

# The Castlereagh Connection

## A Byrnes and Lovell Family Story

**A Family History Document tracing the families of Alfred Byrnes  
Constance Rhoda Lovell and their children.**

**1800 – 2000**

**By Sharon Hindmarsh**



*Castlereagh was named after  
Robert Stewart, Viscount Castlereagh and second marquess of Londonderry (1769-1822),  
politician. Portrait by Sir Thomas Lawrence, 1809-10.*

**Source:** National Portrait Gallery, London.

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#### **Forward to the Second Edition 2011**

Since the first edition of this book was published in 2008 additional facts have come to light. The recently uncovered information fills in some of gaps in the lives of the Frederick and Lewis families. I wish to acknowledge help from Keith Bassett of Heritage Genealogy. Keith first alerted me to the mental health issues Sarah Lewis (nee Frederick) experienced in her old age. Keith has also suggested possible paternal grandparents for Ann Reffin extracted from Phillmore's marriage records in Leicestershire. I can recommend a visit to the Sheens family history he is working on at <http://heritagegenealogy.com.au/Sheens/index.htm>

This book and the accompanying documents are published on <http://freepages.family.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~hindmar/>

Please check the website for the latest version of this publication

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## Introduction

This is the story of the family of Alfred Byrnes and Constance Rhoda Lovell. The Byrnes, Frederick and Lewis families settled on the flood plain of the Nepean River in the area known as Castlereagh. The Lovell family had a close affinity with the country town of Coonabarabran, which is situated on the banks of the Castlereagh River.

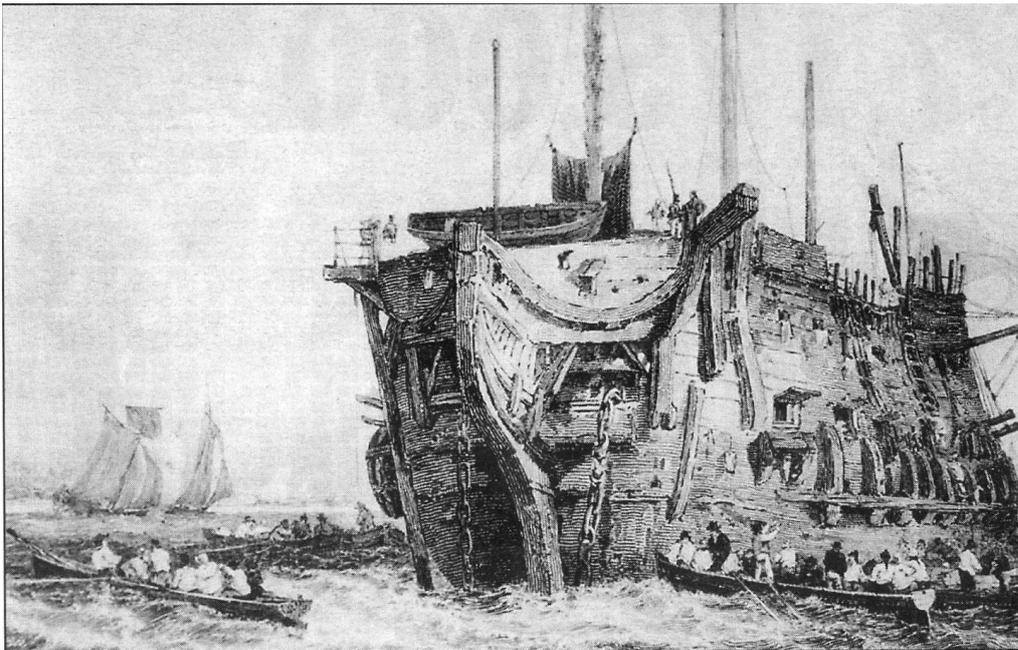
This book traces the arrival of the Byrnes, Frederick, Lewis and Lovell families in Australia and then gives a brief history of their children and their children's families.

The first hundred years of the history have been covered extensively in two family histories. "A Byrnes Book" written by Pat Curry in 2000 and "A Barnes from Bloxham" written by Edith Plenty. The first part of this history will draw heavily of the work of these two family historians. The emphasis of the book will be on the direct line of Alfred and Constance. If the reader wishes to look at the wider family, I suggest they refer to the two previously mentioned books. Additional information is from my own research or from correspondence with Pat Curry. I wish to acknowledge Pat's generous assistance with this project and I believe she is hoping it will correct a few inaccuracies, relating to David Byrnes, which cropped up in her book.

The second hundred years are mostly from my own research and from the stories of many members of the family who have shared some of their family history.

I undertook this project as a way of passing on my research. When I started to write this history I realised that there were still gaps in the story. As a result I undertook further research. This meant that this project took much longer than I first anticipated (and promised) but I believe the information is much more complete for the longer wait.

There are still gaps in this history and I apologise for any mistakes, omissions and other errors.



An 18th century engraving by an unknown artist shows prisoners being ferried out to a prison hulk moored on the River Thames. These overcrowded and disease-ridden floating jails served as holding pens for hundreds of convicts before they were transported to the far-flung Australian penal colonies.

Source: *The Daily Telegraph*, Monday Nov 17, 2003 p 55

Ann Reffin may have spent time on a Hulk awaiting transportation to Australia



## Part 1 The Early Years 1800- 1900

To follow the information about the family it will be useful to refer to the Ancestral chart for Alfred Byrnes and Constance Lovell. To follow the story it is also important that you realise that spelling in the 1700's and 1800's was very variable. Often the poor people were unable to read and write. Even the spelling of their names was not consistent; it was dependent on the scribe. The Byrnes name was recorded variously as Burns, Burne, Byrns and Byrnes. The Reffin name was variously written as Reffin, Ruffian, Raphin, Griffin.

### Chapter 1 Alfred's Ancestry

#### David Burns/Byrnes, *Alfred's paternal Grandfather*

Little is known about David Burns' early life or about his Irish roots. There is some belief that his family may have originally come from Scotland. David was born about 1768. There is evidence of a David Burns in the Londonderry Militia in Northern Ireland, who lived in Londonderry, possibly with a wife and six children.

The first written record showing David Burns' name is a 1796 Muster Roll for the 16<sup>th</sup> or Londonderry Regiment of Militia which David joined sometime after April 1795. He was almost certainly conscripted as it is believed that Militia service was compulsory. The Roll<sup>1</sup> shows David as

<p style="text-align:center"><b>MUSTER ROLL LONDONDERRY MILITIA 1 APRIL TO 30 SEPTEMBER 1796</b></p> <p><b>Entry:</b> <b>David Burns    deserted 24<sup>th</sup> September</b></p>
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There is no record of David for the next two years until 1798. Deserters were often sent back to their regiment. It is possible that David deserted in 1796, was returned to his regiment and then deserted again in 1798 not long before he was shipped to Australia. Later documentation, namely a petition from a wife, indicates that David Burns was taken to Celbridge (12 miles out of Dublin) where he was probably tried and sentenced. From there he went to Dublin to be lashed and then he was sent aboard the convict ship *Friendship*. Ten months passed between the date of his sentence and the date the ship sailed from Cork on 24 August 1799<sup>2</sup>.

This following letter was probably prepared for David's first wife by an agent who would use a standard letter and fill in the details according to the criteria, hoping this would give the applicant the best chance of success. This petition was dated 27 August 1799. It was posted in the market town of Magherafelt, 30 miles southwest of Londonderry City, in the County of Londonderry. It was sent to Lord Cornwallis, the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

This petition was too late. It was written 3 days after the ship had sailed.

**Note** the term *bedral* in the following document has caused interest. It is probably from a Scottish word meaning bedridden or unable to leave the bed.

<sup>1</sup> Public Records Office, London, document WO13/3039 – Munster Roll, Londonderry Regiment of Militia

<sup>2</sup> David's trial date was recorded as 22 October 1798 in Australian records but this is most probably an estimated date since no indent was made for the *Friendship II* when it came to Australia. It wasn't until six years later than an indent was drawn up. It is for this reason that no one is really sure of the crimes of most of the convicts on the *Friendship II* and many were simply assumed to have been political prisoners eg rebel "United Irishmen". Not all of the prisoners aboard the *Friendship II* or the *Minerva* may have undergone a trial. The British Government preferred deporting or exiling political prisoners to Botany Bay rather than risk having them martyred if they were hung.

**To the Honorable Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and  
Commander of all His Majesties forces in Ireland.**

***Honoured Nobleman***

***Pardon my Boldness in addressing You on this occasion But were yr. Lordship to know my Distressed Situation of six Children destitute of their father I trust in god it would produce pity in the Breast of so great a Nobleman. My Husband Enlisted in the Londonderry Militia under Colonel Connally and had the misfortune to Desert as I am a Bedral & his Children were in a manner starving was it not for the providence of god and Goodness of Christians. He was afterwards taken & sent to Cellbridge and there sentenced to be lashed which punishment he underwent in Dublin & afterwards sent aboard the french ship of London Commanded by Captain Reed Now Lying in the cove of Cork and you are the great Governor of this Kingdom to you and god I apply for my Husband's Releasement from Confinement to his Distressed family whose situation is Deplorable and Wholely depending on Yr benevolence which I Implore & Yr. Hnr. To excite.***

***I had the presumption to write to your Honr. Before but always thought you had Not Received the letter as I Depend on your pity & Charity to a poor and Deplorable object But Now I trust in the Almighty you'll Receive this & may God of his infinite Goodness apply Reward you for the many Acts of Charity the people has experienced Since your coming to Govern this island. The unhappy prisoner's name is David Burns Lieutenant Colonel's company of the LondnDerry Militia, and it was no Disloyalty Caused him to Desert it was my Distress & his poor families which was the Cause for in every point he was ready to show his loyalty & Support the protestant Cause. Oh pardon I Crave from you as I expect pardon form God & you for the Great Insolence I have in addressing a man so high in station which always marked with the greatest humanity and Benevolence I now once more for the Great Redeemers sake ask his pardon from you as you soon Can liberate him from the prision ship & Restor him once more to Little family & as in duty I shall every pray The prosperity of Yr Illustrious family shall be the Constant wish of a true Protestant.***

***I always trust a Branch of Yr Noble family may rule & Govern this kingdom and if my prayers may avail it shall not be wanting for you & Yr Noble lady & I trust his Releasemt. May be a treasure for you in Heaven.***

Author's Note I have not seen the original of this letter. I have taken it from Patricia Curry's book "A Byrnes Book 1800-2000". A copy of the original is held in the State Paper Office, Dublin, Ireland. Document no. 1799/106.

David journeyed to Australia aboard the *Friendship*<sup>3</sup> under Master Hugh Reed. This was the smallest of a convoy of ships bound for Australia, sailing sternmost because of her lack of speed. The journey to Australia took 176 days. Nineteen of the 133 prisoners on the *Friendship* died on the journey. This ship arrived in Port Jackson on 16 February 1800.

The voyage seems to have been without incident in respect to convict unrest. Among the convicts on board the *Friendship* were a few men from the gentlemen class. The ship's Master attributed their gentlemanly influence to having made the voyage trouble free.

...the demur of the convicts was such that he had not occasion, during the whole passage, to inflict the slightest punishment, in a word, that such as were before gentlemen, however mistaken and misled, supported by their behaviour on board their claims to that character, and those who were not so, seemed determined by the propriety and submission of their conduct, to make some atonement for their past offences.<sup>4</sup>

The next trace of David records him in the 1802 Muster of convicts as a convict labourer. By 1805 he was living on land at Parramatta, which he claimed had been given to him by Governor King. In the 1806 Muster of NSW, David is listed as David Burne, tailor, living at Parramatta. Another convict Ann Ruffian is shown as living with him.

### **Ann Reffin, Alfred's paternal Grandmother**

Ann Reffin arrived in Port Jackson from England aboard the *Experiment* on 24 June 1804. Ann's surname underwent many spelling variations when it was recorded in the colony. It is possible that she was born on 27<sup>th</sup> January and Christened on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 1783 at Walton on the Wolds. If she is the Ann Reffin referred to in these English parish records, her parents were John and Ann Ralphon<sup>5</sup>. It appears John (Ralphon) married Ann Ward at Prestwold on 29<sup>th</sup> Sep 1780<sup>6</sup>. It is possible that John Ralphon was the son of John Ralphin and Mary Middleton<sup>7</sup> who were married at Montsorrel, Leicestershire on 26 December 1741<sup>8</sup>. The spelling of the Reffin name in England is variable showing in the earliest records as Ralphyn or Ralphin but it also appears as Reffin. Prestwold and Walton on the Wolds are located in Leicestershire. (The word Wold refers to a tract of open rolling country)



*St Mary's Walton le Wold built 1739*



Ann was to be put on trial at Nottingham Assizes on 11<sup>th</sup> March 1803 for a burglary at Ruddington.

*The Nottingham Shire Hall where the trials were held. The Gaol was located behind the hall.*

<sup>3</sup> This ship called the *Friendship* is not the same *Friendship* that was part of the First Fleet. To distinguish between the ships the 1800 convict transport is usually referred to as *Friendship II*.

<sup>4</sup> Bonwick Transcripts, Box 59, p 445/446, Mitchell Library cited in *Descent* Vol 18, Society of Australian Genealogists, Sept 1988 p 122

<sup>5</sup> International Genealogical Index (IGI) Batch No P020461

<sup>6</sup> Phillimore's Marriages - Prestwold, including Burton on the Wolds and Cotes 1560 to 1837,

<http://leicestershireparishrecords.blogspot.com/2010/05/phillimores-marriages-prestwold.html>

<sup>7</sup> IGI Batch Number C03469-2

<sup>8</sup> Phillimore's Marriages - Rothley 1562 to 1837 (marriage at Montsorrel)

[http://leicestershireparishrecords.blogspot.com/2010\\_04\\_01\\_archive.html](http://leicestershireparishrecords.blogspot.com/2010_04_01_archive.html)

Ruddington is about 20km north of her suggested birthplace and it is not known how she came to move there, nor at this stage do we know what she stole. She was sentenced to be executed<sup>i</sup>. Two weeks later she was reprieved and sentenced to 7 years transportation. Females were often given harsh sentences for minor crimes and then transported to help redress the imbalances of the sexes in the new colony.

She spent some months waiting for transportation – which was probably spent on the Hulks. She was put aboard the *Experiment*, which left England on 4<sup>th</sup> December 1803. There were 2 male and 136 female convicts on board. It was damaged in a storm, returned to port and set out again on 2 January 1804 and took 173 days to reach Port Jackson but it could not dock for 3 days due to adverse winds.

Upon arrival in the colony the women were destined for the Female Factory from where they could be assigned to a position as a servant. Often the youngest and most attractive women would be selected by the military officers, then the remainder by non-commissioned officers and eventually by the ex-convict settlers who were allowed to have a female servant. These servants were often involved in more intimate relationships with their masters. If their services proved unsatisfactory they could be returned to the Factory. David must have been well regarded by the authorities to be allowed a partner while he was still a convict. It may also suggest that Ann's appearance was somewhat ordinary as she was not chosen by more highly ranked men. We have no other indication of her physical appearance.

### **The First Byrnes family**

David Burns and Ann Reffin's first son, James Byrnes was born in 1806- possibly on 19<sup>th</sup> May<sup>9</sup>. David appears to have been appointed a Petty Constable for the town of Parramatta in 1806<sup>10</sup> and a deposition he made in 1823, indicates that he may have been allocated some land at Parramatta by Governor King in 1807<sup>11</sup>. Colonel Patterson, who became Governor after Governor Bligh was overthrown in the Rum Rebellion of 1808, granted him a conditional pardon in 1809<sup>12</sup>. This pardon was revoked when Governor Macquarie was appointed in 1810. On February 4, 1810 their second child Ann Byrnes was born. On 11 March Ann Reffin's seven year sentence was completed and on 1 June 1810 she was issued with a Certificate of Pardon.<sup>13</sup>

During 1810 David was reappointed as a Petty Constable for Parramatta<sup>14</sup>. Constables were chosen to help keep order in the populace. As you can imagine the population was largely made up of convicted criminals, and petty theft and more violent crimes were common. The Constables were expected to help to keep public order and in return were given some privileges such as annual provision of clothes, food rations and early emancipation from their convict sentences. During that year David also petitioned Governor Macquarie to reissue him with a pardon. This was not granted and David made another petition in 1812. This time he was successful. On 31 January 1813 David Burns was again granted a Conditional pardon.<sup>ii</sup>

Governor Macquarie did not approve of couples living together<sup>iii</sup>. They were encouraged to marry<sup>15</sup>. On 23<sup>rd</sup> December 1810, David (Burns) and Ann (Griffin) were married by Banns in

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<sup>9</sup> Birth date from his headstone at the Church of England Cemetery, Castlereagh

<sup>10</sup> State Records NSW: NRS 900, Fiche 3169; [4/1848, pp.74-5], Petition for mitigation of sentence, 19 Oct 1812, as David Burne

<sup>11</sup> SRNSW: NRS 897, Reel 6056; [4/1765 p. 166], Sep 16 1823, David Burn cited as former land owner in Larken v Cavenagh dispute over land

<sup>12</sup> SRNSW: NRS 1170, Reel 774, [4/4430, pp 41] 1809

<sup>13</sup> SRNSW: NRS 899, Reel 6038, [SZ758, p. 52], Notification of Ann Reffin's Certificate of Freedom, 1810

<sup>14</sup> SRNSW: NRS 897, Reel 6042, [9/2736, p 8], David Byrnes – Petty Constable of Parramatta 1810

<sup>15</sup> A convict sentence was considered to annul a prior marriage if it existed. Thus David's previous marriage in Ireland was no impediment to this marriage.

St John's Church, Parramatta. The Rev Samuel Marsden performed the ceremony. Both David and Ann signed with an X mark.<sup>iv</sup> Marriage may have helped gain David his pardon.



**View of Parramatta 1819**

Joseph Lycett from the Mitchell Library - Sydney

St John's Church is in the centre of the picture

On 29 December their second son John Byrnes was born at Parramatta. He was baptised at St John's Church of England on 30<sup>th</sup> May 1814<sup>v</sup>.

On June 1, 1815 Hester Burn (Esther) was born at Parramatta. She was baptised on 10<sup>th</sup> May 1818<sup>vi</sup>. The fifth child Catharine Sophia Burns was born 21<sup>st</sup> March 1819 at Parramatta<sup>vii</sup>.

On 13<sup>th</sup> May 1826 Samuel Burns was born. David was aged 56 and Ann 43 years old. Catharine and Samuel were baptised at St John's Church of England at Parramatta on 22 July 1827.

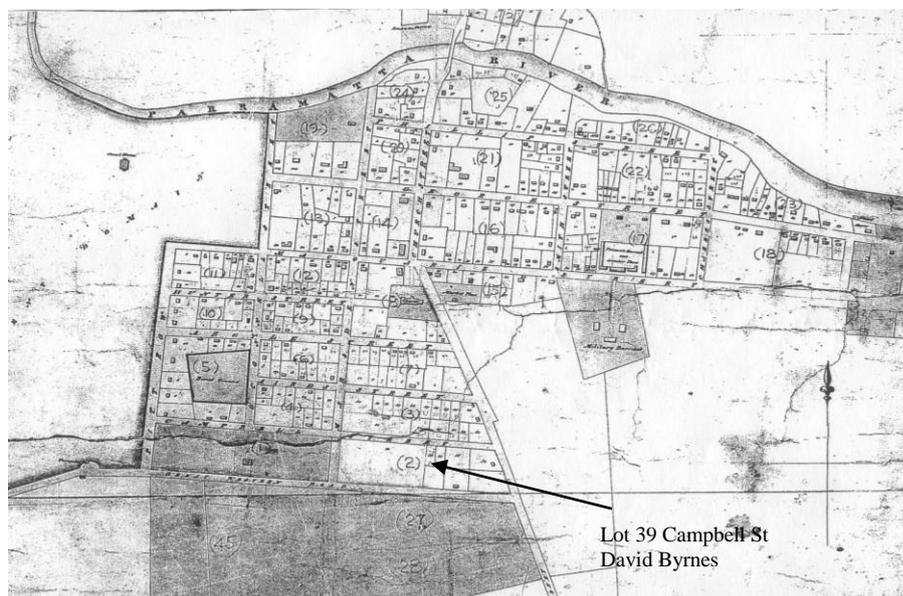
David had petitioned Gov Macquarie for land on June 18 1820<sup>viii</sup>. "50 acres" was written on the document but currently it is not known if any of this land never eventuated.

There was a major problem with land grants in Parramatta around the 1820's; people were living on land which had not been formally granted to them. These people were required to formally apply for their land. It took about three years and several court cases before the situation was sorted out.

In June 1823 David was given a Lease for the land he had already occupied for many years<sup>16</sup>. It was situated on the south side of Campbell Street, Lot 39, Parramatta (opposite the present site of Westfields Parramatta). It is possible, but currently unproven, that David may have had more land in the Parramatta region as Court records do mention that he had sold some land to Harper the Butcher<sup>17</sup>.

<sup>16</sup> SRNSW: NRS 13836, Reel 2704, [7/487, p 183].

<sup>17</sup> SRNSW: NRS 897, Reel 6056; [4/1765 p. 166], Sep 16 1823, David Burn cited as former land owner in Larken v Cavenagh dispute over land



### Some significant Byrnes family events in the following years.

- 1827 David and Ann's eldest daughter, Ann, married William Jackson at Parramatta<sup>ix</sup>
- 1830 Their eldest son, James married Harriett Nicholson at Parramatta<sup>x</sup>.
- 1831 Ann & William Jackson's first son, John Jackson, was baptised at Parramatta<sup>xi</sup>.
- 1832 Their daughter Esther married John Wilkinson at Parramatta<sup>xii</sup>.
- 1833 Esther and John's first child John Wilkinson, was baptised at Cobbitty<sup>xiii</sup>
- 1833 Their youngest daughter Catharine Sophia, married William Harris at Cobbitty<sup>xiv</sup>
- 1834 Ann and William Jackson's second child, Mary Ann was baptised at Parramatta<sup>xv</sup>
- 1835 Esther and John's second child, Sarah Wilkinson was baptised at Cobbitty<sup>xvi</sup>.
- 1838 John Byrnes (second eldest son) marries Eliza Ablett At Cobbitty<sup>xvii</sup>
- 1840 Catherine Sophia, daughter of John & Eliza was born at Castlereagh (19 Aug)<sup>xviii</sup>

The 1836 Post Office directory records D Byrnes as living at Parramatta. Land records in February 1838 indicate that David bought a block of land adjoining his home in Campbell Street for £25<sup>19</sup> and sold it in April for £7<sup>20</sup>. One can only speculate as to why the selling price was so much smaller than the purchase price. Because of the closeness of the purchase and sale dates it seems that it was a planned event and both contracts were lodged at the Lands office on the same date by the attorney John Armistead of Parramatta.

It is currently unknown if David was ever granted ownership of the land at Parramatta he had held via a lease. I cannot locate a register of sale of the family's home in Campbell St Parramatta, (this may indicate that the lease was given up, but it should be noted, that at this time it was not compulsory for such land sale transactions to be officially recorded). This means we don't know precisely when the family moved to Castlereagh but it was probably around 1839. Castlereagh is situated on the Nepean River, in the district of Evan.

At this time David was aged around 71. Ann, aged about 56, was probably in poor health as she died at Castlereagh in July 1839. At the time of her death their youngest son, Samuel was only 13. The older children had left home and set up their families in the Bringelly and Cobbitty areas from 1833.

<sup>18</sup> SRNSW Fiche 3265; [4/7576 p 14] On return of allotments in the town of Parramatta

<sup>19</sup> NSW Department of Lands (General Register of Deeds), Book M, No 804; Joseph Hill Ward & Eliza his wife and David Byrnes

<sup>20</sup> NSW DoL (Gen Reg of Deeds), Book M, No 807; David Byrnes and James Pike

It is not known exactly where the family set up in the Castlereagh area but is most probably not far from the present Wesleyan Methodist Church, in Castlereagh Road, Castlereagh.

On 8 July 1838, Catharine Sophia Byrnes the wife of William Harris died at the age of 19 at Castlereagh<sup>xix</sup>. On 19 May 1838 she had given birth to a daughter Rachael<sup>xx</sup>, who was baptised on the same day as her mother was buried - 10 July 1838<sup>xxi</sup>. Ann Reffin died on 26 July 1839<sup>xxii</sup>. The records show her as Ann Ralphin or Ann Boyones (Byrnes with an Irish accent?), wife of David Burns late of Parramatta, Experiment. The Church of England minister Reverend Henry Fulton buried her on 29<sup>th</sup> July at the Christ Church Cemetery at Castlereagh.

