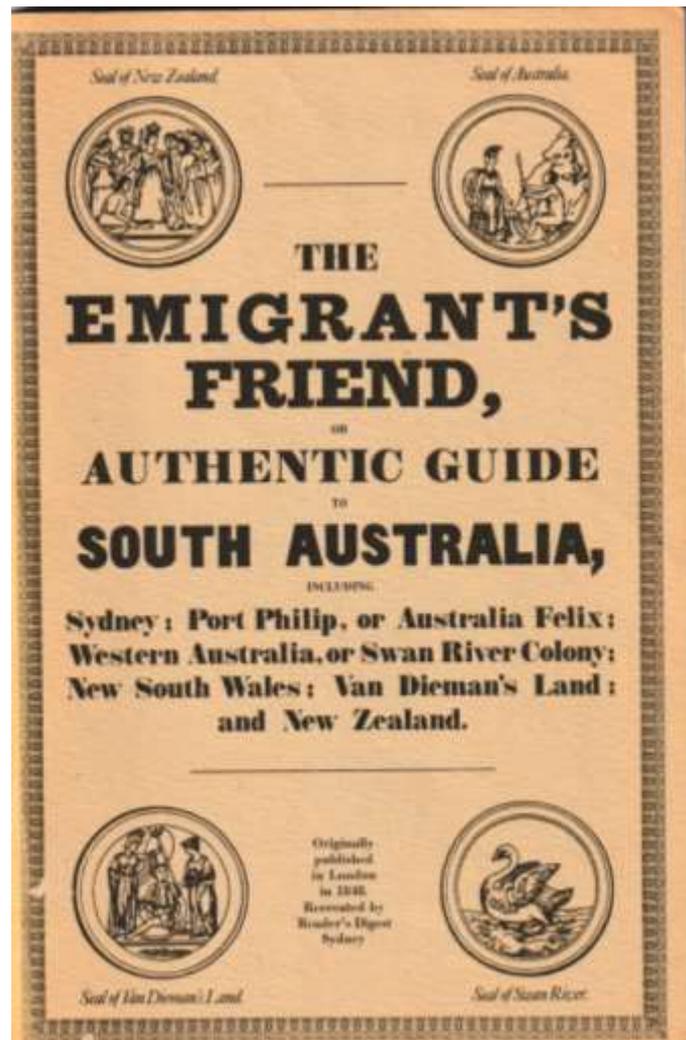


# BREMER ECHOES

***OUR FOREBEARS PAST, YET PRESENT STILL***



*ISSN 2208 - 2131*

***IPSWICH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY INC***

***VOLUME 39 NO 3***

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**Cover Photograph:** *The cover of “The Emigrant’s Friend” or Authentic Guide to South Australia, Sydney; Port Phillip or Australia Felix; Western Australia or Swan River; New South Wales; Van Dieman’s Land; and New Zealand;*

*First Published London UK 1848; Reprinted Reader’s Digest Sydney Australia 1974*

*See page 17*

***BREMER ECHOES***

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**The Journal of the IPSWICH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY INC****The First Genealogical Society in Queensland 1977****PLEASE NOTE: “Brigg House” will close at 12noon Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2021 and open 9.30 am Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

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**From the Editor:** The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held on 14<sup>th</sup> September and it was great to see some more members attending and we say thank you for showing interest.

A big thank you to the members who have come forward to cover for Claire and I when we are unable to attend. Your help is greatly appreciated, especially John, Kathy, Sally and Angela who have taken over our roster days, as well as other duties.

The Society was approached by the new Ipswich newspaper – “Ipswich News Today” – asking if we would be willing to submit articles of historic interest to be included each week. These have been favourably received by readers, and at present they are “Stories Behind the Tombstones” by John Rossiter, stories of the early settlers who lie in the Ipswich General Cemetery; Thank you John. The Ipswich Historical also submits articles.

We wish everyone a Safe and Happy Christmas and hope 2022 will see things return to normal, or as close as it will ever be.

Best Wishes, *Irma Deas, Editor.*



**NEW MEMBERS: We welcome the following new members and wish them success with their research.**

Phillip Shaw & Janelle Pickering-Shaw, Tracy Phillips, Vicki Parslow-Stafford, Bruce Skinner.

This is the first part of the biography of Robert Jeffrey which will continue in the next two editions of Bremer Echoes. Thank you to great grandson Brian Jeffrey.

## ROBERT JEFFREY – IPSWICH PIONEER

- Brian Jeffrey

### Part 1: Mining ‘Black Diamonds’

My great great grandfather was Robert Jeffrey (1824-1883), best known in the history of Ipswich for operating the ferry across the Bremer River before the first permanent crossing was erected in 1865. Described as of a retiring disposition, he features little in broader histories, yet he was part of the city’s fabric from the mid-1800s.

Robert was born in Dunipace, a village in the county of Stirlingshire, Scotland, on 2 January 1824. At age 25 he married a 22-year-old Highlands-born woman, Margaret **McDonald**. Some four years earlier he had fathered a child, John, by one Jane **Allan** and by the time of the 1851 census, Robert, Margaret and John were living in Alloa, a thriving river port on the north bank of the Firth of Forth where the main industry was coal mining, a hard, dangerous and poorly-paid occupation. Government-sponsored emigration offered the chance of a better life and in 1855 the family joined some 400 like-minded souls headed to Queensland aboard the ship *John Davies*<sup>1</sup>. Waiting at the wharf when they disembarked at Brisbane was one Walter ‘Wattie’ **Gray**, a resourceful entrepreneur who was intent on exploiting Ipswich’s rich coal deposits. He had bought from the Government three adjacent allotments about 50 metres above the Bremer on its northern bank just below what became known as Tivoli Hill, thus allowing sufficient area for a small mine. He hired 31-year-old Robert as its manager and two young single men, 20-year-old James **Cuthbertson** and 23-year-old James **Bretian**, as labourers.<sup>2</sup>

Robert and his fellow employees would have found much needing to be done before the mine became operational later that same year. First, a vertical shaft of some 33 metres had to be sunk, about half of it through a layer of hard sandstone. Construction also had to begin on a number of

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<sup>1</sup> There can be confusion regarding the name of this vessel, especially as the passenger list records it as the ‘John Davis’; however *Lloyds Register, 1855* records it, correctly, as the ‘John Davies’. The vessel was, in fact, named after the founder of the Davies shipbuilding firm, based in New Brunswick.

