

Camden Calling



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WEBSITE

www.camdenhistory.org.au

RESEARCH FEES

Non- members use of Resources- \$5.00 per session.
Written enquires \$25.00 – provides up to fifteen printed or photocopied pages.
A4 size stamped addressed envelope to be included with your enquiry.

RESEARCH CENTRE

Family History Room
Camden Library/Museum Complex.
John Street. Camden. NSW 2570
Thursday 10.00am – 3.00pm
Friday 10:00am – 3.00pm
Saturday 9:30am – 12 noon
(Closed late December to late January)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Camden Area Family History Society Inc. is held on the first Tuesday of August each year, immediately following the general meeting.

THE SOCIETY MEETS ON **THE FIRST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH (EXCEPT JANUARY)**
AT 7:30PM IN THE COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM OF THE CAMDEN LIBRARY/MUSEUM
COMPLEX, **40 JOHN STREET CAMDEN.**

MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBERS ALL WELCOME

~ Camden Calling ~

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Camden Calling is the Journal of the Camden Area Family History Society Inc. published twice a year in May and November, it is free to members and \$2.00 for non-members.

Articles for inclusion are to be handed to the Editor no later than the meetings of April and October. Unless an article is marked copyright, Family History Organisations have permission to reprint from this Journal, providing that the source is acknowledged and it is used only for the purpose of family history research. Copyright remains the property of the submitter.

This Society does not accept responsibility for information contained or opinions expressed by authors in this Journal.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Look how the year has flown, it has been a while since we had our first talk for the year and what a talk. It brought back a lot of memories of when the Trams run in Sydney.

Peter Sage gave the talk accompanied by a series of slides of the old tram routes around Sydney.

It brought back memories of my Grandfather who worked on the trams and we would always hop of the train at central and catch a tram down either George or Elizabeth Streets.

Peter provided a second talk on Rookwood Cemetery at our May meeting; his talk covered the design of the cemetery and covered a lot of the people involved in early history of Australia and New South Wales.

A talk by Turtle on the transcription services they offer for Births Deaths and Marriages.

State Records by the use of a new transcription service.

During March and April I was heavily involved with the RSL in the planning and preparation for the Centenary of Anzac. (See Article)

As you are aware the Society is a part sponsor of the 2016 State Conference with the Picton Society.

Tony Jackson has taken on the roll of Coordinator for the event and planning is going well. The venue for the event is at the Civic Centre which we have made our booking.

A reminder that this year's conference will be at Port Macquarie in September and the Society will be represented at the event.

Ray Herbert
President

EDITORIAL

Welcome to this months Journal. There are a number of stories concerning the First World War both from the Military point and from the Home Front. A very moving letter from a father to his daughter. The final part of the Reason for claiming William Charles Lowe.

There is our usual article on New Acquisitions.

There is a further report on the 2016 State Conference of the NSW & ACT Family History Societies and this years Conference at Port Macquarie. Don't forget the Camden is hosting the 2016 Conference and there is still a lot of work to be done for that.

I hope there is something for everyone in the edition of Camden Calling but it would be nice to have more input from more members.

Tony Jackson, Editor

MEMBERSHIP

C.A.F.H.S. Inc. Membership fall due on the **1st July each year**, the prompt renewal of your membership is appreciated. To ensure all your details are current, e.g. telephone number and email addresses, please complete a Members Information Update form if they have changed or notify the Membership Officer.

Normal Membership:

Single \$25.00 Couple \$30.00

Pensioners/Concession Membership:

Single \$20.00 Couple \$25.00

We welcome new members from Australia and Overseas.

CAMDEN AND THE FIRST WORLD WAR

Events of the Great War as reported in the Camden News Part 2
Cables from the European War

3rd December 1914

The British Battleship “Bulwark” was blown up near Sheerness as a result of an accident in its magazine, only 12 survivors out of a crew of 700 to 800.

The Times reported the arrival of 15 regiments and 37 barges of ammunition had arrived in the Serbian town of Radinzortz after a 500 mile trip up the Danube.

The Allies infantry has captured various points to the north and south of Ypres and an attack by three German Regiments at Arras has failed.

10th December

The Australian Contingent disembarked in Egypt to assist in the defence of the country and to continue training.

The bombardment of Zeebrugge by the Allies warships stopped the fitting up of the German submarines and damaged the harbour works. The sluices are unworkable and vessels are unable to leave

The situation in Palestine is causing concern in Berlin. Some German commanders have asked for 150,000 picked Germans to defend the Christian churches and the Jewish population.

17th December

It was officially announced the sinking of the German Cruisers Scharnhorst, Gneisenau and the Leipsig with the Dresden being pursued by the British.

British and Indian troops have defeated the Turks and secured complete control of the Tigris and Euphrates to the sea, including the richest part of the delta.

The Australians in Egypt are camped on a beautiful site behind the Pyramids. A tramway runs into the camp and water and electricity have been laid on.

The American Consul in Punta Arenas, Chile reports the safe arrival of the German Cruiser Dresden and that she is uninjured.

Two more German Cruisers have been sunk in an engagement off Scarborough (England).

24th December

German Cruisers bombarded Scarborough, Hartlepool and Whitby a number of Men, Women and Children were killed and injured.

No restriction is to be placed in the number of men recruited for recruits accepted for the Australian Expeditionary Force. All men physical fit will be accepted.

The Dutch newspaper "Do Tijd" reported the Allies assisted by the British Fleet occupied, unopposed several towns in West Flanders.

31st December

7th January 1915 No front page of the Camden news.

14th January 1915

Lord Kitchener has reviewed in the House of Lords the ebb and flow of the tide of battle The Germans, he said, "Were left in sufficient strength to hold the trenches in the West." German aspirations in Poland had suffered a severe check. Kitchener congratulated Serbia and Russia on their extra ordinary victories.

Lord Kitchener remarked that, the much talked of Turkish advance in Egypt had failed Germany's great initial advantages were undoubtedly diminishing

The Allies were daily increasing their resources. The War Office had completed edres of officers for the expeditionary force, there had been 20,100 officers appointed since the war began.

General French's forces at the front had been increased by Territorial units and a new Division, including a fine Canadian regiment.

In Belgium 50,000 volunteers are distributing relief. There are 1,400,000 destitute people, and many have died of starvation.

The Turks at Sarikamish fought under German orders, but were outmanoeuvred by the Russians. Their losses were appalling, and for days after the dead and wounded lay on the ground for miles.

At Lille the Germans' attempted to flood the Allies' trenches, but failed. The Scheldt and the Lys have overflowed inundating the whole of the districts in southern Belgium.

Copenhagen reports that thousands of Motors are running to Belgium and Germany with copper fittings to be melted down at the gun factories.

21st January 1915

Two German submarines attempted to enter Dover Harbour the land batteries opened fire on the vessels which disappeared in a hail of shells. It is reported that both were sunk.

Many rumours are current of air-ships crossing the English Channel.

The Germans have begun the bombardment of the whole Russian front with 11 inch and other guns and rifles.

Many of the Turks who propose to invade Egypt are said to be starving and ill clothed. The German officers suggested a postponement of the advance but were advised from Berlin to undertake the expedition.

28th January 1915

A German proclamation forbids the population of Belgium to purchase bread after February 2. The people must attend at the Town Hall and receive a **voucher** according to the number in each family.

Refuges report a steady concentration of Turkish troops 150 miles from the Suez Canal. Reuter's Cairo correspondent states that the Australian troops are anxiously awaiting the Turkish attack.

The German armoured cruiser Blucher was sunk in an action with the British in the North Sea on Sunday morning "Two enemy battle cruisers were damaged.



Sir
George
Reid,

interviewed on his return to London from Egypt, said that the presence of the Australians in Egypt was working an effect greater than if they were actually in the fighting line.

Further contingents of Cossacks and supplies of war material are being sent to reinforce the Serbian army.



A Dutch paper reports that as the result of the British air raid at Zeebrugge a motor repair shed and 400 cars were wrecked.

On the Home front.

A period of unprecedented activity will be assured for the Australian boot manufacturing industry if certain negotiations which are understood to be now in progress should result in orders for immense quantities of footwear for the Allies.

4th February 1915

Athens reports that 120,000 Turks are marching on to Egypt and fighting is said to have occurred east of El Kantara 20 miles south of Port Said.

The Turks opened fire with mountain guns, the British patrol replied with Machine guns and rifle fire. The Turks did not show any desire to come to close quarters.

It is semi officially stated at Cairo that during a reconnaissance Severe losses were inflicted upon the Turks near Mezera.

Merchantman have been ordered to enter the Suez Canal with conveys and ships bridges are to be protected with sandbags or steel plates

The light cruiser Arethusa, finished the German armoured cruiser Blucher with a couple of torpedoes. The Seydlitz and the

Derfflinger got home little more than afloat. The latter had every gun gut out of action.



