

GRONO FAMILY ASSOCIATION

Newsletter No.3

17 June 2007

Grono Family Reunion

Thank you to all who attended the reunion on Sunday, 6th May 2007 at Ebenezer Uniting Church; especially those who travelled long distances to be there!



Grono Family Reunion 2007 Group Photo

Over 150 descendants gathered to celebrate the 208th anniversary of the arrival of John and Elizabeth Grono and family to Australia on the *HMS Buffalo* and the 200th anniversary of the arrival of David Hartley to Australia on the *Duke of Portland* in 1807. Nine out of the twelve lines of the family were represented. The largest turnouts were from the Elizabeth Grono/Hartley and Margaret Grono/Books lines.

Oldest descendant present: Mrs Helena van Stellingwerff

Youngest descendant present: Matisse (about 2 years old)

Furthest travelled: Mary Moustaka (Beaconsfield, W.A.); with honourable mentions to Thomas (Ron) McFarlane (Christchurch, N.Z.) and Patricia Sharp (Claremont, W.A.)

We were blessed with a clear, sunny day giving everyone a wonderful opportunity to catch up with each other.

The day commenced with registration at 10.00am, followed by the Official Welcome and Book Launch of "John Grono 1767 – 1847: Our Old Colonial Neptune", written by Robert Taylor. The Grono Family Association presented Robert Taylor with an Honorary Life Membership recognising Robert's research on John Grono and his efforts in establishing the Grono Family Association. At 2.00pm Reverend Grant Bilby, Minister of Ebenezer & Pitt Town Uniting Churches, conducted a Blessing Service.

Throughout the day maps were available for self-guided tours of Ebenezer Church and grounds, and a small display of Grono Family information was set out in the hall.

**OUR NEXT REUNION WILL BE
on Sunday 3rd May, 2009
at Ebenezer Church, Ebenezer, NSW**



Ebenezer Church

Ebenezer Church Bicentenary

The date chosen by the Ebenezer Church for the major celebration of its Bicentenary is **Saturday 20th June, 2009.**

No further details are available at this stage.

The Ebenezer Church has started to produce a newsletter which aims to inform those interested about the activities of the church, their plans for the future and about plans for the bicentenary. The timing of these newsletters does not always coincide with our own, so if you would like to receive your own copy of their newsletter, directly from the Ebenezer Church, please contact:

Ted Brill,
59 Tizzana Rd,
Ebenezer, NSW 2756,
Ph: (02) 4579 9235,
Email: tedbrill@bigpond.com

Auditor Wanted

Can anyone help???? The Committee is looking for a member who lives within the Sydney area, is a qualified accountant and is willing to audit the finances of the Grono Family Association in an honorary capacity (i.e. at no fee or a nominal amount only). The auditing task is not a large one, as the association is only of a small size.

If you are willing to offer your services then please contact Karen Mills on (02) 9898 1717. Thank you.

Future Publications – Family Stories & Genealogy

We are hoping in the future, possibly 2009, to be able to publish a new, accurate Grono Family Tree/Stories publication which will incorporate stories and photos of the lives of descendants. For this to occur we need your help. We are looking for submissions of family trees to compile this and also we would like to include stories/photos about the lives of descendants, especially the children and grand-children of John and Elizabeth Grono.

Sent information can be in any format – i.e. printed or electronic.
(Please note that no information on living descendants will be published).

Family Story – the launch of the *Esther Maria*

This is a story Patricia Sharp has sent in... *it comes from William Grono's diary which describes the construction of his vessel the Esther Maria.*

The very hot day on which she was to be launched was an event seen by "an assemblage of all the rank, youth and beauty of the surrounding districts." A real barbeque seems to have been planned for the great occasion as William recorded that previously "Alex and Bob [had gone] to Windsor to get things for the lanch. They got a shepe and they payed A Gine for it."

The great moment arrived. William wrote "John and William [Grono] were digin under the wesel and at 1 o'clock we lanchd."

He added: "Mrs Cheslin was comm to see her lanchd and she droped down ded in Mr Halles paddocke."

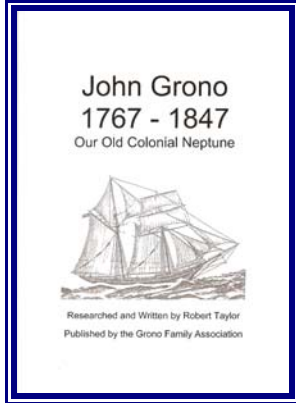
This story seemingly passed into folklore as oral history sources repeat it. My grandmother described Mrs Cheslin as an obese lady who had a fatal heart attack when squeezing through the wire fence into the paddock.