<sup>2</sup> Glimpses of early Ipswich No. XIV by ‘Red Gum’, *The Queensland Times*, 26 March 1909. Also ‘The Coal Industry’, a retrospective by ‘Red Gum’ in *The Queensland Times*, 10 June 1911. Also ‘Coal first found at Ipswich in 1827’, *The Queensland Times*, 24 August 1946. (An article under the ‘Red Gum’ by-line published in *The Queensland Times* of 26 August 1920 says that Walter Gray also recruited one John Byers from the *John Davies*; however there was no-one of that name on the ship’s passenger list.)

on-site buildings, intended eventually to include a large store, the overseer's house, a dwelling house for the workmen, and blacksmith's and carpenter's shops. A fellow passenger aboard the *John Davies*, Alexander **Hunter**, would recall seeing Robert and James **Cuthbertson** employed in the tunnelling operations in pursuit of so-called 'black diamonds'. The layer of hard sandstone above the rich coal seam afforded a secure roof to the workings and side passages on both sides of the shaft, allowing them to extend beneath the river. Oil lamps and candles provided illumination, while at appropriate points small unlined shafts afforded ventilation from the surface above. The coal was dug entirely by hand. In 1856, the mine's output was relatively modest, but within two years it would be the major source of coal in the Northern Districts, producing some 2,200 tonnes in 1858.

The coal was brought to the shaft in boxes running on simple tramways. The boxes were then hauled to the surface by machinery constructed for the purpose by an Ipswich local, 'Mr **Longland**', and conveyed to a wharf by means of another tramway. From there the content would either be tipped straight into coal barges lying alongside or left in a storage pile on the wharf. In late 1856 Walter Gray & Co. was advising 'Steam-boats, Saw mills, Blacksmiths, &c' that they could supply 'coals of the best quality' from the company's mine on the Bremer.<sup>3</sup> In time, the company would appoint William **Pettigrew** as the mine's Brisbane agent. Meanwhile, young John **Jeffrey**, 9 years old when the family arrived in Queensland, was reported to be assisting his father by serving as the 'nipper' who conveyed miners' tools from the blacksmith in Bell Street to wherever they were required. Where the weight and size of his load allowed, John would row across the Bremer, but bulkier tools and equipment necessitated his taking the load by dray across sand flats at the foot of Ellenborough Street.

Mines located on or close to the riverbank had a particular advantage since riverboats could obtain their coal supplies direct from the source; however the convenient location also meant that mines were susceptible to the Bremer's unpredictable moods. Walter **Gray's** mine withstood

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<sup>3</sup> Some details of the mine and its operation are drawn from Whitmore, R. L. *Coal in Queensland: The First Fifty Years*, University of Queensland Press, St Lucia, Queensland 1981. The reference to 'black diamonds' is drawn from 'Old Identities: Mr Alexander Campbell Hunter, JP' by Red Gum, *The Queensland Times*, 17 April 1915. The location of the mine 'just below Tivoli Hill' comes from a reminiscence by Ipswich pioneer Sir Samuel Griffith ('Glimpses of early Ipswich', *The Queensland Times*, 26 August 1920). The description of the mine shaft, its operation and output are drawn in part from a report in the *Moreton Bay Courier* of 29 November 1856. The reference to 'Mr Longland' is from a report in *The Moreton Bay Courier*, 16 August 1856. The reference to Walter Gray & Co. advertising is drawn from content in *The North Australian, Ipswich and General Advertiser*, 25 November 1856. Similar advertising continued through 1857.

damaging floods in May 1857 but was less fortunate in October 1858 when flooding inundated the whole of the workings and destroyed the tramway, temporarily putting the mine out of action. Once restored, it remained a major source of coal in the Northern Districts, still producing almost 5,000 tons of coal a year in 1860, although its operation was eventually overtaken by a new mine at Redbank.<sup>4</sup>

On 25 July 1856, Robert attended a sale at the Police Office and paid £25 for Lot No.14, an area of 1 rood (about 0.10 hectare) in the parish of Chuwar. He thus became one of the earliest residents on the isolated, heavily timbered and sparsely populated north bank of the Bremer; indeed some reports say he was *the* first resident and credit him with building the area's first sawn-wood house. He would occupy the block for the rest of his life. Robert's employer, Walter **Gray**, was also a keen buyer of multiple lots at the Chuwar land sale, sometimes in partnership with William **Craies**, the first manager of the Bank of NSW in Ipswich. Given Robert's long-lasting association with coal (whatever his other future business interests, his obituary would still describe him as a 'coal carter'), it would appear that he had an ongoing business arrangement associated with **Gray's** and/or **Craies's** and other mining interests in Chuwar.

The need regularly to traverse the Bremer by boat added to north-side residents' settlement difficulties and sense of isolation. Benedictum **Vanzeur**, a Mauritius-born local identity, ran a ferry-boat service to North Ipswich from steps at the bottom of East Street. In late 1858, however, Vanzeur became subject to criticism following the death of a man named **Marsden** who had drowned while swimming in the swollen river. A letter to the *North Australian* called into question how the drowning had occurred 'with a ferry-boat within forty yards of him, and the ferryman all the while looking on, without making an effort to save him'. Referring also to the ferryman's refusal to cross the river during the flood, 'the manner in which the fares are raised and lowered without any assignable reason [and] ... the general complaints against his conduct', the writer opined that it was time to licence the ferry 'so that the public may have some guarantee for its being efficiently and properly conducted'.<sup>5</sup>

While he may not have anticipated it at the time, Robert would soon be instrumental in providing a more robust passage across the Bremer.