**Light Cruiser
Arethusa**



Seydlitz



Derfflinger

The crew of the Zeppelin which was shot down at Libau by the Russians are to be court-martialed on a charge of murder for attacking an undefended place near Libau.

The New South Wales division of the Australian Red Cross Society has arranged for the erection and maintenance of three huts at the

Red Cross Hospital Netley England. The cost for each hut is £300 and the weekly maintenance per hut is £20

The Turks attacked a post near Suez but were repulsed. They have withdrawn several advance posts owing to fright caused by aeroplane bombs.

The German submarine U15 has blown up two merchantmen of the English coast A third vessel is reported to have been sunk



U
15

11th February 1915

An attempt by the Turks to bridge the Suez Canal has been repulsed. Another force attacked El Kantara, but was easily defeated.

Australian engineers are employed in Suez Canal defence and have been under fire, they comported themselves as you would wish them to do. The War Office has accepted the offer to send a further 10,000 troops in April in addition to the monthly reinforcements. 19,000 Turks with six batteries attacked the Suez Canal and repeated sallies were repulsed by the British who had 10 killed 60 wounded. The enemy's losses were heavy, their transports were already in difficulties, their camels are dying, and prisoners are arriving at Cairo poorly clad and miserable looking.



The German Admiralty warns' Central nations that after February 18 every hostile merchant ship in British seas will be destroyed.

18th February 1915

Russian destroyers bombarded Turkish batteries at Trebizond on the Black Sea, and sank fifty sailing vessels. Commercial activity in Asia Minor is at a standstill.

A fleet of 34 aeroplanes under the direction of the British Admiralty made an attack lasting 24 hours on several important Belgian ports held by the enemy. It is related that the departure of the fleet from the English Coast was a fascinating Spectacle. 'The Channel was crossed in 20 minutes.

The railway station at Ostend was bombed and burned to the ground. Bombs were dropped on German gun positions at Middlekerke, and on mine- sweepers at Zeebrugge.

The steamer Carmen, supposed to contain sugar, but actually heavily laden with copper, for Germany, has been seized at Copenhagen.

25th February 1915

The late Captain W Macarthur Onslow has been mentioned in General French's despatch for distinguished services.

On Friday and Saturday an allied fleet bombarded the Dardanelles and silenced the forts on the European side. The possession of the Dardanelle would decide the mastery of Constantinople, and open a way to the Black Sea ports, where 10,000 000 quarters of wheat are available.

It is officially announced that Germany has called up for service the men between the ages of 50 and 52 years.

An English governess who has returned from Berlin states that the principal food in Berlin is potatoes, stale bread and dripping.

World War 1 Poetry

WAR by Leslie Coulson 1889 -1916

Died of Wounds, the Somme, 8th October

Where war has left its wake of whitened bone,
Soft stems of summer grass shall wave again,
And all the blood that war has ever strewn,
Is but a passing stain.

4th March

In Berlin the State regulation of flour and bread has begun. Everybody, including the Kaiser, receives a card with Coupons entitling the holder to four pounds of bread weekly.

When off Beachy Head the Government collier "Branksome Chino" (2020 tons) was torpedoed and sunk. The crew were saved.

The transports that carried the second contingent from the Commonwealth are being hurried back to Australia.

The bombardment of the Dardanelles was resumed on Thursday. All the forts at the entrance have been reduced to ruins. The operations will continue.

Two more British steamers, the Western Coast and the Deptford, have been sunk by German Submarines off Beachey Head.

The British have repulsed attacks in Belgium and gained important positions.

11th March 1915

An inspired article in the "Ruskeye Slew" suggests that when the Dardanelles problem is settled, the Suez Canal will become British property, and the Baghdad railway will be converted into an international undertaking.

Madame Hayeux, Court-martialed at Paris, and found guilty of espionage, has been sentenced to twenty years' detention.



The Admiralty reports that the battleships, Triumph, Ocean, and Albion on Monday entered the Dardanelles, and attacked

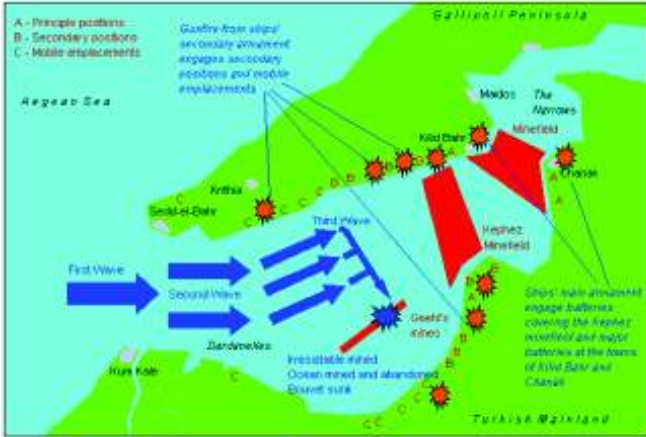
the forts and batteries.

Four French battleships took part in the operations.

In France and Belgium the Allies are steadily gaining.

The Canadians (Princess Patricia's infantry) showed great dash in an attack on the enemy's trenches.

Sergeant Mayes, of H.M.S, Kent has been recommended for the Conspicuous Gallantry Medal. He picked up a burning charge of cordite and throw it overboard, thus preventing a disaster which might have resulted in the loss of the ship.



Gallipoli Map 1: Naval Attack, 18 March 1915

The Admiralty announces that the destroy Ariel rammed and sunk the German submarine U20, the crew were taken prisoners.



U 20



H.M.S. Ariel

18th March 1915

Turkish authorities' have posted notices In Syria stating that they may have to evacuate the Dardanelles for strategically reasons.

Official lists show that half the Hungarian Army has been put out of action. Many regiments have lost 80 cent of their men.

A hundred tons of butchers' knives, destined for Germany, have been seized in Norway on the ground that they could easily be adapted for use as bayonets.

General Oba, representing the Japanese army on the Russian staff thinks that the culminating point in the German operations has been passed. General Oba anticipates peace within six months.

This morning's messages reported the torpedoing of 11 vessels, nine were British-owned, one a French steamer, and the other is believed to be a Swedish vessel.

The auxiliary cruiser Bayano was sunk on Thursday off the west coast.

Auxiliary Cruiser Bayano



French airmen dropped bombs on Strasbourg, which ignited the coal depot and destroyed 24,000 tons of coal.

British cruisers Glasgow and Kent and the auxiliary cruiser Orama caught the German cruiser Dresden on Sunday morning near Juan

Fernandez, and after five minutes fighting the Germans surrendered when the Dresden was on fire and much damaged after the heavy bombard.



**Cruiser
Dresden**

A general blockade of Germany has been proclaimed by Great Britain. All vessels bound for or Leaving German ports are to be seized and must discharge at a British port.

25th March 1915

The delivery of 8000 motor wagons ordered from America by Germany for the purpose of transporting troops from one front to another has been prevented by the Allies fleet.

The Admiralty announces that the British battleships Irresistible and Ocean and the French battleship Bouvet were mined and sunk during operations in the Dardanelles.

Battleships Bouvet and Suffern



All
the

vessels sank in deep water. Most of the English sailors were rescued but only 64 survivors from the Bouvet.

The Inflexible was struck by a shell and left the Straits convoyed by two cruisers. A shell also exploded on the deck killing 40 and wounding many.

The Admiralty announces that since the beginning of the war 54 British merchant vessels have been sunk or captured. Of these 12 were mined, and 30 sunk by torpedoes.

President Wilson, United States of America, announces that immediate and vigorous protest will be made against British decision to place an embargo on German.

A report has been received at Copenhagen that an explosion sank the German cruiser Karlsruhe at the end of last year, off the American coast.

Wounded Germans from the Dresden assert that the commander ordered the magazine to be exploded.

On the Home Front

The paper reported over two pages the winners of all categories at the Camden Show.

Attention is drawn through an advertisement in this Issue that on Easter Monday at Upper Burragorang the valley race club are holding a meeting.

World War 1 Poetry

In Memoriam (Easter 1915)

The flowers left thick at nightfall in the wood
This Eastertide call into mind the men,
Now far from Home who, with their sweethearts should

Have gathered them and will never do again.

Edward Thomas

1878 -1917

Killed, Arras 9th April

The General

“Good-morning, good-morning,” the General said
When we met him last week on our way to the line.
Now the soldiers he smiled at are most of ‘em dead,
And we’re cursing his staff for incompetent swine.
“He’s a cherry old card” grunted Harry to Jack
As they slogged up to Arras with rifle and pack.

But he did them all by his plan of attack.

