



LAUNCESTON BRANCH NEWSLETTER

Library Hours:

Tuesday:
10am–3pm

**Monday -
Thursday:**

By
appointment

~~~~~  
**Next Branch  
Workshop**

**Wednesday  
19th March**

"Scottish  
Research"  
~~~~~



Launceston Family History Library: 45-55 Tamar St, Launceston
P.O. Box 1290, Launceston 7250
Telephone: (03) 6344 4034
Email: Library: ltntasfh@bigpond.com
Secretary: bbissett@bigpond.net.au
Web: www.launceston.tasfhs.org

President: Russell Watson
Editor: Betty Bissett

**No. 36
February 2013**

From the Library:

Scrap Book Folders and Books

Over the years the Branch members have collected clippings from newspapers etc., on various topics. Marie Gatenby and now Lucille Gee has spent many hours collating these folders and books and most of them have been indexed by volunteers. This source of information has been very much underused and newer members may not be aware of these in our Library.

Topics of books include: - People, Hotels, Buildings, Obituaries, Townships, Shipping, Convicts and Military

ScotlandsPeople

Images now available on the website released on 1 January, 2013 – Births 1912, Marriages 1937 and Deaths 1962. (Vouchers available for purchase at Branch Library)

Recent Acquisitions

Acquisitions received for the past three months are listed in the March edition of *Tasmanian Ancestry*. New DVDs at the Library include:

- **Tasmanian Police Gazette Comp:** 1891-1895, 1896-1900, 1901-1905, 1906-1910, 1911-1915, 1916-1920, 1921-1925, 1926-1930 & 1931-1933. (9-DVDs)
- **Tasmanian PO Directory Comp (Wise):** 1890-1900, 1901-1905, 1906-1910, 1911-1915, 1921-1925 & 1926-1930 (6-DVDs)

TFHS Inc. Launceston Branch

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 16th April

Venue: Scout Hall, St Georges Square, East Launceston

Time: 7.00pm

Speaker: Terese Binns, her topic will be "In the Steps of the Lighthouse—95th Anniversary Ride"

Election of Offices Bearers for 2013/14

All positions will be declared vacant.

Nomination Forms will be available at the Library, 45 Tamar Street.

GRONI

On 17 December, 2012 Belfast General Register Office implemented new regulations which allow for all future death registrations to note each deceased person's parents' names. In the past only the deceased's date and place of birth was recorded.

1926 Irish Census

Progress on the early release of the Irish 1926 census has slowed down, however the Minister for Arts, Culture and Gaeltacht said that he would still like to see the project on course for release in 2016.

In addition to the usual name and surname, relationship to head of household, marital status, language, religion and profession, this 1926 census collected the following for each person, where appropriate:

- Age in years and months
- Town or townland of birth
- 'Orphanhood' i.e. notation if one or both parents deceased
- Name and address of employer
- If unemployed, normal profession/trade plus period of unemployment
- Present marriage duration (both men and women to answer)
- Total number of children born in present marriage (both men and women to answer)
- Living children and step children under 16 for all marriages (both men and women to answer)
- Size of the household's landholding in acres

Findmypast

Thousands of new British Army service and pension records have now been published on www.findmypast.co.uk. The records contain soldiers attestation forms (completed when the soldier joined the army) and discharge papers (filled in when the soldier left the army).

Biographical information and crucial details about their service history is available. The records contain detailed physical descriptions.

Dorset Family History Society: All of Dorset's Parish Registers have been transcribed and copies are held at our research centre – Treetops, in Poole (BH15 3AJ). Our Treetops volunteers will guide you through our resources and help you get started, or continue, with your research. We have computer access to the major pay to view sites and an electronic mix of other data sources, many donated by our members. Our Library contains information on many topics, family, local and house history and much more. As you would expect there is a bias towards Dorset material and one prize holding is 'The History and Antiquities of Dorset' by the Revd John Hutchins MA. It is a detailed study of the county which became his life's work, compiled over many years in the early 18th century. This is now available from our bookstall and you can make purchases of our stock via [Genfair](#) or [Parish Chest](#). If you can't get to Treetops you can find some Dorset data that we have uploaded to findmypast.co.uk. email: contact@dorsetffhs.org.uk

FFHS Ezine – January 2013.