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<sup>4</sup> Whitmore, op. cit.

<sup>5</sup> *North Australian, Ipswich and General Advertiser*, 12 October 1858.

**COAL.**

**T**HE undersigned are now prepared to supply  
**COALS** of the best quality for Steam-boats  
 Saw mills, Blacksmiths, &c., from their mine on the  
 Bremer, near Ipswich.

**WALTER GRAY & Co.**  
 Ipswich, 13th November, 1856.

*North Australian, 13 November 1856*

The Treasury, Queensland.  
 19th January, 1860.

**Ferry at Ipswich.**

**A**T 12 o'clock on WEDNESDAY, the 1st  
 February, 1860, the Lease for Three Years  
 commencing the 1st of March, 1860, of the Dues  
 authorised to be collected at the under-mentioned  
 Ferry, will be put up to Auction, at the Police  
 Office, Ipswich, viz. :—

FERRY between North and South Ipswich, for  
 which the lessee must provide his own punts  
 and ferry boats.

A bond in double the amount of rent, will be  
 required for the due fulfilment of the lessee's en-  
 gagements, together with two responsible sureties.

A warrant of Attorney will also be required.

Further particulars can be ascertained upon  
 application at this office, or at the Police Office,  
 Ipswich.

**R. R. MACKENZIE.**

*Queensland Times 12 April 1866 pg 2*

## PIONEER GRAVES IN IPSWICH CEMETERY – SECTION 7



Headstones in Section 7 Ipswich Cemetery - Society Collection

The Pioneer or Historic Gravestones in the Ipswich General Cemetery are found in Section 7 and were moved from their original positions throughout the cemetery in the 1970's and placed in rows close to Cemetery Road. Over the years they have been badly neglected, and at present the Ipswich City Council is in the planning stages of making changes to this section of the cemetery.

Many of the early pioneers of the area are buried in the cemetery and the inscriptions tell sad tales of the deaths of young women, many who died in childbirth, and young children who had a very a short life, and those who died as a result of accidents.

These are a few of the inscriptions on some of the Historic Graves in Section 7 at the Ipswich General Cemetery:

*In Loving Memory of JOHN BYRNE died 16 September 1906 aged 108 years 3 months also MARY wife of the above died 24 May 1874 aged 50 years also ELLEN daughter of the above died 25 February 1878 aged 25 years.*

*Sacred to the Memory of Joseph Christopher son of JOHN and CATHERINE BYRNE who departed this life 26 June 1875 aged 3 years, also of JOHN BYRNE Native of \*Cool Raney County Wexford Ireland who departed this life 25 August 1890 aged 57 years, also CATHERINE BYRNE wife of the above died 18 August 1922 aged 81 years also JAMES BYRNE died 20 February 1931. "He took the Cup of Life to sip, Too bitter t'was to drain. He gently put it to his lips, And went to sleep again. Also ELLEN BYRNE (Ede M) died 16 February 1933. **Plaque added.** Also DENIS FRANCIS BYRNE died 26 February 1941. "May the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Have Mercy on His Soul." \*Coolrainey ?*

*In Remembrance of EION DUNCAN REGINALD DAVIDSON who was drowned in the Brisbane River 17 Day of March 1880 aged 29 years, third son of DUNCAN DAVIDSON of Tulloch Lord Lieutenant of Ross & Cromarty Scotland. R.I.P.*

*Sacred to the Memory of JAMES STEPHEN BRODERICK who died 26 January 1876 aged 11 months, also EVELINE ANNIE BRODERICK who died 20 March 1893 aged 16 years also JOHN JOSEPH BRODERICK who died 24 October 1900 aged 22 years also PATRICK BRODERICK who died 21 October 1905 aged 64 years BARTIE HARRIETTE BRODERICK who died 25 June 1906 aged 23 years and SELINA wife of Patrick BRODERICK who died 27 August 1909 aged 60 years also CATHERINE SELINA BRODERICK who died 21 January 1911 aged 16 years ROBERT STEPHEN BRODERICK who died 1 November 1912 aged 28 years.*

*In Memory of THOMAS McKNIGHT WILSON, died 18 January 1876 aged 76 years, also his son JOHN WILSON Presbyterian Minister South Brisbane died 18 December 1871 aged 45 years and his wife MARY BAIRD WILSON died 17 February 1866 aged 28 years. SAMUEL EDGAR WILSON Minister of the Scotch Church Ipswich died 13 April 1866 aged 31 years. FRANCIS WILSON died 14 July 1869 aged 27 years. DAVID PATTERSON WILSON 30 January 1873 aged 23 also ELLEN daughter of Thomas Wilson and wife of William BERRY died 25 May 1875 aged 27 years*

*In The Memory of THOMAS CHALK native of Essex England who died 22 January 1876 aged 63 years "Happy Soul Thy days are ended All thy mourning days below To the sight of Jesus go" also his grandson WILLIAM CHALK who died 21 July 1872 aged 15 months also his grandson JOSEPH HORTON who died 25 June 1878 aged 3 weeks. "Let the Little Ones Come unto Me for such is the Kingdom of Heaven" also WILLIAM GEORGE died 28/09/1914 aged 91 years also MARIA GEORGE wife of the above died 27 April 1909 aged 81 years.*

*Side 1: Sacred to the memory of MARGARET JEFFREY the beloved wife of ROBERT JEFFREY who departed this life 9 January 1866 aged 38 yrs. Also of the above named ROBERT JEFFREY who died 15 May 1885 aged 59 years.*

*Side 2: Sacred to the Memory of ELIZABETH the Beloved wife of Daniel KELLY who died 14 April 1896 aged 24 years. Side 3: Sacred to the memory of ISABELLA the beloved daughter of Robert and Margaret Jeffrey who died 29 December 1876 aged 3 months Also MARGARET STEEN sister of the above who died 25 December 1881 aged 15 years also of AGNES BLACK sister of the above who died 9 January 1882 aged 11 years. "Not Lost but Gone Before"*

## FROM ONE SMALL PAGE

You never know how far our magazine travels.