Siegfried Sassoon

1886 -1967

Centenary of Anzac – Camden Style

The 25th April 2015 marks the Centenary of the landing by Australian and New Zealand Forces at Gallipoli.

To celebrate the event the Camden RSL organised the following events, the first event was held on the 14th and 15th of March with a display of Memorabilia at the Camden Civic Centre. The event was well attended with a verity of items on display ranging from machine guns to the dreaded pedal operated dentist drill. Items from the RSL collection were also on display along with a power point display.

Another addition was the Leppington Primary Schools Art Award display based on the poem The Anzac on the Wall by Jim Brown. The school was recently awarded the State Runner Up in the Primary Schools Art Award.

Friday the 20th of March saw the RSL involved in the Camden Show with a Military Tattoo, the two hour show involved a musical ride by the NSW Mounted Police.

A re-enactment of the Landing at Gallipoli was staged by the 18th Battalion re-enactment troop, massed bands with the salute taken by the Governor.

A special portion of the show was set aside to acknowledge the men and women from the Camden area who served in the armed forces. A special presentation to honour the Show President of 1915 Astley John Onslow Thompson was shown on the large screen.

During the show a display of memorabilia and a video presentation were run in the drill hall. A static display in the show grounds of various types of army equipment.

Camden Museum held a display based on the home front from the 11th April to the 26th May.

Sunday the 19th April saw A Musical Salute to the War Year at the Civic Centre performed by the Macarthur Singers. The Songs ranged from the First World War to the Vietnam War. The Ingleburn Pipes and Drums provided entertainment during the interval.

The RSL had a request for the performance to be repeated at a later date

Camden Anzacs, Our Story was screened at the Narellan Cinema with a number of the men interviewed in attendance.

A special service was held for the residence at Carrington on the 24th April.

Anzac Day the 25th saw the largest attendance at the Dawn Service with an estimated 12000 people in attendance. The large video screen helped to provide the audience with a view of the activities on the main stage.

We heard from the NSW Police that the traffic coming into Camden for the Service was 5 K in length and parking was at a minimum.

The street parade started with a rider less horse led by a Light Horseman followed by a man with his donkey.

The response from Ex Servicemen was great and the schools were well represented with all local Schools attending with some schools bring almost all on their pupils.

Again the Bi Centennial Park was packed by the public with the service commencing before the last of the parade arrived.

On the 5th May the society had a talk by Kim Phillips on the Spirit of Gallipoli and the release of her book on the photographic work she and others carried out on the Gallipoli Peninsula.

From the 8th to the 15th May the RSL sponsored an ANZAC section of the Camden Art Prize with over 40 paintings on display.

On Wednesday the 13th May Nick Sherwood from the Camden Show Society gave a talk on Colonel Astley John Onslow Thompson the show President who came out of retirement to enlist and who lost his life while leading his men at Gallipoli on the 26th April 1915.

And so ended the events held to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Landing at Gallipoli.

Ray Herbert

Historical Officer

Camden RSL Sub Branch

The Facts behind the Australian Effort during WW1.

1. The AIF was the only allied army in the conflict made up entirely of volunteers.
2. In Australia the total number of troops raised for the war effort was 416,809.
3. More than 330,000 Australians served in the Australian Imperial Forces in the theatre of war. In 1916 alone, there were 220,000 Australian men overseas.
4. Over the course of the conflict the AIF suffered a 68.5 percent casualty rate, compared with Britain's 52.5 percent. The total number of casualties was 226,073.

5. Almost 60,000 Australians were killed, died or listed as missing in the three theatres of operation – Gallipoli, the Western Front and the deserts of Sinai and Palestine.
6. Three million men were killed on the Western Front between 1916 and 1918 – 46,000 of them Australians.
7. More than 10,000 Australians were killed in France with their remains never having been found or identified.
8. The average age of the soldiers in the AIF at the beginning of the conflict was 28.
9. Almost 40,000 horses were sent from Australia to outfit the AIF during the war.
10. The eight month campaign on Gallipoli cost 8,000 Australian lives and about 90,000 Turks – the true figure will never be known.
11. The “light horse” were not cavalry; they were mounted infantry trained to ride into battle but fight on foot.
12. Almost 14,000 Australians served in the Imperial Camel Corps Brigade, formed in 1916, which relied on camels to transport water, stores and wounded.
13. The ANZAC button was the nail that was used in place of a trouser button.
14. ANZAC wafers, made from imperishable ingredients, were hard biscuits served to the AIF in place of bread.
15. In their two-and-a-half year campaign in the desert, only 73 Light Horsemen were captured by the Turks. During that period they captured 40,000 Turks.
16. The only women enlisted in the Australian forces were nurses.

17. Of the 1st Division, only about one-third of Australians had served previously in the Australian militia – the rest had no training.

Extract from The Daily Telegraph November 11th, 1993.

Interesting People buried in Cobbitty churchyard

Joan Downes selected this list of people in Cobbitty churchyard. The information was put onto placards and placed on the appropriate graves. This was usually done once a month during market day at Cobbitty, when the church and churchyard was open to the public. The following is a list of persons, buried in St Paul's, Cobbitty churchyard taken from these placards. Some of the placards indicated the location of the grave, and the information also indicates the person's involvement in the life of the church.

1. 1968. **Harold Lowe**- died aged 80 years. Involved in church affairs 1913-1962. Churchwarden at St Marks, Elderslie. Also member of Parish Council Property Agent in the parish for many years. [Block H]
2. 1949. **George William Wales**. Died aged 91 years. Involved with the church from 1906, serving as sidesman, 1906-1948. Member of the parish council for most of these years. [Block H]
3. 1841. **James Pearson**. Appointed the first organist at St James church, King Street, Sydney in October 1824. Later clerk of petty sessions at Cawdor. [Block H-11]
4. 1918. **Hugh Campbell**. Master blacksmith, constructed the wrought iron gates and iron railings for the church. Churchwarden 1902-18 [Block G-4]
5. 1963. **Charles Stewart McIntosh** of Denbigh, Cobbitty. Minister's churchwarden for 32 years. [Block G]
6. 1907. **Thomas Cummings**. Died aged 72 years. Churchwarden 1886-1902. Postmaster in Cobbitty. Opened first boarding house. Later built 'Pomare'. [Block G-10]

7. 1876. **Robert Vicary**. Died aged 54 years, churchwarden 1870-1875, during a period of vigorous growth in the parish. High tribute was paid him for his energy and his earnest character. [Block E]
8. 1853. **Thomas Hollings**. Died aged 53 years. A lay reader in the parish after coming from India. 'A sojourner in a strange land'. [Block E-64]
9. 1984. **Vida Mabel Willis nee Buttershaw**. Born 1-1-1894. Mother of Sir Eric Willis, M.P. Attorney General and former Premier of New South Wales. [Block F]
10. 1972. **Reverend William Robert Brown**, Th.L. Rector of St Pauls, Cobbitty, 1945-1951. Sixth incumbent. [Block D-22]
11. 1976. **Norman Hore**. Church organist for 28 years, churchwarden for 23 years, 1940-61 and 1963-65.
12. 1973. His wife, **Amelia May Hore**. Treasurer of Women's Guild for 21 years and Sunday School teacher for many years. [11,12 BOTH in 'Older Columbarium']
13. 1966. The **Rt. Rev. Edward Nowill Wilton**, B.A. Bishop, Priest in Charge, 1951-62. Headmaster of St Andrew's Cathedral School, 1907-1916. Consecrated Assistant Bishop of Melanesia, 1928, but resigned the following year due to ill health. [Older Columbarium]
14. 1940. **Thomas Henderson Buchan**. Rectory handyman from 1922 to 1937, uncle of author John Buchan (later, Lord Tweedsmuir, Gov. General of Canada). 'A kindly Scot lies here'. [Block E-43]
15. 1940. **Thomas Charles Barker** of Maryland, Bringelly. Died suddenly, aged 76 years. Churchwarden for 45 years. [Block C]
16. 1961. **Wilfred Thomas Chittick**. Church Auditor 1952-1961. Parish Council and Church Committee Secretary for 14 years, member of the choir, and , with others, responsible for pumping of the organ before electricity was installed. [Block C]
17. 1947. The **Reverend Allen Pain**, B.A. Rector 1919-1940. His widow, Ethel May (nee Russell). The Rev. Pain was born at the rectory and was the eldest son of the former incumbent, the

