

Clan
Turnbull



Ebenezer

Vol.1 No.3

Newsletter

December 2010 Issue

Dedicated to recording and preserving the history of the Turnbull families from Ebenezer, a peacefully beautiful riverside spot on the Hawkesbury River in New South Wales.

Christmas is almost upon us and I'm sure everyone is rushing around buying last minute gifts or arranging for presents to be sent far away, while others are preparing for Christmas dinner. I wonder does anyone have their Christmas pudding in a cloth hanging from a rafter or in a garage like my family did when I was young. Have all those old recipes and traditions gone in these modern times? I can't remember ever eating a Christmas pudding tasting better than the one which hung from the rafters for weeks before Christmas. I'd like to know if anyone is still using the pudding in a cloth recipe.

In this year 2010, it is 200 years since Macquarie became our Governor and the Hawkesbury towns have been celebrating this bi-centenary throughout the year.

On the 1st January, 1810, Governor Lachlan Macquarie was sworn in as governor of NSW and by the end of that year he had visited the Hawkesbury more than once. He appeared to like the area so much that he named parts of the district and specifically gave the five towns of importance in the area their names; Windsor, Richmond, Castlereagh, Pitt Town and Wilberforce. From as far back as I can remember I recall being told stories about the visits of Gov. Macquarie, to Sackville in particular.

I have searched old records and looked at some of Gov. Macquarie's Journals for any record of specific visits, but found no reference to Sackville and personal visits at all. Which is not surprising really, but I have begun to wonder how much truth

there may have been in the stories. Two stories in particular have stuck with me throughout the years and by telling them now, I'm hoping someone reading these Newsletters may have heard the same stories and can verify some and perhaps add to them. A small close group of people lived in the area in the early 1800's and visiting for parties must have been quite a social event.

These stories are ones I remember.

Gov. Macquarie frequently tied his boat up at Sackville wharf and walked up a well-worn path to parties which the Churchills regularly held in their home above where Sackville Ferry is today. (It's a very different looking home now).

Edward Churchill from Sackville was Tutor to the Macquarie child for a period of time prior to the Macquaries returning to England in 1821.

If anyone has any more knowledge of these stories would they please contact me by email or letter - many families in the early Sackville/Ebenezer region would have had a close association with the Turnbolls and may have attended such parties.

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It was great to hear from Marjorie and Ian Turnbull of Nanango in Queensland. This month on the 27th December they will have been married 52 years – congratulations to you both. Ian was born on a dairy farm at Oakville near

Windsor in 1937. In 1990 they moved from the Hawkesbury to Nanango with their family - two sons, one now in NSW, and a daughter living in Queensland.

Before moving north they lived in North Richmond and though Ian had worked at several jobs over the years he was with the Hawkesbury Council working as a Grader driver and Marjorie was working as a cleaner for around 14 years in the Richmond High School before they moved north.

Ian is a member of quite a large family in the Hawkesbury and I now wonder why I never met Ian and Marjorie though I knew other members of the family quite well - but it's nice to hear from them so long after we've both moved from the Hawkesbury area.

Their younger son Toby Lloyd Turnbull was one of the fifteen men badly injured when the bridge collapsed in Canberra, ACT, on 15th August this year - Toby was the most seriously injured worker with a broken neck but thankfully he is up on his feet again though he must now wear a brace well into the new year. Hopefully, all will be okay with Toby as he has two young sons: Brock born 13/1/2008 and Levi born 22/8/2009 - We wish them the best and hope all goes well in the future for Toby, his wife Angela and the boys.

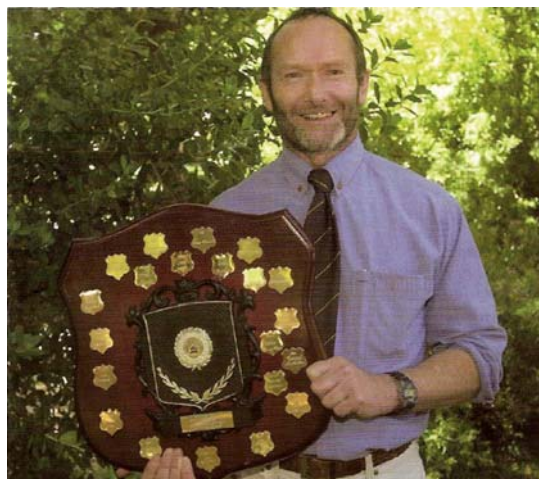
Ian has 4 brothers and 3 sisters still living in NSW, plus five grandsons, one granddaughter and two great-grandsons and two great-granddaughters.

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In 1997, another new Turnbull arrived here from South Africa. Richard first contacted me weeks ago after his daughter and her husband, who are living in Ireland for a year, found our Newsletter on the Net in Ireland and forwarded it to Richard in Orange, NSW.