The following are copies of a number of emails exchanged between Katherine Broome from Oxford UK and the Society in July 2019.

Dear Secretary,

Quite by chance, as one does, I have come across the Echoes edition of February 2016. On page 12 is shown part of the wording on a tombstone in the Kincardine cemetery at Ardgay in Ross-shire.

But why? There are no accompanying comments. I am intrigued. John and Mary Anderson were my great grandparents! How come that they are mentioned in your Genealogical Society's magazine? None of their descendants had a connection to Queensland as far as I know, but if they had, I would be delighted to hear. The direct male Anderson line will die out with my brother who was born in 1935.

By one of those amazing co-incidences, the stone & another two family stones have been cleaned and repaired in the last couple of weeks and are looking wonderful although the inscription on the mentioned stone is rather worn.

Your magazine had most interesting articles & I enjoyed reading them. Genealogy is such fun especially when one has access to the social history to bring the names to life. Good wishes to your Society from an Anderson born in Edinburgh in 1932 who spent much of her childhood in Ross-shire but now living in Witney near Oxford.

Katharine Broome.[Whose late husband's forbear gave his name to Broome WA!]

Reply:

Hello Katherine, it is great to know that our magazine has bought a 'little sunshine' to someone so far away.

In 1996 a friend and I travelled to the UK and drove around parts of Scotland as I have a cousin living at that time on Isla. My friend Margaret and I just wandered around a bit, before going out to Isla on the ferry for a few days. An elderly friend had told us her ancestors came from Bonar Bridge, so we went for a look, and came across Ardgay, and like all good genealogists we visited the cemetery. You are so fortunate as your grave stones give a lot of information, and we noticed that Alexander Rose Munro Anderson was buried in Broken Hill, so took a photograph. I wonder if Alexander was a miner, as Broken Hill in western New South Wales [in the middle of no-where] is a silver lead & zinc mining area. Great that the tombstones have been cleaned.

The Munro name also intrigues me as my Mother's side is Munro, and we have been searching for Gordon Munro who married in London in 1822, and on each census only says born Scotland, which is no help. We have tried and other branches of the family have, but cannot prove where he was born. As a matter of

interest one of his daughters was the mother of Noel Coward – amazing. I would never have known except that my grandfather Richard Murray Munro who came to Australia after the Boer War told me, and as he died in 1953, when I was 12, and not at all interested that was all I knew, but I do have information on that family now. Still it does not help with Gordon's details.

I do not do much research now, as I am President of the Ipswich Genealogical Society, and do the magazine and the web page, and have a couple of other interests besides a husband and grown family, so always something to do.

There must be a story as your husband's family is associated with Broome which is another far out place in Australia. Did they have something to do with the pearling industry? It has always been known for its beautiful pearls.

In 1989 my husband and I travelled around Australia for 3 months and stayed in Broome which really amazed me, as I expected it would be a little place and it was very modern with some huge homes and developments as well as some very old shanties and an open air picture [movie] theatre, where you sat on canvas seats and looked up at the night sky. Too bad if it rained – they have a wet season and a dry season, and it is either one or the other, so they probably only show movies in the dry, I guess.

I am happy that you took the time to contact us, and hopefully you will find more of interest in our magazine. Named Bremer Echoes, as Ipswich is on the banks of the Bremer River.

Maybe we will talk again some time?

Best wishes, Irma Deas

Reply:

What a wonderful rapid response, Irma, & how great to know that it's you who was in the Kincardine burial ground near Ardgay. I wonder who the Bonar forbears of your elderly friend were. My Anderson forbears "emigrated" to Bonar about 1830 from near Alness. John & Mary ran the inn which was then just south of the bridge at Bonar & her brother ran the inn in the middle of Ardgay – neither building still in existence in 1996.

My grandfather was George who was married thrice! My father born in 1898 was the youngest child of the third family. Between them, George's wives gave birth to nineteen children! Of course, not all of them survived childhood & there were only three grandchildren. One, also George, who was two years older than my father, went to the US as a child. I stayed with him in 1956. He had no children. My brother & myself are the others & my brother has 2 daughters, so that's the end of the male line. Hardly believable when one produced nineteen children!

Alexander Rose Munro Anderson was the fifth of the 7 children of the first family. His mother, Ann Munro, belonged to Bonar where her father was a merchant. One of her brothers was a clergyman in Alness after whom Alex was named. One of the sons of the Rev. Alexander was an eminent lawyer in Scotland

& became Lord Alness. Alex went to Australia in 1887. At one stage he was an accountant in the Bank of Victoria. From the Adelaide Observer of Sept 1902 found in your wonderful Trove

How very interesting that you have both a Munro & a Noel Coward connection. Isn't it a pity that one didn't take any notice of the family history when one was young? If only one had asked! My father knew a great deal but never said that his parents were second cousins!! Didn't he know? They were both Andersons with similar Christian names on both sides. Or was it a "secret"?

And how interesting that you've been to Broome. My husband & I were invited there for the Festival of the Pearl in 1976. He died the following year having handed to the WA government various family documents. The town was called after his great grandfather, Frederick Napier Broome, who was Governor of WA in the 1880/90's. We had the most wonderful trip. At the time, we knew little about the Broomes but in my later years I've done a considerable amount of research, much enabled by all the wonderful things to be found on the internet.