In 1841, Ann and William Jackson's youngest daughter, Caroline died at Castlereagh,<sup>xxiii</sup>. It is not known why she was there as it is currently believed her parents were still residing at Parramatta. The 1840/41 Census shows there were two families by the name of Byrne(s) living at Nepean<sup>21</sup>. One house had 4 persons the other 8. Both families are Wesleyan Methodists. It is difficult to match the statistical records in the census with the specific persons in each household.

On 25 March 1848 David died at the age of 80<sup>xxiv</sup>. He was buried in the same cemetery as his wife but the precise location is uncertain, as there are no surviving headstones. In October 2006 a memorial plaque was placed in the general vicinity of the Byrnes' graves at the Christ Church cemetery at Castlereagh. This plaque celebrated David Byrnes and Ann Reffin as the founders of the Castlereagh Byrnes family.

The Graves of James Byrnes and his wife Harriet at Christ Church Cemetery, Castlereagh. David and Anne's unmarked graves are believed to be close by (to the left) and the descendants have placed a plaque nearby.



### **Samuel Byrnes 1826 – 1917 *Alfred's father***

Samuel was the youngest child of David and Ann Byrnes. Born 13 May 1826 and baptised at St John's Church of England at Parramatta on 22 July 1827<sup>xxv</sup>. The family moved from Castlereagh to Parramatta about 1839. His mother, Ann died that year and it is possible that Samuel and his father lived with the eldest son James Byrnes. Both sons were closely involved with the Wesleyan Methodist Church at Castlereagh. Both became trustees of the Church in 1847, the year before David died<sup>22</sup>. Samuel was only 21 at the time.

Samuel married Eliza Lewis on 24 March 1846 at Windsor when he was 20 years old<sup>xxvi</sup>. Here are their signatures from their marriage records.

They had four children, all born at Castlereagh.

James Byrnes	born	26 December	1846 <sup>xxvii</sup>
Samuel Byrnes		25 March	1848 <sup>xxviii</sup>
Emma Byrnes		25 September	1849 <sup>xxix</sup>
Alfred Byrnes		2 August	1851 <sup>23</sup>

<sup>21</sup> SRNSW: NRS 1282, Reel 2222 [X949] pp 55 & 57, 1841 Census, Nepean.

<sup>22</sup> Penrith Methodist Circuit Centenary Booklet 1861 – 1961 quoted in Curry, P 2000, *A Byrnes Book*, p 20

<sup>23</sup> There are no official records of Alfred's birth or of his mother's death – possibly the Church records were lost. This date of birth is from a little birthday book kept by his daughter Ivy.

Eliza died some time after Alfred's birth. Oral history records it as being an accident with a sulky in a driveway. There is no official record and it is not known where she was buried although it seems possible that it was in the Methodist Cemetery at Castlereagh since Samuel was a Trustee of the Church there.

Samuel remarried on 7 March 1854. His second wife was Eliza Gorman aged 18<sup>xxx</sup>. Samuel and Eliza Gorman had nine children, all born at Castlereagh.

Sarah Byrnes	born	19 June 1855 <sup>xxxi</sup>
Maria Byrnes		2 April 1857 <sup>xxxii</sup>
George Byrnes		23 Jan 1862 <sup>xxxiii</sup>
Henry Byrnes		4 Sept 1863 <sup>xxxiv</sup>
Charles Gorman Byrnes		20 Aug 1865 <sup>xxxv</sup>
Edith Eliza Byrnes		17 May 1867 <sup>xxxvi</sup>
William Taylor Byrnes		21 July 1869 <sup>xxxvii</sup>
Annie Louisa Byrnes		12 Dec 1871 <sup>xxxviii</sup>
Percy Ambrose Byrnes		2 Sept 1875 <sup>xxxix</sup>



Samuel was also involved with the Salvation Army. In the photo to the left, Samuel is wearing the Salvation Army uniform. In 1884 Samuel donated the use of an old stable behind his shop in High Street for the use of the Salvation Army<sup>24</sup>. It was known as the Glory (or Glo-ree) shop. The Penrith branch of the Salvation Army was the 48<sup>th</sup> Corps opened in Australia, apparently with the assistance of senior members of the Wesleyan Church. Samuel kept his connection with the Salvation Army up until his death with the Salvation Army Officer, Ensign Evans, assisting the Methodist minister at Samuel's funeral.

Samuel leased a farm at Lambridge. Samuel farmed there as well as carting his produce to the Sydney markets on a regular basis. All documents show him as a farmer until the 1880's. In 1885 he was recorded as having 6 acres with 5 horses, 2 cattle and 1 pig.<sup>25</sup>

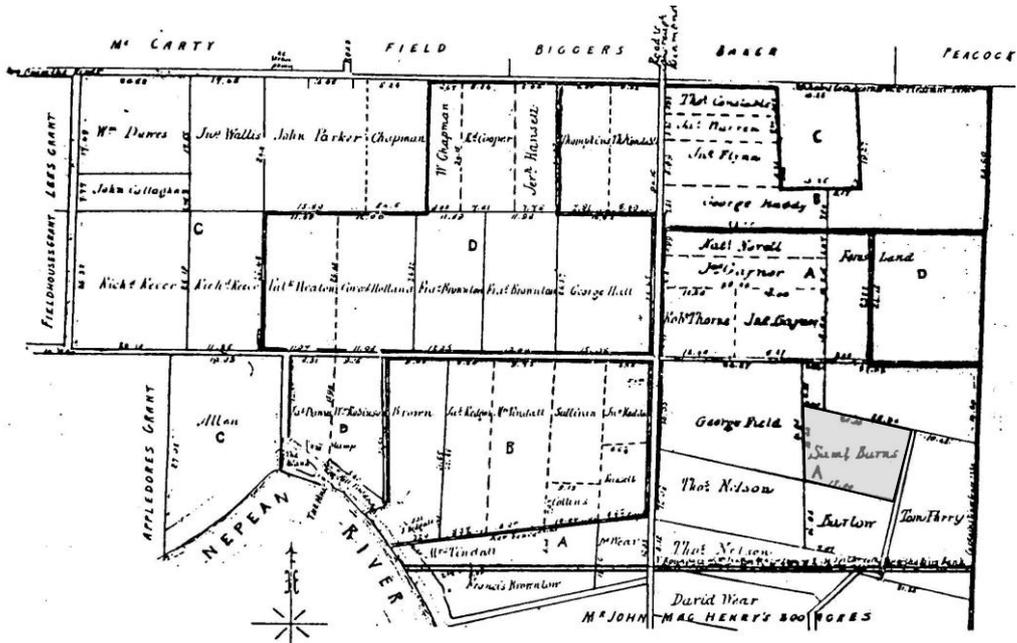
This map on the next page shows the location (shaded) of Samuel Byrnes' land at Lambridge<sup>26</sup>. Note the spelling of his surname. The map may have been drawn as early as the 1850's when the land, owned by the McHenry family (who resided in England), was subdivided and rented out. Apparently McHenry left equal shares to his four children – the shares were regarded as “equally useable and earning equal rents overall”. The land was locally administered by Robert Stuart Snr (an estate agent and surveyor) who managed the estate to provide income for the owners<sup>27</sup>.

<sup>24</sup> *Nepean Times* 19 Apr 1884, p2 c5

<sup>25</sup> *Parliamentary Return of Landholders 1885*, District Windsor, Town Penrith, p 446.

<sup>26</sup> Gyford GFB, *A Beginner's Guide to the Lands Title Office*, Guide no 1, Nepean District Archaeology Group 1981 (revised 1986). Original map held in Mitchell Library Sydney.

<sup>27</sup> Information from Dr Carol Liston, UWS Lecturer at the Penrith History Conference held 8 Mar 2008.



“Survey of Chapman’s Grant Situate at Penrith and known as the Lambridge Estate”. Surveyed April 1850 Signed Edward Knapp.

From 1883 onwards Samuel is shown as a hawker, a dealer or a storekeeper. He had a store in High Street, Penrith and he also sold goods from a horse and cart in those years.

During the gold rush Samuel used a team and cart to transport goods to the goldfields and returned with wool and other farm produce.

Samuel’s dealer’s cart which he used between Castlereagh, the goldfields and Sydney.  
(photo from Pat Curry)



Samuel with his youngest son Percy



In August 1891, the house and shop rented by Samuel Byrnes in High Street Penrith were burned down. From newspaper reports he had underinsured the value of his stock, which was totally destroyed in the fire. This would have been a severe blow to the family. The following article is an account of the fire that destroyed Samuel Byrnes' store. (The Nepean Times, 15<sup>th</sup> August 1891, p4, c5)

### Fire in High Street

Between one and two o'clock on Tuesday morning the residents at the western end of High Street were aroused by cries of "Fire" and the sound of breaking in of doors, and on looking out they perceived that the six-roomed cottage and store of Messrs S & W Byrnes was in full blaze and nothing could prevent it and the two outhouses at the back from being consumed by the flames. Mr Byrnes Snr informs us that he went to bed at the usual hour, leaving everything as he thought in perfect security, and when he woke about one o'clock there were no signs of fire or anything of the kind, and he dropped off to sleep again. It seemed to him, however, that a short interval only elapsed before he was awoken by a choking sensation and jumping up he found the whole of the fore or shop portion of the building in a blaze and he only had time to call his son and daughter also residing on the premises. Mrs. Byrnes who is an invalid being providentially away at Lemongrove at the time before the flames burst through the sitting room and sleeping apartments. With great difficulty the father and son were enabled to remove some furniture from the sitting-room together with a number of books which Mr. Byrnes considered of great value, and then by dint of perseverance they succeeded in rescuing a number of domestic utensils etc from the rear of the establishment. The flames by this time had obtained a strong hold, assisted doubtless by the large number of bottles of oil, tin of kerosene, and other combustible material with which the place was stored, and all that the large number of spectators congregated could do was to stand by and watch the structure rapidly consume, together with the adjacent scullery and outhouses already mentioned. The loss is a most serious one to Mr Byrnes who, starting in a very humble manner, has gradually built up a small but very flourishing trade, and to use his own expression "the shop was full of goods that you couldn't find room for another hundred-weight of flour." In fact with the exception of some tobacco and candles, which the owner intended going to Sydney the next day to purchase, the shop was packed with every variety of merchandise, and Mr. Byrnes prided himself that he had enough to last a long time. For example, he estimated his stock of tea at little less than forty pounds, and he had several cases of tinned meat for which there is good demand just now by the labourers at Glenbrook worth about one pound each, so it will be seen that though his stock was insured by the Phoenix Insurance Company for 150 pounds, something like 400 pounds of goods was stored on the premises. The 50 pounds insurance on the furniture will also come very far short of the value. The house which was leased from Mr Francis Woodriff for a term of years was a substantial one, having been added to, and improved considerably by the present leasee. We have been unable to ascertain definitely whether or not it was insured, but from what we can learn, we believe it was not.

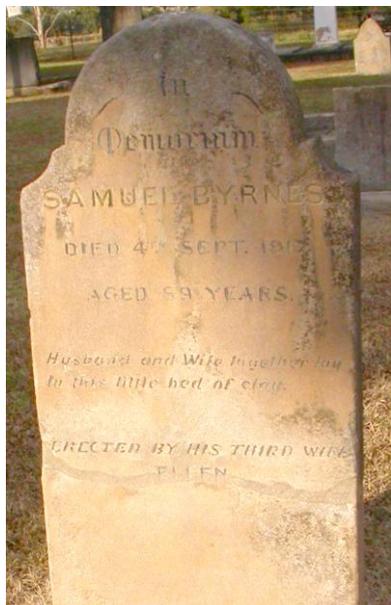
**LATE FIRE AT  
S. Byrnes' High-st., Penrith.**  
I HEREBY Beg to Tender My Thanks to  
Mr. J. Squire, H. Coomber, E. Player and  
Others, who so kindly assisted at the Fire at my  
Store on the 11th Instant.  
SAMUEL BYRNES.

**FIRE! FIRE!!**  
ALL ACCOUNTS DUE TO ME AS STORE  
ACCOUNTS are to be paid to Mr. JOHN  
PRICE, whose receipt will be a sufficient discharge.  
S. BYRNES,  
High-street,  
Penrith.  
August, 13th, 1891.

After the fire Samuel took action in the local debts courts to have outstanding store accounts paid.<sup>28</sup> He obviously had to be very careful of his finances after such a disaster.

In 1895 Samuel is recorded as living in Lemongrove Road, Lemongrove. On 7 March 1904 Samuel and Eliza Byrnes celebrated their golden Wedding Anniversary with a large family party.

Eliza Gorman Byrnes died on 18<sup>th</sup> December 1910<sup>xl</sup> at Lemongrove, Penrith NSW she is buried in the Methodist Church Cemetery at Castlereagh.



On 20<sup>th</sup> March 1913 Samuel marries Ellen Nicholas<sup>xli</sup>. Samuel and Ellen lived in Ellen's home at Cambridge Park, near Penrith.

On 4<sup>th</sup> September 1917 Samuel Byrnes died<sup>xlii</sup>. He was aged 91, although his death registration gives 89. His parents were also incorrectly listed as James Byrnes and Ann (unknown). This was perhaps an attempt to hide his convict ancestry. (James Byrnes MP from Parramatta was a person of high standing in the community).

Samuel is buried in the Methodist Church Cemetery at Castlereagh. His third wife Ellen died in 1931. She is buried at Penrith General Cemetery.

The gravestone was erected by Ellen, and the message says  
*Husband and Wife together lay  
In this little bed of clay*

It is not known for sure which wife the message refers to but it is probably Eliza Gorman.

Samuel's obituary in the Nepean Times dated 15 September 1917

#### DEATH OF A PIONEER

We regret to have to record the death, at his late residence, Cambridge park, on Tuesday of last week, of Mr Samuel Byrnes, one of the oldest and more notable of the older generation of residents of the Nepean District, whose death, in fact, at the patriarchal age of 89 years and 4 months, removes another of that fast vanishing brand of the early pioneers of the far distant past from the arena of mundane life and endeavour.

The late Mr Byrnes was a native of Parramatta, the year of his birth being 1828, and, in recalling the memories of his famous old natal town in the twenties, Mr Byrnes was wont to cant over again the quaint lines of a poet of the older epoch, viz

I'm thinking again of the Annual Regatta,  
And Rickitty Dick O, and old Billy blue,  
And the trips by the Emu to see Parramatta,  
Where we pulled the ripe plums off the trees as they grew;  
And the orange groves running right down to the water,  
Where the boatman were calling so jaunty and free-  
The tide's on the ebb, and the wind's in right quarter,  
And now is your time if you're bound for the quay.

<sup>28</sup> *Nepean Times*, 15 Aug 1891, p5, c3

Mr Byrnes attended the Primary School at Parramatta in his early boyhood, and came to Castlereagh with his parents in his twelfth year. His youthful contemporaries of that early epoch of the thirties and forties were of that grand sturdy type of settlers of the primary industries of the Penrith and Castlereagh districts, and included such men as the late Messrs. Joseph Single; "Toby" Ryan (ex MLA), John Colless, John Jackson, Wm Wright, Robert Robertson (deceased) and Messrs. T O Smith (ex MLA Nepean), M Long (ex Mayor of Penrith), Thos Field and others who are yet though approaching the patriarchal gate of age, very much alive.

Mr Byrnes' early farm at Castlereagh (Mt Pleasant), is now occupied by Mr Purcell, and is one of the best holding in that favoured patrimony of production. In the years prior to the coming of the railway, Mr Byrnes, like his neighbours, carted his hay, cereals, and general farm products to the Sydney markets per the newly formed Sydney Road (which was then, like the curate's proverbial egg, "good and bad in patches"), doing the journey frequently in a day, getting to 'Paddy's market', Sydney, about dusk, after starting from home (Castlereagh) at 3 or 4 o'clock in the morning. The conditions of those times precluded the generation of any such "luxurious" idea amongst the farmers or other sections, as a "strike" or other such disturbance, and even the application of the 8-hour day was as unknown as it is in the firing line of the present day.

On the breaking out of the great western goldfields, the late Mr Byrnes entered in to the adventurous and profitable business of carrying between the metropolis and the digging. He conveyed, per horse teams, supplies of provisions, timber and other building materials merchandise &c., to the outback centres, returning with wool and country produce to Sydney. During the period he was now and again "interviewed" by one or other of the bushranging gangs then "doing business" under the ban of the law, and alike, regardless of the conventions and rights of society to its own property; but by exercise of his native tact and optimistic outlook, Mr Byrnes generally contrived to escape "victimisation" by Messieurs the Bushrangers.

Deceased was a first class judge of horses, of any type, an infallible judge, in fact, and his judgement was often solicited by neighbours and acquaintances in purchasing either draughts or hacks, or ponies. Mr Byrnes was of a genial, jocular disposition, and his golden maxim was never to meet trouble half way, or to permit difficulties to daunt one's spirit, or cloud his hopes. In later years Mr Byrnes had been residing at Cambridge Park, and almost up to the last took a lively interest in affairs.

Deceased had married three times, his first wife being Miss Elizabeth Lewis, of Castlereagh, of which marriage there were four children, of whom two survive, viz Mr Jas Byrnes, Richmond Road and Mrs H Sheens, Castlereagh. Of Mr Byrnes' second marriage, viz to Miss Eliza Gorman of Castlereagh, (deceased), the following survive: Messrs H Byrnes, Station Street Penrith; William, Sydney; Percy, Henry Street Penrith; and Mesdames Pullman (Lemongrove), E Hollier (Newtown, Sydney), and J Kirkness (Seven Hills). Mr Byrnes is also survived by his third wife.

The interment was in the Methodist Cemetery, Kingswood on Thursday afternoon, 6<sup>th</sup> September, Rev J Tarn officiating, assisted by Ensign Evans, Salvation Army. The two favourite hymns of the deceased - "Rock of Ages" and "Sweet Bye and Bye", were sung at the graveside. The funeral arrangements were conducted by Mrs J Price and Son.

(Author's note: the grave is at the Methodist Cemetery Castlereagh, not Kingswood)

In addition to the 35 grandchildren from his marriage to Eliza Lewis, Samuel Byrnes also had 60 grandchildren from his second marriage to Eliza Gorman.

## **The children of Samuel Byrnes and Eliza Lewis**

Eliza Lewis died not long after the birth of her youngest son Alfred in 1851. Her four children were brought up by their father and his second wife Eliza Gorman. Eliza Gorman came from a very religious family with strong ties to Methodism and Samuel was also very involved with the church. The children from the first marriage seemed to rebel against this strict upbringing and both James and Alfred became involved in the hotel trade, which would certainly have been against the rules of the strict form of Methodism followed by some of the children from Samuel's second marriage.

### ***James Byrnes (1846 -1921)***

James married 19-year-old Catherine Dowling (Dolan) on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 1869<sup>xliii</sup>. He was a farmer when he married. He joined the police force soon after. From 1874 - 1881 James was appointed as a mounted Constable of the North Eastern Districts of NSW. He bought land at Nambucca. In 1882 he took a lease of the Victoria Hotel at Nambucca. In 1884-5 James was the licensee of the hotel at Smithtown near Kempsey, after which he also owned hotels in Nambucca and Nambucca Heads<sup>29</sup>.

James and Catherine Byrnes had nine children. James died on 27<sup>th</sup> Nov 1921 at Macksville<sup>xliv</sup>.

### ***Samuel Byrnes (1848 - 1883)***

Born on the 25<sup>th</sup> March 1848<sup>xlv</sup>, he never married. He died at Penrith on 28 March 1883 aged 35 from the effects of sunstroke. The following notice appeared in the Nepean Times

We regret to record the death of Mr Samuel Byrnes which took place at his parent's residence, High Street, Penrith, on Thursday morning, from the effects of sunstroke. Deceased was suffering for three weeks, though died rather unexpectedly.<sup>30</sup>

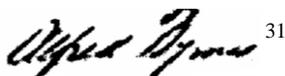
He was living with his brother Alfred at Box Ridge for a short time around 1878, as his name appeared on the electoral roll for that area.

### ***Emma Byrnes (1849 - 1927)***

Emma was born on 25<sup>th</sup> September 1849<sup>xlvi</sup> at Castlereagh. In June 1871<sup>xlvii</sup> she married Henry Sheens at her father's house at Castlereagh. They had 13 children all born at Castlereagh. Henry died on 6<sup>th</sup> July 1921<sup>xlviii</sup> at Castlereagh and Emma died on 26<sup>th</sup> December 1927<sup>xlix</sup>. Both are buried in the Methodist Church Cemetery at Castlereagh.

### ***Alfred Byrnes (1851 – 1907)***

There is no record of Alfred Byrnes birth, his daughter Ivy gives it as 2<sup>nd</sup> August 1851 and his marriage certificate shows he was born at Castlereagh near Penrith. His mother died before his third birthday and he was brought up by his stepmother Eliza Gorman.

 <sup>31</sup>



<sup>29</sup> Curry, P 2000, *A Byrnes Book*, p 44

<sup>30</sup> *Nepean Times*, 31<sup>st</sup> March 1883, p2,c2

<sup>31</sup> Alfred's signature from his marriage certificate.

Alfred married Constance Rhoda Lovell on 4<sup>th</sup> May 1875<sup>1</sup> at Coonabarabran where he was stationed as a Police Constable. Coonabarabran is located on the Castlereagh River near the Warrumbungles in north western NSW. He had previously worked as a miner in the Bathurst area until May 1874, when he followed his brother James into the Mounted Police. From his police records his description was given as 5'9½", Grey eyes, Brown hair and dark complexion.<sup>32</sup>

Alfred resigned from the Police service on 13<sup>th</sup> Sept 1875. Constance and Alfred then took over the lease of the Box Ridge Inn near Coonabarabran.

On 19<sup>th</sup> July 1876, Alfred was charged with Perjury and he attended the Quarter Sessions Court in Dubbo on 8<sup>th</sup> August 1876<sup>33</sup>. He was found Not Guilty and discharged but in a document from 1878 he says the experience cost him £96<sup>34</sup>. Currently there is no more detail on the case because the actual court records appear to be lost. The perjury charge may have eventuated from his previous work as a policeman but the truth is not yet known.

In 1878 he was declared bankrupt owing £175.10.4<sup>35</sup>. From the bankruptcy records it appears that Alfred rented the Box Ridge Inn from his father-in-law, Jonathan Lovell, for £50 per year. He attributed his losses to the pressure of creditors and the failure of a crop from a few acres attached to the Inn, due to drought and kangaroos. It appears the Hotel was averaging weekly income of about £2 and Alfred had built up £233.19.6 in debts which could be offset against £58.9.2 in assets. His major creditors were offered 10¾ pence in the pound and some of his creditors' claims, including that of his father-in-law, were disallowed.

Sometime after this event the Byrnes family returned to the Castlereagh (Cranebrook) area near Penrith to take up farming. In 1884 Alfred's house at Castlereagh was used as a polling place for the Council elections<sup>36</sup>.

“The polling booth at Castlereagh was very convenient and Mr Alf Byrnes treated the officials right royally as did Mr James Smith at Mulgoa.”

There were 120 people who voted at Castlereagh which was about 10% of the total Penrith electorate. (Only men were allowed to vote and not all men were eligible, it was usually landholders or men paying over a certain amount in rent who could vote.)

In the electoral roll for 1902 Alfred Byrnes (labourer) and Constance Rhoda Byrnes (home duties) were registered as living at Cranebrook. By this time women were allowed to vote and the property restrictions were no longer in force.

Constance and Alfred had 13 children (who survived), including a set of twins.

Rosetta Elizabeth May	born	10 Nov	1876	at Coonabarabran <sup>li</sup>
Jessie Evelyn	born	22 May	1878	at Coonabarabran <sup>lii</sup>
Grace Florence	born	8 Sep	1879	at Penrith <sup>liii</sup>
Ernest Edwin	born	3 Aug	1881	at Penrith <sup>liv</sup>
Laura Beatrice	born	22 Dec	1883	at Penrith <sup>lv</sup>
Leslie Henry	born	2 Sep	1885	at Penrith <sup>lvi</sup>
Emma Gertrude	born	30 Sep	1887	at Penrith <sup>lvii</sup>
George Lovell	born	11 Nov	1889	at Penrith <sup>lviii</sup>
Ivy Matilda	born	13 Aug	1892	at Penrith <sup>lix</sup>

<sup>32</sup> SRNSW: NRS 10943, Reel 3043 [8/3251], Registers of Police, Service no 2397.