Richard's family moved from Edinburgh to Natal in South Africa in 1797. He has a copy of his very old and long ancestry on paper, recorded back to 800AD - it is being restored by the Land Titles people in Bathurst at present and hopefully I will be able to see it soon.

Richard is a highly credentialed Exercise and Sports Physiologist and has accreditation for coaching in several Sports, including Rugby



Richard Turnbull with his Scottish shield.

Union here and in South Africa and Athletics. He and his family are currently on holidays in South Africa - their first visit back since 1997. More about Richard Turnbull next year.

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I can't write about Richard and not mention two "other" Turnbull friends I've come to know very well in recent years. Dawn Day lives in Mt. Gambier and Cara Cox is in Perth. Like Richard, as far as we know neither are related to the Coromandel Turnbells in Australia. Previous to 1802 one can never know at this point in time how closely related any other Turnbells maybe to us, if at all. One day I may get a chance to check some of their ancestries for a connection.

Dawn and Cara both intended to visit Ebenezer bicentenary in June last year but only Cara managed to get there, accompanied by one of her daughters. Dawn cancelled at the last minute because of the illness of her late sister.

Dawn's ancestor, James Turnbull, arrived here in the 1860's from Edrachillis in the Scottish Highlands while Cara's ancestor, Thomas Golightly Turnbull arrived here in 1856, with his mother and brother from Northumberland.

When Dawn's family arrived here they left a son named Richard behind in Scotland. It's believed Richard had married and remained in Scotland for that reason but the Australian family has never been able to trace him again in Scotland. Cara is also having difficulty in tracing her ancestors beyond the 1850's in England.

Following on from the last Newsletter – Judy Hayman’s husband Tony was born in Bourke. His Grandfather was an English Merchant seaman and his Grandmother is "thought" to have been a convict from Tasmania. Tony's dad Sidney was born in Bourke and his mum Phyllis was born in Hungerford on the Queensland Border. Her father was also an English Merchant seaman who ended up in Bourke via Adelaide. Sidney and Phyllis Hayman married in Dubbo and lived in Bourke for several years before they retired to South West Rocks, Sidney having worked in the same Bourke store for 47 years.

Tony and Judy married in Brisbane in 1965 and all was going very well for them - Tony had a Taxi and a Stock carrying truck. In 1980, while Tony was putting in a swimming pool for Christmas, he slipped in the mud surrounding the pool and fell into the water. He would have drowned if their daughter Karanne had not been there at the time. He spent months in Royal North Shore Hospital with a broken neck. They tried to make a go of it in Bourke when he came home but the weather was no good for his health and 7 years later they followed his parents to South West Rocks.

Their daughter Karanne (now a nurse) and her husband live in Alstonville on the NSW North coast. They have two children: Matt, 17years old and Kara, 13years old who is still in school.

Their son Matt appears to have a big future in Rugby League. Last year he toured with the under 18's team when it went to France, England and Wales. We wish them all the best in the future.

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Marie Larnach, from the Bathurst region, sent me a picture of her father Harry Turnbull recently. He was born at Kempsey, NSW on 9th January 1914, the son of Arthur Joseph Turnbull and Alma Maretta Denning. Arthur descended from William Bligh Turnbull and his wife Sarah via Ralph Turnbull and Amelia Booth. Sadly for Marie, her father passed away when she was just 19 years of age.

Marie's mother Doris Bevan was born in Carlingford, NSW and the family later moved to Wauchope in northern NSW to become farmers when Marie was about 10 years old. Recently Marie traced her mother back to 1802 to convict



Wedding of Harry Turnbull and Doris Bevan – 28-03-1936.

John Bevan. What a surprise it was for her to discover her ancestor John Bevan had arrived here in 1802 on the same ship as the Ebenezer settlers, the Coromandel.

The two descendants of those who came here on the Coromandel in 1802, Harry Turnbull and Doris Bevan, were united in 1936 when they met and married at Beechwood near Wauchope.

Marie quite often wonders if settler John Turnbull had any contact with the convicts during the voyage to Australia in 1802. Particularly, did these two men, John Turnbull and John Bevan, ever have any conversation with each other while at sea or is it another one of those peculiarly odd circumstances surrounding many of those who are connected with early Ebenezer.

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I thank Rita Buchholz from Kumbia in Qld. for writing to me and correcting my mistake in the Fred Wright story. Thomas Wright’s sister Jane married William Douglass and it was their daughter Sarah Jane Douglass who married William Sweetman. Thomas's other sister Mary Ann Wright married Joseph Yates and their daughter Ann Yates married George Sweetman. William and George Sweetman appear to have been brothers. The Sweetman name still exists in the Cessnock area to-day. Rita descends from William and Jane Douglass's daughter Rosetta who married Charles Edge in Sept. 1878.

I first had contact with Rita back in 1995 prior to the 1996 Turnbull re-union so it was great to hear from her again after so many years.