- Reverend Arthur Wellesley Pain, B.A. who was later Bishop of Gippsland. [Block C-38]
18. 1868. **The Reverend Thomas Hassall**, M.A. Rector 1827-1868. His widow, **Anne (nee Marsden)** died 1885 in her 92nd year. Also, **Eliza Marsden Hassall**, their 4th daughter. Born at Denbigh 1834, died 1917. [Block C-28]
 19. 1919. The **Reverend George Herbert Allnutt** (Hon. Canon) Rector 1883-1919. The headstone was erected by his parishioners and friends in affectionate remembrance of his faithful pastorate of 36 years. [Block C-39]
 20. The Roach Family.
1891 – **John Roach**. Died aged 80 years, a native of Calcutta. Verger for 40 years, 1850-1890.
1936 – **Henry Roach**. Verger for 46 years, 1890-1936.
1956 – **John H. Roach**. Verger for 20 years, 1936-1956.
1996 – **C. Dorothy Roach (nee Wales)**. Verger for 10 years, 1956-1966. The last verger.
 21. 1931. **Thomas Chittick**. Churchwarden 1918-1931. Church auditor 1898-1918. Schoolmaster, Cobbitty 1896-1920. On ‘Centenary of the Parish’ committee 1927. [Block C]
 22. 1953. **Edgar H.K. Downes** of Brownlow Hill. Churchwarden for 35 years, 1918-1953. Ministers Warden, 1918-1931.
 23. 1846. **George Morgan**. Church Sexton 1832-1846. Arrived on the ship ‘Canada’ in December 1801. Came to Cobbitty as a tenant to the Reverend Thomas Hassall at Denbigh in 1828. George was the brickmaster at Denbigh. [Block X]
 24. 1954. **Rupert Frederick Arding Downes**, of Aston, Brownlow Hill. Church auditor 1920-1951. Served the parish in a number of areas. [Block X]
 25. 1844. **John Baker**. Died 4th March, 1844. Aged 36 years. A groom at Denbigh. [Block X-9]
 26. 1844. **William Cooper**. Died 23rd October 1844. Aged 63 years. A cook at Denbigh. [Block X-7]
 27. 1841. **Edward Wise**. Died aged 21 years. Struck by lightning when completing the steeple on the church. The text ‘Resurgam’. [Block X-6]

28. 1844. **John Clark ('Ekoe')**. Died aged 22 years. A New Zealander, his father 'Mahahanahana' and mother, 'Waha' were known to the Rev. Samuel Marsden at Waimate, New Zealand. John was baptised by the Rev. Thomas Hassall and was coachman at Denbigh. The text, in maori is Mark 16:16. [Block A]
29. Oxley Family Vault
 1838. **Emily Hassall**, died 23rd January, 1838, aged 14 months, daughter of the Reverend Thomas and Ann Hassall.
 1891. **John Norton Oxley** of Kirkham. Born 1824. Church Warden 1850-1871, elder son of **Lieut. Oxley, R.N.** (Explorer and first surveyor-general of the colony). Married **Harriet Jane Hassall** (born Denbigh 1830, died 1910), third daughter of the Rev. Thomas and Ann Hassall.
 1897. **Annie Emma Oxley**. Elder daughter of John Norton Oxley and Harriet Jane, married **Phillip George Brunton**. The vault was originally built for the Hassall family but 'Thomas Hassall did not wish for a brick grave'. [Block A-10]
30. 1858. **Simeon King**. Died aged 41 years. He was master of the school in the "Heber Village (Chapel?)", and was much respected. [Block A-7]
31. Hassall Family Vault. Two children of James Hassall of Matavai.
 1841-**John Hassall**, died 3 years.
 1842 – **James Hassall**, died aged 2 years [Block A]
32. Cowper Family Vault (Of Wivenhoe)
 1866. **John Campbell** (of London) died aged 28, befriended by the Honourable **Charles Cowper** (later, Sir Charles). Sir Charles was churchwarden 1842-1872. He died in 1875 and was buried at Highgate, London
 1884. His wife, **Eliza**.
 1875. Their daughter, **Charlotte Eliza**, died aged 37 years. Married **Hugh Robison**.
33. Wild Family Vault. 1834. John **Wild** of Vanderville, The Oaks, died aged 53 years. His widow, Mary, died the same year. [Block W]

34. A Hebrew child. Not recorded in the Register. Text in Hebrew. Infant son of William and Mary Reeves of the district of Evan. ‘Nigri Dies MDCCCXXX11. [Block W]
35. 1834. **William Weatherman**. Died aged about 50 years. An accountant for the Australia Agricultural Company, while at ‘the Retreat’(later known as Kelvin), Bringelly.
36. 1833. **Thomas James Denkin**. Died aged 33 years. Arrived 1831 on the ‘Portland’. He was a Board School Teacher at ‘Jarvisfield’, Major Antill’s estate. ‘An unfortunate exile from his native country’ .[Block X]
37. 1830. The oldest headstone in the cemetery.**Samuel Otoo Hassall** of Macquarie Grove, brother of Thomas Hassall, died aged 32 years. Born on the missionary ship ‘Duff’, before arrival at Tahiti. Named after King Pomare who befriended the missionaries. [Block X-71].

This list has not been checked for correct death dates, so there may be some errors. However, if a book on the Cobbitty churchyard was written, it would undoubtedly prove a good basis to begin research on the names in the graves.

Cathey Shepherd (054) CAFHS

A Fathers Letter from Constantinople to his Daughter Adelaide

This letter, dated 12th May 1919, was written by my Maternal Grandfather, Lance Corporal David Mitchell, on the occasion of his young daughter Adelaide’s second birthday on the 27th May 1919.

Adelaide Foreman Lendrum (nee Mitchell) was my mother (1917-1999)

From the address on the envelope, it would appear that Adelaide and her mother Isabella Duncan Mitchell (nee Arthur), were living with mu maternal Great Grandmother Sarah Anne Arthur (nee

McGregor) in Dundee Scotland, while my Grandfather was serving/posted overseas in Constantinople, Turkey.

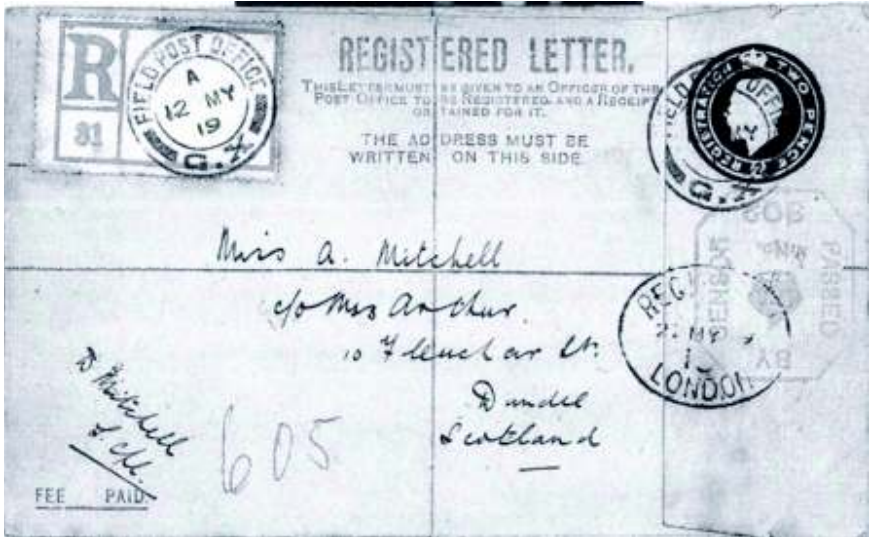
The accompanying photo's show Adelaide as an infant, her father Lance Corporal David Mitchell, also my mother Adelaide at around six years of age with her younger sister Sadie aged around twelve months.

Constantinople
12th May 1919.

My Dear Darling Baby,

I wish you many happy returns of your birthday and am only sorry that I am not at home to spend the present one with you. Mother gives me an excellent account of your behaviour and progress and I am hoping that we will be good pals when we do meet.

Your loving father,
David.



Her Father -
DAVID MITCHELL



Pat Patterson Member

REASONS FOR CLAIMING WILLIAM CHARLES LOWE (Part 2)

**WHO DIED 31 JANUARY 1939
AT BATHURST, NSW
WAS BORN WILLIAM CHARLES LAW
ON 9 JULY 1857 AT CAMDEN, NSW**

This story follows on from the last (November 2014) Camden Calling

THE BIRTH OF WILLIAM CHARLES LAW ON 9 JULY 1857 CAMDEN NSW

The story which has been passed down within the Lowe family that the original family name was not Lowe, but possibly 'Law' has resulted in the following information being uncovered.

On 9 July 1857, William Charles Law was born to parents John and Massy Law in Camden, NSW (refer to **Attachment 'G'**).

John and Massy Law arrived in Sydney on 1 August 1855 with a family of four children on board the ship 'Lloyds'. The children's names were recorded on the ship's manifest as James (12 years), Anne (10 years), Hephzibah (7years) and Rosetta (2 years). On a corresponding immigrants list for the same ship 'Hephzibah' is incorrectly recorded as 'Elizabeth'. This could have happened due to the writing style in which the name "Hephzibah" was written on the ship's passenger manifest, because on a quick glance the name could be mistaken for 'Elizabeth'.

