pottery has survived, the wine unfortunately has not.

This exhibit is also the story of a passionate group of student archaeologists from the University of Sydney, who from 1967-1976 brought the site back to life.

**Enquiries: Chloe Beevers, Council's Cultural planner on 49800121 or
chloe.beevers@portstephens.nsw.gov.au**

Australian Airman

During a recent trip to England whilst visiting the Parish Church of Woodleigh, Devon we were reminded of the sacrifices Australians made during the Second World War.

While we were looking for evidence we discovered the following memorial including one Harold Clarke RAAF.



We hope that this photo may be seen by a family member.

Bits and Bobs

**"Newcastle Morning Herald and Miner's Advocate"
Saturday 23rd June, 1923.**

Want. Kind person to adopt or care
for healthy baby girl. 10 week.

Miss Williams
Herald Agency. Lambton

Conscientious Lady, care for or
adopt healthy baby boy, six months old.

Reply first
"Omega" "Herald" office

One of our members came across the above entries while researching. She noted how sad it was to see babies listed in general notices. These are an obvious reason for brick walls in Family History Research.



ANCESTRY is available FREE to members.

Members of Port Stephens Family History Society Inc now have free access to Ancestry on 2 computers at the centre. Limited to 1 hour use at a time.

Visitors to the centre can also have internet access including Ancestry for \$10 per hour.

All bookings with Denise

"Irish Research On The Internet" by Cora Num

This book offers new and exciting ways to research your Irish ancestors using the latest Internet resources and techniques. Discover how to use the Internet to access material previously only available in libraries, archives, newspaper libraries and local history collections. This fully searchable material (most of it free) opens up new and unprecedented search possibilities.

This book explains what is available, how to find it and how best to use it. This easy to use book is suitable for beginners and experienced researchers. Use it to start your research, expand on what you know or to find new ways to trace those elusive Irish ancestors.

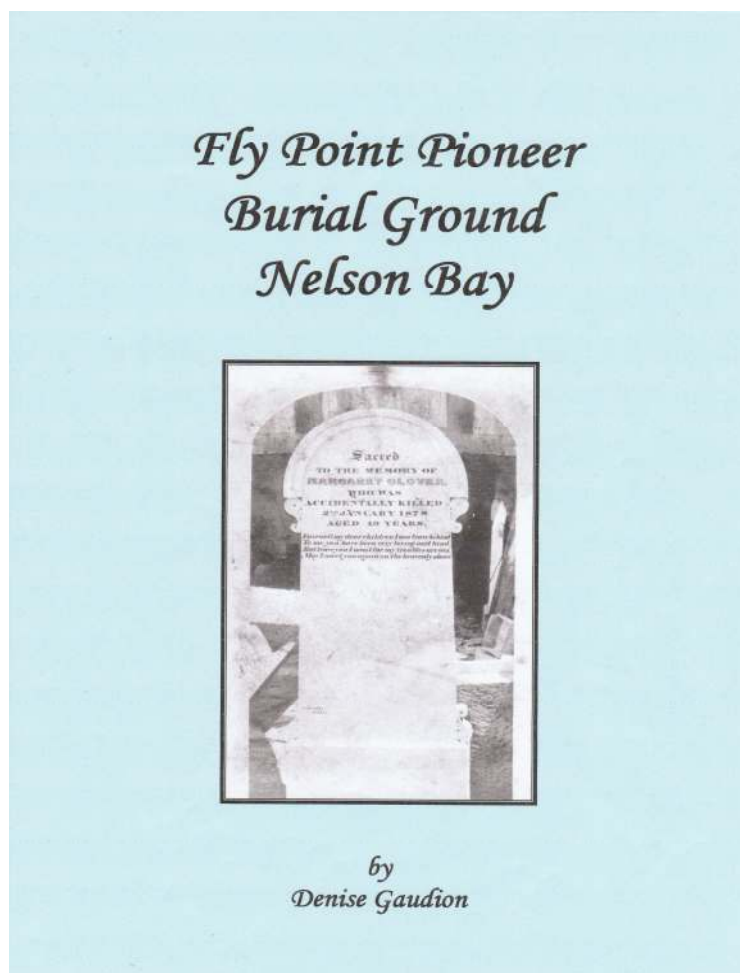
A5, 44 pages, \$12 plus \$2.00 postage in Australia. ISBN no 978-0-9804372-3-2

You will find further details including the Table of Contents at www.coraweb.com.au/irishdetails.htm

NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies
2011 Annual State Conference
Inverell NSW
Friday 16 September to Sunday 18 September 2011

www.inverellfamilyhistory.org.au

*Port Stephens Family History Society Inc⁹
wish to advise of their most recent publication*



The publication reveals the early pioneers buried at Fly Point, Nelson Bay between c1862 to 1896. It includes the early maritime history and settlement of Fly Point during its most formative years and biographical information on the people buried there. It includes fully referenced records from the local Court House, Probate Office, Marine Board, Census, Coroners' Inquests, Shipping and Immigration, Births Deaths and Marriages as well as submitted family history.