<sup>33</sup> SRNSW: NRS 850, Returns of Criminal Cases 1870-87, [5/3034 p 27], 1876

<sup>34</sup> SRNSW: NRS 13521, Insolvency Papers, Alfred Byrnes 1878, [2/9715] item 14205

<sup>35</sup> *Ibid*

<sup>36</sup> *Nepean Times* Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> February 1884, p 2

Walter Stanley	born	26 Feb	1894	at Penrith <sup>lx</sup>	
Alfred Roy	born	26 Mar	1897	at Penrith <sup>lxi</sup>	twin
Constance Victoria	born	26 Mar	1897	at Penrith <sup>lxii</sup>	twin
Francis Bruce	born	17 Feb	1900	at Penrith <sup>lxiii</sup>	

The families of the twins Alfred Roy and Constance Victoria reported that there was an earlier set of twins who died. This is supported by the fact there is one girl and one boy, deceased, reported on most of the other children's birth certificates. These children must have been either stillborn or died soon after birth because their birth was never recorded. Their names were Alfred and Constance. The second set of twins was named after them.

In 1888 Alfred was involved in a dispute with John Purcell over rent payments, which was taken to the courts.<sup>37</sup> Alfred was renting a farm at Castlereagh from John Purcell with a yearly rental of £34 per annum. £25 was due at the end of December 1887 and early in January the landlord applied for his money. Alfred asked for time to harvest his hay crop and sell it. Purcell had noticed that Alfred had about 5 tons of hay in a shed and a hay press. Alfred seems to have done "a runner". (I expect Alfred's experience with his 1878 bankruptcy led him to attempt to salvage some of his property, rather than have it sold under bankruptcy conditions.) When Purcell went back for his rent the hay and press were gone as was the furniture in the house. The court case resulted in Alfred being ordered to pay twice the value of the goods removed – hay £12/10/-, Press £9 - £43, Court costs 7/4 and £2/2/- for professional costs and distress. The alternative was 6 months in Parramatta gaol.

Unfortunately the Penrith court records covering this period are not available so we have to rely on the newspaper report of the incident. It is not really clear how much money Alfred would have to find. Since there are no records of his admittance to Parramatta Gaol, it appears he must have found the money. It is also not clear where the family moved to when they left Purcell's property.

I am not sure what Alfred's occupation was in the time from 1888 to 1892 except at the time of George Lovell Byrnes' birth in November 1889 he gave his occupation as farmer at Castlereagh. By 1892, at the time of Ivy's birth, the family was again living at Cranebrook and Alfred was working on the Railways. There was a Railway Workshop in the Penrith area at that time.

In 1893 Alfred was in another bit of legal trouble. On 11<sup>th</sup> March 1893 the following apology appeared in the *Nepean Times*. We have no record of what the dispute was about. His earlier dealing with the court had proved costly and he obviously decided the cost of an apology in the newspaper was much cheaper.

**Apology.**

I BEG to Apologise to Mr. George Andrews and his daughter for what I stated on Friday night last, the same being untrue, and without foundation.

A. BYRNES.

Cranebrook, March 8th, 1893

Alfred died on 26<sup>th</sup> August 1907<sup>lxiv</sup> of a Cerebral Haemorrhage, at the Nepean Cottage Hospital, Penrith and was buried the following day at the Methodist Cemetery Castlereagh. His obituary appeared in the *Nepean Times* on Saturday September 7<sup>th</sup> 1907.

### Beyond the Veil

The death of Mr Alfred Byrnes last week came as a great surprise to his many friends and relatives. He was a native of the district and the eldest son of Mr Samuel Byrnes of Lemmongrove Penrith. He was an inmate of the Nepean Cottage Hospital for three weeks. He leaves a widow and grown up family. The remains were interred at the Methodist Cemetery Castlereagh.

<sup>37</sup> *Nepean Times*, 28 Jan 1888, p 6

## **The Lewis/ Frederick ancestry, *Alfred's maternal Grandparents***

Eliza Lewis, Alfred's mother, is the daughter of a convict, George Lewis, and a free settler, Sarah Frederick.

### **George Lewis. *Alfred's maternal grandfather***

George Lewis was born about 1773.

The following account is the result of a search in England to find more about George Lewis.

"Because of the paucity of information about George Lewis in the Assize papers, I decided to visit the Kingston Record Office where in the Kingston Process Book commencing 1797 there was this entry in folio 329:- '25. George Lewis of Ewell labour for a Felony. Found Guilty. Transported for seven years - and in meantime to be kept to hard labour' Dated 15 January 1799. Pl (?pleaded) not guilty on Trial."<sup>38</sup>

"The Quarter Sessions Papers (QS 2/6 Epiphany 1799) Kalendar stated "Prisoners committed since the last session. George Lewis. Committed the 13 October 1798 by R C Smith Esq., charged on the Oaths of Jane Bailey and others, with feloniously taking and carrying away, in the said county, divers pocket handkerchiefs, the goods and chattels of the said Jane." This volume is entitled "Kalendar of the Prisoners in the Custody of the Keepr of His Majesty's Gaol in and for the County of Surrey, and the House of Correction at Southwark, for the General Quarter Session of the Peace of our Sovereign Lord the King, to be holden at Newington, in and for the said County, on Tuesday 14 January 1799. James Trotter Esq. Sheriff."<sup>39</sup>

George came to Sydney on *Coromandel 1* arriving 13 June 1802. He may have started at Norfolk Island as a convict of that name shows in the 1800-1802 Musters on the victualling book for Norfolk Island, however other information relating to the time this person was victualled does not correlate with the time of arrival of the *Coromandel* to Sydney.

In 1806, George Lewis was recorded as a sawyer and had Elizabeth Colton, a former convict who arrived on the *Speedy*, living with him.



On 4<sup>th</sup> July 1808 when George was 35, he married Sarah Frederick, daughter of Christopher and Mary Frederick, in St Philip's Sydney<sup>lxv</sup>. Sarah was born about 1783 in England.

*The first St Philip's (1798 - 1856) was built on what is, today, Lang Park<sup>40</sup>*

An interesting fact about this marriage came to light when a Lewis descendant applied for a marriage certificate for George and Sarah's marriage. It appears that this marriage was never legal because the celebrant Mr E Abbott JP was not licensed to perform marriages. It is

<sup>38</sup> Kingston Process Books commencing 1787 folio 329/ 25

<sup>39</sup> The Quarter Sessions Papers (QS 2/6 Epiphany 1799)

<sup>40</sup> <http://www.stphilips-sydney.org.au/>

unknown why a JP rather than a church minister was conducting marriage services at St Philips in 1808. This was a time of turmoil in the colony. The Rum Rebellion had taken place in January 1808 when Governor Bligh was overthrown by Officers of the NSW Corps. It is possible that many of the normal practices of the colony were disturbed at this time and this could be one such instance.

In January 1809 George Lewis was taken to Court over theft of a Government pitt saw. He had borrowed it from an acquaintance. He was lucky that his case was dismissed and he was only given a reprimand<sup>41</sup>. If he was convicted of stealing it could have resulted in him being gaoled and would have caused great difficulty to his family.

The following account appears in 1809 in the Sydney Gazette & NSW Advertiser 21<sup>st</sup> May 1809.<sup>42</sup>

“The house of George Lewis, a sawyer, at the upper end of Pitt's Row, was broken into on the night of yesterday se'nnight, and robbed of every valuable it contained; among which was the whole of his wife's wearing apparel and child-bed linen, the loss of which much heightens the calamity, owing to the poor woman's near approach of her *accouchement* and the want of means to re-establish her little wardrobe.” (Note: Pitt's Row later became Pitt Street).

Their first child George Lewis was born on August 2 1809. He died on June 26 1811 not long after she had given birth to twin boys in April.

In 1813 George Lewis took Thomas Allwright to court for payment of £15 on promissory notes. George Lewis won with £13.10.0 damages and court costs of £2.0.4<sup>43</sup>.

By the 1814 Muster, the Lewis family was reported as being off stores, this meant they were self-supporting, George was still listed as a sawyer.

On 8<sup>th</sup> October 1816 George Lewis was given a Land grant of 40 acres in lower Nepean by Governor Macquarie<sup>44</sup>. In 1817 George leased this land to Thomas Rose<sup>45</sup> and in 1818 there is a record of him selling his former home in Pitt Street to William Fielder<sup>46</sup>. In July 1818 the following appeared in the Sydney Gazette.

NOTICE.-Any Person having Claims on the House and Premises No. 38, Pitt street, the Property of George Lewis, is requested to make present Application thereon to Mr. Solicitor Moore, George Street<sup>47</sup>.

There is no mention of amounts of money in either the lease Deed or the sale. The lease to Rose must have been only for a short time (contrary to the written deed) because according to the 1822 Muster George had 20 acres of his land cleared and was growing Wheat, Maize, Barley and Peas/beans. He also had 2 horses, 4 head of cattle and 21 hogs. In the 1828 Census, George, Sarah and 7 children were living on a farm at Evan (Castlereagh district).

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<sup>41</sup> SRNSW NRS 3397 Judge Advocate's Bench of Magistrates, Proceedings, 19 Feb 1788-1821 Reel 657 SZ770 21 Jan 1809,

<sup>42</sup> Sydney Gazette & NSW Advertiser, Sunday May 21 1809, page 2 column 2, (<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article627745>).

<sup>43</sup> SRNSW NRS 2659 Court of Civil Jurisdiction 5/1109 Case 20 *Lewis vs Allwright*

<sup>44</sup> NSW Dept of Lands (Gen Reg of Deeds), *Grant*, Grants Register Serial No 8, p 278

<sup>45</sup> NSW Dept of Lands (Gen Reg of Deeds), Old Register Book 6, pp 358-359, Entry 181

<sup>46</sup> NSW Dept of Lands (Gen Reg of Deeds), Old Register Book 7, p 130, Entry 392

<sup>47</sup> The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser, 11 July 1818, page 2, column 3, (<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-page493847>)

They had 40 acres cleared and cultivated and 4 horses and 10 cattle. It appears that George was a hard worker who achieved good results for his family and community.

In 1821 George Lewis was named among those settlers who were each contributing 30 bushels of wheat to the Government stores.<sup>48</sup>

George had two appearances at the Governor's Court. In 1822 he sued Henry Owens for a sum of £20 for non-payment of moneys owing to George Lewis for work done for Henry Owens<sup>49</sup>. He won this case but a few months later he was sued by Simeon Lord Esquire<sup>50</sup> (a Dealer and former convict) for a sum of £30 for the repayment of money lent and goods sold. Each court appearance incurred costs in excess of £6, which was a large sum in those days.

In the 1841 Census there were two entries for Lewis in the Castlereagh district. The first was for an unnamed male Lewis between the ages of 21 and 45 who was single, born in the colony a Wesleyan Methodist farmer who was living in a wooden house. This was perhaps Edward Lewis who had bought 5 acres from his grandfather, Christopher Frederick in 1837 for £30.<sup>51</sup>

The second Lewis family is listed as G Lewis. It had one female under 14 years of age, three males and one female between 14 and 21, one male and one female between ages 21 and 45, one female between 45 and 60 and one male over 60. Of the males one was married and four were single and for the females one was married and two were single. Four of the males were born in the colony and one was classified as "Other free". Two of the females were born in the colony and one arrived free. They were Wesleyan Methodists with five males involved in agricultural pursuits and three classified as "Other". They lived in a Wooden house. From this profile it would seem certain that this represented George and his wife Sarah with six of their children. The ages of the children do not exactly match up with the known birthdates of some of the children but mistakes such as this are not uncommon in census records. One of their unmarried daughters does not appear to have been home when the census was taken. This was most likely to be Elizabeth (Betsey) Lewis aged about 20 who had gone to live with her aunt and uncle in Sydney Town in 1840.

By 1850 George was not in good health. There are records of a George Lewis making a number of visits to the Penrith district dispensary from 1850 to 1857 suffering from Psora senilis (Old age itch?)<sup>52</sup>

In 1852 George sold a 20 acre portion of his land to his youngest son James Lewis. It appears that James had been living on this land with George. In exchange James and his heirs had to "provide sufficient or suitable diet or board or lodging clothing and maintenance ... for the term of his natural life and at his death to pay the expenses of his funeral."<sup>53</sup> There was no mention of George's wife, Sarah Lewis, in these arrangements.

This lack of provision for Sarah puzzled me but it has come to light that Sarah was suffering from some form of senile dementia. In 1853 she was gaoled for two weeks for wandering about on the Western Road at Parramatta. We don't know what she was doing at Parramatta or where she was living at that time. She was declared a Lunatic and committed to the Tarban Creek Lunatic asylum. In January 1854 George and two of his sons applied to have Sarah

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<sup>48</sup> The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser Saturday 29 December 1821 page 2 column 1

<sup>49</sup> NSW Dept of Lands (Gen Reg of Deeds), *Conveyance*, Book 23, No 622, George Lewis & James Lewis, 1852

<sup>50</sup> SRNSW Governor's Court NRS 4563, [4/7865], Case 79, Governor's Court, 1822, Lord v Lewis

<sup>51</sup> NSW Dept of Lands (Gen Reg of Deeds), *Memorandum of Sale*, Book 21, No 229, Frederick & Lewis, 1837

<sup>52</sup> Penrith Benevolent Asylum Patient visits

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~hcastle/registers/registers.htm> (current August 2007)

<sup>53</sup> NSW Dept of Lands (Gen Reg of Deeds), *Conveyance* No 622, Book 23, Aug 13 1852 Lewis & Lewis

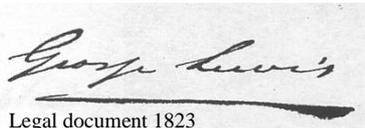
returned to live with her husband. She was described thus “she is the most harmless being in existence”<sup>54</sup> and “the case of insanity is of a very harmless character”<sup>55</sup>. However by August 1855 her family appealed to have her readmitted to the asylum<sup>56</sup>. After a brief stay at the Tarban Creek asylum she was moved to the Parramatta Asylum later in 1855 and remained there until December 1858 when her sister Mary Sims petitioned for Sarah to come and live with her in Petersham<sup>57</sup>.

George died 5th December 1857 at Castlereagh aged 84 and was buried two days later at Castlereagh NSW<sup>lxvi</sup>.

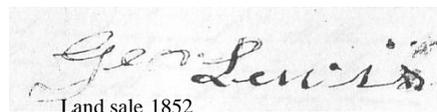
Here are some samples of the signature of George Lewis over the years.



Legal document 1822



Legal document 1823



Land sale 1852

Sarah died at the age of 88 on 27 April 1871<sup>lxvii</sup> at Wellington Street, Kingston (this is part of Newtown). Sarah had been living with her sister Mary (widow of Thomas Sims) who had a residence at Wellington Street, Newtown<sup>58</sup>. She was buried on 29<sup>th</sup> April 1871, at Haslems Creek Cemetery (Rookwood Cemetery).

*The grave, at Rookwood Cemetery, of Sarah Lewis and Mary Vanderville*



Her sister, now known as, Mary Vanderville was buried in the same grave in 1875<sup>lxviii</sup>. Church of England, Section A, Grave 568. (Mary had remarried to Robert Vanderville not long before her death).

#### **George Lewis and Sarah Frederick had the following children:**

- i. George. Born on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 1809. He died on 26<sup>th</sup> June 1811, aged 22 months.<sup>lxix</sup>
- ii. William Christopher (twin). Born on 29<sup>th</sup> April 1811<sup>lxx</sup>.  
He married Mary McQUADE in 1835<sup>lxxi</sup>. They had 1 child
- iii. John Abraham (twin). Born on 29<sup>th</sup> April 1811<sup>lxxii</sup>. He died on 19<sup>th</sup> September 1875<sup>lxxiii</sup>, aged 64. He married Jane WEST (née Macalvine or Macilveen, a widow) on 18<sup>th</sup> March 1861<sup>lxxiv</sup>. Jane died on 6<sup>th</sup> December 1875. They had 7 children, most of whom went to orphanages after their parents' deaths.
- iv. Mary Ann. Born on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 1813<sup>lxxv</sup>.  
Married John DARGIN 27<sup>th</sup> October 1828 at Sydney<sup>lxxvi</sup> Died in February 1838<sup>lxxvii</sup>, aged 25 from suicide. Children 2 girls, 1 boy .
- v. Edward born on 8<sup>th</sup> April 1815. He died on 12<sup>th</sup> April 1881, aged 66<sup>lxxviii</sup>. He married Sarah BROGAN on 25<sup>th</sup> January 1857<sup>lxxix</sup> when he was 42. They had 2 Boys and 2 Girls (all but the eldest boy died in infancy)
- vi. Richard (Charles?) Born in 4<sup>th</sup> April, 1817<sup>lxxx</sup>. Died before 1871
- vii. Christopher. Born on 27<sup>th</sup> December 1818. He died on 29<sup>th</sup> September 1876, aged 57<sup>lxxxi</sup>. On 10<sup>th</sup> October 1845 aged 26, he married Mary STOLE<sup>lxxxii</sup>. Children unknown

<sup>54</sup> SRNSW: NRS 905, [4/3286, Item No. 55/8442], Colonial Secretary, Main series of letters received (1826 – 1982). January 14 1854

<sup>55</sup> Ibid, January 16 1854

<sup>56</sup> SRNSW: NRS 905, [4/3224, Item No. 54/511], Colonial Secretary, Main series of letters received (1826 – 1982). August 8 1855

<sup>57</sup> SRNSW: NRS 905, [4/3389, Item No. 58/4848], Colonial Secretary, Main series of letters received (1826 – 1982). *Mary Simms petition*. Dec 1858

<sup>58</sup> Sand's Sydney Directory 1871

- viii. Elizabeth (Betsy). Born on 7<sup>th</sup> July 1821. She died on 20<sup>th</sup> August 1862<sup>lxxxiii</sup>, aged 41. On 17<sup>th</sup> May 1842 aged 20, she married David PARKER<sup>lxxxiv</sup>. They had 12 children
- ix. James. Born on 18<sup>th</sup> December 1823. He died on 14<sup>th</sup> May 1893, aged 69<sup>lxxxv</sup>. On 9<sup>th</sup> March 1846 when he was 22, he married Susannah COLLITTS<sup>lxxxvi</sup>. They had 5 children  
On 28<sup>th</sup> June 1857 aged 32, he married for the second time to Caroline SULLIVAN<sup>lxxxvii</sup>. They had 3 children.
- x. Eliza born 16<sup>th</sup> March 1825<sup>lxxxviii</sup> - died about 1853  
On 24<sup>th</sup> March 1846 when Eliza was 21 she married Samuel BYRNES in Wesleyan Church, Windsor NSW<sup>lxxxix</sup>.  
Eliza died from a sulky accident before 1854. No record of death or burial. Possibly buried at Methodist Cemetery Castlereagh - perhaps even in the grave later used by her son Alfred and his wife Constance. If not buried there she could be in the Christ Church cemetery at Castlereagh. They had 4 children.
- xi. Emma. Born on 19<sup>th</sup> April 1829. She died in 26 February 1910<sup>xc</sup>  
On 22<sup>nd</sup> January 1850 when Emma was 20, she married James GLAZIER.  
They had 6 children.

Elizabeth (Betsey) was sent to Sydney Gaol for 6 months (including time in solitary confinement) after being convicted of stealing in August 1840. She was probably living with Mary and Thomas Sims in Sydney at the time<sup>59</sup>. Thomas made an unsuccessful plea to Governor Gipps to have her excused from the solitary confinement.<sup>60</sup>

After her release Betsey returned to the Castlereagh area and was married to David Parker not long after. She must have learnt a valuable lesson because by all indications she was a model citizen for the remainder of her life.

### **Christopher Frederick *Alfred's maternal great grandfather***

Christopher was born about 1762. He arrived on 11<sup>th</sup> March 1803 on *Glutton* with his wife and 3 children as free settlers. Christopher had been recommended for the colony by Mr Moore who worked in Lord Hawkesbury's office.<sup>61</sup> He was married to Mary who was born around 1762. She died on 17<sup>th</sup> December 1838<sup>xc</sup>.

Christopher had trained as a tailor but he became a farmer in the new colony. Almost nothing is known of Christopher's life before his arrival in Australia.

### **Christopher and Mary had the following children**

Sarah Born about 1787 England  
Married 4<sup>th</sup> July 1808<sup>lxv</sup> at St Phillips, Sydney to George Lewis  
Died 27<sup>th</sup> April 1871<sup>lxvii</sup>



Glutton

<sup>59</sup> SRNSW: NRS 847, Reel [5/2915] Clerk of the Peace, Registers of Criminal Cases tried at Sydney Quarter Sessions 1839 -1921, 26 Aug 1840, No 52, Elizabeth Lewis

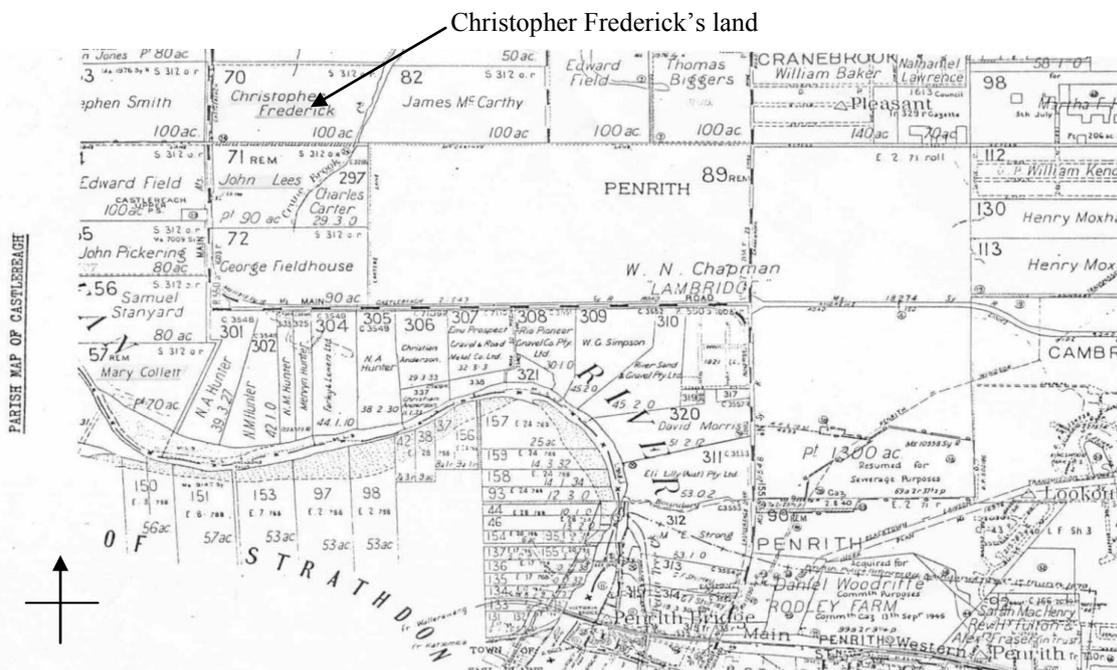
<sup>60</sup> SRNSW: NRS 905, [4/2497.1 Letter No. 40/10551], 21 Oct 1840, Letter of Thomas Sims of King St, Builder.

<sup>61</sup> *Historical Records of Australia* Series 1, Volume 3, page 534

Mary Born 1801, in England  
 Married 2<sup>nd</sup> February 1824<sup>xcii</sup> at St John's Parramatta to Thomas Sims (Simms) (he was a former convict who arrived on the Fortune 2, in 1807. They lived in Sydney where Thomas worked as a carpenter/builder)  
 Married 1875 Robert Vanderville<sup>xciii</sup> Died 17<sup>th</sup> August 1875<sup>lxviii</sup>

Richard Little is known about Richard, he may have been a seaman. (Indeed it is not certain that their son's name was Richard). There are newspaper references to Richard Frederick leaving the colony on a number of occasions<sup>62</sup>. On one occasion he was with a Mary Frederick<sup>63</sup> (this would not have been his sister but may have been his wife). There is also a reference to a Mary Frederick having a house in early Sydney town<sup>64</sup>. Richard and Mary Frederick were on the Dundee when it was wrecked at the mouth of the Hunter River in 1808<sup>65</sup>. They survived and there is a newspaper notice that a Mary Frederick was leaving Sydney on the Hindostan in 1810 (this is the ship that took Governor Bligh back to England after the Rum Rebellion)<sup>66</sup>. It is not certain if any of this information refers to members of Christopher's family.