And I have an Australian daughter-in-law! They live in Oxford but married in Sydney in 1991 when I was last in Australia. She has an interesting family tree – Irish/Russian. Her mother & I communicate, regularly.

Lovely to have "talked" with you & I'll read more of your Bremer Echoes. Thank you so much for your response.

Best wishes,  
Katharine.

Reply:

Hello Katherine,

I went to visit my friend June Walker today and asked her about her ancestors who came from Bonar Bridge.

June was a nurse, never married and is 96. She and her brother who was a widower [Tom was 92] lived together for many years. Sadly Tom passed away suddenly a few months ago, so June now lives alone. She is fortunate as her neighbor is very good and pops in everyday and looks after her. June's problem is that she has trouble getting around, and is mostly housebound, but always cheerful and interested to hear that you and I are emailing each other.

June showed me some letters dated 1988/ 1989 when she was corresponding with her 'cousin' in Bonar Bridge. The lady's name was Miss Bessie B. CALDER, and she lived at 19 Carnmhor? Road, Bonar Bridge Sutherland Scotland

June's grandmother was Robina BARCLAY who married William MacDonald from Culbokie? [Sorry, some of the writing was hard to read]. Bessie's grandmother was Betsy BARCLAY, sister to Robina [married William MacKenzie] their parents were Alexander BARCLAY and Margaret MUNRO.

It will be amazing if you know of the families. I look forward to hearing from you, and giving any information to June.

Kind Regards,

Reply:

The wonders of the internet, Irma! I knew two Calders, very well, but the other surnames are not known to me. I do know Culbokie – I used to stay there after all my relatives had died. It's a small village on the Black Isle near Dingwall & I rented a holiday cottage looking over to Ben Wyvis from whence came my Anderson forbears.

Firstly, the Calders were a very extensive family who lived for generations in a croft called "Airdens" located "at the back of Bonar". [I quote my father.] Many of them emigrated to the Empire and America & the Scottish Record Office has a collection of letters which some member of the family has deposited. I see that one of the correspondents was a Neil Calder who was in Victoria by 1895.

<https://www.nls.uk/catalogues/online/cnmi/inventories/acc9000.pdf>

In the 1880's several members of the family had resisted eviction from Airdens & were imprisoned. The following link may be of interest

<http://www.tainmuseum.org.uk/imagelibrary/picture/number39.asp>

Secondly, not knowing June's actual connection to the Calders, it is not easy to find a link but the two whom I knew, worked for my family. They were sisters, Mina & Marion. Their father was Robert/ Robbie Calder in the photograph. Mina was born in 1902 & died in 1960. She didn't marry but had a son Campbell born in 1928. He was the informant on her death certificate but I always heard him called Peter. He was a doctor, went abroad but returned to Scotland & died, unmarried, a number of years ago. Mina was a "parlourmaid" for my aunt Mina & her husband at the Balnagown Arms Hotel in Ardgay until it burnt down in 1943 & moved with them to Ardgay House until she became ill.

Marion married a man called Lees, moved away & was divorced. She moved back and was carer to my aunt Mina after she had a stroke c1959, until she died in 1963. She remained at Ardgay House as housekeeper to my uncle until he died in 1969. In her later years, she lived in a local authority bungalow in Ardgay. I used to visit her every year when I stayed in Culbokie & we'd talk about days gone by & my aunts & uncles. She died about 10 years ago. I didn't know for a couple of years when a relative – I don't recall who – wrote to tell me.

Which brings me, thirdly, to "cousin" Bessie at 19 Carnmhor Road in Bonar. I can find nothing about her but can be certain that she must have died a number of years ago. I see that there was a different occupier of that address in 2009 but don't know how long they'd been there. There are, still, a considerable number of Calders in the Bonar area. A John was the Postmaster with his wife, Eileen, for a long number of years & they were followed by their son, Martin, born in 1952 & died in 2014. A Christopher died in 2017.

I hope that some of this might bring up memories for June. Although not truly housebound, myself, I don't go far & I know what fun it is when something like this turns up! It would be interesting to know how she is linked to the Calders. Probably by a marriage.

The Tain Museum was set up by a very dear friend. She was nearer my father's age; her mother had taught my father at school & there were connections with some of my uncles. She & my father wrote, often, to each other talking about days gone by. It was his wish that various family papers should go to her for her intended Museum. They are now there and more will go! My family connection in Tain goes back to the mid-18th century, at least. I don't know if I'll get there again.

My good wishes to June & yourself & thanks for your interest & help,  
Katharine.

*The tombstone inscription which started it all, in the church yard near Bonar Bridge, Scotland*

**IN MEMORY OF  
JOHN ANDERSON  
who died Bonar 28 July 1840  
aged 51 years  
and his spouse  
MARY ROSS  
Who died at Bonar 24 Oct 1871  
Aged 85 years  
ANNIE MUNRO  
Wife of  
GEORGE ANDERSON  
Who died Bonar 15 Feb 1869  
Aged 31 years  
And their daughter  
EUPHEMIA  
who was drowned at the river Carron  
14 Aug 1863  
Aged 11 years  
ANN SIMPSON ROSS  
Wife of GEORGE ANDERSON  
Who died 16 Aug 1875  
Aged 29 years  
And their son  
WILLIAM ROSS ANDERSON  
Who died 16 Oct 1897  
Aged 24 years  
JOHN ANDERSON  
ROBERT MUNRO ANDERSON buried in New York  
ALEXANDER ROSE MUNRO ANDERSON buried Broken Hill**



Two of the Tombstones at Ardgay Scotland



Queensland Times, Tuesday 4 June 1867, page 3:

**MODERN DUTIES, QUALIFICATIONS & SALARIES of GOVERNESSES**

The odd notions which some ladies entertain as to the duties and qualifications of a governess are illustrated in the following letter, which has been forwarded to us as a curiosity:--" In reply to Miss -'s letter, one of more than 100 received, Mrs. Charles P'- will try and give her some idea of what is required, &c.