\$20 per copy

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Email: psfhs@yahoo.com.au Telephone: Secretary- 4984 7293 or Author- 4982 3587

Current Journals and Publications Available to Members

CURRENT JOURNALS AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS

- Blue Mountains FH Soc Inc
- Busselton Family History Group
- Heraldry & Genealogy Society (Canberra)
- Cessnock Dist Hist & FH Soc Inc
- Coalfield Heritage Group
- Dubbo FH Soc
- Gold Coast Family History Soc Inc
- Hawkesbury FH Group
- Hervey Bay Family History Association
- Inverell Family History Group
- Kiama Family History Centre
- Lake Macquarie FH Group
- Macleay River Historical Society Inc
- Manning– Wallamba FH Group
- Maitland & Dist Genealogy Society Inc
- Milton Ulladulla Family History Society
- National Library - Canberra
- Nepean FH Soc
- Raymond Terrace Hist Soc Inc
- Richmond-Tweed FH Soc Inc.
- Society Of Australian Genealogists
- Shoalhaven Family History Society
- Toowoomba & Darling Downs FH Soc
- Tweed Gold Coast FH Soc
- Wendish Heritage society Aust (Victoria)
- Wyong FH Group

SUBSCRIPTIONS

- AFFHO
- AFTC
- Descent (SAG)
- Family Tree Magazine
- Irish Roots
- Society of Aust Genealogists
- Western Ancestor (WA Genealogical Soc)
- Who Do You Think You Are?
- Queensland State Archives
- International Settlers Group (VIC)
- State Records—Now & Then
- North West Mail from Aust. Railway monument/Rail Journeys Museum
- Rookwood
- NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies
- PRO Vic
- RAHS Inc

JOURNALS DONATED BY MEMBERS

- Bega Valley Gene Soc Inc
- Glanmorgan – Wales
- Irish Clan Anahorta
- Tulle (Lacemakers of Calais)
- Wendish Heritage Soc Aust Inc

NEWSLETTERS



The society will now be sending the Journal by Electronic Mail to those societies wishing to receive it in this way. A small number will still be printed and sent by mail to those societies who do not want the electronic form for the near future.

Congratulations to our thrilled editor Rae Hickson, on becoming a grand mother, and welcome to Lachlan John Adam Stark... another twig on the tree.

JAMES DENT

1783 – 1837

James Dent's convict indent shows him as being born in Essex, England about 1783. To date, little is known of his childhood, parents or where he was raised.

On 26 February 1802 he married Harriet Chalton at St Georges Church, Hanover Square London. They had six children, Mary (1803), William (1805 - 1806), James (1808), Samuel (1809 - 1810), Charles (1811 - 1812) and Harriet (1813 - 1815). It is unknown what became of their only surviving children, Mary and James.



St Georges Church, Hanover Square Mayfair

He had learned a Trade and between 1806 and 1816 he had a Butcher Shop and residential premises at No 2 New Quebec Street, Mary-le-Bone, Westminster, London.



Street sign



Recent photo of No 2 New Quebec St

Westminster City Archives hold the St Marylebone Rate Books (1806 – 1816) and it shows James Dent paying a Rent Rate of 28 pounds per year, a Poor Rate of 2 pounds 9 shillings, a Watch Rate of 7 shillings, a New Paving Rate of 2 shillings and 4 pence, a Repairing, Cleaning and Lighting Rate of 16 shillings and 4 pence. During this period there appears to be no variation in the rents and rates, and the 1807 entry they were listed as "Poor".

The London Gazette of 6 Nov 1810 records a bankruptcy:

"James Dent of Quebeck St, Portman Square Marylebone butcher. 17 Nov, 27 Nov & 22 Dec 1810 to report Guildhall. Mr Bellamy, Solicitor, No. 16, Clifford's Inn, London."



Guildhall London

Being a Tradesman, James would have had an association one way or another with the Guildhall in London. Either as an Apprentice or a Tradesman.



James' Solicitor's Office Clifford's Inn London

He still continued to trade after his bankruptcy until whether through greed or business not improving, he drifted into crime by passing forged One Pound notes.

The subsequent arrest and trial of James Dent is well documented at the London Metropolitan Archives, the Bank of England Archives, and also as part of a

display of forgery items at the Bank of England Museum in London.

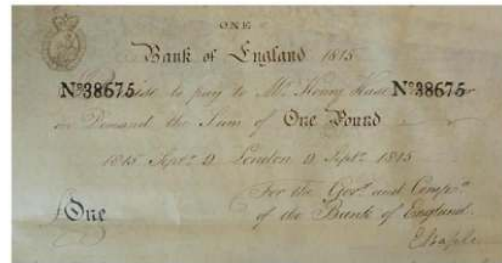
The Middlesex Gaol delivery document held at London Metropolitan Archives details the search of James' premises and the seizure of 18 One Pound forged notes, each of which was meticulously inscribed by a Court official. And states that James:

"feloniously and wittingly and without lawful excuse had in his possession and custody divers and forged and counterfeited Bank Notes".