On June 4, 1804 Christopher Frederick was granted 100 acres of land in the district of Evan by Governor King<sup>67</sup>. Payment was 3/- per year to commence after 5 years.



Note: George Lewis' land grant of 40 acres was on Lot 61 about 10 blocks north of Christopher's 100 acres

In the 1805-06 Muster, Christopher was shown to have 16 hogs and to have cultivated 14 acres of his land. He had planted 7 acres with wheat, 2 with maize, 1 with Barley, and 4 acres were

<sup>62</sup> Sydney Gazette There are various references to a Richard Frederick embarking on a boat May 29 1819, Feb 5 1820, June 3 1820, June 24 1820

<sup>63</sup> The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser 31 July 1808 p1. leaving on the Dundee

<sup>64</sup> Bryan Thomas, 1979, a map of Sydney 1810, reproduced in Pearce, Chris *Through the Eyes of Thomas Pamphlett Convict and Castaway*, Boolarong Publications, 1993, page 34

<sup>65</sup> The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser , Sunday 28 August 1808, page 1 column 2, (<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article627575>)

<sup>66</sup> Ibid, Saturday 10 March 1810, Page 3, column 3, (<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article627948>)

<sup>67</sup> SRNSW: NRS 1213, Fiche 3268; [9/2731, p.140].

left fallow. The remaining 86 acres were left for pasture<sup>68</sup>. This level of industry was an accomplishment, especially when there is no record of him being assigned convict servants at this time, and tools were in short supply.

Governor Macquarie visited the district around the Nepean River and on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December 1810 he proclaimed “the Township for the Evan or Nepean District I have named Castlereagh in honor of Lord Viscount Castlereagh”<sup>69</sup>

On Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> January 1811, the Governor again visited the area, and recorded in his diary. “Immediately after Breakfast this morning, about 9 o'clock. Mrs. M. and myself in the Carriage, attended by the Gentlemen of our Family, the Surveyor, the Revd. Mr. Cartwright, Mr. Cox, and several other Gentlemen set out from Windsor to view the intended Scite [sic] for the Township of Castlereagh -- proceeding thither the near way through the Woods by the South Creek. On arriving on the Heights along which the Township is intended to be erected, we found a number of the Inhabitants & Settlers of the Nepean River District waiting for us. We all proceeded on Horse-back to view the Grounds, which are beautifully situated, fronting and overlooking the River Nepean, and having a full view of the lofty Blue Mountains to the westward of that River. The Great Square in the Center of the Township having been marked out, the Name of it -- "Castlereagh" painted on a Board ! was nailed to a high strong Post and erected in the Center of the Square, the more clearly to mark out the Situation [sic] of the Town: The Burying Ground also, about a quarter of a mile in rear of the Square and the principal Streets, were marked out by Strong Posts by the Surveyor.”<sup>70</sup>

In 1815 when Governor Macquarie again travelled to this district his mood was more sombre. In his diary he paints a very unflattering picture of the farms on the banks of the Nepean River.

“In this ride I was truly concerned to observe that the Settlers have not made the smallest improvement on their Farms since I first visited them in November 1810, near Five years ago! -- No Fences or Enclosures or Gardens made, and no new Houses built or old ones repaired, and the Settlers themselves living in the same Poverty and Sloth as they did then. -- This is a melancholy and mortifying reflection, but I fear there is no remedying these lazy habits during the existence of the present old generation”<sup>71</sup>.

Perhaps Christopher did not make such a poor impression in 1815, because on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 1816 Christopher Frederick was on a list of persons to be issued with cattle from the Government herds.<sup>72</sup>

In November 1813 Christopher was taken to court by Robert Campbell the elder for non payment of debts of £34.6.9. In addition to paying his debt he was also issued with costs of £4.9.10<sup>73</sup>

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<sup>68</sup> Ancestry.com. *New South Wales and Tasmania, Australia Convict Musters, 1806-1849* [database on-line]. HO 10/37

<sup>69</sup> Original held in the Mitchell Library, Sydney.[ML Ref: A778] Copyright © 1998-2005 Macquarie University. <http://www.lib.mq.edu.au/all/journeys/1810/>

<sup>70</sup> Original held in the Mitchell Library, Sydney.[ML Ref: A778] Transcript Copyright © 1998-2005 Macquarie University; <http://www.lib.mq.edu.au/all/journeys/1810>

<sup>71</sup> Original held in the Mitchell Library, Sydney.[ML Ref: A780] Transcript Copyright © 1998-2005 Macquarie University; <http://www.lib.mq.edu.au/all/journeys/1815b>

<sup>72</sup> SRNSW: NRS 898, Reel 6038, [SZ759 p.212]; Reel 6031, [4/7028A p.31].

<sup>73</sup> SRNSW: NRS 2659, 5/1109 Court of Civil Jurisdiction Case 449

In 1818 it appears that Christopher Frederick and his wife travelled to Sydney as witnesses in a court case between William Fielder and John Donovan. Fielder's attorney, Mr Amos, had promised to pay their travel and other expenses to enable them to testify but the money never eventuated. Mr Amos apparently included this cost in his fees to enable them to be paid out of the defendant's (Donovan) judgement costs but neither Mr Amos or the Frederick's were ever paid. Unfortunately I could not locate the transcript of the court case but only the judgement Book of the Supreme Court which recorded the results of the trial<sup>74</sup>. There was a little more information available in a short article in the Sydney Gazette which was more concerned with the fact that a legal ruling on payment of witness costs had been overturned<sup>75</sup>.

While working on his farm, Christopher Frederick had a number of convicts working for him at various times. John Robinson who arrived on the *Batavia* was a servant to C Frederick, February 1819 to January 1822. In March 31 1824, John Holland per *Hadlow* 1818 and Thomas Power or Powell per *Lord Sidmouth* 1821 were mentioned as servants of C Frederick in court documents<sup>76</sup>. John Robinson seems to have been a real scoundrel and involved Christopher Frederick in a matter that is detailed in a letter to the Windsor Court House in October 1823<sup>77</sup>.

In 1825 Christopher was on a list of persons to serve as jurors in the Windsor District.<sup>78</sup> By the 1828 Census, Christopher had 60 acres 40 of which were cleared and 25 were cultivated and he ran 3 horses and 11 cattle. He had sold 20 acres to George Bowman in 1818 and 20 Acres to his son-in-law, George Lewis before 1822<sup>79</sup>.

In the same census he was shown to have the following servants:-

Fields, Richard	aged 26	Government servant	<i>Phoenix</i>	1826	7 years	Catholic	Labourer
Holland, John	aged 30	Government servant	<i>Hadlow</i>	1818	Life	Protestant	Labourer

**Five Pounds Reward.**

**S**TOLEN or STRAYED, from the Paddock of Mr. Christopher Frederick, on the Night of Sunday, the 21th March Instant, one Bright Bay MARE, aged, branded F, sore under the eye, swelling on the hind leg, with a Colt (brown), 8 months old running by her side; and also a Bright Bay Filley, with a star on the forehead, 18 months old, hind hoofs white, unbranded. Any person giving information to recover the same shall receive the above reward, either from the Owner, Christopher Frederick; or of Mrs. Sims, King-street.  
Castlereagh, 27th March, 1839.

In 1837 Christopher sold 5 acres of his land to his grandson, Edward Lewis for £30<sup>80</sup>. Edward was the third son of George and Sarah. Interestingly, Christopher's former convict servant, John Holland witnessed this document.

In 1839 this advertisement was placed in the Sydney Gazette<sup>81</sup>. It seems to indicate that Christopher was still living on his land at this time.

<sup>74</sup> SRNSW: NRS 13473, Judgement Book No 2 Supreme Court 1817-1828. [9/922] Case 123, 1818, Fielder v Donovan

<sup>75</sup> The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser, June 5 1819, page 3, column 2, (<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article2178742>)

<sup>76</sup> SRNSW: NRS 898, Reel 6023; [4/6671 p.67, 68].

<sup>77</sup> SRNSW: NRS 897, Reel 6059; [4/1773 p.6]. 7Oct 1823, Convict history of Robinson for the information of the Bench at Windsor .

<sup>78</sup> SRNSW: NRS 897, Reel 6062; [4/1782 p.80a]; Reel 6060; [4/1775 p.188[v]], Aug 1825, Frederick on a list of jurors for Windsor

<sup>79</sup> Davis T et al, 1994, *A Report on Parker's Slaughter Yard – Castlereagh*, Nepean District Historical Archaeology Group, Penrith p2.

<sup>80</sup> NSW Dept of Lands (Gen Reg of Deeds, *Memorandum of Sale*, Book 21, No 229, Frederick & Lewis, 1837

<sup>81</sup> The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser, Saturday 30 March 1839, page 3, column 3, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article2548922>

However there is no record of Christopher Frederick in the 1841 census at Castlereagh. This probably indicates that he was living elsewhere, possibly with his daughter Mary.

In 1851 Christopher sold 60 acres to Thomas and Mary Sims. The sale of 60 acres was a settlement for a £150 debt "for meat, drink, washing, lodging and other necessities, found and provided for by Thomas and Mary Sims"<sup>82</sup>. Mary was Christopher's second daughter. Mary Frederick was born in 1801 and married Thomas Sims (1778-1853) in 1824. She married for a second time to Robert Vanderville in 1875. Mary died on 17 Aug 1875 not long after this second marriage. Robert died in 1880, aged 80 years. Mary was buried in her sister, Sarah Lewis's grave, at Rookwood. There is a more detailed account of Thomas and Mary Sims in a separate document.

Thomas and Mary Sims sold Christopher's land to John Parker on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 1851 for a sum of £120<sup>83</sup>. The sale of this land was made within the extended family. David Parker, John Parker's son was husband to Elizabeth (Betsey) Lewis (Christopher's granddaughter) who had been leasing this land from Christopher Frederick. This land was eventually developed as Parker's Slaughter Yard by another son of John Parker, named Henry.

Christopher died aged 91 years on 25<sup>th</sup> March 1852. At the time of his death it seems he was living with Mary and Thomas Sims in their house in King Street, Sydney. Thomas Sims died in 1853 and his place of death was also recorded as King Street. Both their funerals were conducted in the Parish of Camperdown. Thomas left an estate valued under £50 (this did not include the value of his house which Mary sold a few years later for £3000).

After Thomas died, records show<sup>84</sup> that Mary moved house several times, generally in the Newtown/Marrickville area. Sarah Lewis, Christopher's other daughter (wife of George Lewis), lived with Mary until Sarah's death in 1871. Mary died in 1875 and her second husband, Robert Vanderville, lived out the rest of his life in the house Mary had bought in Susan Street Newtown. Edward Lewis sold this house in August 1880 for £300 and the remainder of her estate was valued at under £40.<sup>85</sup> Edward did not live very long to enjoy his inheritance as he died in April 1881 aged 66.

Over the years the cottages on Christopher's former land (now known as Parker's Slaughter yard) were occupied by the slaughtermen and their families. According to the Electoral Rolls the three families of Christian Henry Ahmelman, George Lovell Byrnes and John Lack were listed as living in that area at different times between 1913 and 1941. These families were all related by marriage to the family of David and Ann Byrnes. George was their great-grandson.

When the documents for the sale of his land are examined it is interesting that Christopher signed his name using the German spelling Friedrich.



Christopher's signature on the 1837 land sale



Christopher's signature on the 1851 land sale

There is a possibility that he may have been a soldier at one time and fought for the British as a mercenary.

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<sup>82</sup> NSW Dept of Lands (Gen Reg of Deeds), *Conveyance*, Book 20, No 377, Frederick & Sims, 1851

<sup>83</sup> Davis, T et al, 1994, *A Report on Parker's Slaughter Yard – Castlereagh*, NDHAG, p 4.

<sup>84</sup> Refer to the Book on Thomas and Mary Sims on this website

<sup>85</sup> NSW Dept of Lands (Gen Reg of Deeds), *Conveyance*, Book 206, No 162, E Lewis (Administrator) & A Spithill, 1880

The latter years of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century were an interesting time in history with the American war of Independence and the Napoleonic wars. There were many soldiers from the small German principalities who were used as mercenaries and who fought for the British.

The possibility of Christopher being a soldier is supported by the fact that he was given a land grant of 100 acres. This amount of land was usually only awarded to former soldiers. However at no point in the records was he ever referred to as having a military history. In the Ship records and early colonial records his profession is always recorded as a tailor.

This picture is understood to be of Christopher Frederick's land. These buildings are probably not the original home since oral history sources mention that a slab cottage was burnt down during the 1880's. They are probably remnants from the time the Parker family owned the land. George Byrnes probably lived here when he worked at Parker's Slaughter Yard.



## Chapter 2 Constance's Ancestry

### Jonathan and Elizabeth Lovell, *Constance's parents*

Jonathan and Elizabeth Lovell (both aged 28) and their two daughters Dorothy Barnes aged 5 and Constance Rhoda aged 20 months arrived as assisted immigrants in Sydney on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 1856. Elizabeth's brother Matthew Barnes (aged 21) and sister Martha Barnes (aged 19) also travelled on the same boat, the *Robert Small*. They followed Elizabeth Barnes' other brother, the convict Benjamin Solomon Barnes, who was convicted for setting alight two corn stacks in 1851.

The *Robert Small* arrived in Sydney on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 1856 with 314 immigrants after a passage of 111 days. Her passengers consisted of 48 married couples, 59 single men, 75 single women and 84 children<sup>86</sup>.

### The Barnes family

Elizabeth Barnes was the fourth child of Joseph Barnes and Mary Clifton and was baptised in the Church of St Mary's Bloxham, in Oxfordshire, England on 3 Feb 1828.

Joseph's parents were John Barnes and Elizabeth Wilkins who married on 26<sup>th</sup> October 1791 in the church of Newton Purcell (Oxfordshire)<sup>87</sup>. The parish records show they were both of this parish but it seems likely John originally came from Bloxham and they had returned there by 1792. Their first child, Joseph was baptised at Bloxham on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1792<sup>88</sup> but he must have died sometime later. They had a second son, also named Joseph, who was baptised at Bloxham on 26<sup>th</sup> June 1795<sup>89</sup>. It was this second Joseph who married Mary Clifton on 24<sup>th</sup> July 1820<sup>90</sup>. Other children of John and Elizabeth Barnes were John, baptised 28<sup>th</sup> December 1797, Solomon baptised 28<sup>th</sup> December 1797 (they may have been twins or just both baptised at the same time), Susanna baptised 9<sup>th</sup> October 1799, Ann baptised 11<sup>th</sup> September 1802 and Martha baptised 5<sup>th</sup> September 1805<sup>91</sup>.



Mary Clifton, wife of Joseph Barnes was the child of John and Hannah Clifton who were married at St Mary's Bloxham on 17<sup>th</sup> January 1798. Hannah's maiden name was also Clifton so it is possible John and Hannah were cousins. Mary may have been their only child. Mary was baptised on 19<sup>th</sup> March 1802.

Joseph and Mary Barnes had twelve children. They were Susanna, Mary, Matilda, Elizabeth, Joseph, Benjamin Solomon, Matthew, Rhoda, Martha, Ann Maria, Miriam and Emma Phebe<sup>92</sup>. Four of these children immigrated to Australia.

<sup>86</sup> SRNSW: NRS 5316, Reel 2138 [4/4793], NRS 5317, Reel 2474, [4/4963], Assisted Immigrants on *Robert Small* 1856

<sup>87</sup> Plenty E 1990 *A Barnes from Bloxham* p 9

<sup>88</sup> IGI Batch No J024232

<sup>89</sup> Ibid

<sup>90</sup> IGI Batch No 7250002

<sup>91</sup> IGI Batch No K024232

<sup>92</sup> IGI Batch No C024231

### **Benjamin Solomon Barnes** (Constance's uncle)

The first to arrive in Australia was Benjamin Solomon Barnes who was baptised on 30<sup>th</sup> December 1831. In April 1851, Benjamin and some other men were charged with setting fire to two stacks of corn and after being tried, he and one other, were found guilty. They were sentenced to “be transported for the term of their natural lives”. Benjamin was transported to Western Australia on the convict ship *Ramilles*, which arrived at Fremantle on 7<sup>th</sup> August 1854. Benjamin received his ticket of leave on 27<sup>th</sup> August 1856. In 1860 Benjamin married Sarah Alice Bailey and about a year later he was granted a conditional pardon. By 1866 the family have travelled to the east coast and by 1869 they were living at “Bomera” station near Coonabarabran. By this time Benjamin's sister Elizabeth Lovell, and her family were already located at Bomera. Benjamin died on 1<sup>st</sup> December 1913, aged 81, and is buried in Binnaway Cemetery.<sup>93</sup>

### **Matthew Barnes** (Constance's uncle)

The other family members arrived on the *Robert Small*. This included Matthew Barnes and his sisters Martha and Elizabeth. Elizabeth arrived with her husband Jonathan Lovell and two small daughters. Matthew arrived in Australia as a single man. All the Barnes/ Lovell family members arrived as assisted immigrants. They had to pay a fee of £1 towards their passage.<sup>94</sup>

Matthew was baptised at St Mary's Bloxham on 8<sup>th</sup> March 1835. After arriving in Australia in 1856 he became a farm labourer at Bomera Station. Another passenger on the *Robert Small* was Sarah Sibley, a cook from Burdon, Essex England. Sarah was also working at Bomera and they married in 1860<sup>xciv</sup>. Matthew went on to buy land in the district and became a grazier. He died at Woolshed Creek near Binnaway on 26<sup>th</sup> September 1915<sup>xcv</sup>. He had five children.

### **Martha Barnes** (Constance's aunt)

Martha was baptised at St Mary's Bloxham on 30<sup>th</sup> May 1838. On the shipping list her profession was given as “Stays Maker”. In 1857 she was working as a servant for Alfred Denison the owner of a pastoral run known as Gullendaddy near the Namoi River. Martha married Arthur Price on 18<sup>th</sup> March 1858<sup>xcvi</sup>. Arthur became the Inn keeper at Tambar Springs. They had two daughters before Martha died on Christmas Day 1864<sup>xcvii</sup>.



**Tingewick Church**

### **Elizabeth Barnes** (Constance's mother)

Elizabeth's husband was Jonathan Lovell and they had two daughters Barnes Dorothy Lovell aged 5 (Christened 6<sup>th</sup> October 1850 at Bloxham) and Constance Rhoda Lovell aged 20 months (Christened 30<sup>th</sup> September 1855 at Bloxham).<sup>95</sup>

Jonathan was the son of Thomas and Mary Lovell. He was an agricultural labourer and he and Elizabeth had married at Tingewick, in Buckingham shire in 1848<sup>96</sup>. In the shipping records their eldest daughter, Barnes Dorothy was recorded as a son named Barnes Doherty Lovell<sup>97</sup>.

<sup>93</sup> Bull, R (2000) *Binnaway on the Castlereagh Vol II, Cemetery Bibliographies 1859-1999*, Outlook Press Coolah NSW, p 12

<sup>94</sup> SRNSW: NRS 5316, Reel 2138 [4/4793], NRS 5317, Reel 2474, [4/4963], Assisted Immigrants on *Robert Small* 1856

<sup>95</sup> IGI Batch no C024231

<sup>96</sup> Plenty, E. (1990) *A Barnes from Bloxham* pp 9 & 10

<sup>97</sup> SRNSW: NRS 5316, Reel 2138 [4/4793], NRS 5317, Reel 2474, [4/4963]

After their arrival in Sydney the family moved to Bomera where Jonathan was employed as a labourer. Bomera was one of the largest of the land holdings in NSW and situated in the region between Coolah, Coonabarabran and Gunnedah.

This drawing is by Sue Graham from the booklet *Coonabarabran*, Sue Coleman and Barbara Poole (Coonabarabran Library, sighted in 2002)



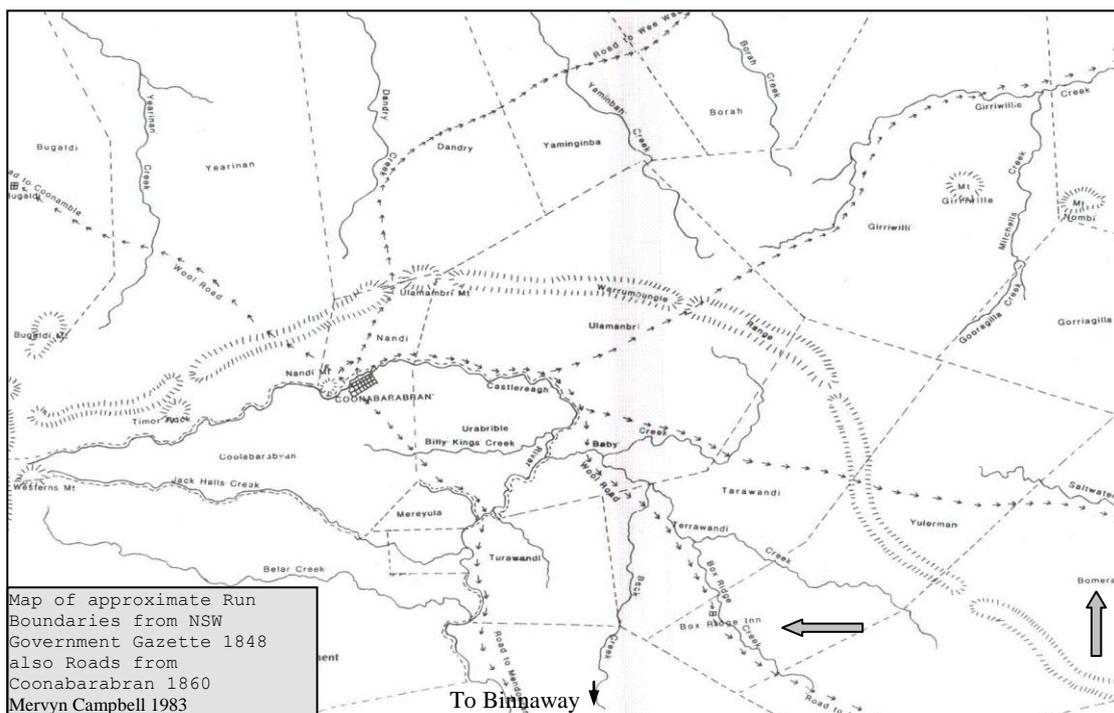
Bomera Station

Two more daughters were born at Bomera, Sarah Miriam Lovell born 1859 and Laura Phoebe Lovell born 1863. There are no official records of their birth, their year of births were estimated from information provided on their marriage certificates.

Land titles show that Jonathan selected 40 acres in the land district of Coonabarabran. Coonabarabran is located on the Castlereagh River. This and another 240 acres, bought in 1879 were sold to a George Cohen in 1880.<sup>98</sup>

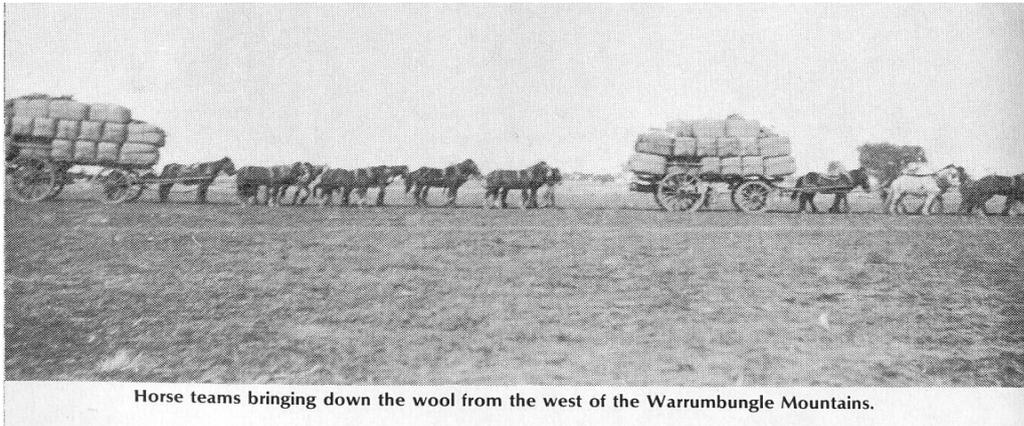
During 1875 Jonathan and Elizabeth took over the licence for the "Royal Oak" Hotel at Coonabarabran. From Court records we also know that Alfred Byrnes was renting the Box Ridge Inn from Jonathan Lovell from 1876 to 1878. Box Ridge lies on the back road between Coonabarabran and Binnaway and was a major transport route for wool and other goods in their journey to Sydney. The Inn once catered for the teamsters who were carting produce firstly to the Hunter Valley and then on to Sydney.