The children are three - The eldest a boy of nearly eight, a girl of five and a baby ten months old. The two elder will require regular teaching in the morning, steady grounding in music, English, and French: also Latin for the boy. The baby to be taken at nights and assistance given in the day, when lessons are not going on; needlework and general willingness to assist Mrs.. P- with the children. There are two servants kept (a cook and house maid). The house stands alone, three miles from Ludlow. A pony carriage is kept; and Mrs. P ... would wish to make any lady who engaged to take the situation feel she was one of themselves. The salary offered is £12 with laundress, or £11 without. Good music is a great essential. If Miss ... will send the address of her referee, Mrs. P. -- will make the necessary enquiries as to her thorough efficiency. Great neatness is required with the children's ward robe."--*Pall Mall Gazette*.

Queensland Times, Ipswich Herald and General Advertiser (Qld. : 1861 - 1908),  
Saturday 15 June 1867, page 2

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### THE FINE OLD QUEENSLAND SQUATTER

I'll sing you a brand new song that was made by a fast young pate,  
Of a fine old Queensland squatter, who had a large estate;  
His hut was built of iron bark, with shingles of the same,  
With a green-hide door wide open, for each traveller as he came.  
Like a fine old Queensland squatter one of the olden time.

His walls of slabs were hung around with trophies of the chase,  
With dingo skins, and emu legs, it was a sporting place;  
And there old Blowhard smoked his pipe, a black dhudeen of clay,  
And tapped his keg, and spun tough yarns, to drive blue fiends away.  
Like a fine old Queensland squatter one of the olden time.

In Limestone town his custom was, just once a year, d'ye see,  
To sell his wool, and square his books, and have a jolly spree;  
And who when there could rival him at dinner, or at ball?  
In mirth, and fun, and jollity, he far outshone them all.  
Like a fine old Queensland squatter one of the olden time.

Those good old times are altered now, and altered for the worse,  
The banks and land sharks have it all—they're Queensland's greatest curse—  
The brave old squatter's driven back; we miss his friendly hand,  
The honest smile, the hearty joke that made a happy land  
Like a fine old Queensland squatter one of the olden time.

And now the old brick's far away, we'll drink success to him;  
When hungry land sharks all have sunk, may he be seen to swim;  
At Bowen town, or Spencer's Gulf, wherever he maybe,  
His flocks increase, his heart grows young on damper, beef, and tea.  
Like a fine old Queensland squatter one of the olden time.

BOIARDO. Goondiwindi,            June 7th, 1867.

## “THE EMIGRANT’S FRIEND”

(Information from 1848)

The Society recently received a package from one of our out of town members, Noela Wallace, which contained, along with other information a small book – **“The Emigrant’s Friend”**. This is a treasure trove as the original was an “Authentic Guide” published in London in 1848 by - **J. Allen, Warwick Lane, Paternoster Row; D. Francis, Mile End Road. May be had of all booksellers” and recreated by Reader’s Digest Sydney 1974.**

This small book is full of information of what could be a new life in a new country for the prospective emigrant. The chapters cover South Australia, Sydney, Australia Felix (Port Phillip), and Swan River Settlements, Van Dieman’s Land and New Zealand.

The Introduction begins: *Emigration from this tax-overburdened country is the order of the day, and it will become every man, struggling with difficulties here, especially if he have a large family, to think seriously if he cannot find some other country where his trade is brisker, or his labour better paid – where his family is a blessing and not a burden – where he may look forward to have, in a few years, a little freehold of his own, and in return of the inconveniences and trials (and trials they really are) of a first settlement, have the heartfelt pleasure of seeing himself certain of a comfortable home, improving year by year, and his family well provided for while young, and growing up not to toil through life without profit as they would here, but becoming farmers and landed proprietors, able to employ others in their turn.*

It goes on to compare other countries – Canada in North America; Cape of Good Hope and Natal in Africa; St Paul in Brazil, South America and mentions the pros and cons of settlement.

South Australia is the next chapter, explaining that the majority is barren and it is only the area along the coast suitable for agriculture, and adds *“Here no fevers – no periodical dysentery – no consumptions – no asthmas – no coughs – and no argues”* then describes the climate, land and working conditions, wages and cost of living.

Port Phillip, or Australia Felix is a contrast to South Australia is said to be *“the most luxuriant of all the Australian districts”- “the climate is delicious, resembling a perpetual spring”*

The author states *“Were we to emigrate, Port Phillip is the district, which, above all else, we should prefer”*

Western Australia or Swan River Colony: *“The soil and the climate are of the same character as Sydney and South Australia, but both inferior; Swan River is neither so fruitful nor so healthy, nor is the country so beautiful”*, then makes mentions of the gales of winter and the drought of summer. Only one and a half pages are devoted to Western Australia, and the last paragraph begins - *“We will not dwell on the Swan River Colony, no Emigrants have gone there for years, nor would we advise anyone to choose his resting place there”* (Seems a bit harsh?(Ed))

New South Wales: This was the oldest settlement, and in 1848 convicts or descendants of them were the main “*labourers or tradesmen such as carpenters, masons, blacksmiths and tailors and shoe makers*”, although transportation had ceased by this time. (States the publication).