Famine Orphan Girl Database

During the Great Irish Famine (An gorta mor) over 4,000 young Irish women were sent to Australia under Earl Grey's Famine Orphan Scheme. The women came from the workhouses all over Ireland, most had lost at least one parent and all were destitute. The majority of the women were aged between 14 and 20 years. Some of the girls' names have been inscribed on the Irish Famine memorial in Sydney and the names are also available to search on the Famine Orphan Girl database. The information can include name, age on arrival and parents' names and invaluable for those researching Irish ancestors, the place where they came from is often recorded. The Great Irish Famine Commemoration Committee is looking to compile stories of these women and sometimes there is further information included which has been given by descendants of the women. The database www.irishfaminememorial.org/en/orphans also gives information about the ships and dates the women came over. It is free to search.

FFHS Ezine – January 2013.

Hearth Tax Online

The Hearth Tax was a tax introduced in 1662 where each liable householder had to pay one shilling twice a year for each hearth in each dwelling. The records are a rich source of data and give an insight into communities in the 17th century and are also useful as a supplement to parish registers and other local records.

However, the detail and survival of documents varies from county to county. As part of the statistical analysis of the data The Centre for Hearth Tax Research has transcribed the names of the householders and also produced statistical maps on its website, [Hearth Tax Online](http://www.hearthtaxonline.org). Not all counties are yet available on the website but it will be frequently updated as new counties are completed. Website: www.lan-opc.org.uk/

FFHS Ezine – January 2013

The Gathering Ireland 2013

Are you one of the global Irish diaspora of 70 million people? 2013 is the year of The Gathering, a year of events celebrating Irish family history and culture. Events will include festivals and gatherings all over Ireland ranging from music and sports to family reunions and much more.

You can download a free guide 'Tracing your Ancestors in Ireland' from the website www.thegatheringireland.com/ as well as finding further information and links to other websites.



A part of The Gathering celebration is the Ireland Reaching Out project. This is an Irish Government-sponsored programme which aims to find people of Irish ancestry around the world and connect them to the local Irish communities from where their people first emigrated in Ireland. The programme enables people of Irish heritage to return to Ireland to see the homes their ancestors once lived in, the land they may have farmed, family gravestones, and possibly, to meet living relatives in Ireland. There are currently over 500 parishes with volunteers assisting in answering questions and queries. *FFHS Ezine – January 2013*

Railway Workers who died during WW1

The National Railway Museum (NRM) has launched a database of railway workers who died during World War One. The database took over 2 years to compile and the information was gathered from railway staff company magazines and items in the NRM archive and includes names of over 20,000 railway workers.

The list includes names, rank, military number, rail department, railway occupation, address, information on their families, war memorial and date of death of railway workers. It also includes references to photographs in staff magazines.

Alison Kay, Assistant Archivist commented: "We're looking forward to welcoming people who want to look up details of former family members, friends or neighbours that may have died in the wars. We plan to keep on adding to the database over the coming years". You can view the list www.mrm.org.uk/railway

FFHS Ezine – January 2013

Commonwealth War Graves Commission

The CWGC commemorates the men and women of the Commonwealth forces who died in the two world wars. The Register records details of Commonwealth war dead so that graves or names on memorials can be located. The www.cwgc.org.uk has a free searchable database. As part of the preparations for the centenary of the start of World War 1, the CWGC is installing visitor information panels at some of the significant WW1 sites. Through the use of QR Code technology, CWGC are using the panels to tell the human stories behind the history and they would like your help. The CWGC are looking for the personal stories of those buried at Etreux British Cemetery, Guards Grave, Vailly British Cemetery and Houplines Communal Cemetery Extension, France. If you are aware of a personal story relating to any of these four sites, please email the CWG. *FFHS Ezine – January 2013*



British Interest Group



Meetings on the 1st Wednesday of the month
at **Phil Leonard Room, Launceston State Library, from 2:00 to 4:00.**
Membership costs \$5.00 per year

We are a small sub-group of enthusiastic members of the **Tasmanian Family History Society Inc. Launceston Branch** with an interest in anything associated with researching in Britain. The meetings are generally of an informal nature, designed to enable the discussion of either a specific subject, current problems being encountered, or more usually, both.

New members are always welcome, so if you are researching British ancestors and their families, why not come along and join us?

Days and Dates

The inspiration for this note came from a couple of circumstances in church registers I have been transcribing. The first (and much more difficult) question arose from the practice of one incumbent of recording for the date of baptism, "Good Friday," "Easter Day" or "Whitsunday." The second arose from the practice of another clerk recording the day of the week for a baptism. This turned out to be most useful if the date was difficult to read (always assuming that the recorder actually wrote down the correct date as well as day of the week, which I believe he sometimes didn't).

These circumstances pushed me to search on the internet for ways to answer these questions. The answer to the date of Easter (and related festivals) is straightforward, if rather complicated, after 1752 in England. On the site, <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Computus> you can find the details about the history and controversies surrounding the date of Easter. Suffice it to say that you can look up the date of Easter from 1583 to around 2200 on the following site: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:DiagrammePaques_Flammarion.jpg

Just remember that in French, March is *Mars*, and April is *Avril*.

