



LAUNCESTON BRANCH NEWSLETTER

Tasmanian Family History Society Inc. Launceston Branch

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No. 69
May 2022

President: John Dent OAM
Editor: Fran Keegan

**Library
Hours:
Tuesday
10am – 3pm**

Monday - Thursday:
By appointment
(Fees may apply)

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**Next  
Workshop**

**Trawling Trove  
Treasures –  
Beyond the  
Newspapers**

*with*

**Robyn Gibson and  
John Dent OAM**

See page 4 for more  
details

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**Membership
Renewals are
now due – renew
by EFTPOS, mail
or in person at
City Park Stables
library**

See your renewal form
for full details

Introducing.....

BARRIE ROBINSON, LAUNCESTON BRANCH TREASURER

Barrie Robinson brings another string to the TFHS bow, with his British ancestry and a background in teaching

He was born in Sheffield during World War 2 and in 1952 arrived in Tasmania with his parents and brother as Ten Pound Poms. He was eight years old on arrival and had already begun his interest in family history. Family has always been important to Barrie who has fond childhood memories of regular visits to his three great grandmothers. Now he is himself the proud great grandfather of a one-year-old girl, as well as his three daughters and ten grandchildren. The Robinson family eventually settled in Burnie where his father's carpentry skills contributed to building the Menai Hotel.

Barrie attended the University of Tasmania in Hobart and majored in Pure and Applied Mathematics. He worked in the Metrology Unit of the Department of Defence in Victoria before returning to Hobart to teach Maths at the Technical College, moving to Launceston to continue this work in 1979.

Barrie became Member No. 443 when he joined the Genealogical Society of Tasmania in 1981, and joined the British Interest Group as soon as he learnt of its existence.

He had already researched his wife's family at the Archives Office, and once in Launceston, began work on his own forebears. Barrie was the Library Duty Coordinator for four or five years then, when Betty Bissett retired around five years ago, he took on the role of Branch Treasurer. He currently manages the Branch computer system as well as transcribing screeds of genealogical data for inclusion in TFHS files. His work transcribing Northamptonshire parish records eventually led to his becoming County Coordinator for Warwickshire for the global project freereg.org.uk.

Barrie's English transcriptions have brought him back to his family. His current work transcribing some West Riding burials is spurred on by the hope that he will eventually locate his great great great grandfather.



Thanks to Jai Paterson for this article

2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Launceston Branch AGM was held on Wednesday 20 April at the Elderly Citizens Club, Invermay with 19 members and friends attending. Helen Stuart presented her final annual report as Branch President having held that position for the past seven years. Helen's report is attached to this newsletter. John Dent proposed a vote of thanks to Helen for her 10 years overall in the role as President. "She has done an enormous amount of work behind the scenes to further the work of the Society and we thank her sincerely for her dedication and enthusiasm in this role." It was carried by acclamation. Marion Sargent took the chair for the election of office bearers. Office bearers for the 2022/23 year are listed on page 3.

Guest speakers were Terrill Riley-Gibson and Barbara Rees. Also attending was Barb's mother Fay Ralph. Both speakers are direct descendants of Dalrymple Mountgarrett Briggs Johnson, the first living child born of Tasmanian Aboriginal and European ancestry and a granddaughter of Mannalargenna. Each speaker has followed a different path in interpreting their family history.

In December 2020 Terrill Riley-Gibson was awarded a UTAS Indigenous Higher Degree Research Scholarship specifically to research the life and voice of her matriarchal ancestor. Terrill has been researching her family history for over twelve years and is now using this research to inform her art practice, specifically by collecting ephemera from the natural world and interpreting her assemblages through photography. Terrill spoke about the rigor with which she approaches her research into the life of Dalrymple Johnson and her inability to prove many of the myths that have attached themselves to Dalrymple's story.



Guest Speakers Barbara Rees and Terrill Riley-Gibson and Fay Ralph

She also briefly discussed her research concepts, which include such terms as 'collected children', and 'interwoven', 'camouflaged' and 'un-camouflaged' lives as they pertain to both Tasmanian Aboriginal people and the lives of women within the colonial world. Terrill provided much food for thought, but now it is a case of 'wait and see' as Terrill has been approved to transfer her research project into a PhD.

Barbara Rees and her family became aware of their Dalrymple connection later in life. Her mother and father were committed to the Sherwood Hall Committee which manages the Johnsons' home at Latrobe. Sherwood Hall (c.1850) was rescued, moved to Bells Parade, and officially opened to the public in November 1995, the 150th anniversary of the Johnsons' move to the Sherwood and Tarleton area. Fay Ralph is an MTWAC Elder. The Melythina Tiakana Warrana Aboriginal Corporation was formed in 2008. The name means 'Heart of Country'. All members are direct descendants of Aboriginal ancestors from the country of tebrakunna, a region of NW Tasmania, and Aunty Patsy Cameron OA is a chief Elder. For further interest the MTWAC has a facebook page open to the public: <https://www.facebook.com/MelythinaTiakanaWarrana>

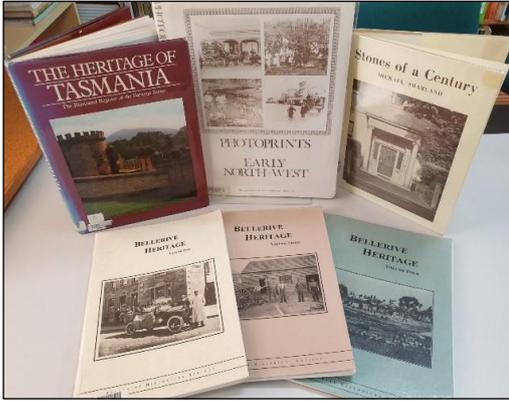
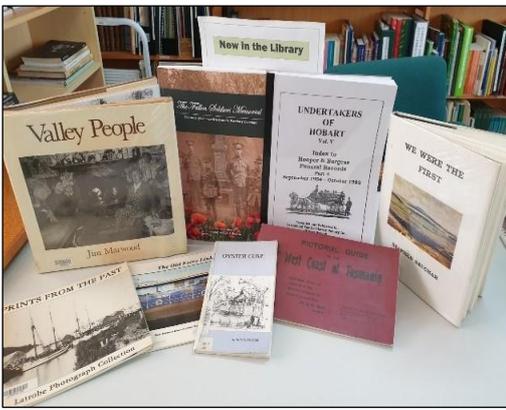