The free convicts took up land and settled with their families and built a new life, but in the ‘The Emigrants Friend’ there is a note of caution to those planning on a new life in the colonies - “*however well a person, who has been transported may conduct himself there, yet in spite of the liberality of feeling a settler may have, there must naturally be a degree of doubt and hazard when a farmer at a distant station, knows that he is obliged to employ a notorious housebreaker, or a mistress of a family has to entrust her family or household to a London prostitute or convicted thief.*”

One chapter ‘OUTFITS AND PASSAGE TO THE AUSTRALIAN COLONIES’ gives a list of the principal articles needed for the voyage and “*it cannot be too strongly impressed, as a general rule, that the more abundant the stock of clothing each person can afford to take, the better for health and comfort during the voyage*”.

Also in this chapter – The Government Emigrant Agents “*act under the immediate directions of the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners and the following is a summary of their duties – They procure and give gratuitously information as to the sailing of ships, and means of accommodation for Emigrants;*”- “*they see that all agreements between ship owners, agents or masters, and intending Emigrants are duly performed. They also see that the provisions of the Passengers’ Act are strictly complied with, viz. that passenger vessels are sea worthy that they have on board a sufficient supply of provisions, water, medicines, and that they sail with proper punctuality.*”

A chapter on Van Dieman’s Land includes the climate, landscape with mountains, lakes, rivers and the use being made of the area at that time, and the unique animals, information for the intending Emigrants.

“*We have surely said enough relative to this colony; it is not one that it would be advisable to settle at. No labourers of any kind, nor yet operatives are wanted; the colonists are rapidly leaving it for Port Phillip. Government offers no assistance of a free passage there – the country is over run with desperate bush rangers, and even the convicts, who are well disposed, destroy that feeling of safety and good manners, which so essentially distinguish South Australia*”.

The New Zealand chapter describes the climate, land, food production, minerals to be found and the population in favourable terms, although in one part- “*The Native population are improving, but still they are diminishing with great rapidity, chiefly from sickness, arising from the change of their clothes, and their habits of mixing with the white people.*”

This small book of 39 pages is packed with what appears to be mainly the observations and opinions of a small number of people, and does seem biased towards South Australia.

*Editor*

### **TIMES HAVE CHANGED John Rossiter**

Before these days of massive supermarkets, we had the corner stores where all your food needs were catered for, except the butcher. Corner stores and butchers are these days a rarity.

The grocer would weigh out the flour, sugar, tea, rice, pumpkin, cheese and whatever right before your eyes. The goods were placed in brown paper bags and tied with string – not plastic and sticky tape like we have today causing pollution. The butcher would cut and weigh the cut of meat you required and weigh it on the scales right in front of you. He would place it onto white or greaseproof paper and then wrap it in newspaper. The local kids made their pocket money by selling the newspapers to the butcher at 1d per pound.

Trading hours were restricted and offenders were fined for breaches of the rules. One of these raids occurred at North Ipswich and a report appeared in the Brisbane Courier on 20 June, 1933.

*“STOREKEEPERS FINED - for breaches of the shop assistants award. In failing to close their non-exempted shops at 5.30 p.m., the following store-keepers pleaded guilty before Mr W. Simpson, P. M., yesterday :- George Commins, Waterworks Road, North Ipswich; Richard Johnson, Pine Mountain Road, Brassall; Mabel Caroline Rossow, Raymonds Hill; Andrew Allan, Wyndham Street, North Ipswich. Each was fined £1 with 6/- costs. Mr A. A. O. Poole, Industrial Inspector, prosecuted.”*

All of the above stores have not existed for many years due the change in times and the advancement of supermarkets.



The last of those corner stores was closed on 23 June 1996.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2021

In presenting my 7th President's Report firstly I would like to thank our secretary Kathryn Boggan who has been my 'rock' in the last year since Claire Juler our Vice President has been battling breast cancer. It has been a very tough year for Claire, and we are hoping she will be back with us soon. It would have been impossible to keep the Society running without Kathy and I also thank all other members who have been a great help in stepping in when needed. Your help is appreciated.

As with everyone else in the community COVID has had an impact on our lives at Brigg House as well as at home. We can only hope things will improve for 2022.

Our thanks to Neal O'Connor, who installed a white board in "Volunteers' Rest" aka the kitchen, and we can keep up with news or leave notes for other members. By keeping it up to date, we are able to see what other members are working on and the progress with projects.

The film viewer which the society purchased a number of years ago, needed some small parts, and to send it for repairs would have cost. We are fortunate that the parts were replaced by the grandson of one of our members, at a very small cost, and our thanks to Jayden Deas for his help.

The Historical Society has this year on a number of occasions organized "Open Fun Days" which have proved popular with Ipswich residents. As part of these days, old games are played by the children – skipping, stilt walking, hopscotch to name a few, and all groups at the Heritage Centre were open to visitors. The Centre is an ideal place as there are a number of open areas suitable for children to enjoy these games from the past. Brigg House has been visited by a large number of visitors on these days.

Unfortunately members were unable to attend the History Queensland AGM, but hopefully this year we will have representation on the day. Edith Henry and I attended the Rosewood Scrub AGM held on 15<sup>th</sup> November at the new Rosewood Library, which is a beautiful building in the main street of the town. It was great to catch up with old friends.

We thank our Patron, Ipswich Mayor Teresa Harding, who made it possible for the Society to receive a donation of a black and white printer from the Electoral Commission after the elections in March.

One of our older members, Graham Muller passed away in January, after a long illness. Our sympathy was extended to Patricia and their family.

In February we received some files, and an album of photographs of the early days of the Society, from Alison Westphal, the daughter of our past secretary Catriona Robinson. Alison was going through boxes which had been moved to her home when her Mother passed way, and found these as well as a number of floppy discs which had been forgotten over the years. These discs hold the information from staff cards extracted by members in late 1990's when the North Ipswich Railway Workshops closed.

We are fortunate that we have been able to have this digitised and the Railway Workers is now available on the computers using the icon on the desktop. Thank you to Ryan Deas and Kim Mensforth for making this possible.