The Esther Maria went on to spend her working life plying up and down the east coast as a cargo ship.

If you have a family story you would like to share please fill in the "Family Story" form attached at the end of this newsletter and send it in to us (our contact details can be found on the last page of the newsletter).

PUBLICATIONS

John Grono 1767-1847: Our Old Colonial Neptune by Robert Taylor



Cost: \$35 per book + postage

Contact the Association for an order form, or download one off our website.

Funds raised from the sale of this book will be divided between Ebenezer Church, Hawkesbury Regional Museum, and restoration of Grono Family Graves.

Reprint of "Two Hawkesbury Sailors"

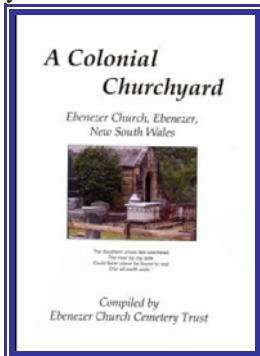
Advance orders continue to be taken for the second edition of
"Two Hawkesbury Sailors"
by the Grono-Books Association

To place an order (or for further information) please call **Ted Books** on either (02) 4577 3932 or 0415 901 159, or **send us an email** and we will forward your message on to Ted.

Book proceeds will go towards restoration of the Grono Family Vault in the church ground at Ebenezer Uniting Church.

Cost: not yet available

A Colonial Churchyard compiled by Ebenezer Church Cemetery Trust



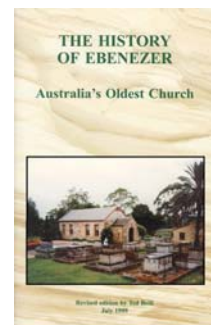
This publication was released in 2006. It provides complete transcriptions of all headstones/vaults and maps of grave locations for the cemetery within the Ebenezer Church grounds.

Cost: Book - \$38 (includes postage)
CD - \$25 (includes postage)

Orders may be placed with:
Ted Brill,
59 Tizzana Rd,
Ebenezer, NSW, 2756

Please make cheques payable to
"Ebenezer Church Shop".

THE HISTORY OF EBENEZER Australia's Oldest Church



This edition released in 1999 includes information on the fifteen church pioneer families and the building of the church and school.

Cost: \$6 per copy (includes postage)

Orders may be placed with:

Ted Brill,
59 Tizzana Rd,
Ebenezer, NSW, 2756

Please make cheques payable to
"Ebenezer Church Shop".

Seeking Contact or Information

Seeking Information and/or Location of Grono Family Objects



The Grono Family Association is interested in finding out about the location and items believed to have belonged to the either John Grono snr or any of his family.

For example, photographed above, is Ted Books holding what is believed to be a sextant used in the past by either John Grono or one of his children. The location of this item is no longer known.

If you know of the whereabouts of an item of interest, perhaps you might be willing to share information about it with the association – e.g. a photo, the story behind the object, who has it now etc...

Seeking Descendants of Jane MITCHELL and Henry JARRETT / Thomas KING

Beryl Crofts is seeking contact with descendants of Jane MITCHELL and Henry JARRETT / Thomas KING, (from the Jane GRONO & Michael MITCHELL line).

Beryl is descended from Fred JARRETT, a child of Jane MITCHELL'S first marriage to HENRY JARRETT. She is seeking contact with other descendants from Jane MITCHELL through either of her marriages.

If you are descended from this branch of the family or have any information of interest, please contact Beryl: 2/2 Lydred St, Saratoga, NSW 2251 or email the Grono Family Association and we will forward your message on to Beryl.

Seeking information about parents of Charles Henry GRONO (1890-1973)

Robert Taylor is looking for information about the parents of Charles Henry GRONO who is buried in the Nambour Garden Lawn Cemetery, Qld. His mother was Catherine GRONO. There are three Catherine's who could be the mother. Is anyone able to help him with the correct Catherine?

Birth details:

Charles H. GRONO born at Windsor in 1890 (*NSW BDM 1890/37626*).
Mother Catherine. No father listed.

Death details:

From the Nambour Garden Lawn Cemetery:
(Cnr City View Terrace & Nambour Connection Road, Nambour. Est. 1960)
Grono, Charles Henry, d. 20-4-1973, Age/Birth:1890
Grono, Florence Hillier, d. 4-9-1974, Age/Birth:1908

Charles Henry GRONO married twice:

1st marriage to Ellen M. WEAVER in Sydney 1914 (*NSW BDM 1914/328*).