All the family, except for the mother 'Massy', is shown as being unable to 'read and write'. John Law was recorded as being a farm labourer.

After arrival the family moved to Camden, NSW. Camden in this period was a farming area and more than likely provided work opportunities for John.

EVENTS FOLLOWING THE BIRTH OF WILLIAM CHARLES LAW

Following the recorded birth of William Charles Law in July 1857, it has not been possible to find any other official records through NSW Births, Deaths and Marriages (BD&M) relating to this family. Deaths of an Anne and William Charles Law occurring in Newcastle in 1861 and 1862 respectively were the only records found that may have had some connection to this family.

The first death relates to Ann Law, aged 12 years, who died at Glebe near Newcastle on 29 July 1861. The second was for William Charles Law, aged 7 years, who was residing at Stockton near Newcastle at the time of his death on 20 May 1862. Both these deaths were recorded in an 'old burial' register' and share the same volume and entry number in the register. Unfortunately, the details failed to identify either child's parents, or provide any other information that would assist in identifying their origins. The manner in which both deaths were recorded would seem to suggest they were sister and brother.

Anne Law (later identified as Anne Archer), who arrived in Australia in 1855 with John and Massy, would have been 15 years in 1861, and William Charles Law, born 1857 at Camden, would have been 4 years, 10 months in May 1862, so the above deaths appeared to be unrelated.

Continuing attempts to try and determine what happened to the Law family at Camden finally resulted in locating a death for a Mercy **Low** who died at Narellan on 6 April 1861. Mercy Low proved to be none other than Massy Law. John Law was shown on the death certificate as John '**Low**' and as the informant providing the particulars relating to Mercy.

The children were listed on the certificate as James 17 years, Ann Jane 14 years by first husband; Rosetta 8 years, William Charles 4 years by last husband John. The child Hephzibah was not shown on

the death certificate (refer to **Attachment ‘H’**). All these details corresponded with the Law family (save for Hephzibah) who arrived on the ship ‘Lloyds’ in 1855 and with the birth details of William Charles in 1857 at Camden.

Mercy’s death certificate recorded that she had been married twice and John was not the father of James and Ann.

From this record emerged the first official evidence of a change of name from ‘**Law**’ to ‘**Low**’. However, on its own, the name change may have been no more than an error in recording the name on the death certificate. That is, the name ‘**Law**’ had incorrectly been recorded as ‘**Low**’. It then became necessary to determine whether John following the death of his wife kept using the name **Law**, or had changed and assumed the name ‘**Low**’.

Working from Mercy’s death details, inquiries revealed that John Law and Mercy Archer were married in Newport, Essex, England on 18 May 1851. Mercy’s father, Alexander Archer, was a witness to the marriage. At this time both John and Mercy, and other members of their respective families, were residing in the Union Workhouse (poor house) in Essex, England. At the time of her marriage Mercy had three children, James, Ann and Hephzibah. All three were born out of wedlock and had been registered and baptised in Mercy’s maiden name of ‘Archer’. In 1853, Rosetta Law was born and she is the full sister to William Charles Law later born at Camden, Australia.

Further research identified that James, Ann and Hephzibah all married in NSW under their correct name of ‘Archer’ and not Law, the name used when they entered Australia. It was also found that Rosetta Law married in NSW using the maiden name of Law.

The chronological order of these marriages and brief details are as follows:

- **Anne Jane Archer (age 18)** married John Albert Martin at the Wesleyan Parsonage, Prince Street, Sydney on **23 May 1864** (3

years after the death of her mother). On her marriage certificate Anne's parents were recorded as Henry Archer and Mercy Wright. It is believed that Anne at the time of marriage was illiterate and these names may have been given to satisfy the requirements of the day. Anne died in Redfern, NSW, on 14 February 1897. On her death certificate, her father's name was recorded as 'James Archer' with her mother's given name of 'Mercy' only recorded. From her marriage Anne had a family of 11 Children with four boys and one girl living at the time of her death.

- **James Archer (age 22)** married Hannah Painter at Goulburn on **19 April 1865**. It is believed that James was illiterate. The marriage certificate does not record any details about James parents. According to NSW BD&M, James and Hannah had a family of seven children. It is possible from the birth of these children to gain some idea of the movements of this family. It would appear that James and Hannah lived in the Goulburn area at least until 1871 as their child George was born in Goulburn in that year. In 1873, James and Hannah were in the Forbes/Parkes area for the birth of their child Charlotte, with the next three births occurring at Murga (situated between Eugowra and Cudal) in the years 1877, 1878 and 1880, with their youngest child Hephzibah being born at Eulimore (near Eugowra) in 1882. James died in Forbes hospital on 21 March 1883 at the age of 39 years. It is interesting to note that James named three of his children after his own brother and sisters; namely, William, Rosetta Ann, and Hephzibah.

- **Hephzibah Archer (age 19)** married John Edward at St Mary's Church of England, Waverley, NSW, on **23 July 1867**. No details relating to her parents were recorded with only Newport, Essex, being shown as her place of birth. It is believed Hephzibah was illiterate at the time of marriage. From this union Hephzibah had three daughters.

- **Rosetta Law (age 22)** married Thomas Halliday at the Presbyterian Church, Elizabeth Street, Sydney on 20 November 1875. Rosetta at the time of marriage was illiterate and signed her

marriage certificate with an 'X'. Anne Jane Martin, nee Archer, was a witness to this marriage. Rosetta had thirteen children. At some stage this family moved to live in Lithgow, NSW. Rosetta died, aged 60 years, on 2 March 1913 at the Lithgow District Hospital and was buried in the Church of England Cemetery, Bowenfels near Lithgow.

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE FAMILY UNIT FOLLOWING MERCY'S DEATH?

It is not known what happened to the family following the death of Mercy in 1861. Although it would have been a big challenge for John with Rosetta 8 years and William Charles about to turn 4 years. It would appear that all the girls remained within or returned to the Sydney region and subsequently married. While it now becomes clear that John and James later moved further south to the Goulburn area. What actually happened surrounding the upbringing of William Charles remains a mystery?

While it was possible to trace the marriages and deaths of each of the above children, it was not so easy finding any death details relating to John.

DEATH OF JOHN LOW FORMERLY 'LAW'

From records now available it can be shown that John had assumed and continued to use the name **Low**. The actual timing of the name change is unknown, but presumably this occurred sometime prior to Mercy's death in 1861.

At 5.45 pm on 24 August 1872, **John Low** died of heart disease in the Goulburn Gaol, NSW (refer to **Attachment 'I'**).

It would seem that John fell on very hard times around this time as on 3 August 1872 at the Goulburn Court House he was sentenced to 14 days imprisonment for vagrancy. He was due for release on 17 August, but having been admitted to hospital was obviously too ill for discharge and died 7 days later on August 24. In that era the

offence of vagrancy was no more than a poverty crime of not having any visible means of support.

Sadly, it would seem John died a lonely and broken man.

NSW Gaol records disclose that John had arrived in Australia on the ship 'Lloyds' in 1859 (not 1855 which was the correct date). These documents also recorded that he had been born in Essex, England was a labourer who could not read or write. His age was recorded as 38 years at the time of his death which was not correct as in 1872 he would have been approaching 45 years of age. This information would have been taken verbally from John at the time of being charged or on entering gaol when he was very sick and possibly in a state of mental confusion (refer to **Attachments 'J', 'K' & 'L' as well as newspaper extracts below**).

Inquiries have confirmed that no person by the name of John Low arrived in Australia on the ship 'Lloyds' in 1859. In fact the vessel 'Lloyds' did not enter Australian waters in that year. Further inquiries also revealed that no person named John Low was either born in, or entered New South Wales, who would have been 38 years old in 1872.

The following two extracts from the Goulburn Newspapers on 27 & 28 August 1872, relating to John Low's death, provide further evidence that John Low was formerly John Law. Both clearly state that John was a widower with a son and daughter living in Sydney. These details matched John's marital status perfectly. Both articles also stated that John had complained about pain in his head with the article dated 28 August 1872 stating that he was 'very ill' on 4 August. It is highly possible that he was not even cognisant when he was charged, let alone able to remember with accuracy his age and what year he arrived in Australia.

Although the Coroner's finding was death caused by heart disease, it could be expected that any medical examination of John following his death would have been minimal under these

circumstances and it is possible that he may have also been suffering from other long term health issues.

Goulburn Evening Penny Post
Tuesday, August 27, 1872
Inquest in the Gaol.