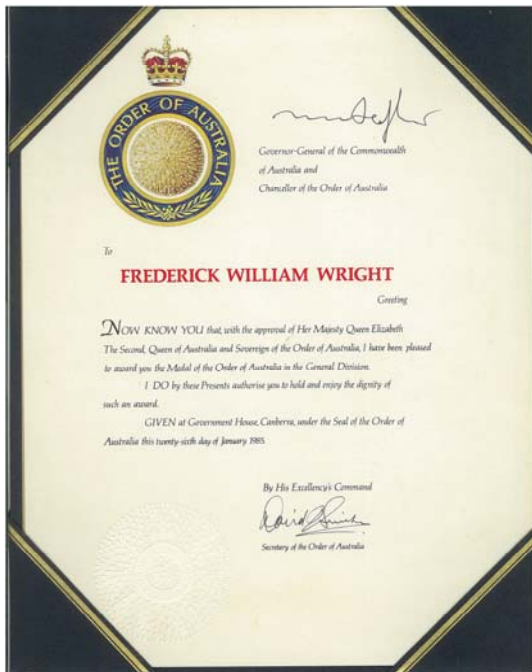
Picture Gallery.

Medal of the Order of Australia Awards.

In our last issue, Marie wrote about Frederick William Wright's ancestors. What we didn't tell you was that Frederick William Wright was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia on the 26th January, 1985, for his outstanding contribution to the conservation and preservation of aboriginal sites in New South Wales.



Fred Wright wearing his well earned Order of Australia Medal.



Fred's AOM Certificate.

Also, another member of the Turnbull Clan, **Clifford Taylor Turnbull**, was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia on the 13th June, 1981, for his outstanding contribution in the field of youth welfare and his involvement with the YMCA. (Unfortunately, we do not have a photograph of Cliff wearing his OAM.)

Then in June 1992, Cliff was also honoured with a Premier's Senior Citizen's Award for his services to the community, Leichhardt and the surrounding areas.



Cliff receiving his Premier's Award from Sandra Nori.
(Photo reproduced from the *Uniting Age*, June 1992)

Marie will do a story about Cliff in one of next year's issues.

We are proud of both Fred Wright and the late Cliff Turnbull for their outstanding contributions.

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Jack Grantley Daley.

Sadly another of our pioneer family members passed away recently – Jack Grantley Daley from Wilberforce died after a long illness on the 4th August, 2010. Jack was a descendant of the second Ralph Turnbull and Sarah Reynolds via their eldest daughter Sarah Turnbull who married Pat Daley. Jack married and lived in Wilberforce for the greater part of his life.

Our sincere condolences are extended to his family and friends.

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The sad epitaph on Thomas Wright's Headstone memorial in the Wollombi General Cemetery.

This languishing head is at rest
 It's thinking and aching are ore...
 This quiet immovable breast
 is heaving by affliction no more
 This heart is no longer the seat
 of trouble and torturing pain
 It ceases to flutter and beat
 It never shall flutter again.



As you can see, Thomas Wright's Headstone is somewhat weathered and some of the inscription is now not legible.

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More on Fanny Theresa Turnbull.

We would also like to thank Joan Turnbull for taking the time to write to us with corrections and more information on Fanny Theresa Turnbull, featured in the Picture Gallery last issue.

Fanny was born on 6th September, 1877, not 27th May, 1877, and she first married Frederick Moore and lived in Leichhardt. After Fred died she married Peter Morris and moved to Manly, NSW. This marriage did not last very long and Fanny moved into her own flat in Whistler Street, Manly where she lived until her death in September, 1956.

Our London Genealogy Search.

At present our London search has stalled. There was no sign of John Turnbull in any Poll or Rate book in the St. James or St. Marylebone area of London between 1775 and 1802 which was when they left London to live in Australia. We are waiting on advice from our Researcher on where to go next OR if anyone who has previously searched for John Turnbull in London can suggest another situation in London or Westminster which needs researching. Would you let me know as soon as possible and I'll pass the information onto Patricia. – Marie.

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Late News

What a nice surprise it was to see a pretty young relative on Eddie Maguire show a few weeks ago. Elise O'Neill is the 20 year old grand-daughter of Lester and Jill Vincent from Wilberforce. Jill is one of those "lucky" relatives with a double relationship to the Coromandel Turnbells in her ancestry via marriages to a Turnbull from the Daley and the Tuckerman families.

If anyone reading this can claim a "treble" of ancestry relationship to the Turnbells we would like to hear about it.

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**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.
 To all our Turnbull Clan.
 From
 Marie and Percy.**

Contact Details.

Percy at: perch@ol.com.au or
 3 Storey St, Putney, NSW 2112.

Marie at: goose2fly@yahoo.com.au or
 7/28 Moray Rd, Towradgi, NSW 2518.