In 1880, after Alfred's bankruptcy, the Lovell's moved from Coonabarabran and took over the licence of the Box Ridge Inn. Alfred had transferred the Hotel License to his Sister-in-law, Barnes Dorothy Lovell in August 1878.



Map from J Pickette, M Campbell, *Coonabarabran*, 1983, pp 42-43

<sup>98</sup> Plenty E, 1990 op cit, page 119



Horse teams bringing down the wool from the west of the Warrumbungle Mountains.

Photo from Pickette, J Campbell M *Coonabarabran*, 1983, p 20

There is an interesting story about Elizabeth Lovell in the Pickette and Campbell book<sup>99</sup>. The story said that Elizabeth was supposed to be a trained hospital nurse and she became one of the town's midwives. It is possible that she became one of the local midwives but the nursing training may not have been true as there is no evidence to support it. At this time nursing training was not required for midwives and may have been a bit of “poetic licence” to gain business. Ludwig Bruck reports that there is a long history of quackery in the medical and allied professions. For example, Edmund B Loughnan was practising as a doctor in Coonabarabran in the 1880's. He was supposed to have had a long list of qualifications from prestigious English Institutions. According to Bruck, Dr Loughnan was an untrained medical practitioner. This was not at all uncommon at the time, as apparently, there was one untrained practitioner for every three who were trained. “These irregular medical practitioners of all nationalities are found in every part of Australia, though nowhere in such astonishing numbers as in New South Wales”<sup>100</sup>

Another interesting tale from Pickette and Campbell's book claims Elizabeth Lovell became partial to drink, and at one time tried to slit her throat while she was in the horrors. Two Aboriginal women who worked for her were said to have patched her up. On another occasion she was supposed to have tried to chop off her leg with an axe. After that “Granny” went to live with her daughter Dorothy at Black Gully near Binnaway Cemetery. Old residents of Binnaway, who went to school on Black Gully, near the Barnes' home remember seeing old ‘Granny’ Lovell pushing herself about the yard on a rocking chair. This old chair, with the rockers almost worn through, was in the possession of Mr and Mrs George Barnes” until the 1970's. Elizabeth died on 13<sup>th</sup> July 1890<sup>xcviii</sup> and is buried at Binnaway Cemetery in an unmarked grave. There were stories in the 1920's of her ghost haunting the site of the old Box Ridge Inn. Whatever the truth in the tales of her life, she seems to have been quite a character. On her death certificate her cause of death is given as a “sore leg from knee to ankle, the latter very



A Plaque on the Binnaway Cemetery gate commemorating Elizabeth Lovell's burial erected by the local historical society

<sup>99</sup> Pickette, J and Campbell, M (1983) *Coonabarabran as it was in the beginning*, Macquarie Publications, Dubbo pp92- 93

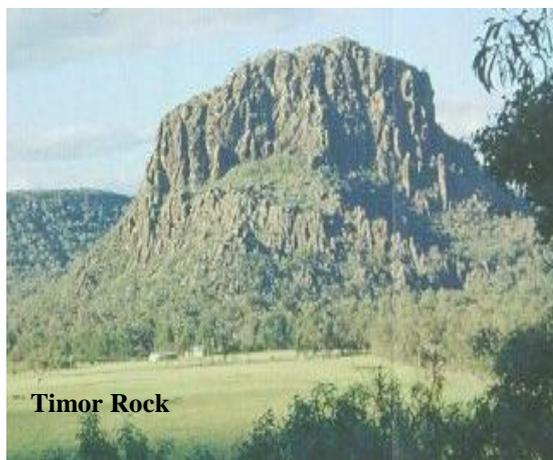
<sup>100</sup> Ludwig, Bruck, List of Unregistered Practitioners, 1886./www.jcu.edu.au/aff/history/articles/bruck.htm

bad but no pain". Could this indicate a gangrenous sore, an ulcer or the damage from an axe? We will never know.

### **Jonathan Lovell** (Constance Rhoda Lovell's father)

Jonathan's mother, Mary, was possibly Mary Knibb, born in 1801 at Deddington, Oxfordshire, daughter of William Knibbs and Ann Fardon. His father, Thomas, was probably the son of Thomas Lovel and Marey (Mary) Fortnam, born in Barford in 1797. Jonathan was one of four sons born in Banbury, Oxfordshire. He was Christened on 4 February 1827<sup>101</sup>.

Jonathan died on 27<sup>th</sup> January 1893<sup>xcix</sup>. His age was recorded as 74, which does not match with the date of his christening. However the informant on his death certificate was not a family member and many of his details were incorrect. He was buried at the Coonabarabran Cemetery. He died on a property called Timor near Timor Rock to the west of Coonabarabran, near the Warrumbungles. The family of Edward and Rose Conn, who had extensive land holdings in the area, owned this property. He died from the effects of sunstroke after an illness lasting 30 days. At the time of his death his profession was recorded as Engineer.



It is uncertain why Jonathan would have been on Timor station. Was he working? What had happened to the money from the 1880's land sales and hotel businesses? There is no evidence of death duties being paid on his estate, indicating that he was not well off. Perhaps he was no luckier in business than his son-in-law Alfred Byrnes.

### **Constance's sisters**

*Barnes Dorothy Lovell* never appears to have married. In her book *A Barnes from Bloxham*<sup>102</sup>, Edith Plenty reports that from 1874 to 1876 Dorothy undertook conditional land purchases which were later forfeited. In August 1878 her brother-in-law, Alfred Byrnes, transferred the Hotel License for the Box Ridge Inn to Dorothy. She took care of her mother Elizabeth before Elizabeth's death in 1890. Apart from these facts little is known of her life. She died before 1937 according to her sister Constance's obituary.

*Sarah Miriam Lovell* (or Myra) married Walker Rannie Davidson, a government surveyor, on 13<sup>th</sup> October 1879, at Box Ridge<sup>c</sup>. Walker came from an interesting family and would have been considered a good match for Sarah. Walker's father, who was also named Walker Rannie Davidson, came to Australia as a free passenger in 1828 on the convict ship *Elizabeth*. At the time he arrived in Australia he was under age and his transport costs of £94 10s were supposed to have been paid by his uncle Alexander McDuff Baxter Esq who was the Attorney General of NSW. Baxter "trained as a barrister in London. He was appointed as Attorney General in 1826 with a salary of £1400. He was found to be both inexperienced and incapable of drafting legislation. Living extravagantly, he quarrelled with his wife, a rich Spanish heiress, and separated from her. He resigned as Attorney General in December 1830 and shortly afterwards,

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<sup>101</sup> IGI Batch no C026393

<sup>102</sup> Plenty E, 1990 *A Barnes from Bloxham* p 120, 121

filed for insolvency. He sailed for Van Dieman's Land in March 1831 leaving his wife and daughters behind"<sup>103</sup>.

In 1832 Davidson senior was taken to court to recover the transport fares. He refused to pay on the grounds that he was a minor at the time he arrived and was not legally able to enter into a lawful contract. Eventually the Superior Court of NSW made him pay £80<sup>104</sup>. Walker Davidson senior was working as a surveyor and eventually rose to the position of Surveyor General of NSW. His son, Walker junior followed in his footsteps by becoming a government surveyor.

Sarah and Walker (junior) had 10 children. Their marriage ended sadly. In May 1900 Sarah filed to divorce Walker. She claimed he was an habitual drunkard and was cruel to her. (In the Pickette and Campbell book on Coonabarabran, they report that Coonabarabran was a "Drinking Man's Town" and "the wives of some prominent members of the community had ... brought their husbands before the court to have the sale of liquor to them forbidden"<sup>105</sup>). In reply Walker accused her of adultery between October 1897 and April 1900 with John James Treasure. Sarah had engaged lawyers to present her case for the divorce to the court but she must have been under financial pressure because she petitioned the court for Walker to give her funds so she could defend herself against the adultery charges. This request was denied with the last court papers being dated 24 August 1900<sup>106</sup>. Two days later on 26<sup>th</sup> August<sup>ci</sup>, Walker died at Six mile Spring near Coonabarabran from heart disease. In the middle of the divorce proceedings Walker had rewritten his will. It was signed on 26<sup>th</sup> June 1900<sup>107</sup>. In it he left money to only four of his children, Walker, Berta, Bruce and Zoe. Two other children had died by this time but he left four daughters out of his will. These were Vera Violet Davidson and Amber Laurene Davidson and the twin babies Sarah had given birth to around this time. Why did he leave Vera out of his will? She was born before the alleged adultery took place; perhaps she looked different to the other children or was handicapped. Or it might be that these were the infant children Sarah took with her when she left. By denying Sarah access to any money as the guardian of the children he was punishing her. We will never know the answer.

I must at this point bring the attention of the younger reader of this history to the fact that, at this time in history and for many years after, a divorce was an absolutely last resort and totally socially frowned upon. Sarah's instigation of the divorce proceedings could have been due to Walker's drinking and cruelty and his response was an attempt to get back at her and leave her destitute, or it might have been seen as a pre-emptive strike by Sarah who was expecting Walker to cast her aside because of her adultery and it was better for her if she got in first. Whatever the truth of the matter it was not a course of action to be taken lightly and most of the power was in the hands of the man unless the woman had access to sources of money from outside her marriage. The fact that Walker died so soon after rewriting his will and before the divorce had been fully heard in the court, was a massive financial blow to Sarah. By 1900 both her parents had died and she only had her sisters for support.

Sarah had moved to Penrith by 1901, and the twins died in January aged about 6 months. They were buried in the unbaptised children's section of the General Cemetery Emu (Plains). They died from weakness caused by, what we now refer to as, gastro-enteritis. At the time of their death Sarah was living in Jane Street Penrith. One can only speculate that she came to Penrith seeking assistance from her sister Constance, only to have her twin daughters die so tragically.

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<sup>103</sup> [http://www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/history%5Clah.nsf/pages/hist\\_chp1](http://www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/history%5Clah.nsf/pages/hist_chp1)

<sup>104</sup> [http://www.law.mq.edu.au/scnsw/Cases1831-32/html/brooks\\_and\\_collins\\_v\\_davidson.htm](http://www.law.mq.edu.au/scnsw/Cases1831-32/html/brooks_and_collins_v_davidson.htm)

<sup>105</sup> Pickette J & Campbell M, 1983 *Coonabarabran as it was in the beginning*, Macquarie Publications, Dubbo p123

<sup>106</sup> SRNSW: NRS 13495, Divorce papers, Sarah M Davidson & Walker R Davidson, 1900, [13/12542] Item 3612

<sup>107</sup> SRNSW: NRS 13660, Probate Packet Series 4 Container [SC000951] Item 22803, Walker Rannie Davidson, Coonabarabran, 1900

After Walker's death in August, Sarah had entered a caveat on probate of his will. Walker's repudiation of the younger children in the will was probably looked on by the Supreme Court as proof that she was an adulterer, and she was denied any assistance from the proceeds of his estate. In the will he had appointed a grazier, Ormone McKellar of Pibbon near Coonabarabran and James Maguire a Saddler of Coonabarabran as guardians to the four children he named as his and these men were also the Executors and Trustees of his estate. Probate was granted on 17 May 1901 with his effects valued under £534<sup>108</sup>.

It is not known if the four children named in Walker's will stayed with their mother or if they were taken in by their nominated guardians. There is another possibility. I noticed that two of his children had a connection with Parramatta. Bruce Gordon Davidson was living at Parramatta at the time of his enlistment for WW1 and Berta Davidson was married at Parramatta in 1911. Christina Davidson, their grandmother, had settled at Parramatta after her husband's death and had left her fortune of over £9000 to her two unmarried daughters<sup>109</sup>. These aunts may have had some role to play in the raising of their nieces and nephews.

I am unsure of what became of Sarah. She may not have remarried in New South Wales or she may have become involved in a de facto relationship and been buried under her partner's name for I cannot find any records of her death. From her sister, Constance's death notice, we know she died before 1937. I have not been able to trace her daughter Vera but her other daughter Amber married a doctor, Jerome O'Flynn in 1917 at Brewarrina<sup>cii</sup>.

*Laura Phoebe Lovell* married in 1879 to John Edwin Downey<sup>ciii</sup>. John Downey must have died around 1890 because Laura married John Francis Hughes in 1892<sup>civ</sup>. There is a death of a John Downie at Broken Hill in 1891<sup>cv</sup>. He was an Irish miner and had suffered from Phthisis (TB of the lungs) for 18 months. He might have been Laura's first husband but there is no information on his death certificate to indicate this relationship. It is possible that John Downey and Laura's marriage had ended some time before. The youngest Downey son, named Robert (born 1889)<sup>cvi</sup>, did not have his father's name recorded on his birth certificate. Does this indicate that their marriage had ended, and John Downey was not this boy's father, or was the child born after Downey's death? We will probably never know.

Laura had four sons, one of whom was Alfred John Downey who later married his first cousin Grace Florence Byrnes. Alfred John Downey was only young, about 10, when his mother remarried. He seems to have taken his stepfather's name and was known as Jack Hughes.

Laura had three daughters with her second husband John Francis Hughes. John was the son of Charles and Amelia Hughes who had run Inns in Maitland and Newcastle<sup>110</sup>. This was John's third marriage. He had married Elizabeth Cole in 1856, resulting in one child Jane Elizabeth Hughes born in 1857. By 1867 he was living with Martha Ann Goodworth, although I cannot find a record of marriage. They had two children, Emily born 1867 and Navina born 1868. Martha died on 8<sup>th</sup> October 1892 at Glen Innes. By this time she was known as Martha King.

Laura and John Hughes married on 25<sup>th</sup> October 1892. It seems the family was living around Gunnedah in 1908 and 1909 as Grace Byrnes was staying with her aunty Laura at Gunnedah and sending her sisters postcards during those years. Grace married her cousin Jack Hughes (Alfred John Downey) in 1911. By 1915 Laura was living in Sydney and there was no evidence of John. I have not been able to locate records of John's death.

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<sup>108</sup> SRNSW: NRS 13660, Probate Packet Series 4 Container [SC000951] Item 22803, Walker Rannie Davidson, Coonabarabran, 1900

<sup>109</sup> SRNSW: NRS 13340, Deceased Estate, Container 20/12, Christina S Davidson, Parramatta, 1889

<sup>110</sup> <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~johnnichols/amelia.html>

There is another Byrnes link, with Laura and John's eldest daughter, Dorothy Beatrice Hughes. Dorothy married Jack Launcelot Matthews, the brother of Fred Matthews. Fred was the de facto partner of Laura's niece, Jessie Evelyn Byrnes. Jessie was the daughter of Alfred Byrnes and Constance Rhoda Lovell.

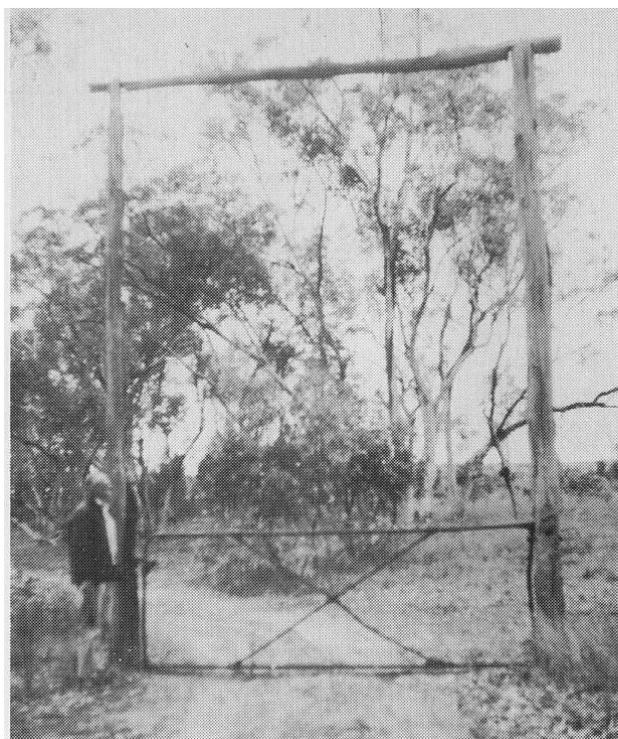
### Constance Rhoda Lovell

Constance was baptised on 30<sup>th</sup> September 1855 at Banbury, Oxfordshire England. On 4<sup>th</sup> May 1875 she married Alfred Byrnes who was a Mounted policeman and former miner. Alfred resigned from the police force on 13<sup>th</sup> September 1875 and took over the license for the Box Ridge Inn from 1876 to 1878. Alfred went bankrupt in August 1878 and then the family moved to land at Castlereagh near Penrith.



This is Constance's signature on her wedding certificate

Two of Alfred and Constance's children were born while they were living at Coonabarabran Rosetta Elizabeth May and Jessie Evelyn. The remaining eleven children were born in the Penrith district.



Could Alfred, Constance and their two daughters have passed through this gate on their way to Castlereagh on the Nepean after leaving Box Ridge?

The high gate posts on the boundary between Bomera and Ulinda Stations. They were built this way in about the 1880's to allow the mail coaches to pass underneath. It was reputed to be the last surviving stage coach gate in the state. It was a prominent landmark in the Binaway district until the 1970's when the top of the posts were sawn off.

Source: Pickette, J & Campbell, M *Coonabarabran* p 97

Alfred died on 26<sup>th</sup> August 1907<sup>lxiv</sup> of a Cerebral Haemorrhage at the Nepean Cottage Hospital, Penrith. He was buried on 27<sup>th</sup> August 1907 at the Methodist Cemetery Castlereagh.

Constance would have had difficulty raising funds for Alfred's burial (his family was hardly grown up with the twins aged 10 and the youngest aged 7). Perhaps he was interred in the same grave as his mother who had died some 50 years earlier.

Constance was left to raise the remaining children by herself. The elder girls were sent out to be servants in households scattered around Sydney. Grace ended up with her aunty Laura Hughes at Gunnedah. The girls communicated with their mother and one another by writing

postcards. Ivy kept some of these postcards in an album - which was a bit of a fashion at the beginning of the Twentieth century.

Constance lived for many years in a cottage at Cranebrook. By 1925 she had moved and the electoral roll shows her as living at St Mary's. According to the 1934 Electoral roll she was living at Lambridge. Her son Alfred and his family were also living at Lambridge at this time. At the time of her death she was staying with her eldest daughter Rosetta.

Constance died on 17<sup>th</sup> March 1937.

Death Notice Nepean Times Thursday March 18<sup>th</sup>

Mrs Constance Rhoda Byrnes widow of the late Mr Alfred Byrnes died at the residence of her daughter Mrs James Millen, Second Ave Kingswood yesterday at the age of 82 years. The funeral took place today the internment in the Methodist Cemetery Castlereagh

Her Obituary appeared in the Nepean Times. Thursday March 25, 1937

Mrs Constance Rhoda Byrnes widow of the late Alfred Byrnes whose death at the residence of her daughter Mrs J Millen of Kingswood was briefly reported in the last issue was born in Banbury Oxfordshire England and came to Australia when she was 2 years old. Mr and Mrs Byrnes for some years conducted a hotel at Box Ridge between Coonabarabran and Gunnedah. About 56 years ago they came to Castlereagh and for a long period lived on a farm close to Purcell's present residence. Mr Byrnes died about 30 years ago. The deceased was well known in the district and very highly esteemed. She is survived by 5 daughters and 6 sons viz:-

Ettie (Mrs J Millen Kingswood), Grace (Mrs Hughes, Darlinghurst) Ernest (Pendle Hill), Leslie (Penrith) George (Castlereagh) Ivy (Mrs Hindmarsh, Liverpool) Walter (Rooty Hill) Connie (Mrs F Ahmelm, Auburn) Alfred (Lambridge) and Frank (Belmore). Two daughters pre deceased her viz:- Mrs Matthew, Randwick (Jessie) and Laura (Mrs H Gates, Undercliff)

Deceased leaves a sister, Mrs Hughes of Darlinghurst the last of four sisters. The funeral which was well attended took place on the 18<sup>th</sup> instant the internment was in the Methodist Cemetery Castlereagh. Service was conducted by Rev RS Chapple Rector of St Stephen's Penrith.

Return Thanks Nepean Times. Thursday March 25, 1937

**The family of the late Constance Rhoda Byrnes desire to thank relatives and friends for their kindness during the illness of their mother, especially Dr Higgins, Rev RS Chapple and also wish to thank the friends who so kindly sent messages of sympathy and floral tributes.**

A Photograph of the Headstone from the grave of Alfred Byrnes and his wife Constance Rhoda.  
Location: Upper Castlereagh Methodist Cemetery.



## Endnotes for Part 1

<sup>i</sup> **Note** in the following newspaper accounts the old writing style was used where an ‘s’ in the word was written as an ‘f’. ‘S’ was only used at the end of the word.

### Nottingham Journal March 12, 1803

*At the Affizes to be held here this day for this Town and Country, Before the Hon. Sir Robert Graham, Knt, the following prifoners are to take their trials:- Edward Morley , for a ftree robbery in this Town, on the 28<sup>th</sup> of Auguft laft; Ann Reffin, for a burglary at Ruddington; Jofeph Harris, for bigamy; Robert Appleyard, alias Robert Brown, for a felony at Beefton; John Thompfon for ftealing a quantity of wearing apparel out of a dwelling houfe at Newark; and James Dixon, Samuel Hodge, alias Samuel Turner, Samuel Mofley, alias Samuel Johnfon, and Thomas Wilfon, known by the name of Old Tom for robbing, in the night of January last, a building at Bulwell, of various pieces of printed calico.*

### Nottingham Journal March 19, 1803

*At our Affizes, which began on Friday and ended on Tuesday laft, feven prifoners were capitally convicted, and received fentences of death, viz .....Ann Reffin....*

<sup>ii</sup> The following transcriptions are of petitions sent to Governor Macquarie seeking the Pardon of David Byrnes (Note the layout and the spelling of the original documents has been followed).

### Petition 1 for Conditional Pardon

To his Excellency Laglen Macquarie Esqr  
Captain General and Governer in Chief of his Majesties  
terotery of New South Wales and Its dependencies etc etc etc  
The Petition of David Burn

Most Humbly Shewith

That ten years has elapsed since  
Your Excellencys Pettitioner came to this Colony in the ship  
Friendship – That since that period petitioner has conducted  
himself with a Character that can bear the strictest enquiry – always  
firmly abiding by the precepts of Government laid down for the Interest  
of the Colony at large – That petitioner has been three years a Constable  
In the town of Paramata under the dayley Inspection of the Respective  
Magistrates appointed by Government and holds the same situation  
at this present period.

Shewith That for suchlike conduct and services and  
at the recommendation of his superiors – petitioner obtained a  
partitipation of his Majesties Mercy and Clemency on the aneversary  
of his Majesties Birth day last – from Colonell Patterson.

Pettitioner Most Humbly prays  
That Your Excellencys great and Benign goodness will  
take him to Your humane Consideration as a  
Loyal Subject of our Most gracious Soverign – and  
deem him an object worthy of a Confirmation of the Royal Clemency  
which has been Extended thro motives realy deserving

And as petitioner is in duty Bound  
greatfully affirms that his prayer and fidelity  
Shall only Cease with his Existance  
David Burnes etc  
Constable Paramata

Rec 13 Feby 1810  
David Burnes\*  
Conditional Parn  
And Mem<sup>l</sup> to  
His Excellency  
Governor Macquarie  
Esq

\*a constable

SRNSW: NRS 900, Fiche 3163, [4/1846 p.36], Petition for mitigation of sentence; (as Burnes) 13 Feb 1810

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**Petition 2 for Conditional Pardon**

To His Excellency Governor Macquarie etc etc etc

The Humble Petition of David Burne

Most Respectively Shewith

That your Petitioner during a residence of thirteen years in this Colony, since the arrival of the Ship friendship Captn Reed, has uniformly conducted himself with regard to Propriety and has preserved his character unblemished.

That your Petitioner being encumbered with a wife and a small helpless family and unfortunately Labouring under the awful sentence of Transportation for Life was encouraged to solicit the late Lieut Governor Paterson for an emancipation and which that Gentleman was pleasd to Grant your Petitioner, which your Petitioner duly surrend-ered.

That your petitioner has served in the Capacity of Petty Constable at Parramatta for upwards of six years and trusts upon enquiry your Excellency will be satisfied with his General good conduct, attention and fidelity.