“An inquest was held in the gaol on Monday morning by the coroner, A. M. Betts, Esq., on the body of John Low, a pauper who was received into the gaol on the 4th inst., suffering from a pain in his head. The medical evidence of Dr. Morton, after making a post mortem examination, showed that deceased died from disease of the heart. The jury brought in a verdict accordingly. Deceased was a labourer, 38 years of age, and arrived in the colony per the ship “Lloyd” in 1859. He was a widower, and has a son and daughter in the suburbs of Sydney”.

Goulburn Herald
Wednesday, August 28, 1872
Inquest in the Jail.

“On Monday the coroner, Mr. Betts, held an inquest in the jail on the body of John Low, a labourer, native of Essex, aged thirty-eight. Deceased was admitted to the prison on the 4th instant under a sentence for vagrancy. He was then suffering from disease of the heart and was very ill. He continued to get worse, and died on Saturday. He was a widower, having a son and daughter residing in the suburbs of Sydney. The jury returned a verdict that the deceased died from disease of the heart.

**DOCUMENTARY PROOF OF CHANGE OF NAME FROM
LAW TO LOW**

It can now be shown that the name **Law** was changed to **Low**. The documentary proof of this is found in the death certificates of John and Mercy which span a time period of 1861 to 1872.

On 7 April 1861, the day after Mercy died, Australia's very first national census was held with each of the colonies of NSW, Victoria, Tasmania and South Australia participating. This event is mentioned due to the story related by Ronald Charles Lowe, who claimed he had been told by his Grandfather that the change of name occurred about the time of the first national census in Australia¹.

The fact that a census of this nature was held at the time of Mercy's death makes the overall essence of the story very significant.

It must be accepted that a story relating back to events in the 1860s, handed down by word of mouth, is going to lose some of its original focus and accuracy. The original reference to this census may not only relate to the change of name, but also be a way of remembering Mercy's death.

All the children, save for William Charles, were married under their original birth names. It is possible that John and Mercy brought with them to Australia identity documents showing when and where the children had been born and the names they were registered or baptised under. Whether this was the situation or not, it is obvious the children knew their correct names even though they all entered Australia under the name of **Law**.

Research has failed to find any official records relating to a marriage or death of William Charles Law, born 9 July 1857, in Camden, NSW.

The question then arises as to what happened to William Charles Law immediately following the death of his mother in 1861. Unfortunately, there are no official or unofficial records, or family stories, that may assist in answering this question.

¹ In researching the Lowe family history and Ronald Charles Lowe's distinguished war service, his memory of events, times and places has proven to be extremely accurate.

It may have been the natural instinct of John to initially try and keep the family unit together, but this would have depended on how close he was to his three step-children and what income, support and resources the family may have had at that time.

With Anne's marriage in Sydney, 3 years after her mother's death, it suggests that the family may have splintered sometime prior to or about 1864. Anne married at age 18 years and was a witness to the marriage of Rosetta some eleven years later, so it is possible that she may have taken on the care of her two sisters, and perhaps even William Charles.

Another possible scenario is that John, James, and possibly William Charles, moved further south of Camden to Goulburn. It has not been possible to find any evidence that John placed William Charles into foster care, i.e. with another family or with the State under either surname. If this had been the case it would be reasonable to assume that William Charles may have received some form of education. It should be noted that William Charles Lowe grew up illiterate, which suggests that he never had the opportunity of receiving an education. But, if John had surrendered William Charles into foster care of some kind, it more than likely would have been under the name of Low and not Law.

Even if John, or any of the girls, continued to raise William Charles following Mercy's death, it would have been natural for William Charles to use the same name as his father, being **Low** and not **Law**. It must be remembered that William Charles was only 3 years, 9 months old when his mother died. If John continued to care for him and with the other children knowing the family name had changed to Low, William Charles would not have known any other name than **Low**. William Charles was 15 years and 1 month old when his father John died.

Unfortunately, there are many gaps in the available information relating to this family, especially in not knowing what happened to the family unit following the death of Mercy in 1861. With the

passing of time we may never know. However, with further research other snippets of information may emerge and this document will remain alive and open in hope that other material may surface sometime in the future.

OVERALL CONCLUSION

There is clear and direct evidence available in the death certificates of both John and Mercy that undeniably show that the family name Law changed to Low.

During the early 1800s in Australia until 1875, the way to affect a change of name was by either a notice in a newspaper or by consistent usage of the new name.

It is highly unlikely that John and Mercy took steps to insert a notice in a newspaper of their change of name, and consequently there would not have been any attempt to amend the record of birth for William Charles Law to reflect it. The chances now of finding any documentary proof that William Charles Lowe was actually born William Charles Law, i.e. something recorded on a piece of paper that puts the question beyond doubt, is highly improbable.

However, to say with some certainty that William Charles Lowe who died in Bathurst in 1939 was actually born William Charles Law in Camden in 1857, reliance has to be placed on available circumstantial material and the research undertaken that negate other possibilities.

In analysing all the information outlined in this paper, the following key issues have been taken into consideration:

- No official record is held by NSW BD&M to show any birth for William Charles Lowe for the ten year period 1851 to 1861;
- The conflicting dates of birth provided by William Charles Lowe to the NSW Railway, plus the furnishing of a statutory declaration, suggests he did not have possession of any official birth records for himself and was not sure of his date of birth;

- William Charles Lowe continually claimed that his place of birth was Camden, NSW, by having this consistently recorded on the birth certificates for six of his eight children for the period 1879 to 1900;
- Official records show that on 9 July 1857, William Charles Law was born in Camden to parents John and Massy (Mercy) Law;
- On 6 April 1861, William Charles Law's mother, Mercy died at Narellan, NSW, and was buried under the name **Low**;
- William Charles Lowe told his Grandson Ron that his original surname was **Law** but had been changed to Lowe believing it was synonymous with the first national census being held in Australia;
- On the day following Mercy's Low's death, i.e. 7 May 1861, the first national census in Australia was held;
- Kevin Lowe (Bathurst) can recall his father, Charles, mentioning that the family name was not originally Lowe;
- The fact that John in 1872 was charged under the name John **Low** and was buried under this name confirms that Mercy's details were correctly recorded at the time of her death, i.e. there was not a mistake in recording '**Low**' instead of '**Law**' and that the name Low continued to be used following Mercy's death;
- The fact that William Charles was not quite 4 years old when his mother died and would have adopted the surname being used by his father;
- The fact that there is no record of any marriage of a William Charles Law in NSW;
- The fact that there is no official record of a death for a William Charles Law, born 1857 at Camden held by NSW, BD&M;
- It could be reasonably expected that the spelling of the name **Low** could eventually be extended over time to have an 'e' added to

read 'Lowe', especially when other people would have been writing the name on William Charles' behalf with him not knowing exactly what had been written or how it should be recorded. If he was on the gold diggings at Lambing Flat the 'e' could have been added to distinguish him from the Chinese gold miners.

In considering all of the above information and in the absence of any contrary evidence, there is sufficient circumstantial material to say that the odds favour the proposition that William Charles Lowe who died in Bathurst, NSW, on 31 January 1939 was in fact William Charles Law born on 9 July 1857 in Camden, NSW.

After considering and weighing up all the available information at this time, I believe the above to be a reasonable assumption.

I am more than happy to discuss this research, provide additional information, if possible, or clarify anything contained in this document should any person wish to contact me. I am also open to receiving addition information from any person who may have it and thinks it bears upon, corroborates or contradicts these findings.

My contact details are: telephone (07) 55749763 (M) 0419 470 186
or
Email: robandlar@bigpond.com

POSTSCRIPT TO THESE REASONS

There are many gaps in this research surrounding the life and times of John and Mercy Low and their children. Whether further research will reveal more and fill in some of these gaps, only time will tell, but it would seem that much has been irretrievably lost through the passing of the years.

The story of John and Mercy in many respects is a very sad one with them both dying young in their newly adopted country. Both John and Mercy from their very early childhood did not have an easy life and obviously had to struggle to survive in a very difficult and poverty-stricken environment in England. Their decision to

leave their families and journey to Australia, on the other side of the world, was undoubtedly to try and make a new start and a better life for themselves and their children. Their decision was brave and courageous, and obviously inspired by a desire to achieve and provide for their family.

John and the children would have been devastated by the death of Mercy, in the prime of her life, aged 35 years, only five years nine months after arriving in Australia. For John, in not being able to read and write, having no other immediate family support around him, and having to care for such a young family, would have faced the most daunting, frightening and worrisome time of his life. There seems little doubt that Mercy had been the guiding light for him, in that she could read and write and could provide literate ability and guidance.