The Julian Calendar was used in England before 1753, with the added complication that the legal year began on 25 March. Dates using this convention are called old style. This was all changed by the Calendar (New Style) Act 1750, which came into effect in 1753.

Finding the day of the week for a given English date is relatively straightforward, and all the hard work is taken out by going to the following website: <http://www.csgnetwork.com/juliandaydate.html>

Just remember two things: click in the Radio Button, 'Use Julian Only' unless the date is after 2 September 1752 (the next day was 14 Sep 1752). Secondly, if the date is between 1 January and 24 March inclusive, for example, 18 Jan 1742/3, (often written just 18 Jan 1742,) you need to put 1743 in the year box. If you try this, you'll find that that day was a Tuesday. I hope to give more details in a Journal article.

Barrie Robinson

Manchester Records Online

[MLFHS](#) reports [Ancestry](#) is to publish the Church of England parish registers of the Manchester Diocese in February 2013. The Diocese area covers Ashton under Lyne, Bolton, Bury, Leigh, Manchester, Newchurch, Oldham, Old Trafford, Salford and Stretford. Over 6 million records have been digitised and name indexed, including baptisms (to 1915), marriages (to 1930) and burials. It is hoped to add the non-Conformist Church registers later in the year. You can also search for Lancashire ancestors (including those from the Greater Manchester area) on the Online Parish Clerks www.hearthtax.org.uk which has transcripts of some parish registers in Lancashire and is free to use.

FFHS Ezine – January 2013

A Gathering on the Norfolk Plains - 1-3 March, 2013

www.norfolkplains.com.au

Friday 1st March: Evening: Music Hall, by G-String Productions at the Longford Town Hall

Saturday 2 March — Descendents Day

Families descended from one of the original Norfolk Islanders are invited to set up a family history display and across the day, interact with other families/community members, share their family history, network, buy and sell family books, scan and exchange articles, photos etc.

The Launceston Branch members will be manning an information stand; there will be many items of interest, including the sale of books and CDs to aid family history research.

Volunteers: Volunteers to help with this project should register with **Helen at the branch library, 45 Tamar Street**, as soon as possible.

Sunday 3rd March:

Morning and early afternoon: Guided bus tours of Pateena Road

10am-3pm: Longford Blessing of the Harvest Festival with a colonial theme on the Village Green

Afternoon: Matinee: Music Hall, by G-String Productions at the Longford Town Hall
Interdenominational church service at Christ Church, followed by farewell function

For more information on the weekend programme contact:

By email: fiona.dewar@nmc.tas.gov.au or by phone: 03 6397 7321

Release of New Publication

Index to *The Weekly Courier*: Vol 13 — 1922-23 Price \$30.00

Index to Photographs, Birth, Death & Marriage Notices and Personal items of interest to Family Historians

Extracts from this edition:

30 Nov 1922, Death (from News): ALOMES, George Thomas, Mr, 97yrs, died at *Rosemount*, South Arm, on Sun 12 Nov. Born in 1825 at Sorell. His father, Robert Alomes of Sorell, was, it was said, sn of a Colonel CARTER, who married a Miss Alomes. Robert Alomes, a medical student, was educated in Dublin. There was a family quarrel; he enlisted under his mother's name & became a Sgt in the Royal Marines & reached Hobart in 1804 with Governor David Collins. Married in about 1808, a dt of Jacob BELLETTE, of Sorell. Alomes & MORRISBY families connected by marriage. Interred at South Arm. [very long report] [p29 c5]

31 May 1923, Death (from News): ARCHER, Basil, of *Woodside*, Cressy, died on Sat while sitting in the Pirie St Church at the Methodist Conference in Adelaide—a TAS delegate—heart failure. Mrs Archer was with him. Born at *Northbury*, Longford on 4 Apr 1841, 2/sn of late Mr & Mrs Edward Archer & the only surviving of 7 brothers. G/sn of late William Archer, formerly of Hertford, ENG. In 1896 married Miss Fanny BRUMBY, 3/dt of late Mr Mansfield Brumby, of Cressy. Mrs Archer survives; 2/sns, Harold & Basil & 2/dts, Mrs G C HINMAN (L'ton) & Miss Geraldine Archer, *Woodside*. Interred in Cressy Methodist Cemetery [p30 c4-5]