It goes on to identify the areas around James' shop and premises that other forged notes were hidden including:

"dwelling house, lodgings, outhouse and apartments".

(The document itself is written on velum and rolls out to be at least 2.5 metres in length).



Hand drawn copy of Bank Note from the trial document

On 4 January, due to overwhelming evidence, James admitted his guilt. He was sentenced to 14 years transportation.

Other documents tendered at his trial included information held at the Bank of England Archives that details the outcome of the trial.

The Bank Archives advises that:

"The Committee for Lawsuits was responsible for managing prosecutions on behalf of the Bank, engaging Counsel etc"

And a second reference comes from a note written by the Bank's lawyers, Freshfields which briefly records James Dent's conviction and the individuals who helped secure it. It states:

"James Dent was convicted of having forged Bank Notes in his possession. William New gave the information that led to the detection & apprehension & has great merit in detecting him. John Foy and Thomas Foy both Police Officers apprehended the Prisoner & were engaged upwards of a fortnight in detecting him."

James was delivered to Middlesex Gaol on Wednesday 14 February 1816 to await transportation.

He left Portsmouth on board the ship "Elizabeth" on 4 June 1816 to commence his sentence of fourteen years. James' trip was somewhat more pleasant for him than would have been for many other Convicts on board, as the Ship's documents records him as working as a Servant for Judge Advocate Wylde in his cabin. Also on board the "Elizabeth" was Elizabeth Hood, the woman who was to become his second wife. The ship arrived in Sydney on 10 October 1816.

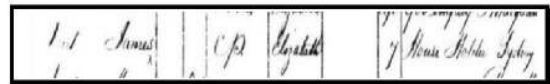
On reaching Sydney, documents describe him as:

"Five feet eight inches tall, fair pale complexion, light brown hair and hazel eyes."

James' time in Sydney began with continued employment as a Servant of Judge Wylde. In a letter to Governor Macquarie, Wylde mentions James Dent as being one of five Clerks at his office.

It is thought that James met his second wife, Elizabeth Hood whilst she was believed to be working in the household of the Wylde family on board ship. They were married at St Luke's Church of England at Liverpool in New South Wales on the 14 May 1820.

Elizabeth bore him four children, George Richard (1822 – 1910), Sarah 1824 – 1912), John Thomas (1826 – 1829) and Henry (1829 – 1905). In the 1822 Census they were shown as living in Sydney (no addresses shown) but James having a conditional pardon.

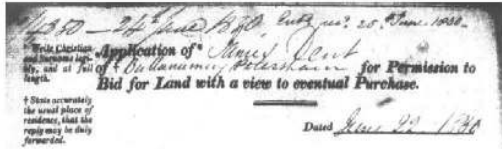


1822 Census Entry for James Dent

James had applied for a conditional pardon to Governor Macquarie, and his application was endorsed with a reference from Judge Advocate Wylde. In the 1828 Census they are recorded landholders at Petersham, then later lived at Wain's Farm on the Cooks River.

In January 1828 James had another brush with the legal system. He was charged with the theft of a cart load of fire wood, the property of Dr Robert Wardell who held land adjacent to where the Dents lived. The outcome was that he was placed on a bond of 40 pounds as long as he does not appear again before the court.

James had made a bid for more land in June 1830 for eighty acres at Petersham. His application also stated he had five head of horses and twenty seven head of cattle. There is no record of his application being successful.



Part of James Land Application.

James Dent died and was buried on 18 January 1837 at the Sydney burial ground in Devonshire Street.



James Dent's headstone at Woronora.

In 1901, his daughter Sarah arranged to have him removed to Woronora Church of England cemetery when the Sydney Burial Ground was resumed to make way for the construction of Central Station.

His will was a straightforward affair with all his children inheriting livestock (horses, bullocks and cows) and his wife Elizabeth, getting all his real estate and personal property.

James' wife Elizabeth went on to marry twice more in 1839 and 1842. She died in 1858 at Petersham.

James seemed to have a fairly successful life in Australia, being married with four children. One of those, George went on to become a well known timber merchant and boat builder.

But what of his first wife Harriet and the two children left in London following his transportation.

Some effort has been made to trace their movements however there has been little success at this stage.

PETER BEAVER
GGG Grandson

Contact: bva@oneseniors.com.au

March 2011

Principal Sources:

National Archives Kew
Bank of England Archives London
Bank of England Museum London
Westminster Archives London
London Metropolitan Archives
London Gazette 6 Nov 1810
NSW State Archives
NSW Births, Deaths and Marriages
www.familysearch.org
www.ancestry.com.au
Author – All photographs

Thanks to Barb Thamm for passing on primary source information.

(Any errors or omissions are regretted, please contact Author for corrections).