May it therefore please your Excellency Graciously to deign, to extend His Majesty's clemency towards him and relieve him from his present unhappy sentence and your grateful Petitioner as in duty bound will ever

Pray

I have never heard any thing against the character of the petitioner and believe him to be an honest man.  
Robert Dune

SRNSW NRS 900, Fiche 3169; [4/1848, pp.74-5], Petition for mitigation of sentence, 19 Oct 1812, as David Burne

<sup>iii</sup>This was one of Gov Macquarie's early proclamations

By His Excellency LACHLAN MACQUARIE, ESQUIRE, Captain-General and Governor in Chief of the Territory of New South Wales

Whereas HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR has seen with great Regret, the Immorality and Vice so prevalent among the Lower Classes of this Colony: and whereas he feels HIMSELF called upon in particular to reprobate and check, as far as lies in his Power, the scandalous? Custom so generally and shamelessly adopted in this Territory, of Persons of different Sexes COHABITING and living together, unsanctioned by the legal ties of MATRIMONY:

And whereas the Consequences of this immoral and illicit Intercourse have been found (as might be expected) not only highly injurious to the Interests of the society at large, but oftentimes attended also with grievous Calamity to the parties themselves, and the innocent Off-spring of their misconduct:

And whereas, such practice are a scandal to RELIGION, to DECENCY and to GOOD GOVERNMENT.

His Excellency the GOVERNOR, aware of the Frequency of such illicit Connections, and seeing the shameless and open Manner in which they are avowed is compelled to express, in this public Manner, his high Disapprobation of such Immorality, and his firm Resolution to repress, by every Means in his Power, all such disgraceful Connections; and publicly declares, that neither Favour nor Patronage will ever be extended to those who contract or encourage them.

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On the other Hand, His Excellency the GOVERNOR, is anxious to hold forth every Inducement to the Formation of lasting and virtuous Connections, and to encourage lawful Marriage by every possible Means; as he is convinced, that from such Connections alone can be expected to arise either Habits of Industry, or Decency of Conduct: -- Those, therefore, who form such Connections, and whose lives and conduct are sober, decent and industrious, may ever look up to HIS EXCELLENCY for all reasonable encouragement?..

Given under my Hand, at Government House, Sydney,  
this 24th Day of February, 1810

LACHLAN MACQUARIE  
GOD SAVE THE KING!

The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser  
Eighth year, 322nd issue, 3 March 1810

[The Governor announced that the Courts would not recognise the rights of such couples to inherit property should one die without a will.]

David and Anne's marriage in December 1810 may have helped David with his pardon and also with his petition for his land grant.

iv	NSW BDM Marriage	V1810456 147A & V 1810 1148 3A	(Byrnes [Burns] & Reffin[Griffin])
v	NSW BDM Birth	V 18133338 1A & V1813883 148	(John Byrnes)
vi	NSW BDM Birth	V18154438 1B & V1815109 148	(Ester [Hester] Byrnes[Burn])
vii	NSW BDM Birth	V18198088 1C & V181950 11	(Catharine Sophia Byrnes[Burns])

viii **Petition for Land Grant**

To His Excellency Lachlan Macquarie Esquire, Captain General, Governor, and Commander in Chief  
etc. etc. etc

The respectful memorial of David Burne

Sheweth

That memorialist came to this Colony  
by the ship Friendship. Twenty one years since – has been a  
free man seven years – has a Wife and Five Children – and resides  
at Parramatta.

That memorialist having Three Head of  
Horned Cattle – and never having received any indulgence of Lands  
from the Crown. Respectfully solicits your Excellency to take his Case  
onto your favourable Consideration – and grant him such portion  
of Land for a FARM – as to your Excellency's Wisdom and Goodness  
shall seem most – and for such mark of Favor –

Memorialist as in Duty bound will Pray

New South Wales  
June 1<sup>st</sup> 1820

J Harris J.P

Parramatta R George Middleton  
Officiating Chaplain

Note in margin 50 acres

The following end notes refer to the NSW Births, Deaths and Marriages site

<http://www.bdm.nsw.gov.au/familyHistory/search.htm>

And gives the registration number of the event

ix	NSW BDM Marriage V18274176, 3B, V182738 11	(Jackson & Byrnes)
x	NSW BDM Marriage V18304949, 3B, V183037 14	(Byrnes & Nicholson)
xi	NSW BDM Birth V183110568 1C, V 183151 15	(John Jackson)
xii	NSW BDM Marriage V1832901 16	(Wilkinson & Byrnes)
xiii	NSW BDM Birth V1833719 18	(John Wilkinson)
xiv	NSW BDM Marriage V1833236 17	(Harris & Byrnes)
xv	NSW BDM Birth V1833124 17	(Mary Ann Jackson)
xvi	NSW BDM Birth V18351029 20	(Sarah Wilkinson)
xvii	NSW BDM Marriage V18381888 22	(Byrnes & Aplet (Ablet))
xviii	NSW BDM Birth V1840427 54 & V18402072 162A	(Catherine Sophia Byrnes)
xix	NSW BDM Death V18382997 22	(Catharine Sophia Harris nee Byrnes)
xx	NSW BDM Birth V1838924 22	(Rachael Harris)
xxi	NSW BDM Death V18382997 22	(Catharine Harris nee Byrnes)
xxii	NSW BDM Death V18391028 23A	(Ann Byrnes nee Reffin [Ralphin])
xxiii	NSW BDM Death V 18411127 25B	(Caroline Jackson)
xxiv	NSW BDM Death V1848592 33B	(David Byrnes)
xxv	NSW BDM Birth V182649 11	(Samuel Byrnes)
xxvi	NSW BDM Marriage V184663 84	(Byrnes & Lewis)
xxvii	NSW BDM Birth V1846759 55	(James Byrnes)
xxviii	NSW BDM Birth V18481196 55	(Samuel Byrnes)
xxix	NSW BDM Birth V 18491681 55	(Emma Byrnes)
xxx	NSW BDM Marriage V1854476 85	(Byrnes & Gorman)
xxxi	NSW BDM Birth V18553018 56	(Sarah Byrnes)
xxxii	NSW BDM Birth 1857/10145	(Maria Byrnes)
xxxiii	NSW BDM Birth 1862/12255	(George Byrnes)
xxxiv	NSW BDM Birth 1863/12396	(Henry Byrnes)
xxxv	NSW BDM Birth 1865/13838	(Charles Gorman Byrnes)
xxxvi	NSW BDM Birth 1867/14768	(Edith Eliza Byrnes)
xxxvii	NSW BDM Birth 1869/16769	(William Byrnes)
xxxviii	NSW BDM Birth 1871/16068	(Annie Byrnes)
xxxix	NSW BDM Birth 1875/18112	(Percy Ambrose Byrnes)
xl	NSW BDM Death 1910/14945	(Eliza Byrnes nee Gorman)
xli	NSW BDM Marriage 1913/2756	(Byrnes & Nicholas)
xlII	NSW BDM Death 1917/11178	(Samuel Byrnes)
xlIII	NSW Marriage BDM 1869/3286	(Byrnes & Dowling [Dolan])
xliv	NSW BDM Death 1921/17273	(James Byrnes)
xlv	NSW BDM Birth 1848/10310	(Samuel Byrnes)
xlvi	NSW BDM Birth 1871/3287	(Emma Byrnes)
xlvii	NSW BDM Marriage 1871/3287	(Sheene & Byrnes)
xlviii	NSW BDM Death 1921/14648	(Henry Sheens)
xlIX	NSW BDM Death 1927/ 22784	(Emma Sheens nee Byrnes)
l	NSW BDM Marriage 1875/2323	(Byrnes & Lovell)
li	NSW BDM Birth 1876/10466	(Rosetta EM Byrnes)
lii	NSW BDM Birth 1878/11405	(Jessie Byrnes)
liii	NSW BDM Birth 1879/21603	(Grace Byrnes)
liv	NSW BDM Birth 1881/22991	(Ernest Byrnes)
lv	NSW BDM Birth 1883/ 27386	(Laura Byrnes)
lvi	NSW BDM Birth 1885/28339	(Leslie Byrnes)
lvii	NSW BDM Birth 1887/29943	(Emma Byrnes)
lviii	NSW BDM Birth 1889/29411	(George Byrnes)
lix	NSW BDM Birth 1892/29227	(Ivy M Byrnes)
lx	NSW BDM Birth 1894/6550	(Walter Byrnes)
lxi	NSW BDM Birth 1897/15507	(Alfred R Byrnes)
lxii	NSW BDM Birth 1897/15506	(Constance V Byrnes)

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lxiii	NSW BDM Birth 1900/15706	(Francis Byrnes)
lxiv	NSW BDM Death 1907/10730	(Alfred Byrnes)
lxv	NSW BDM Marriage V1808845 3A	(Lewis & Frederick)
lxvi	NSW BDM Death 1857/4172	(George Lewis)
lxvii	NSW BDM Death 1871/2338	(Sarah Lewis nee Frederick)
lxviii	NSW BDM Death 1875/3298	(Mary Vanderville nee Frederick)
lxix	NSW BDM Birth V18091905 1A, Death V18112715 2A & V1811235 5	( George Lewis jnr)
lxx	NSW BDM Birth V18112422 1A & V1811204 5	( William C Lewis)
lxxi	NSW BDM Marriage V18351223 19	(Lewis & McQuade)
lxxii	NSW BDM Birth V18112422 1A & V1811203 5	(John A Lewis)
lxxiii	NSW BDM Death 1875/7072	(John A Lewis)
lxxiv	NSW BDM Marriage 1861/ 1783	(Lewis & West)
lxxv	NSW BDM Birth V18132996 1A & V1813161 7	(Mary S Lewis)
lxxvi	NSW BDM Marriage V1828839 12 & V18284395 3B	(Lewis & Dargin)
lxxvii	NSW BDM Death V18283184 22	(Mary Dargin nee Lewis)
lxxviii	NSW BDM Birth V18153573 1A & V1815420 7, Death 9505	(Edward Lewis)
lxxix	NSW BDM Marriage 1857/2457	(Lewis & Brogan)
lxxx	NSW BDM Birth V1817638 7 & V18174127 1B	(Richard [Charles?] Lewis)
lxxxi	NSW BDM Birth V18184676 1B, Death 1876/6339	(Christopher Lewis)
lxxxii	NSW BDM Marriage V1845409 30B	(Lewis & Stole)
lxxxiii	NSW BDM Birth V182129 155 & V18215599 1B, Death 1862/5535	(Elizabeth [Betsy] Lewis)
lxxxiv	NSW BDM Marriage V1842734 26C	(Lewis & Parker)
lxxxv	NSW BDM Birth V 18236445 1B, Death 1893/346	(James Lewis)
lxxxvi	NSW BDM Marriage V1846178 31C	(Lewis & Colletts)
lxxxvii	NSW BDM Marriage 1857/2455	(Lewis & Sullivan)
lxxxviii	NSW BDM Birth V18211601 162A	(Eliza Lewis)
lxxxix	NSW BDM Marriage V184663 84	(Byrnes & Lewis)
xc	NSW BDM Birth V18299191 1C & V1829299 13, Death 1910/2243	(Emma Lewis)
xc	NSW BDM Death V18383009	(Mary Frederick nee?)
xcii	NSW BDM Marriage V18243281 3B	(Sims & Frederick)
xciii	NSW BDM Marriage 1875/1374	(Vanderville& Sims)
xciv	NSW BDM Marriage 2625/1860	(Barnes & Sibley)
xcv	NSW BDM Death 16475/1915	Matthew Barnes
xcvi	NSW BDM Marriage 2693/1858	(Price & Barnes)
xcvii	NSW BDM Death 5999/1865	(Martha Price nee Barnes)
xcviii	NSW BDM Death 1890/4491	(Elizabeth Lovell nee Barnes)
xcix	NSW BDM Death 1893/5086	(Jonathan Lovell)
c	NSW BDM Marriage 1879 /2857	(Davidson & Lovell)
ci	NSW BDM Death 1900/8636	(Walker R Davidson)
cii	NSW BDM Marriage 1917/12274	(O'Flynn & Davidson)
ciii	NSW BDM Marriage 1879 /2854	(Downey & Lovell)
civ	NSW BDM Marriage 1892/4103	(Hughes & Downey nee Lovell)
cv	NSW BDM Death 1891/4055	(John Downie)
cvi	NSW BDM Birth 1889/29021	(Robert Downey)

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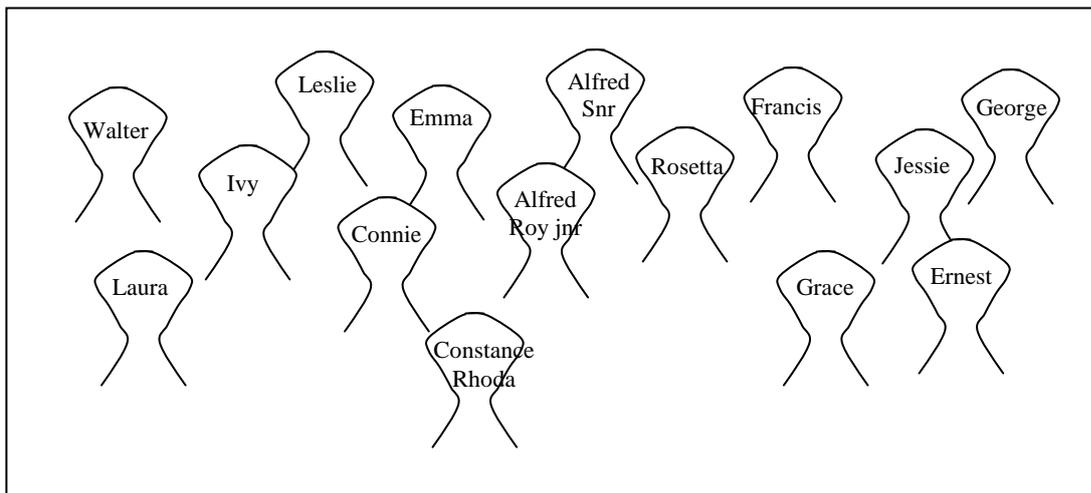
## Part 2 The Children

### Alfred Byrnes and Constance Rhoda Lovell and their children



This photo would probably have been taken in the early 1920's. In this version of the photograph the figures of Leslie Byrnes and Alfred Byrnes (snr) have been added by the photographer. (Alfred had died in 1907) There is another more widely known version of the photograph, which did not include the extra two figures.

### Who's who



## Constance and Alfred's children

After the death of Alfred Byrnes in 1907, Constance was left with the care of the four younger children. Rosetta, Jessie, Leslie and Emma had married. Grace was spending a fair bit of time with her Aunty Laura at Gunnedah. Ernest had left home aged 13 or 14 and was working in the country.

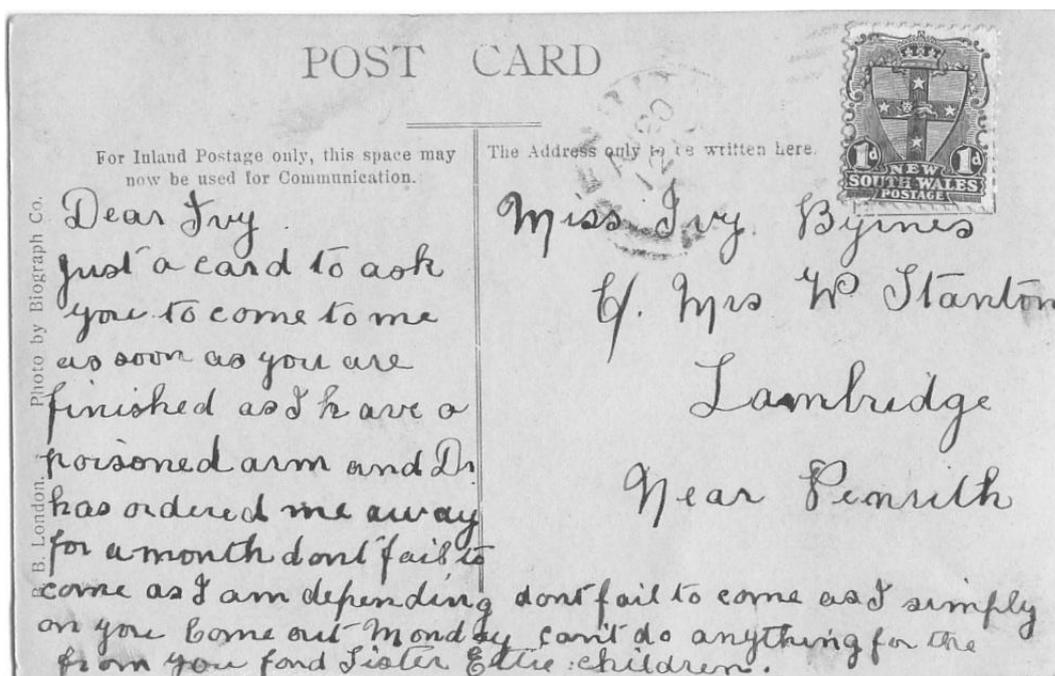
Even before Alfred's death the elder girls had been self-supporting. They were living scattered around Sydney working in service. They kept in touch by writing post cards to one another. Some of these postcards have survived because Ivy started a postcard album, which was a popular pastime. The post was the usual way that scattered families kept in touch. There were two and three postal deliveries each day. Our generation have replaced this with phone calls and more recently with emails, chat and SMS messaging.

## Rosetta Elizabeth May Byrnes



Rosetta or Ettie as she was known is the eldest of the Byrnes children. She was born in 1876 at Coonabarabran. In 1896<sup>cvi</sup> she married James Millen and lived at Kingswood. Alfred had to give permission for her marriage because she was underage. Rosetta and James had four children, three boys and a girl. James worked as a tanner. Ettie was a conscientious mother. At one time she got an infection in her arm and sent for her sister to help her with the children.<sup>111</sup>

The date on the postcard is not clear.



<sup>111</sup> Dear Ivy

Just a card to ask you to come to me as soon as you are finished as I have a poisoned arm and Dr has ordered me away for a month don't fail to come as I am depending on you. Come out Monday. Don't fail to come as I simply can't do anything for the children

From your fond sister Ettie

(Author's note: Don't forget that this was in the days before antibiotics, blood poisoning was often fatal)

Constance Rhoda or Granny Byrnes, as she was known by everyone, lived with Rosetta in her latter years. They must have had a bit of a strained relationship at times because Constance would go off and spend some time with her other daughters. Jean Walker can remember Granny coming to stay with her family when they lived at Sans Souci. Constance would complain that Etta was too bossy. When Constance got sick Rosetta nursed her, although she probably was not very well herself. Constance died 17<sup>th</sup> March 1937 and Rosetta died a few months later in September 1937<sup>cviii</sup>.

The following appears on Rosetta's headstone in Penrith Cemetery.

“In Loving memory of my dear wife and our mother Rosetta Millen who passed away 7<sup>th</sup> Sep 1937, aged 61 years, and our father James Millen, who died 14<sup>th</sup> December 1954, aged 83 years.”

Their eldest child **James Arthur**, born in 1897<sup>cix</sup>, was known as Arthur to distinguish him from his father. He was christened at St Stephens at Penrith in 1906. In 1919 he married Albertha Grace Turner at Canterbury<sup>cx</sup>. Arthur worked for the railways driving the steam engine on the passenger service from the City to Penrith. In those days if the train was to continue over the mountains it would stop at Emu Plains to be connected to a second engine to take it up to Valley Heights.

Arthur and Albertha had five children, 14 grandchildren and at least one great grandchild.

**Stanley Jack** Millen was born in 1905<sup>cxii</sup>. In 1929 he married Alma M (Hettie) Hart at Petersham<sup>cxii</sup>. Stan worked for the PMG and was moved around the state. He once lived at Mungindi and then settled in Goulburn. His daughter Barbara Jones has few memories of living in Mungindi as she was so young. One memory was of a red Tiger Moth landing in a paddock near their brown weatherboard house. She can also remember her and her sister Joan getting their eyes bathed by their mother to rid them of “Sandy Blight”.



Alma and Rosetta at Kingswood

Most of Barbara's memories are from Goulburn where the family moved before the two younger girls, Judith and Desma were born. Stanley was transferred to the District Telephone Office in Goulburn. This was the section of the PMG which later became Telecom. He often travelled to surrounding districts such as Temora and Boorawa to advise farmers on telephone installations to their properties. Alma died in 1981 and Stan in 1987, in the nursing home at Goulburn, aged 82.

Barbara's only memory of Granny Byrnes was of a visit the family made to her grandmother (Rosetta's) house in Kingswood. Granny Byrnes was a stout figure sitting on the front veranda. Joan and Barbara gave her a wide berth as they thought her “cranky” since she had roused on the girls who had been playing around with the piano. This was also the only memory Barbara has of visiting her Grandmother Rosetta.

Stanley and Alma had four children and seven grandchildren and eleven great grandchildren.

**Gladys** was born in 1908, in 1929 she married Edward Thomas Neeves at Penrith<sup>cxiii</sup>. Edward died in 1969<sup>cxiv</sup> and Gladys in 1975<sup>cxv</sup>. They were both cremated at the Pine Grove crematorium at Rooty Hill. Gladys was a source of strength to her family. When Rosetta fell ill after her mother died in 1937 Gladys helped to nurse her.

Her son, Ted Neeves remembers seeing Granny Byrnes laid out in her coffin in the lounge room at his Grandmother (Rosetta's house) in 1937. He was aged about seven. He was impressed with the number of cars that came to the funeral. He counted 26. He remembers the funeral cortège. Everybody stood on side of road when cortège passed; they took off their hats and bowed their heads.

The Neeve family lived at Girraween. Gladys's husband Edward Neeves worked in Blue metal quarry at Prospect. He was a "Powder Monkey". He was responsible for drilling holes in large boulders and putting in a gelignite charge to blow them up so the rock could fit in the crusher. He lost his job when the quarry went broke. To earn an income and to keep the family fed Gladys took up dressmaking and made dresses for all the people in the neighbourhood. She was so successful she also paid off the house. During the war they had a jersey cow and made 1 lb of butter a day. The neighbours traded their meat coupons for the butter. They also had some fowls and ducks and a horse. The horse would pull a plough to cultivate a paddock where they would grow vegetables. At other times the horse would be hitched up to the sulky and taken on the 15 mile trip to Penrith. Travelling at an easy pace the trip would take about 2 hours. They would do their visiting then head home. The only time the horse would gallop was when it would get close to home.

After being out of work for a good while, Edward got work in the Millen Tannery with Billy and Jimmy Millen. They tanned the hides from the animals killed at the abattoirs. The tannery eventually went broke. His last job before retirement was working in Fitzpatrick's Quarry. Edward was very skilled with the explosives. At one time their next-door neighbour wanted to remove an old gum tree stump from a corner of his property. Edward drilled a hole, put in the gelignite and detonator and produced just enough force to split the root in half that was anchoring the tree, thus allowing it to be removed.

Ted remembers being taken to visit his uncle Stanley Millen at Mungindi. They couldn't afford the train ticket for young Ted. He was told that if the ticket inspector came along he was supposed to hide under his mother's long skirt and keep quiet.

Maree Murphy remembers her aunty Gladys as a real doer. She was the sort who could overcome any problem.

They had two sons and six grandchildren and at least four great grandchildren.

### **Jessie Evelyn Byrnes**

Jessie is a bit of a mystery woman. She was born 22 May 1878 at Coonabarabran. In the 1903 electoral roll Jessie Byrnes was recorded as working at Boundary Street Little Coogee as a domestic. In 1905 she married Richard Henry Lenthall<sup>cxvi</sup>.



Richard was born in 1882 at Woollahra, the fourth child of Richard Lenthall and Sarah Riddle. There is a family story that I heard from Millie Redding that the marriage lasted only one night. By March 1906, Jessie was living with Fred Matthews in Surry Hills<sup>112</sup>. Later that year Fred and Jessie moved to Petersham. Ivy Byrnes once mentioned to her daughter-in-law that one of her sisters suffered from epilepsy. I have often wondered if this was Jessie and she perhaps had a fit on her wedding night that scared off Richard. There is no further record of him that I can find in NSW. There is also no record in NSW of a marriage between Jessie

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<sup>112</sup> From addresses on Postcards in Ivy's postcard collection.

Byrnes and Fred Matthews. I briefly wondered if Richard and Fred were the same person using a different name but that is unlikely as I have traced both the Lenthall and Matthews families.

Fredrick James Matthews was born in 1879<sup>cxvii</sup> to Frederick James Matthews and Christine Isabella Waddell at Braidwood in NSW. He was the eldest of 10 children. The father, known as James Matthews was a blacksmith. In 1903 the family was living in Moruya on the NSW south coast. Ivy's collection of postcards has two written by Christine Matthews to Jessie.