Ellen was born in Waterloo 1888 (*NSW BDM 1888/12556*), her parents were Emanuel T. & Caroline A. WEAVER.

Ellen (Nellie Mabel) died at Redfern in 1945 (*NSW BDM 1945/27973*).

2nd marriage to Florence Hillier TRASS (née LEVERTON) in Marrickville 1951 (*NSW BDM 1951/7295*).

Florence was born in Murwillumbah 1908 (*NSW BDM 1908/27046*), her parents were Charles A. & Christina LEVERTON.

Florence married Leonard E. TRASS at Canterbury in 1932 (*NSW BDM 1932/935*).

Known children of his first marriage:

1. Eileen Millicent GRONO b. Rockdale 1915 (*NSW BDM 1915/18818*) married Herbert George LAMBLE in Sydney 1940.
2. Ronald Austin GRONO b. Rockdale 1917 (*NSW BDM 1917/44953*) married Miriam Margaret STREET in Sydney 1939.

If you are descended from this branch of the family or have any information of interest, please contact Robert via email: rogot222@yahoo.com.au; or letters can be sent to P.O. Box 11, Matraville, NSW 2036.

Searching for LINDA GRONO

Paul STILLWELL, from Canada, is looking for his half-sister Linda, who married a John GRONO.

If you have any information to assist please contact us and we will forward your message on to Paul.

Seeking Descendants of Loveday HAMILTON & Augustus (Gus) McILLRICK

Jewel Toynton is seeking contact with descendants of Loveday HAMILTON and Augustus (Gus) McILLRICK, (from the John Joel GRONO line).

Loveday and Gus owned a small holding of land at Rocky Glen in the 1920s.

Jewel is researching the history of the Rocky Glen area, with a view to publishing it eventually.

If you are descended from this branch of the family or have any information of interest, please contact Jewel via email: roslyn29@bigpond.com; or letters can be sent to the GFA and we will forward them on.

Seeking Descendants of Thomas Grono & Mary Grace/Dobbs/Brennan

Pauline Gibson is seeking contact with descendants of Thomas GRONO, son of John GRONO jnr, born in Wales c.1824.

Thomas GRONO married (c.1856) Mary GRACE, at the Burton Street Tabernacle, Sydney.

Mary had been married twice before first to Anthony DOBBS and then to John BRENNAN.

Children of the marriage:

1. William Thomas GRONO who married Alice GULLUM
2. James GRONO who married Susan PORT
3. George GRONO who married Catherine BOURKE
4. Daniel GRONO who married Constance SAMPSON
5. Maria GRONO
6. Thomas GRONO who married Rosa McCOY
7. unnamed deceased female

Mary GRONO died 3 February 1893, aged 67 years.

Thomas GRONO died 25 July 1894, aged 70 years.

If you are descended from this branch of the family, please contact Pauline Gibson via email: p_gibson@ozemail.com.au; or letters can be sent to the GFA and we will forward them on.

Seeking information about James HARTLEY

Robert Taylor is seeking to clarify information he has on James HARTLEY.

A James HARTLEY married Jane ARMSTRONG in 1850 (Presbyterian Pitt Town/Wilberforce) V1850 197 79.

A James HARTLEY married Jane WILBOW in 1854 (Presbyterian Pitt Town/Wilberforce) V1854 848 81. I believe this James HARTLEY to be the son of David HARTLEY and Elizabeth GRONO.

Summary of birth and death information:

Jane WILBOW	James E HARTLEY
b. 23 Sep 1822	b. 10 Mar 1826 Cattai Creek
d. 5 Aug 1881 Pitt Town	d. 4 Apr 1910 Penrith
Bur Pitt Town	Bur. 5 Apr 1910 Pitt Town

Who was the other James HARTLEY that married Jane ARMSTRONG?

I have listed who I think are the Children of James HARTLEY and Jane WILBOW. Am I correct? Any help appreciated.