Susan Routley and Robyn Gibson



Ian Routley and Richard Winspear

New on the Library Shelves



- Valley People by Jim Marwood
- The Fallen Soldiers Memorial: the story of the men listed on the Westbury Cenotaph by Chantelle Mason
- Undertakers of Hobart Vol V Sept 1984 – Oct 1992 compiled by TFHS Inc. Hobart Branch
- We Were the First by Seafield Deuchar
- Prints from the past: Latrobe Photograph Collection compiled by National Trust of Australia (Tas)
- The Old Ferry Link by Marjorie Luck (Ed.)
- Oyster Cove by Nicholas Cree
- Pictorial Guide of West Coast of Tasmania compiled by TMAG (Hobart)
- The Heritage of Tasmania: The Illustrated Register of the National Estate compiled by the Australian Heritage Commission
- Photoprints: Early North West
- Stones of a Century by Michael Sharland
- Bellerive Heritage Vols. 2,3 and 4 compiled by Bellerive Historical Society

TFHS Launceston Branch Office Bearers 2022/23

President:	John Dent OAM
Vice President:	Helen Stuart
Treasurer:	Barrie Robinson
Secretary:	Fran Keegan
Committee:	Robyn Gibson
	Dr. Jai Paterson
	John Reimers



Incoming President John Dent OAM with outgoing President Helen Stuart at the AGM



British Interest Group (BIG)

BIG has been an enthusiastic sub-group within the branch since 1995 and many members have been assisted with their British family history research. The group usually meets on the 2nd Wednesday monthly at the City Park Stables library in Tamar Street. Meetings are generally of an informal nature, designed to enable the discussion of either a specific topic, current problems being encountered, or more usually, both. New members are always welcome (\$10 to join) so if you need help with your British research or would just like to participate, please contact Sandra Duck Ph. 63 443263 or sfrd@iprimus.com.au

Upcoming Meetings: **Wed. 11 May 2022 - Topic: *The 1921 UK and Wales Census***
 Wed. 8 June 2022 – Topic: *TBA*



Workshop: Trawling Trove Treasures – Beyond the Newspapers

Presented by Robyn Gibson and John Dent OAM

Most family historians are familiar with the vast resource of historical newspapers digitised and available online via Trove, a collaboration between the National Library of Australia and hundreds of Partner organisations around Australia. However, people may not be aware that there is a treasure trove of other resources, apart from newspapers, that can assist with family history research. The main focus of this workshop will be an exploration of one of these resources, the Australian Joint Copying Project (AJCP) and how to access the records in that collection.

When: Wednesday 15 June 2022, 2.00 pm – 4.00pm. Afternoon tea included.

Where: The Elderly Citizens Club, 16 Landale Street Invermay (Free parking is available behind the hall, with entry off Queen Street)

Open to Members and Non-Members – **Bookings essential**

Registrations and fee of \$10.00 are payable by Tuesday 14 June. Payment can be by cash, cheque or direct debit to Acc. No. 563150 BSB: 037-608. If paying by direct debit, please quote the reference: AJCP and your surname and send an email with the names of attendees to reserve your place. Email: ltntasfh@bigpond.com Phone: 0490 826 863

Workshop Booking Form

I/We wish to attend the above workshop on 15 June 2022

Name/s:

Address:

Phone/Mobile: Membership No. (if applicable): Please return the completed form as soon as possible to the: Library Co-ordinator, TFHS Inc. Launceston Branch, PO Box 1290, Launceston, 7250, or register by phone, email or in person at the Branch Library

Date Saver: Wednesday, 21 September 2022

Workshop: Ros Escott, Using DNA to Solve Family History Mysteries

Upcoming Events of Interest

- **Tasmanian Family History Society Inc., 42nd Conference and Annual General Meeting Saturday 18 June 2022, 10.30am – 3pm, Devonport Country Club, Spreyton**

Guest Speakers: Lee Gill - *DNA and Archaeology*, John Watts – *William Hainsworth (A Remarkable Pioneer)* and Mark & Angela Fry – *History of Tasmanian Narrow Gauge Railway*.

The AGM will commence at 2.30pm. The Conference dinner will be on Saturday evening at Latrobe and registrants are invited to a guided tour of Home Hill, with morning tea, on Sunday morning.

Closing date for registration and payment is 5 June 2022. Full details and booking form are in the March edition of *Tasmanian Ancestry*.

- **Launceston Historical Society: Monthly meetings**

Sunday, 15 May 2022, 2pm – Stefan Petrow, coping with shock infectious diseases, typhoid and cholera in nineteenth century Tasmania

Sunday 19 June 2022, 2pm – Pugh Day Lecture – Dr Michael Cooper AM, Antarctica – not a place to get sick!

Sunday, 17 July, 2pm - Mead, Smith, von Stieglitz Lecture - John Dent OAM & Darren Watton, Annandale Archaeological Dig

Bookings are not required for monthly meetings. Non-members welcome (\$4). Bring some cash for a chance to win a fabulous prize in the raffle. More information at <https://launcestonhistory.org.au/> or Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/launcestonhistory>