By 1909 Jessie was living with Fred at Oberon Street Randwick. Fred was recorded as a labourer. Also living in Oberon Street, but I am not sure if they were in the same house, were his brother William, his wife Mary, and William and Fred's father James who was still recorded as a Blacksmith. William was listed as a trainer (for horses). By 1910 William and his wife were definitely living in a separate house to the rest of the family<sup>113</sup>.

By 1913 another brother had joined Fred, Jessie and James in the house. This was Alexander who was a groom. Fred at this time was working as a Greengrocer. The family moved around to different rented accommodation in the Randwick area.

In May 1915, Fred's younger brother Jack Launcelot Matthews enlisted in the army. Fred followed in January 1916 at the age of 36. He served in France and was attached to the Veterinary hospital. It is likely he had prior experience with horses from helping his father who was a Blacksmith. At the time of his enlistment he was recorded as a laborer, 5 ft 4½inches, 128 lbs, chest measurement 35½ inches, 38 inches (expanded). He had a dark complexion with Brown eyes and dark hair. He gave his religion as C of E and his marital status as single. He also gave his brother William Matthews as his next of kin<sup>114</sup>. Perhaps he was concerned for Jessie's health and did not want her to be the first to get a telegram with bad news in the event of his death or injury or it might have been done because the army did not recognise de facto relationships. At the time of his discharge in 1919 Fred was recorded as having defective hearing and suffering from rheumatism.

In the 1919 electoral roll the family was living in a house "Clifton" in Oberon Street, Randwick. Jack Lanucelot Matthews had also returned from the war and was now living at the same address. Jack's occupation was given as a groom, and Fred was registered as a horse trainer. Fred must have gained sufficient experience in the Army Veterinary Service, to take on training horses for the races.

By 1926 Fred's father, James Matthews had moved to the Netherleigh Hospital in Chapel St Randwick. His occupation was shown as a "Useful" on the electoral roll. He died in 1927. Another brother Leslie Harold Matthews was living with the family by 1926, he was a cutter, and there was also a woman by the name of Mafeking Matthews who was a saleswoman. Mafeking (Maffie) was the youngest sister born in 1900 as Caroline M Matthews. (The name Mafeking came from the Boer war in South Africa). Alexander had moved out of the home by this time but he was still living nearby.

According to the electoral roll the men were no longer in the Randwick area from 1928. But this may not be correct. Frederick had suffered from deafness as a result of his war service, - this meant that I was able to access his repatriation records<sup>115</sup>. According to these records

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<sup>113</sup> NSW Electoral Rolls

<sup>114</sup> National Archives of Australia: WW1 Service records (B2455), Service no 5062: Frederick James Matthews

<sup>115</sup> NAA: C138 (Repatriation and Repatriation Pension Case files), Box 4120

when Fred returned to his home in 1919 he was living at 21 Oberon Street, Randwick and working as a labourer. By 1927 his address was given as 19 Oberon St, Randwick. Perhaps the houses had been renumbered in the street or he had moved to the house next door. His repatriation records suggest that he remained at this address until late in 1934 when he had moved to Kensington St., Waterloo, probably in the home of another family member. I suspect that Fred and Jessie were actually living at 90 City Road, Darlington from around 1931. Fred had contact with that address until 1935.

From 1931 Fred was having trouble getting any steady work as horse trainer/driver or even labourer. It was during the Great Depression and work was scarce. In addition to his deafness he was also suffering from rheumatism. He appears to have been supplementing his small service pension by working at the markets selling eggs. From the repatriation records it appears that Fred suffered from a small stroke during 1934 which affected his right side. At this time he had a trustee, Miss Violet Wynn appointed to collect his repatriation pension of £1:5:0 per fortnight (he was assessed as having a 30% debility from his war service and he was having trouble signing his name). In February of 1935 Fred had a major stroke at 90 City Road Darlington. At this time his trustee was changed to Mr Alexander Brown of Flemington. Sometime after June of 1935 Fred was moved to Lidcombe State Hospital where he died on 4<sup>th</sup> April 1938<sup>cxviii</sup> after suffering another stroke. There is a small note attached to one of Fred's records noting that he was "an ex soldier who was married in 1906 to Jessie E...? and his wife was granted an Invalid pension of £32:10:0 per annum from 3/9/1931". There is no other mention of a wife in his records. Indeed in all the other army records he is shown as single. Under the laws of that time a de facto partner had few rights and you had to show marriage documents in order for your partnership to be recognised.

I have had difficulty in tracking down Jessie's death record. From Constance Rhoda Byrnes' obituary in 1937 we knew that Jessie died before her mother. I could not find any record of her death under the surname of Lenthall, Matthews, Byrnes or possible variants. A search of the NSW death records for a woman by the name of Jessie who had died between 1931 and 1937 lead me to one record. Purchasing a transcript of the death certificate for Jessie Phillips confirmed that this is Jessie Byrnes born in Coonabarabran, father Alfred Byrnes<sup>cxix</sup>. It appears Jessie was living at 90 City Road, Sydney before she was moved to the State Hospital at Newington (Homebush) where she died on 27<sup>th</sup> July 1932 from spinal cord disease with paralysis of the lower limbs. Jessie was buried in the Church of England cemetery at Rookwood on 29<sup>th</sup> July 1932. I have no real theory on why her surname was incorrect. Interestingly the surnames Phillips and Matthews are both surnames that are also used as first names. Could the error have been due to somebody's faulty memory? Perhaps Jessie may have only been at the State Hospital for a very short time before her death or she may have been too sick and not aware, or unable to correct the error. Perhaps it was just careless on the part of the records clerk filling out the paperwork.

Fred's brothers and sister settled in various parts of Sydney. Jack Launcelot Matthews married into the extended Byrnes family in 1925 when he married Dorothy Beatrice Hughes, who was Constance's niece and Grace Byrnes' sister-in-law.

### **Grace Florence Byrnes**

Grace was born on 8<sup>th</sup> September 1879 at Castlereagh. As a young woman Grace spent a fair amount of time with her aunty Laura, Constance's sister, who lived at Gunnedah. By 1908 Ivy was receiving postcards from Grace, which mentioned her cousin Jack, but Grace and Jack did not marry until January 1911<sup>cxx</sup>.





Grace in 1946

Jack was Grace's first cousin, the son of her Aunty Laura Lovell. Laura had married John Edwin Downey in 1879 and had four boys. John died around 1889 and she remarried to John Francis Hughes in 1892. It was his third marriage and they had three daughters. Jack's real name was Alfred John Downey but he was more generally known by his stepfather's surname as Jack Hughes. Her sister Jessie and Jessie's partner Fred Matthews were witnesses to her marriage. The Downey/Hughes and Byrnes families kept in touch over the years. There were a number of postcards between the cousins in Ivy's collection. Jack's younger half sister, Dorothy, married Jack Launcelot Matthews, the brother of Jessie's partner Fred Matthews.

In 1919 Grace and Jack had a son named **Frederick John** Downey. At the time they were living in a cottage in Rushcutters Bay. On the 24<sup>th</sup> April 1922 young Freddie wandered off from the family home and his body was found floating in the Bay<sup>cxxi</sup>. An inquest was held and the death was recorded as accidental drowning. He was buried in the Church of England cemetery in Long Bay Road Coogee. He was their only child.

It was Edwin Ernest Downey (Hughes) a shearer, who was the informant on the death certificate. Ernest, as he preferred to be called, was living with his mother and his half-sister, Dorothy in Darlinghurst.

Jack worked for many years on the waterside as a labourer. After retiring Grace and Jack moved to live at 69 Jacob St, Bankstown. Jack and Joan Byrnes of Pendle Hill often had Grace and Jack visit for Christmas dinner. Grace died in 1966 and her husband a year later. They were both cremated at Rookwood and their ashes interred there.



Photographs of Jack and Grace's cremation plaques at Rookwood

### Ernest Edwin Byrnes

Ernest Edwin was born on 3<sup>rd</sup> August 1881 at Cranebrook. He would have been named after his cousin Edwin Ernest Downey (Hughes). When he was aged 10 he cut the joint of a finger on glass and had to have the finger amputated.<sup>116</sup> In 1893 he won a prize in a gardening competition for Arbor Day at Cranebrook Public school.<sup>117</sup>



He told stories of how he left home at a young age of about 13. His work took him all around the state. Grace mentioned in a post card to Ivy that Ernie had been at Gunnedah and was on his way to Coonamble. This photo is of Ernie and his specially painted cart.

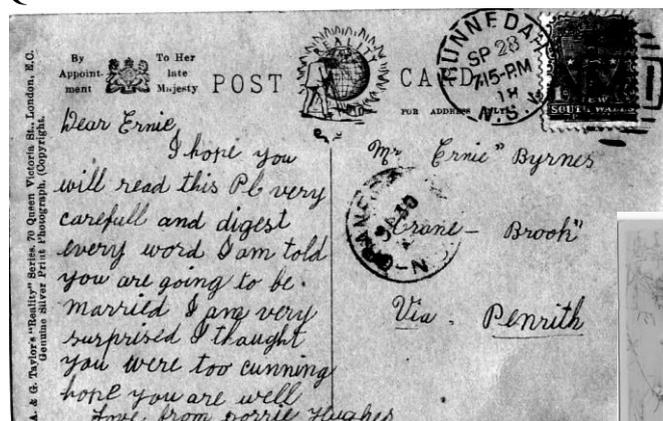
In 1909 Ernest was brought before the Penrith court on charges of assault against George

<sup>116</sup> *Nepean Times*, 8 Aug 1891

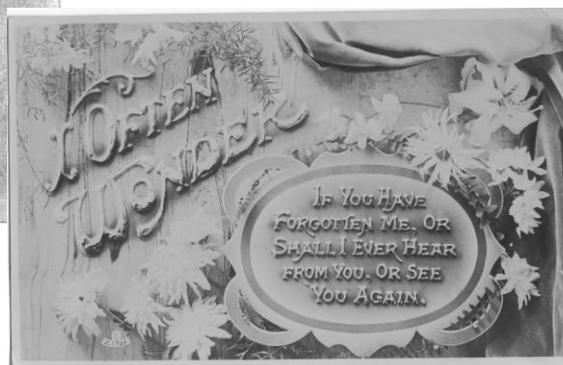
<sup>117</sup> *Nepean Times*, 5 Aug 1893, p4

Thoms whilst working at the Emu Gravel Company<sup>118</sup>. Walter Byrnes was also involved with the incident but the case was dismissed.

Ernie seems to have spent a fair amount of time around The Gunnedah region and this is where he met his wife. He married Ethel Hines in 1910<sup>cxxii</sup> at her home at Willow Tree, Quirindi.



His cousin Dorrie Hughes sent him the following postcard on his engagement. Obviously Ernie was well known at his Aunty Laura Hughes' home at Gunnedah.



After his marriage Ernie settled down on a farm at West Wyalong. Around about 1925 he moved to Pendle Hill. He worked on road building on the Parramatta Road for a while and then he took up a poultry farm at Pendle Hill. He and Ethel had two children, a girl and boy. **Connie** (Constance) was born in 1911 and she married William Alva Edison Berthon (Billy) in 1936<sup>cxxiii</sup>. They had a daughter Maree.

Ernie and Ethel's son **Jack** was born in 1924 at West Wyalong. Jack's wife was Joan Purdie and her family had been neighbours of the Byrnes family when they were children. Joan's father was in the Air force and when Joan was 12 the family moved to Melbourne. Joan kept in touch with her friends in Pendle Hill. During the war, her family returned to Sydney and since Mrs Purdie was pregnant with her youngest child, Ernest put them up in a cottage he owned on the highway, while her father was sent to Darwin. When Squadron Leader Dick Purdie retired he was granted an MBE for his services during two world wars and his work as a wireless operator. He bought a cottage in Pendle Hill and was appointed the first Postmaster to Pendle Hill Post Office.<sup>cxxiv</sup>

Ernie died in 1946<sup>cxxv</sup> and Ethel seven months later.<sup>cxxvi</sup> According to Joan, Jack had to leave the army to take over the farm some time before his father's death. Ernie and Ethel are both buried at St Bartholomew's Cemetery at Prospect with no headstones. Ernest was buried as Ernest Edward Byrnes. When he died he left the Poultry farm with 1000 fowls to Jack and Joan. George Byrnes would come and help them with the poultry at the weekends since neither of them felt confident with running the farm. Ernie and Ethel's daughter, Connie inherited a house Ernie had owned on the highway.

Ernie was quite an entrepreneur. At one stage he owned 5 houses which he rented out - including the one Connie and her husband lived in. In later years Jack and Joan sold the farm and bought the house from Connie. Jack worked as a lorry driver. Connie and her husband used the money from the sale of their house to start up a business in Blacktown. Jack's son Ronnie later took over their former business - Blacktown Auto Electrical.

<sup>118</sup> Nepean Times, 22 May 1909, p4

Jack died in 1967 and left Joan with a young family. Because he died without a will, his estate was tied up until the youngest children came of age. To support the family, Joan had to work for many years in a factory at Ceiber Geigy, which left her with poor hearing. Jack is also buried at Prospect. Jack has 5 children and 8 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren.

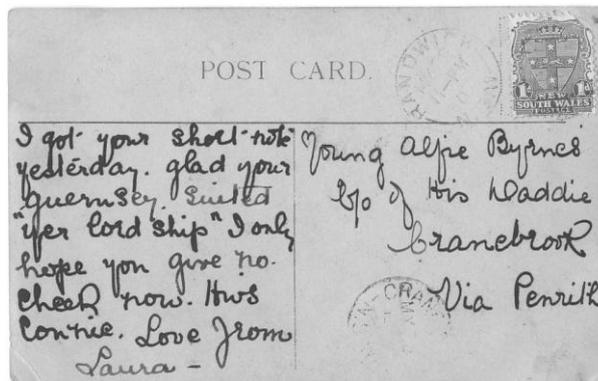
Connie died in 1992 and is survived by her daughter Maree, two grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

### Laura Beatrice Byrnes

Laura as born at Castlereagh on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1883.

As a young woman Laura spent many years working for the Myers family in Randwick. One of her charges was a girl named Dorothy. Laura thought she had such a sweet nature that she later called her only daughter after her.

Laura was a tall woman at 5'9" and was always conscious of her height. The photo below is of a young Laura.



I am sure she had a wonderful sense of humour. This shows up in this post card she sent to her younger brother Alfred.

Laura married Henry George Gates in 1909<sup>cxxvii</sup>. The Gates family had a very prosperous farm at Castlereagh near where the Byrnes family lived. The father (Edward Hart Gates) and a brother came out from England when they were aged 15 and 17. EH Gates was one of the first Aldermen on the Castlereagh Municipal Council serving from 1895 - 1900.

Laura and Henry had four children, three boys and a girl. **Edward Hart**, the eldest was born 1910, followed by **Harold George** in 1912 and **Frank Lovell** in 1917. **Dorothy Lovell** their only daughter was born in 1920.

Henry George Gates worked for Marrickville council. He lived in a huge park as the caretaker/ groundsman in a cottage with his young family. This park at Undercliffe called Riverside Park is now Marrickville golf course. According to her death certificate, Laura died in 1925 from Enteric fever and she was buried at the Church of England section at Woronora cemetery<sup>cxxviii</sup>.

When Laura died, her eldest son Eddie was about 12 and he was left to look after the younger children while their father was at work. He was very bossy and the others did not like it. Eddie was a good sportsman and his father's favourite. According to their sister Dorothy, the three boys would argue a lot but not viciously, it was just the way they got on.

Henry found a housekeeper to help him with the children (Mrs Robbins). Everyone called her Robbie. She stayed with the family for many years until after Henry died in 1940.

Henry was a hard worker and a very successful man. He bought a house and land at Connells Point on the Georges River. When he died he left it to his eldest son Edward. The two younger boys got smaller houses in the same suburb. The youngest child Dorothy was left the house in Dulwich Hill where she still lives.

The boys had to help their father with his park care-taking duties. They had to get up early and help look after the park. It had cricket pitches, tennis courts and many other facilities such as boats on the Cooks River.

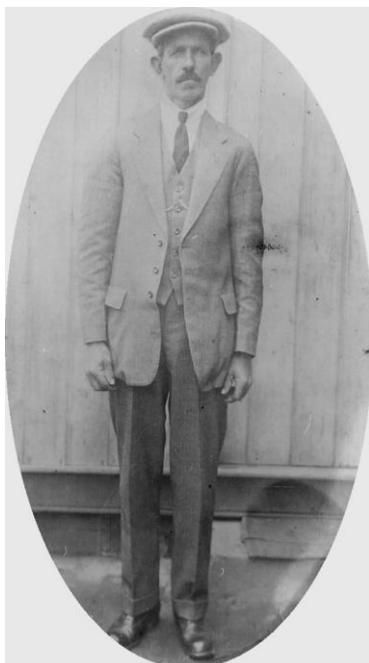
The eldest son Edward Gates married Jeanie (Jessie) McBean Parkes<sup>cxxxix</sup>, a young tailoress, in 1933 but the marriage ended in divorce in 1948. They have a son called Ronald Edward Gates who lives at Guildford. Edward died in 1976 from lung cancer.<sup>cxxx</sup> Jessie remarried in 1949 to Albury Arnold Cooper and they raised Ron in their house at Marrickville. Jessie is now (in 2000) in a nursing home at Strathfield. Ron has two sons and three grandchildren.

Harold and Frank both worked for many years with Marrickville Council. Harold took an apprenticeship with the railways as a coppersmith, and once he had a trade he left. His father bought a truck for him and he worked for Council for a while as a contractor. He then got a job working in a Council garage and eventually rose to be the head of the Council's depot. Harold married Marion Katherine Thomas and they have two sons and five grand children. Harold died in 1999.

Frank's first wife Gladys May Davey<sup>cxxxix</sup> died young due to bad asthma<sup>cxxxii</sup>. Frank worked at Marrickville Park. He married again and moved to Terrigal. He has since died. There were no children.

Dorothy the youngest child was only five when her mother died. She has almost no memories of her mother and was largely raised by Robbie. In 1942 she married Ronald Henry Baker<sup>cxxxiii</sup> and they had 4 children and 6 grandchildren.

### Leslie Henry Byrnes



Leslie was born 2 September 1885 at Castlereagh. He ran a carting business and often carted rocks from the Nepean River.

In 1903 he married Florence May Forrester (Florrie) they were both very young<sup>cxxxiv</sup>. Leslie was 18 and Florence 15. Both their fathers had to give consent to the marriage. The Forrester family had a long history in the Windsor area and Florence's mother was a Witcom. E [Ernest?] Witcom and Jessie Byrnes were the witnesses to their marriage.



In 1909 Leslie had an altercation with his neighbour Charles Andrews over Andrew's cattle breaking down a fence and straying onto Leslie's property. Leslie was taken to court

accused of charging excessive fees for Andrews to reclaim his cattle. The case was dismissed.<sup>119</sup>

Leslie and Florence had five children but two of them died in infancy. **Florence Millie** (Millie) was born in 1904<sup>cxxxv</sup> and **Clarice Myrtle** was born in 1906<sup>cxxxvi</sup>. Two more girls **Muriel** and **Elma** were born but they died while very young. Their last child, **Hilton Roy**, was born many years later.

The marriage was not happy. Florence left Leslie at one stage. This occurred sometime after the deaths of the two children. It is possible that she may have been suffering depression. Leslie and Florence reconciled and she came back to live with him. Their youngest child Hilton Roy (Luke) was born in 1920. The marriage foundered once again and Florence left, abandoning young Hilton. Leslie had to sell their home in Worth Street and give her half the proceeds.

In her latter years Florence lived with her daughter Millie at Bathurst and she is buried at the old Bathurst cemetery<sup>cxxxvii</sup>.

Interestingly in the past some parts of the family did not acknowledge that Leslie was part of the David Byrnes clan. This may have been due to the scandal but it may also have been because a 1920's family portrait was taken without Leslie. The copy of the family portrait I have included in this booklet was modified in the photographic studio to include the image of Leslie, and that of his deceased father. Leslie died in 1961 and is buried in Penrith General Cemetery<sup>cxxxviii</sup>.



Barbara and Millie

Leslie and Florence's eldest daughter Millie, married Cecil Hadley who worked with the railways and rose to attain the position of Stationmaster. They had four children.



Cecil and Millie Hadley at their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary

Their daughter **Thelma** was killed under tragic circumstances in a motorbike accident on the Mt Lambie road<sup>cxxxix</sup>. Millie brought up Thelma's daughter **Barbara**.

Cecil and Millie also had three sons. They were: **Keith** who worked as a milk delivery driver, **Leonard** who was a train driver and **Ron**. They have all died. **Ron** died young<sup>cx1</sup> and never married. The other two sons had families that have settled in the Bathurst region.

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<sup>119</sup> *Nepean Times*, 10 April 1909, p4

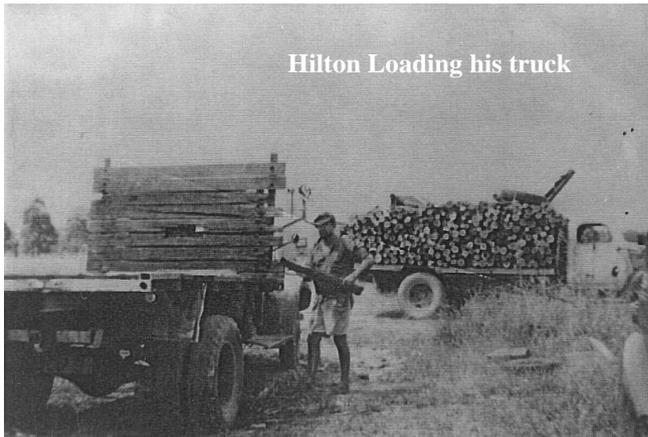


Clarice Byrnes

Cecil and Millie had four children, 15 grand children, 18 great grandchildren and 9 great great grand children at last count.

Leslie and Florence’s second daughter, Clarice was born in 1906. In 1927 she married John Leitch<sup>cxli</sup>. John had been a poultry farmer at Penrith until the family moved to Crookwell. During World War 2 he ran a bakery and delivered bread to a military camp at Blayney. They had two children Donald and Daphne. Clarice initially rejected her son and he was nursed by a neighbour for the first week of his life. As a child Daphne had health problems and Donald spent a fair amount of his childhood living with an Auntie Jean Clissold who had a poultry farm at Cranebrook Road, Penrith. Donald got his nickname “Boydy” from her daughter Ruth because they already had a Donny in the family. Donald died in 1984 from a heart attack, on his farm at Bathurst leaving his wife Colleen and two daughters. He has a least two grandchildren. Daphne married Max Kingston and they live at Bathurst. They have no children.

Hilton Roy (Luke) was born in 1920. He married Sylvia Skinner in 1943<sup>cxlii</sup>. He owned a Wood yard at Penrith. It was located behind Scotts Garage in High Street. During World War 2 he supplied the military camps with firewood and after the war he also supplied props for the mines. Leslie would help him in the wood yard. On Saturday nights Hilton, his Uncle Dave (Alfred Byrnes jnr) and Leslie relaxed by playing friendly games of poker.

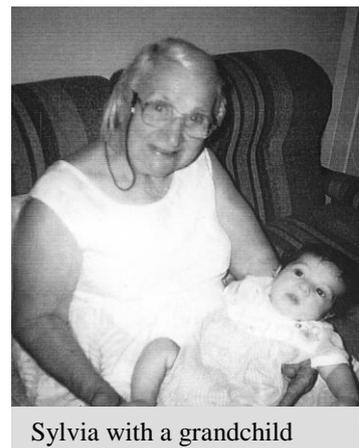


Hilton Loading his truck



Hilton Roy

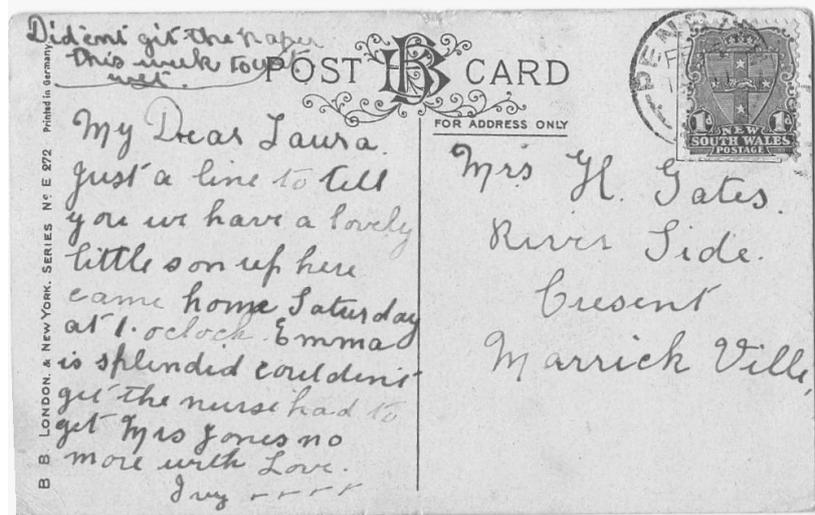
Hilton Roy (Luke) and his wife Silvia had 10 children. David Frederick died in infancy. He was the only other David Byrnes in this branch of the family! Hilton Roy is survived by his wife, nine children, 21 grand children and 18 great grandchildren and 3 great great grand children (at last count).