1. George William HARTLEY
b. 2 Oct 1855 Pitt Town
bap. 4 Nov 1855 Pitt Town
d. Jul 1920 Hartley Exp? Leura
bur. Wentworth Falls
married Matilda Jane Robbins (1851 - 1921) on 2 Apr 1877, Rouse Hill.
 2. James Edmund HARTLEY
b. 29 Nov 1856 Pitt Town
d. 14 Jul 1933 Penrith
bur. 15 Jul 1933 Penrith General C of E.
married Fanny Ann WILSON (1857 - 1893) in 1885, Penrith.
then married Elizabeth BROWNLOW (1860 - 1933) in 1896, Penrith.
 3. Frances Maria HARTLEY
b. 1859 Windsor
d. 1943 Ryde.
married John Joseph BROWN (1853 - 1932) in 1896, Penrith.
 4. Otis HARTLEY
b. 9 Jul 1860 Windsor
d. 1861 Windsor
 5. Frederick David (Alfred) HARTLEY
b. 6 Mar 1864 Windsor
d. 1948 North Sydney
bur. 1948 Pitt Town
married Frances Myra WALLER (1860 - 1932) in 1881, Sydney.
 6. Eva HARTLEY
b. 5 Aug 1867 Pitt Town
d. 1934 Randwick
married Charles WOODWARD in 1886, Parramatta.
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7. Ethel Jane HARTLEY
b. 3 Sep 1869 Windsor
d. 1947 Kogarah
married Roland GOW (- 1951) in 1891, Sydney.
 8. Kate HARTLEY
b. 26 Mar 1872 Windsor
d. 1950 Ryde
married James HOGAN (- 1943) in 1895, Waratah.

Other possible children are (though they may be the children of Jane ARMSTRONG and James HARTLEY):

1. Sophia Jane HARTLEY
b. 16 Dec 1856 Windsor
2. Clara M HARTLEY
b. 1859 McDonald River
3. Thomas HARTLEY
b. 1862 Windsor
d. 1927 Tamworth
4. Eliza HARTLEY
b. 1869 Windsor
5. William H HARTLEY
b. 1871 Windsor

The following appeared in the *Nepean Times*, 2 April 1910.

James Hartley





The above gentleman (father of Mr James Hartley, of Jamisontown) died at Penrith on Monday, at the age of 88 years. Deceased was a very old resident of the Hawkesbury district, having been born at Caddai Creek on the 10th March, 1827. After some years he went to live at Pitt Town, where he married Jane Wilbow, residing there until Mrs Hartley's death in 1881. There are three sons and four daughters - George Hartley, Wentworth Falls; James Hartley, Jamisontown; Mrs J. Brown, Pitt Town; Alfred Hartley, North Sydney; Mrs O Woodward, Wentworth Falls; Mrs P. Gow, Penrith; and Mrs J. Hogan, Newcastle. There are 28 grandchildren, and 7 great-grandchildren. Some 25 years ago he left Pitt Town and came to Penrith to live with his daughter, Mrs Brown, later going with her to Muswellbrook, where he resided until March of last year, when he came back to Penrith to live with his son James. About 7 weeks ago he had a severe fall, from which he never recovered, and he passed away as stated above on the 4th last. The funeral took place on Tuesday, deceased's remains being taken to Pitt Town by road and interred in the Church of England Cemetery there. Rev W S Newton conducted the burial service, and Mr J. T. Huxley had charge of the funeral arrangements. The coffin was carried to the grave by four grandsons - Thomas and Frederick Hartley, and Frederick and Arthur Brown.

If you are descended from this branch of the family or have any information of interest, please contact Robert via email: rogot222@yahoo.com.au; or letters can be sent to P.O. Box 11, Matraville, NSW 2036.

Honour Roll

The honour roll continues to be an ongoing project; we now have 65 descendants listed! – if you know of a descendant that served in any conflict and would like them included please send in any information to the association (our contact details are listed below).

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Coordinator: Karen Mills	 Email: gronofamily@gmail.com  Postal address: 1 Johnston Street Pitt Town, NSW 2756  Phone: (02) 9898 1717 (Nigel & Karen Mills) Fax: (02) 4572 3805
Secretary: Mandy Waller	
Treasurer: Nigel Mills	
Webmaster: Karen Mills	
Researcher: Robert Taylor (<i>honorary</i>)	
Photo Collection: Marilyn Langler	
 Website: http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~gronofamily/index.htm	



Memories and Family Stories

We all know how to trace our family tree, we search official records and usually we can trace where our ancestors were born, married, lived and died. The stories that made these people who they were and the challenges they faced are often passed down as “oral family history”.

It would be nice to have a record of some of these stories so that future generations could share them. Do you know any stories in your line of the Grono Family? The stories don't have to be about heroic deeds, it could be about the courtship of grandparents. Did anyone hold an important community service position, i.e. volunteer fire chief? Did a child get lost in the bush? There are so many descendents of John and Elizabeth Grono that there must be a wealth of stories to be recorded.

Person remembering the story:

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Person the story is about:

The Story:
