



*We are dedicated to recording and preserving the history of the Turnbull families from Ebenezer, a peacefully beautiful spot on the Hawkesbury River in NSW including the history of other Turnbull families from across the country*

**VOL. 4... No. 2... JULY/AUGUST ..... CLAN TURNBULL NEWSLETTER**

Hi - What an amazing few weeks I've had since the last Newsletter. My story on the McGregor name debacle back in 1603 has caused more stories to literally, come out of the woodwork. Ken Knox in Sydney wrote that he also knew of the story about the Turnbull's being McGregor's and Ken added another twist to the story. He said we were supposed to have descended from Rob Roy McGregor and I then recalled Wally saying the same thing. In one letter I received about the McGregor's, it says "Clan Gregor was the original Pict Society of Scotland", something I hadn't heard previously. Anyone who is familiar with early Scottish history will know the first and very early people of Scotland were known of as Picts.

Rob Roy moved around the Highlands of Scotland in the late 1600's and from all the research I've done in the last 25 years I doubt it's true that we descend from Rob Roy. From the late 1600's on, records of births, deaths and marriages gradually became better recorded and also more reliable. The names of Rob Roy's sons are well known and they don't inspire in me the belief they were any connection to our Turnbull's though one of his sons was named JAMES. The trouble now with trying to make a connection {from about 1690 when some McGregor's may have become Turnbull} is time - many old parish registers had been lost or destroyed throughout the centuries and others were so old they were unreadable. In the midst of this controversy about Rob Roy, I received a telephone call from Deanne in the Hunter Valley, reminding me that in the book I brought from Scotland of which she also has a copy, {Surnames and Clansmen, by Michael Robson} he also refers to the story that we were McGregor's.

Some people in Australia who have visited Scotland may remember Michael Robson because they attended one of his lectures on Scottish ancestry while there. I contacted him a couple of years ago, after learning he was researching the Turnbull's pre 1700. He informed me at the time that he had completed his research and just needed to put all the families together, before he completed writing a book he intended to publish. What a job it would have been, I hope he is close to completing the task as I'm sure there is lots of Turnbull's in Australia, really desperate to get their hands on such a book, including me.

>>Remember back in August 2010, Toby Turnbull the young man who was severely injured in the bridge collapse in Canberra - well Toby is back at work and doing quite well, but now I congratulate Toby and his wife Angalea on the birth of a new baby boy on 10 December 2011, and they have named him Harley Christopher Turnbull, a

brother for Brock (13/1/2008) and Levi (22/8/2009). Toby is the grandson {not son as previously written} of Ian and Marjorie Turnbull, former Hawkesburyites now living in Nanango in Qld – Mum and baby are doing fine.

**FROM OUR WEDDING ALBUM.**

**Cara, the daughter of Brian and Linda Turnbull, married Andrew Beh 12/5/12 in Brisbane.**



**Brian Turnbull and Cara**



**Cara and Andrew Beh of Brisbane.**

**Brian Turnbull is from the George Turnbull and Louisa Chaseling ancestry lineage.**

**CONGRATULATIONS to Matt, the grandson of Tony and Judy Hayman in South West Rocks – Matt has been accepted into the Police Academy in Goulburn and loving the job. He is very happy there with the work he is doing.**

## **MORE FROM OUR WEDDING ALBUM**

Grandparents Ian and Marjorie Turnbull from Nanango in Queensland attended the wedding of their Grandson **JASON** in Yeppoon, on 16 June 2012.



**Jason and Leanne Lancaster on the beach at Yeppoon - a day when the surf was amazingly calm for their wedding day.**



**More from our files>>>>>>**

**The wedding of Paul Ernest McCann to Doris Verdun Turnbull took place in Sydney on 28 October 1944**



A Leaflet advertising these boys and their Band was sent to me recently asking me the same question. They are Geoff, Simon and Jason Turnbull and I've heard the band plays quite regularly at the Bellingham Hotel.

who may know them.