While it is not known what happened to the family unit immediately after the death of Mercy, it is now known that John never remarried. The fact that he was charged with vagrancy just prior to his death reveals that he had fallen on very hard times, and was possibly still grieving the loss of his wife. Due to the newspaper articles in Goulburn following his death, it is obvious he was seriously ill and that someone knew John had a son and daughter living in Sydney. This suggests the children may have left him to pursue their own lives, although there is a strong possibility that James Archer, may still have been living in the Goulburn area at the time of John's death.

It is equally possible, that all the children remained ignorant of what eventually happened to John. Whatever the situation may have been, it would seem John died a broken and lonely man.

For all these years, John and Mercy's graves have been unmarked and the full import of their story concealed from their descendants of today. This largely came about because of the extent of illiteracy in this era, the difficulty of travelling long distances, the culture of the time, and the inability to communicate and stay connected -

unlike what we enjoy today. The fact that the name changed from Law to Low, and that all the children, save for William Charles, retained their birth names, has also played a key part in hiding John and Mercy's particulars in official records. This in turn made it extremely difficult for details to be discovered and pieced together

John and Mercy's journey to Australia in 1855 with little or no money and possessions produced fruits well beyond their imaginations. Little would they have envisaged or realised back in 1855 when they first put foot upon Australian soil, that there would be so many of their descendants spread throughout Australia and New Zealand today.

Those who are direct descendants of John and Mercy should take pride in this story, in the realisation of knowing how they suffered in their short life time, and how they were prepared to take risks in seeking a better life for themselves and their children.

It was their decision, courage, actions and suffering that permitted the initial seeds to be planted in Australia which allowed the families of James Archer, Anne Jane Martin, nee Archer, Hephzibah Edwards, nee Archer, Rosetta Halliday, nee Law and William Charles Lowe to achieve, expand and flourish to the extent that they have today.

It is a story worth telling and one worth treasuring.

ATTACHMENT 'G'

NSW BIRTH REGISTRATION TRANSCRIPTION

REF NO: 1857/5773

NAME	William Charles Law
DATE OF BIRTH	9 th July 1857
PLACE	Elderslie near Camden
SEX OF CHILD	Male
FATHER	John Law
OCCUPATION	Labourer
AGE	31 years
BIRTHPLACE	Langley, Essex, England
DATE OF MARRIAGE	May 1843
PLACE OF MARRIAGE	Newport, Essex, England
PREVIOUS ISSUE	James 13 years, Annie Jane 11 years, Hephzibah 8 years, Rosetta 4 years, all living
MOTHER	Massy Law formerly Archer
AGE	32 years
BIRTHPLACE	Newport, Essex, England
INFORMANT	Massy Law, mother, Elderslie
PRESENT AT BIRTH	Dr Richards (accoucheur) and Mrs Welling (nurse)
NOTES	Registered JB Martin, 4 th August 1857, Camden

NB: THIS TRANSCRIPTION IS NOT A CERTIFIED COPY FROM THE REGISTERS.

**IT CANNOT BE USED IN ANY LEGAL PROCEEDINGS
WHATSOEVER.**

ATTACHMENT 'H'

NSW DEATH REGISTRATION TRANSCRIPTION

REF NO: 1861/2577

NAME	Mercy Low
DATE OF DEATH	6 th April 1861
PLACE	Narellan
RANK OR PROFESSION	Labourer's wife
SEX & AGE	Female, 34 years
CAUSE OF DEATH	Aoplexy, asthenia
LENGTH OF ILLNESS	No entry
MEDICAL ATTENDANT	A Scouler
DATE LAST SEEN	No entry
FATHER	Alexander Archer
OCCUPATION	Labourer
MOTHER	Unknown
INFORMANT	John Low (his x mark), husband, Narellan
REGISTRATION	JB Martin, 8 th April 1861, Camden
DATE OF BURIAL	8 th April 1861
PLACE OF BURIAL	St John's Churchyard, Camden
UNDERTAKER	Chas Hall
MINISTER & RELIGION	G Barlow, Church of England
WITNESSES	HP Reeves and John Dawson
PLACE OF BIRTH	Newport, Essex, England
TIME IN AUST COLONIES	6 years in New South Wales
PLACE OF MARRIAGE	First at Newport, Essex, England; Last at Newport, Essex, England
AGE AT MARRIAGE	1 st marriage: 17 years; 2 nd marriage: 24 years
NAME OF SPOUSE	1 st marriage: Unknown; 2 nd marriage: John Low
CHILDREN OF MARRIAGE	James 17 years, Ann Jane 14 years by first husband; Rosetta 8 years, William Charles 4 years by last husband
OTHER DETAILS	None stated

ATTACHMENT 'I'

NSW DEATH REGISTRATION TRANSCRIPTION

REF NO: 1872/4120

NAME	John Low
DATE OF DEATH	24 th August 1872
PLACE	In the gaol at Goulburn
RANK OR PROFESSION	Labourer
SEX & AGE	Male, 38 years
CAUSE OF DEATH	Disease of the heart and aorta
LENGTH OF ILLNESS	No entry
MEDICAL ATTENDANT	No entry
DATE LAST SEEN	No entry
FATHER	Unknown
OCCUPATION	Unknown
MOTHER	Unknown
INFORMANT	AM Betts, coroner, Goulburn
REGISTRATION	CS Alexander, 2 nd September 1872, Goulburn
DATE OF BURIAL	26 th August 1872
PLACE OF BURIAL	Goulburn
UNDERTAKER	C Fitzpatrick
MINISTER & RELIGION	No entry
WITNESSES	MJ Fitzpatrick and John Youngman
PLACE OF BIRTH	Essex, England
TIME IN AUST COLONIES	Unknown
PLACE OF MARRIAGE	Unknown
AGE AT MARRIAGE	Unknown
NAME OF SPOUSE	Unknown
CHILDREN OF MARRIAGE	Unknown
OTHER DETAILS	None stated

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ATTACHMENT 'J'

NSW GAOL RECORD TRANSCRIPTION

REFERENCE DETAILS	Goulburn Gaol Entrance Book for John Low
ENTRANCE NO	918
NAME	John Low
COMMITTED BY	JAllman Esq PM
COMMITTED ON	3 rd August 1872
WHERE	Goulburn
OFFENCE	Vagrant
SENTENCE	14 days Impt GG
DISPOSAL	Died in hospital 15m to 6 pm
WHEN	24 th August 1872
OTHER INFORMATION	None stated

ATTACHMENT 'K'

NSW GAOL RECORD TRANSCRIPTION

REFERENCE DETAILS	Goulburn Gaol Discharge Book (John Low, 1872)
ENTRANCE NO	918
SHIP	Lloyds
YEAR	1859
NAME	John Low
OFFENCE	Vagrancy
SENTENCE	14 days Impt GG
COURT	Goulburn Bench
DATE OF CONVICTION	3 ^d August 1872
REMARKS	Died in the hospital M15 to 6 PM
DATE OF DISCHARGE	24 th August 1872
OTHER INFORMATION	None stated

THIS IS A TRANSCRIPTION FROM THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS HELD AT THE NEW SOUTH WALES STATE ARCHIVES

ATTACHMENT 'L'

NSW GAOL RECORD TRANSCRIPTION

REFERENCE DETAILS	Goulburn Gaol Description Book (John Low, 1872)
ENTRANCE NO	918
NAME	John Low
SHIP	Lloyd
YEAR	1859
WHERE BORN	Essex, England
RELIGION	Wesleyan
TRADE	Labourer
AGE	38 years
HEIGHT	No entry
MAKE	Medium
COMPLEXION	Sallow
HAIR	Brown
EYES	Brown
EDUCATION	Neither (reads or writes)
OTHER DETAILS	None stated

THIS IS A TRANSCRIPTION FROM THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS HELD AT THE NEW SOUTH WALES STATE ARCHIVES



Injured Soldier WALTER KETLEY

Walter was born in Camden, Australia in 1893. At the outbreak of war, like many other young men from New South Wales, he enlisted in the Australian Army (Light Horse Regiment) and sailed with his unit for Egypt. There he was injured and sent by hospital ship to England. He and several other injured Australian soldiers arrived at The Tower Hospital, Rainhill in August 1916.



It is likely that at this time Walter met Emma Critchley from Prescot. (Her older brother, William, had lost his life at Gallipoli in August 1915.)

In December 1916, Walter was sent to join his unit in France and fought at The Front until the end of the war, returning to England in September 1918 with a gunshot wound.



On 27th January 1919, Walter and Emma were married in Prescot Church.



They travelled back to Australia and lived in Sydney. Walter died in 1941 aged 48.

Illegitimate Ancestors – Helpful Hints

Sooner or later, most genealogists stumble across an illegitimate ancestor. Old parish registers often reveal this information, but there are various ways of expressing illegitimacy, some of them in Latin. In Latin, 'ignotus' means unknown. So records sometimes say, 'nomine ignoto' meaning the father's name was unknown.