08 Jun 1922, News: MILLER, E, Mrs, of 24 Landale St, Invermay, a Fifesider of Dunfermline, was 101yrs on Mon. Interview—report: came with hb to L'ton 41yrs ago. Was born when her parents were in the course of a journey in Ireland & resting in a barracks in Ballyshannon Co, when she was born. Married in Leith, Scotland. 8/sns & dts. Came to L'ton in 1880. Hb died 16yrs ago. Sn Mr J Miller resides with her [long report] [p30 c1-2]

27 Apr 1922, News, PATON & BALDWINS, L'ton—new spinning mill, over 100 men are engaged & 21 horses & carts & 2 teams of 8 bullocks, each drawing ploughs, excavating for the foundations & basement. Already 250,000 bricks on the spot—long report [p26 c5]

21 Jun 1923, Photo: PATON & BALWINS—skilled workers & their families from ENGLAND, who arrived in L'ton on Sat to join the staff of Paton & Baldwins—2 photos [p23]. See p31 c2-3

02 Jul 1923, News: PATON & BALDWINS, Launceston—fire kindled under the boilers for the first time & machinery tested [p30 c4]

19 Apr 1923, Marriage Notice: PHILLIPS, Langley, 2/sn of Mr & Mrs F W Phillips, Dublin, Ireland to Winifred, e/dt of Mr & Mrs F ROBLIN, *Dysart Park*, Dysart, on 14 Mar, at St Ann's, Dysart, by the Rev A E BIGGS

10% discount to members. Cost of postage & packing and a comprehensive publication list, refer to our website.

If a statue in the park of a person on a horse has both front legs in the air, the person died in battle. If the horse has one front leg in the air, the person died because of wounds received in battle. If the horse has all four legs on the ground, the person died of natural causes.

In Shakespeare's time, mattresses were secured on bed frames by ropes.
When you pulled on the ropes, the mattress tightened, making the bed firmer to sleep on.
Hence the phrase...'Goodnight, sleep tight'

Workshop at The Stables, 45 Tamar St



Wednesday 19th March, 2 pm: Branch Workshop. *Scottish Research.*

Application to attend the Branch Workshop

Fee of \$5.00 includes course material. I wish to attend the above workshop on the 19th March:

Name/s:

Address:

Phone/Mobile: Membership Nos: \$5.00 pp

Please return the completed form with your remittance as soon as possible to the :
Treasurer, TFHS Inc. Launceston Branch. P.O. Box 1290. Launceston. 7250

Please Note: Should any workshop have to be cancelled by the branch, costs will be refunded

Tasmanian Family History Society Inc. 33rd Annual General Meeting

The Launceston Branch will be hosting the Society's Annual General Meeting which is planned for:

Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th June.

at

The Hadspen Cricket Ground, 1 Clare Street, Hadspen
(off the Meander Valley Highway)

Day fee: \$27.00

Programme commences Saturday at 10am: Registrations and Morning tea:

Speakers will be:

- 10.30am** John Dent OAM (Member 171), Registered Land Surveyor: *The Missing Link? The first street map of Launceston. Plan 32 Map of "Launcestown" 1818.*
- 11.30am** Dianne Cassidy: *Launceston's Forgotten Cemeteries*
- 1.30pm** John Dent OAM: *The First Land Grants West of Launceston.*
- 2.15pm** Annual General Meeting, incorporating the presentation of the 2012 Lilian Watson Family History Award.
- 3.00pm** Afternoon Tea

~~~~~

- 6.30pm** Meet at **The Lion's Den**, 18 Merino Street, (off the western side of Hobart Road—on the city side of the Connector, Kings Meadows)
- 7.00pm** 2-Course Dinner, \$27.00

Guest Speaker: Dr Frank Madill. Frank will be introducing his latest book, *Sanders DFC : Out of the Darkness—the story of WWII Bomber Command as told by Lancaster navigator, Tasmanian Max Sanders*. Forward by Air Vice-Marshall Peter J Scully AO

Frank will be giving an insight into the huge amount of research, both orally with Max Sanders and visits or contacts with the various War Memorial Museums and other sources.

*Books Stalls and new publications from Branches will be on offer during the day*

**Sunday 16th:** 10am. Meet Marion Sargent (Member 1927) inside the main Carr Villa Cemetery gate—Nunamina Avenue, off Hobart Road (under the shelter) — bring a 'brolly'—'just in case' !

A booking form will be included in the March edition of the *Tasmanian Ancestry*.

### **Closing date for registrations is 1 June 2013**

Please note that the registration and payment is to be made to:

The Branch Treasurer  
Launceston Branch TFHS inc.  
**PO Box 1290**  
Launceston Tas 7250

### **Early Bird Prize**

Register before Tuesday 7 May 2013 and you could be in the draw for the President's Early Bird Prize.