[illegible]

I can't remember the number of times I've been asked in the past "do I know where John Henry went, after the massacre" or "do I know who sheltered and protected him after the massacre"? I always replied that I didn't know. But it's time to answer those queries.

My Grandmother, Flo Turnbull, nee Tuckerman was told the story by her mother Maria, pronounced Mariah, Tuckerman nee Fleming. What I was told never varied in any of the times I heard it.

Maria's father's brother, John Henry Fleming, led the Myall assault in 1838. He turned 22 years old just days prior to the disaster. Originally JH Fleming and his men were angered by the discovery of speared and dying cattle in the bush and then there were attempts to spear the men who had been camped out in the bush minding the cattle - and that is what originally 'lit the fire' to their anger. The natives had always been given meat to feed their families, but the cattle were killed & skinned by the farmer because the natives really weren't capable of skinning a carcass.

The cattlemen had been leading the captured group around the bush for a while hoping to attract the real culprits. They were very frustrated at not being able to get their hands on the ones they wanted – when finally deciding they had to do something. It erupted into an act of not being a straight forward act of taking aim and shooting, but a

spur of the moment atrocity. I'll skip the details which led to that shooting because they are well documented and I'll write of what John Henry Fleming told his family when he got back to Portland Head.

J.H. Fleming raised his gun and aimed at one particular man who he believed knew more than he was telling them, at first to scare him into talking, so he fired at him, not to hit him, but to scare him - to his shock and horror in a split second, every man with a gun had raised his gun and fired at the same time and kept firing until all the natives were down. John Henry admitted he probably killed one, but claimed he took no part in the mass killing of the others. He was so distraught at what had been done that he left almost immediately and rode back to camp - in the morning he went with the men back to the massacre site to see what he could do. So traumatised and terrified by what he found that he just got on his horse and rode towards home on the Hawkesbury. Not on a drunken horse as was written in places later, but at a measured speed to make sure his horse made the desperate ride to his home. However by the time he reached the Hunter area his horse was tiring badly and he decided to call on a relative living in the area, specifically to borrow a fresh horse to continue on his way to Portland Head. Many Hawkesbury families had moved to the Hunter Valley and began farming there by 1820.

He left his horse tied to a hitching rail in the village (now known of as Muswellbrook) so no one would know who helped him in what he knew must soon come!

After he arrived back at Portland Head he was sheltered by a number of related families still farming at Wilberforce and Ebenezer. By then the Fleming daughters had intermarried with several Ebenezer and Wilberforce pioneer families and all were ready to help and protect him. The police never ever came looking for him, which even to-day is strange. He moved freely about the district, dressed as a woman - many knew this and no one even considered giving him up to the police.

Eventually he got on a boat in Sydney, dressed as a woman and went to Morton Bay to his brother Joseph.

Joseph Fleming married Phoebe MacGinnis in Wilberforce (my ggg'grandparents) previously and later moved to Morton Bay. **Many people were moving away at this time as a series of floods had devastated the Hawkesbury.** However John Henry Fleming didn't stay in Morton Bay very long, for as soon as he appeared to be in the clear he returned to Wilberforce and married Charlotte Dunstan. He became a well respected man in the Hawkesbury District and very involved with St John's Church.

John Henry and Charlotte Fleming never had children.

Some might say it was life's payback for what he did.

John Henry and Charlotte Fleming were buried in Wilberforce cemetery.

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I received a lovely letter recently from Imelda Dyson in S. W. Rocks. Many thanks Imelda for writing such an interesting letter and enclosing the William Bligh Turnbull photos, they are appreciated.

I hope Imelda is now well and truly settled in her new apartment in South West Rocks.

Many thanks to Chris Power in  
derful picture's from the family  
Hartley and Mary Ann Turnbull  
Jane Hartley, who was born at  
ter of James Hartley and Jane  
1850. I wonder if Caddie Creek  
River near Windsor. More about



Queensland for sending me some of his won-  
album. Chris is a descendant of Joseph James  
and this picture is of his Grandmother Sophia  
Caddie Creek in 1857. Sophia was the daugh-  
Armstrong who married in Wilberforce in  
was actually Cattai Creek on the Hawkesbury  
Sophia and her family in the next Issue.