We have received a large number of research enquiries by email – more research seems to have been carried out because of COVID lockdowns and restrictions. We have also gained a number of new members.

The Society was contacted by two different U3A groups and the National Seniors asking for a guest speaker at their meetings. I have represented the Society each time, and although we decided against having a stall at the “Gathering”, the big Festival for all things Celtic held in May, I was once again asked to speak on the day. These are good ways to showcase the Genealogical Society.

Our member John Rossiter was asked by Darren Zahnow the President of the Ipswich Show Society to set up a photographic display for the Show also in May. Our group and the Ipswich Historical Society were included, and our large display was visited by many and favourably received. Hopefully 2022 will once again see us all at the Ipswich Show.

The long running Queensland Times ceased as a standalone newspaper in June, and the Fassifern Guardian & Tribune from Boonah began to include Ipswich news. A new publication “Ipswich News Today” began and the Historical Society and the Genies were asked to submit articles of historical interest. The articles have all been interesting and informative. John Rossiter has produced a booklet “Stories Behind the Tombstone” and these stories are now being published in the newspaper. John has spent many hours researching the early pioneers and telling their stories.

The Ipswich City Council is planning to upgrade Section 7 of the Ipswich General Cemetery, which are the Pioneer Headstones. These were moved from their original positions in the cemetery in the 1970’s and have been sadly neglected over the years. About 30 years ago, the inscriptions on the headstones were transcribed by members of the Ipswich Genealogical Society, but were hand written making some of them difficult to read. The transcriptions have now been digitized by our Society and are available on our computers and a copy is also held by the Council. These historic stones reveal some very sad facts about life in the early days of Ipswich.

Despite lockdowns and COVID restrictions, members have been kept busy updating cemetery records, cataloguing collections and updating the database.

My thanks to all who spend time to keep our Society running, and make it a happy place for all.

Best Wishes to all members and stay safe.

*Irma Deas*, President

7<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

IPSWICH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS  
TO 30 June 2021

Balance 1 July 2020	\$	15,573.80	
INCOME			
Membership Fees	\$	3,600.00	
Research Fees	\$	110.00	
Door Money	\$	125.75	
Donations & Gifts	\$	340.00	
Projects			
Library Equipment & Supplies			
Printouts & Photocopying	\$	67.60	
Other Income	\$	121.10	
Functions & Displays			
Raffles			
Sundries			
INCOME FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2020/21			\$ 4,364.45

## EXPENDITURE

Annual Costs			
Telstra account	\$	1,213.62	
Office of Fair Trading	\$	56.60	
Hist. of QLD membership	\$	38.50	
Contents Insurance	\$	430.00	
Ips. Historical Soc Donation	\$	100.00	
Find My Past Annual Fee	\$	203.58	
G. Yarram Computer services management	\$	200.00	
Domain Registration G. Yarram	\$	25.50	
Anti-Virus Software	\$	59.00	
Bremer Echoes Print & Post	\$	66.80	
Committee expenses	\$	100.00	
Purchase of two printers	\$	317.00	
Computer upgrade	\$	462.00	
C. Hyde Service Fee	\$	100.00	
Domain Registration	\$	251.62	
Library Equipment - Receipt			
books, chairs	\$	167.30	
Printer Cartridges	\$	145.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE 30 June 2021			\$ 3,936.52

SURPLUS \$ 427.93

## STATEMENT BY TREASURER

The Ipswich Genealogical Society's books are kept in an appropriate manner to record the income and expenditure position above.

## BALANCE SHEET

Retained earnings			
Balance 1 July 2020	\$	15,573.80	
Surplus for the financial year	\$	427.93	
Balance 30 June 2021	\$	16,001.73	

## Assets

Bank	\$	16,001.73	
Float	\$	85.00	
Net assets	\$	16,086.73	

Eric Clarke Treasurer 30 July 2021

## **PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE**

Contact the Secretary the address page 2

**FROM RAIL TO WAR** – QR Employees who enlisted in the Anglo Boer War 1899 – 1902 and the Great War 1914 – 1918 plus other information.

USB \$25.00 plus \$5.00 P&P [Australia]

**PLACES OF WORSHIP – Ipswich & District Churches**

Short history of churches in the area \$5.00 + \$2.50 P&P in Australia

**INDEX TO IPSWICH CEMETERY BURIAL REGISTER 1847 – 2014**

Over 36,000 records giving full name, age, death and burial dates where available  
1 CD - \$20.00 + \$5.00 P&P

**INDEX TO IPSWICH GENERAL CEMETERY 1851 - 1992 &**

**Columbarium Wall 1949 - 1992.** One microfiche \$6 includes postage in Australia. Over 15,000 entries with details of name, age and date of death.

**BIRTH, DEATH & MARRIAGE EXTRACTS 1858 – 1865** from The North

Australian & Ipswich General Advertiser. \$10 + \$10.00 P&P in Australia

**CITIZENS OF IPSWICH - 1904** Names of Ipswich citizens in 1904 taken from

Available Church Records - Baptisms, Deaths and Marriages, Electoral Rolls, Post Office Directory, Available School Rolls, Queensland Times Reports.

\$10 + \$10.00 P&P in Australia

**IPSWICH & DISTRICT PIONEER REGISTER - pre 1914;** Pioneer Families of the Ipswich, Gatton, Laidley, Boonah and Esk areas of Queensland.

**Please note prices:** Set Volumes 1 & 2 - \$10 + \$18 P&P in Australia

**JUBILEE HISTORY OF IPSWICH 1910** Commemorates the Jubilee of

Municipal Government. Reproduced on CD from the original 157 page book

\$19.50 (\$6.00 P&P)

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## MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 2020 - 2021

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Patron	Ipswich Mayor Teresa HARDING
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