'Filius Populi' means son of the people. This reference in English records often covers cases where the father was known to be a local man, but might be one of two men. It also can mean that the father was anybody's guess.

'Filius nullius' means son of none. This terminology was used in cases where the father was a stranger (in that parish) or the mother couldn't or wouldn't say who he was.

There are other tiny clues to be found in parish records, so it's important to copy the references exactly. For example, if you find a record that reads something like, "Johannes filius Mariae Jones et reputat (ur) de Johanni Smith," it translates to John, son of Mary Jones and by repute of John Smith. What that means is that the father either admitted paternity or that paternity had been proved. But if the record read, "Johannes filius Mariae Jones et imputat de Johanni Smith," it means the mother claimed the father was John Smith, but he wouldn't admit it or else the case hadn't been settled. Other terms you may run into are "ut fertur" meaning as it is said (or believe it if you like), and "dictus" or "p(rea)dictus", meaning the said, aforesaid (man). "Voctus" means called or known as.

A common way of showing illegitimate paternity in English records was to give a child his father's full name and his mother's surname. The idea was that if the couple married later, the mother's surname would be dropped.

Knowing about the use of double surnames for illegitimate children is very useful to genealogists, but in genealogy, there are always exceptions. In London, Lancashire, Yorkshire and among non-conformists, the use of a complimentary second surname from the mother's family, the pastor or a rich uncle, came into vogue in the early 1800's and again later in the Victorian period.

If you discover a reference to John Jones Smith, and it occurs anywhere but in a recognized gentry family before about 1840 in England, it should alert you to the possibility of illegitimacy, but remember the exceptions. In the late 19th century the English sometimes used a hyphenated surname such as Armstrong-Jones, but for reasons of ancestral snobbery, not illegitimacy. So when researching English records, remember this popularity of double surnames in particular localities and time periods for other reasons than the marital status of a child's parents before assuming an ancestor was illegitimate.

From Illawarra Branches No. 62 March 2000 page 18.

NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies Annual Conference 2015.

Next years Conference will be held at Port Macquarie see flyer. As Camden will be hosting the 2016 Conference we are asking as many members as possible to attend the conference at Port Macquarie, one to see how a conference is run and secondly to help showcase Camden for our conference. As usual we will have a table selling our books etc. on the day and any assistance there would be appreciated.

The 2016 conference is being held over 3 days with the Friday being a Family History Fair open to the public and the Saturday & Sunday will be by registration only.

To this end we have place a provisional booking on the Camden Civic Centre for the weekend of the 9th, 10th and 11th of September. Further information will be forth coming as we get further into the planning stage.

Tony Jackson
Convener 2016 Conference

***Ahooy me Hearties!
Ye be invited to drop anchor
at the***

***NSW & ACT Association of
Family History Societies Inc***

***2015 Conference
11-13 September 2015***

Journey of Discovery

***Hosted by
Port Macquarie & Districts
Family History Society Inc
at***

Pantlers Port Macquarie

***SAiver me timbers and yo! Ho! Ho!
Contact us on the dot.coms below***

***conference.pmdfhs@gmail.com
www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nswpmfhs/***

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

New Acquisitions to June 2015

- AU 065 Who's Master? Who's Man? – Australia in the Victorian Age. M. Cannon.
- NS 085 The Early Mayors of Bathurst 1863-1915. FHG of Bathurst.
- CA 044 Camden WW1 Diggers 1914-1918. Janice Johnson
- CA 045 History of Camden Bowling Club 75 years. F. Farrugia
- CA 046 The Racing Doctor – Tales of Medical Care in the Cowpastures. Elizabeth Villy.
- AB 014 Broken Circles – Fragmenting Indigenous Families 1800-2000. A. Haebich
- CE 080 Waverley Cemetery Who's who Encore. Waverley Library
- CE 081 Botany Cemetery C of E Transcrips. Cape Banks FHS.
- CE 082 Gravestones of the Hawkesbury Vol 1. Pitt Town Research & Preservation Society.
- EN 058 History of Wiltshire – The Victoria History of the Counties of England. D. A. Crowley
- EN 059 History of Huntingdonshire - The Victoria History of the Counties of England
- EN 060 History of Northamptonshire - The Victoria History of the Counties of England - Index
- FA 117 The Bunker Family
- FA 118 Memories The Hayter Family. Pam Nixon
- FA 119 The Walkers of Yaralla. P. Skehan.

- FA 120 Rev. Robert Jacob Meyer 1810-1892. Publications, Abstracts, Commentary & References – Implications for Family History. G. Rex Meyer.
- FA 121 Meyer Family History – Two Brothers, sons of devout Methodists in the Nineteenth Century. G. Rex Meyer.
- RE 077 Writing & Publishing your Family History. A labour of love. Lesle Berry.
- RE 078 Migration to New Zealand. A guide for family history researchers. Christine Clement
- RE 079 Transcribing Tasmanian Convict Records. S. Hood.
- SH 029 The Ten Pound Immigrants. R. Appleyard
- SH 030 The Other Australia – Experience of Migration. R. Murphy
- SH 031 The Italians in Australia. G. Cresciani.
- SH 032 Stories of Australian Migration. J. Hardy.
- SH 033 And the Crew went too – The £10 Assisted Passage. G. Lunn.
- SH 034 Shipping & Migration Research on the Internet. C. Num.
- SH 035 What was the Voyage Really Like – A brief guide to researching Convict and Immigration Voyages to Australia & New Zealand. S. Hicks.
- CD 119 Bathurst Cemetery Inscriptions and Death Records 1843-2013. FHG of Bathurst.
- CD 120 Queensland Customs House Shipping 1852-1885 Passengers and Crew. Queensland FHS Inc.

RESOURCE ROOM VOLUNTEERS

The resource room is in dire need for more VOLUNTEERS to man our room. At present we are only have enough to just covering the opening hour and when any member go on holiday we cannot cover them as we do not have enough helpers.

So if you would like to volunteer please talk to Tony Jackson the Library Coordinator and he will arrange to train any new volunteers and to place them with one of our current volunteers to further help them learn the rope.

PLEASE CONSIDER FOR THE SAKE OF OUR SOCIETY.

Tony Jackson
Library Coordinator

ITEMS FOR SALE

Camden Pioneer Register	Third Edition	\$35.00
Pioneers At Rest (Cawdor Cemetery)	Daphne Koob/CAFHS	\$20.00
St. Thomas CofE Parish Register CD	Transcript by CAFHS	\$20.00
We do but Sleep Camden & Menangle Anglican Parish Cemeteries	Janice Johnson	\$20.00
Camden General Cemetery + Index	Transcript by CAFHS	\$12.00
Camden Catholic Cemetery	Transcript by CAFHS	\$8.00
St. Paul's Cobbitty Cemetery	Transcript by CAFHS	\$15.00
St. Thomas's Narellan Cemetery	Transcript by CAFHS	\$15.00
Camden Council Rates Book	Transcript by CAFHS	\$25.00
CAFHS Cookbook	CAFHS Members	\$8.00
Camden	Alan Atkinson	\$40.00
History of Camden	CHS	\$10.00
Internet Family History	Cora Num	\$12.00
The Old Razorback Road	Elizabeth Villy	\$35.00
The Racing Doctor – Tales of Medical Care in the Cowpastures	Elizabeth Villy	\$25.00

If ordered by Post, the above items incur postage and handling fee depending on the item/s and quantities.

Postage:	Australia	(Approx.) \$8.00
	Overseas	Price on application

CHARTS

Ancestor Chart	9 Generations Large	\$4.00
Ancestor Chart	9 Generations Small	\$2.00
Tree Chart	7 Generations Coloured	\$5.00
Our Family Tree	6 Generations Reakes	\$2.00
Family Circle	9 Generations Wheel Chart	\$2.00
The Family Tree	6 Generations Bordered	\$2.00

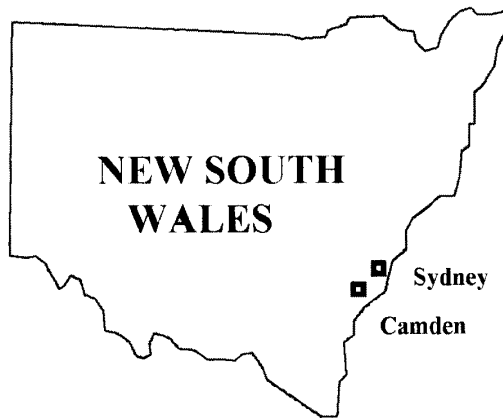
MISCELLANEOUS

Starter Kit	Genealogy Starter Kit	\$2.50
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