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I was sad to learn of the death of John Turnbull, known as 'George', on the 5 June 2012 at Windsor. 'George' was born in Wilberforce in 1928 and lived and worked in Windsor for most of his life. His wife Margaret (nee Dickson) predeceased him. Our deepest sympathy is extended to all his family. George was the son of the late Fred Turnbull and Kathleen Morrissey from the Ralph Turnbull II/Sarah Reynolds line.

LATE NEWS: I've now just learnt of the sudden passing of one of my very committed family searcher's.

Wally Turnbull Jones died suddenly on the 19 June 2012 at his property in Little Hartley in NSW. Wally had lived in Camden for most of his life, but awhile ago he decided it was time to move on. He sold his Camden acreage and bought a smaller lot at Little Hartley in the Blue Mountains. There he became very involved with the Community and was very happy with his life. Wally was very dedicated to helping me with anything he could find which may help to discover who John Turnbull was before coming here in 1802. Wally found the Court documents re the Samuel Terry v John Turnbull case. Wally also brought to prominence the McGregor story and there was much more I could attribute to Wally's Wally was held in Mt. Victoria and next to his mother. Wally was the Ella Marion Turnbull, on the Wally will be missed.



\* Wally and his friend Marina at an

Note: Wally is wearing his  
Turnbull tartan which he bought

search for answers. The service for  
he was buried in Ebenezer cemetery  
only child of Edgar Turnbull Jones and  
George Turnbull/Maria Greentree line.

Ebenezer Turnbull Re-union.

Turnbull Clan trousers made from the  
from a Scottish dressmaker.

Not long before Wally died he told me a quite startling story. He said about 30 years ago, a coal seam gas company turned up unasked and unannounced to his Camden property, barged in and moved around his land drilling test holes everywhere. Even though he objected there was nothing he could do to stop them. After weeks of drilling and destroying his pastures, suddenly, overnight they pulled out all their equipment and left. Wally never got an answer about why or what that gas drilling was all about.

**I can't help but wonder if that gas drill on Wally's Camden property discovered the Gas from the Camden area wasn't worth mining..... I PARTICULARLY question WHY the NSW Government is letting drill's continue in Camden, because the Camden area (above and below ground) is connected to the major WATER SOURCE which supplies Sydney.**

**Information I have about gas drilling from the Texas area should terrify the NSW Government, specifically if anything goes wrong with water because of a drill. It's alarming that many gas companies drilling in Australia appear to have an American connection.**

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As I was finalising this Newsletter I received another sad call to tell me a very close friend of mine and to my late brother Ray, had died.

Arthur James Turnbull died on 7 July 2012. He was known to us as "Sleepy", possibly because of his wonderful easy going nature and attitude. As well as being a close friend he was a member of our A grade tennis team for a long time. When we all married and went our separate ways we lost contact, but I'm very lucky to have had a brief chat with him at the Ebenezer Bicentenary in 2009. Arthur is the son of the late George and Dorothy {nee Tremlett} Turnbull, on the Ralph Turnbull II/Sarah Reynolds line. Our sincerest sympathy is extended to his wife Marie and all his family.

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I'm sorry to disappoint those waiting to know my version of the "nose", but space is a problem and I've had to leave the Turnbull nose story to be written into the next issue.

I thank everyone for participating in the Newsletter with wonderful stories and pictures and also for the very welcome donations and great letters of support.

Our next Newsletter will be November/December 2012

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*PS. Maybe 5/6 recipients received a printed copy of the last Newsletter which printed off line when my printer ran amok & I didn't notice it had happened before they went into stamped envelopes - If you received a crooked one, please let me know and I'll send you a correctly printed new copy.*