Sylvia with a grandchild



Ivy wrote to her sister Laura to announce the birth of Emma's baby<sup>120</sup>, **Alfred Jack** born in 1911.



Emma was a bit of a character. Her husband Ernest died in 1946<sup>cxliv</sup> and she seems to have supported herself selling vegetables from a horse and cart around the Penrith district. Sarah Hindmarsh tells a story of how she and her husband Ron would walk to Castlereagh from Penrith and drop in on Emma, but they would not eat there because it was not unusual to have chooks and ducks sitting on the set up table.

Emma died in 1967 and was survived by her son Alfred. The following wording appears on the Witcom burial plot at Penrith Cemetery.

“In loving Memory of Ernest Witcom died 20 August 1946 aged 68 years. Erected by his loving wife and son. Also Emma Gertrude Witcom died 20 March 1967 aged 79 years<sup>cxlv</sup>. Always remembered by their son Jack. Alfred Jack Witcom 1911-1985.”

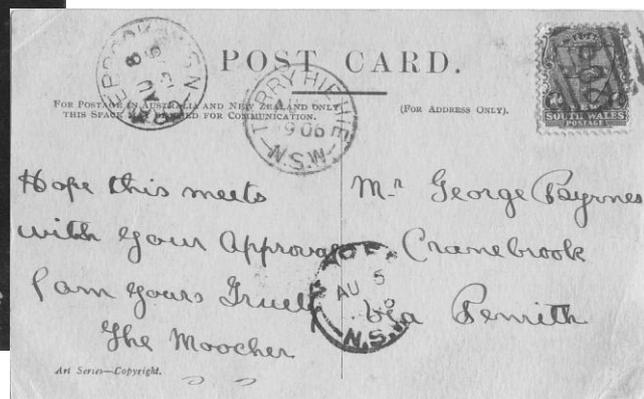
Alfred died in 1985, a bachelor. He was cremated at the Eastern Creek Crematorium.

### George Lovell Byrnes

George Lovell Byrnes was born on 11 Nov 1889 at Castlereagh. As a young man aged about 17 he spent some time working at E H Gates Bros in Cranebrook. This business was part owned by his sister Laura's, father-in-law.



The following postcard was received by George around this time.



<sup>120</sup> My Dear Laura

Just a line to tell you we have a lovely little son up here. Came home Saturday at 1 O'clock. Emma is splendid couldnt get the nurse had to get Mrs Jones no more with Love. Ivy XXXX

A close analysis of the handwriting suggests the “The Moocher” was his brother Ernie Byrnes. It was a rather racy picture for its time, 1906.

In the 1919 Sand Country Commercial Directory<sup>121</sup>, George was shown as a teamster. In later electoral rolls his occupation was given as labourer. He was also a poultry farmer at Llandilo and a butcher. At one time he worked at Parker’s slaughter yard at Castlereagh, and had a Poultry farm on the corner of Castlereagh Rd and Lugard Street Penrith.

In 1920 George married Ellen Margaret May Lack<sup>cxlvi</sup>. George worked as a slaughter man at Parker’s slaughter yard, Cranebrook for a number of years with Jack Lack who was Ella’s brother. Apparently Ella was also an expert worker in the slaughter yard<sup>122</sup>. The Lack family had a strong presence in Penrith; they were involved with the Tattersall Hotel at Penrith on the corner of High and Station Streets and the Red Cow Hotel – opposite Penrith Railway station.

George and Ella had two children: **Ray** born in 1921 and **Nita** a couple of years later.

There is a sad story involving George reported in a history of the Sheens family. Robert Sheens was George’s neighbour and his first cousin. Robert died in 1942 under tragic circumstances. He had complained of pain in his arms and chest at work on Friday. “He came into Penrith on his bike on Friday night. Mr Dave Byrnes was with him part of the way home, but after that Mr Sheens was overcome with illness and the next morning was found on the roadside by Mr George Byrnes when he was coming for work”. Sheens was not taken to the hospital until the Saturday morning and he died in the afternoon. The Dave Byrnes in this tale was probably Alfred, George’s brother.

Bike riding was a common mode of transport for people at this time. The average working man could not afford a car and a bicycle was an affordable, efficient way of getting around. Keith Byrnes can remember riding on his grandfather George Byrnes’ bicycle, on a trip to the cemetery as a young lad.

George’s son, Ray was also known as Buster. He married Willa Doreen Beadman in 1944<sup>cxlvii</sup> and they had two sons and a daughter. He served as a soldier in World War 2 in the 2/9 Australian Infantry Battalion. After the war he worked as a meat Inspector. Ray’s eldest son Maxwell died in 2001. He had served in the armed forces and later in the Police force. He is survived by his wife and three children. Keith, Ray’s youngest son is a Police Officer in Queensland who keeps close ties with the Penrith area where he grew up. Ray also has a daughter Julie. Ray retired to the Central Coast with his wife. He died there in 1990. He has seven grandchildren and one great grandchild.

George’s daughter Nita was known as Nuni by her nieces and nephews. Thelma Fitzpatrick, the daughter of Alfred (Dave) Byrnes was very close friends with her cousin Nuni. Thelma remembers visiting the Millen tannery with Nuni when they were young girls. Nuni and her partner, George Williams lived in various places in Australia because of his job in the Air Force. They eventually settled in Ingham Queensland where Nita has lived for the past 42 years. George died in 1991. They had one son, Allen who was in the diplomatic service and worked all around the world but now is living in Canberra with one of his two daughters.

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<sup>121</sup> Sands Directory 1919

<sup>122</sup> Correspondence with Keith Byrnes - Ella’s grandson

After retirement, George liked to keep busy. He moved to Blacktown to be close to his son Ray. He often spent his weekends helping at Jack and Joan Byrnes' poultry farm at Pendle Hill before it was sold after Jack's death in 1967.

Ella died in 1972 and is buried at Rookwood. George died in 1979 in a nursing home in Pendle Hill. He was cremated at Rookwood.

George has two children, four grand children, seven great grandchildren and two great great grandchildren.

### **Ivy Matilda Byrnes**

Ivy is my husband's grandmother and I have good information about this branch of the family. She was born on 13<sup>th</sup> August 1892 at Cranebrook.

After her death in 1969 the family found some love letters and a postcard album which provide some detailed knowledge of her life. For example in a postcard to Laura (undated) she gives us the measurements for a skirt for herself. 42 inches around the hips, 23 inches around the waist and 40 inches in length.



As a young woman Ivy seemed to spend a fair amount of time moving around between her sister's houses. She also spent some time working as a domestic for Mrs Collins at "Woodside" in Castlereagh Road. Her address was also given as C/- Mrs Beatty, High St Penrith. In December 1914 she was living at Lambridge, Penrith.

Ivy received a number of postcards in 1913 from a lovesick young man by the name of John Thomas Booth (Jack) who was living with Mrs Hodgkinson at Sheffield Street Auburn. This romance seemed to be very one sided. By 1914 she was in love with Robert Rhuban Hindmarsh, a railway fettler. They closed their love letters with verses of sentimental poetry.

These letters also give us some hints as to how they spoke. It is interesting that both Ivy and Robert use "his" instead of "is" in their letters. For example "It his a very cold day".

Robert was working for the railways as a fettler and was living in a boarding house at Linden in the mountains. He would come down by train and either catch a sulky (after a 1 hour wait) or walk to see Ivy and then he would usually travel back up the mountains on a train late at night.

After they were married on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 1915<sup>cxlviii</sup> at Marrickville, they lived in the mountains at Blackheath. Life was very hard because Robert's wage was not very big. **Ronald** was born in March 1916 followed by the twins **Bruce** and **Albert (Bertie)** in 1917. Bertie was a very weak baby. The story is that Constance was living with them for a while to help Ivy with the babies. Constance would take the young Albert and snuggle him between her breasts to keep him warm as the season turned colder. The baby was too weak to survive and died during that year.

At times during the younger days of Ronald and Bruce things got very hard for the family. There are stories of them picking wildflowers for sale to raise some money for the family.

When Ron was aged about 12 he had a bike accident that damaged his hip. It did not heal well and he was missing a large amount of bone. He effectively lost one year of school and when he returned he was in the same year as his younger brother Bruce.

This accident left Ron with a permanent limp and was severe enough that he could have been considered disabled. However he was not having any of that. We have photos of him riding his bike in the mountains and in his early 20's he became a notable sportsman playing both competition grade tennis and cricket.

In 1930 Robert Rhuban was involved in a major train derailment in the mountains which caused 2 deaths and 1 injury. He and another linesman were facing possible manslaughter charges but these were later dropped. It appears they were being made the scapegoats for systemic failures within the Railways<sup>123</sup>. The pressure on the family must have been enormous with Robert laid off work for over a month and their eldest son suffering the effects of his earlier accident. In the late 1930's the family moved from the mountains to Liverpool and lived at Speed Street before they built a house in Norfolk Street. This house had a big backyard and Ronald grew vegetables and sold them around the district for additional cash. He eventually was employed by James Hardie industries at Camelia. In time he took on an office job and by the time he retired he was the Paymaster for the Camelia plant

Bruce continued the tradition of working in the Railways as an electrician and signalman. Bruce married Doreen Burton in 1944<sup>cxliix</sup> and they had two daughters and a son who died in childhood.

This closeness between the brothers sometimes caused some strife. Ron married Sarah Jane Cruwys in 1944<sup>cl</sup>. Sarah was the eldest daughter of Frederick Cruwys who lived at Prestons near Liverpool. Their fathers knew each other as they both worked for the railways and Ron had been out to Fred's farm in his teenage years. What attracted them was their love of dancing. Sarah had worked for many years at the Glenfield Special School, which was a residential facility for mentally disabled children. She and Ron attended many of the local dances.



Sarah was thrilled when she was taken to Manly for her honeymoon but the situation was a bit different when she was bundled on the train next morning for the delights of Binnaway near Coonabarabran. (It is ironic that so many of the Barnes and Lovell ancestors lived and died around Binnaway). Ron took her up there for the remainder of their honeymoon to stay with Bruce and Doreen. The brothers would take off for days leaving the women at home to entertain themselves.

After their return to Sydney the newly weds lived with Robert and Ivy in the Norfolk Street house. They often socialised with the wider family on the weekends, catching the train to Penrith and dropping in on Ron's aunts, uncles and cousins.

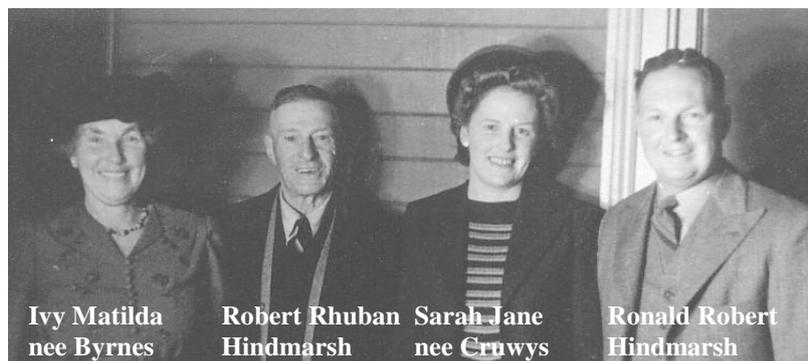
Sarah had returned to work after her marriage, this was a bit unusual for those times, but she had by this time become the cook at the Glenfield Special School. She tells interesting stories of getting the school ready for evacuation during these war years. They had trenches dug around the grounds and when the siren sounded the severely disabled children had to be led outside and camped down in the trenches. I suppose the fear of air raids could have been

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<sup>123</sup> Nepean Times 1<sup>st</sup> Feb 1930, 15<sup>th</sup> Feb 1930, 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb 1930, 15<sup>th</sup> March 1930

well founded as the school was fairly close to the Ingleburn Army camp, which would have been a prime target in the eventuality of an air raid by the Japanese.

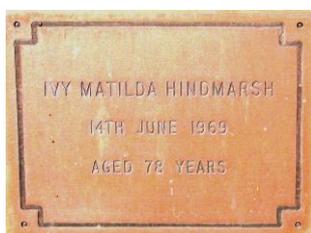
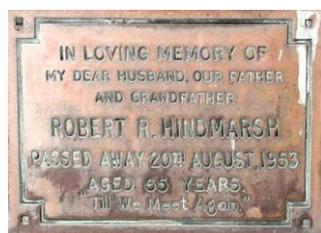
Ron and Sarah had built themselves a house in Castlereagh Street, Liverpool close to Robert and Ivy's home. Their son Robert was born in 1951 followed by Brian in 1955.



1946

Ron was very active in the community. He joined the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, and served for many years as its secretary. He was also active in the Masons and rose to have high standing in the Lodge. In some ways he was a modest man. He liked to move in the circles of

powerful men in the community but he also liked to keep his distance. At one time a new wing at Liverpool hospital was to be named in his honour as recognition for the work he had done in the community but he declined and so it was named after a former Liverpool Mayor. There is a Hindmarsh Road in Liverpool named after him.



Robert Rhuban Hindmarsh died very soon after retiring from the railways in 1953<sup>cli</sup>. Ivy lived by herself for many years before developing dementia and dying in a nursing home in 1969<sup>clii</sup>. She was cremated and interred at Rookwood.

Neither Ron nor Sarah had ever learned to drive. The family would travel everywhere by train. Many happy holidays were spent in a beach house at Ettalong.

They retired at Umina and lived there until Ron's death in 1986. He was cremated at Palmdale at Ourimbah. Ronald was survived by his wife, two sons, three grandchildren and a great grandson.

Bruce and Doreen had two daughters, born in 1946 and 1947. Bruce spent most of his working life on the railways in country NSW. In 1963<sup>cliii</sup> his wife Doreen died of cancer. She had never got over the death of her only son in 1949<sup>cliv</sup>. Bruce was forced to put his two young daughters in the orphanage. During this time he was living at Toongabbie.

The closeness of the two brothers was not maintained over the years but it ended on a strange note when Bruce died eight days after his older brother.

Bruce is survived by his two daughters, five grandchildren, and eight great grandchildren.

## Walter Stanley Byrnes

Walter was born in 1894 at Castlereagh. As a boy he was close to his nephew Arthur Millen who was 2 years younger. They exchanged postcards.

In 1915 he married Annie Ethel Hayes<sup>clv</sup> and they settled at Rooty Hill. He had a small farm and he would work as a labourer on surrounding properties. He was a generous man. When visitors called in to Walter and Annie's farm they would often come home with a pumpkin or squash. Annie died in 1947 in sad circumstances. She was a patient in Callan Park, Mental Hospital at Leichhardt. She suffered from exhaustion due to manic episodes. She was cremated at Rookwood<sup>clvi</sup>.



They had two children. The youngest was **Alfred Henry** Byrnes born in 1917. He married Lucy Maude Bunyan in 1943 at St Johns Parramatta<sup>clvii</sup>. His sister Rita was in the wedding party as was his cousin Ronald Hindmarsh who was a witness at his marriage. Alfie, as he was known had joined the army in 1941 and was married in uniform.



Alfr ed was discharged from the army in 1946 and died in 1965<sup>clviii</sup>, from stomach cancer. His widow Lucy remained true to him until her death in 2000. They had no children. Before joining the army, Alfie worked at the Doonside Clay Pipe factory.

By 1949 Walter had sold his home at Rooty Hill and moved to Blacktown.

**Rita Florence** was born in 1916. She was living at Eastern Creek shortly before her marriage to Ronald Trafford Allpass<sup>clix</sup>. Rita was a bright and happy girl. She got on very well with her cousin Ronald Hindmarsh; they shared the same sense of humour. Ronald Allpass was a very successful builder. He had served in World War 2, had been captured and was a prisoner of war. This must have made home life difficult at times because such trauma usually leaves psychological scars. Rita supported her family through all of these problems. Rita and Ron had one son Ian.

Rita took an active interest in her wider family. She was said to have helped her cousin Alfred Witcom, Emma's son, after his mother died. She took care of her father who lived at her home in Blacktown in his retirement years. During the 1960's and 70's Rita worked as a shop assistant. Walter worked for his son-in-law and was listed as a carpenter on the 1968-1975 electoral rolls. Walter died in 1978 and was cremated at Rookwood with his ashes scattered in the sunken garden.

Joan Byrnes has fond memories of Rita's generosity. When her husband Jack died in 1967, she remembers Rita arriving at her house with a basket of groceries so she had food in the house and could offer visitors a cup of tea. Rita and her family also kept in close touch with her Auntie Grace and Uncle Jack Hughes.

In her latter years Rita and her husband lived with their son Ian and his wife and two children. She died from a heart condition in 2001 aged 85.

**Alfred Roy Byrnes (Dave)**

Alfred and his twin sister Constance Victoria were born in 1897 at Cranebrook. It is believed that Alfred got the nickname Dave because his mother called him Day and Connie was Night. I don't know if this was a comment on their personalities or their complexions. As he grew up the Day was changed to Dave and he was widely known by this name.



He farmed a property on Castlereagh road. The house is now gone and the land is part of the Penrith Lakes development. For a long time the location of the farm's well was marked by a Gazebo that could be seen from the road.



Alf was a teamster with a dray and two draft horses. One of the horses was named Billy. Robert Byrnes (his grandson) remembers 4 of the kids getting on Billy's back – they weren't supposed to. The kids would pick the corn from the field and then the corn would be hulled. Each cob would be fed into a small machine and the kids would turn the handle. Robert also remembers his grandfather smoked a pipe.



Florence, Alfred with Reg's children, Eric, Robbie and June

Alfred married Florence May Miller in 1918<sup>clx</sup>. They had 5 children.

**Reginald Alfred** was born in 1918 at Lambridge, Castlereagh. He was a soldier in World War 2 serving in New Guinea. He married Stella May Baldock in 1941<sup>clxi</sup>. They had a home in Lemmongrove and it had a big vegetable garden. The home had a slow combustion stove, which was used for heating, cooking and heating water. Reg would annoy the neighbours by starting a huge circular saw with a 3ft blade up at midnight to cut wood. He drove a truck carrying bags of cement, it



Reg

once tipped over at Lithgow causing a real mess. He had another job working in a produce store at Penrith. He was a bit of a practical joker and once brought a carpet snake home from the store and let it go in the garage. The family also had a cow that was pastured near the produce store. It had to be milked every morning. His last job was to drive a water truck that was used to keep down the dust on the dirt roads.

His wife Stella died at the age of 46<sup>clxii</sup>. Reg took another partner, Beatrice, who helped raise his younger children.

He had 4 children all of whom are still alive and 10 grandchildren and 2 great grand children.

**Ronald** was born in 1920 and he married Ivy Eliza Mills in 1940<sup>clxiii</sup> at the Church of England church in Castlereagh. They had five daughters. Ron worked for many years as a Plumber and Drainer for the Public Works Department at Lidcombe State Hospital. Over the years he moved his family from Penrith to Picton, Guildford and Macquarie Fields. The family never owned a car so they had to use public transport. This made it difficult for them to keep in close touch with the bulk of the family who remained in the Penrith area.

Ron was a man with simple workingman's pleasures. His greatest delight was to socialise with his mates. Towards the end of his life he suffered greatly from cancer before passing away peacefully at his home in 1973<sup>clxiv</sup>. He was cremated at Forest Lawn Cemetery at Leppington and his ashes were scattered.

**Harold G** born in 1922 and died in 1923<sup>clxv</sup>



Charles Fitzpatrick      Thelma Byrnes      Ronald Byrnes

**Thelma** was born in 1924. She married Edward Charles Fitzpatrick in 1948. Charles had served in the Australian Army during the war as a trooper. They had five children, 2 girls and three boys and seven grandchildren. Edward died in 1985.

**Betty Jean** was the youngest of the family, born in 1935. She married Robert Leslie George and they have remained living in the Penrith area. They have no children. Betty kept close links with her family. She nursed her mother before she passed away in 1976<sup>clxvi</sup> and helped her brother Ronald when he came down with cancer.



### **Constance Victoria Byrnes**

Connie was a twin to Alfred born in 1897. There was another set of twins born to their parents early in the marriage who were given the names Constance and Alfred. The birth of the first twins was never registered, they were either still born or they died soon after birth. When the second set of twins was born many years later, they were named after the first

twins. This story was told to me by Connie's daughter, Jean Walker and also by Alfred's daughter Thelma Fitzpatrick.

Constance was married in 1919 to Franz Christian Henri Ahmelmänn<sup>clxvii</sup>. She moved in with Grace before her marriage so that she was closer to Franz (or Fred) as he was known. He had recently returned from the war where he had been wounded. He was a noted horseman and when first enlisted he was part of the 9<sup>th</sup> reinforcements to the 1<sup>st</sup> Light Horse Brigade. Later he was transferred to the Field Artillery Brigade as a Driver and he also served in the Division Ammunition Column. This meant he would have been driving a horse and cart delivering ammunition to the Front. It was a very dangerous occupation. He was wounded with an injury to his kidney. He recovered and was returned to duties. He was discharged in July 1919<sup>124</sup>.



Fred, Connie and daughter Jean

They had two children. **Jean Victoria** was born in 1920 and **Frederick Keith** in 1925. When Jean was a very young girl the family lived at Sans Souci where her father was a butcher. When Granny Byrnes came to visit she would help out by making sausages. Jean remembers a white horse that drew the butcher's cart. A boy was hired to deliver meat. Sometimes Jean and a girlfriend would go with Granny in the butcher's cart down to the baths at Sans Souci and Granny would watch as the girls went bathing. She let them do things like jump off the springboard into the water, which was forbidden by her mother. They had to keep it a secret. Connie was the type of person who felt the need to keep up appearances and because of this she was not always an easy person to live with.

Around the time of World War 2 the family was living near Concord hospital. Jean thought that it was about this time that the family changed their name from Ahmelmänn to Hamilton because of the anti-German sentiment making it hard for the family. Jean helped out at the hospital making sandwiches and cups of tea for the wounded soldiers. This was where she met her future husband Jeffrey Murray Walker<sup>clxviii</sup>. A South Australian in the Air Force, he had been posted to Sydney as an aircraft mechanic. He later became a refrigeration mechanic. After their marriage they moved to Katherine in the Northern Territory. Jean worked in the hospital and Murray worked in the grounds. They later moved back to Sydney. They had four boys. When I talked with her in 2004, Jean was living in a nursing home and suffering from dementia and a heart condition. Her greatest regret was that she never had a daughter.

Connie and Fred spent much of their life living in Auburn. When they moved out of the house in Cumberland Road it was lived in by their children. They bought another house in Auburn at Angus Avenue where they retired. Fred had worked as a meat inspector at Homebush abattoir for many years. Connie was very good with her needlework especially smocking.

Their son Frederick Keith married Betty Margaret Bottle at Auburn in 1944<sup>clxix</sup>. They had three daughters. The marriage did not last. Keith spent some time living at the house in Cumberland Road and then married his cousin Thelma Byrnes (daughter of Francis and Sarah) in 1960. The families of Francis Byrnes and Connie Hamilton had kept in close touch. The photo to the right is of Thelma Byrnes wearing a dress



Thelma Byrnes

<sup>124</sup> NAA Service Records Ahmelmänn F C H, Series B2455, No 1227

smocked by her Aunty and future mother-in-law, Constance Hamilton. Fred and Thelma lived in Merrylands and Fred worked as a fitter. They adopted a son, Rodney. Fred and Thelma have retired to Queensland.

Franz died in 1969 in hospital<sup>clxx</sup>. He was cremated at Rookwood. Connie died in 1985 in a nursing home at Westmead. She was also cremated at Rookwood. They have two children, eight grandchildren and 18 great grandchildren and five great great grand children.

### **Francis Bruce Byrnes**

Francis or Frank was the youngest of the children. He was born in 1900. In 1923 he married Sarah Green at Sutherland<sup>clxxi</sup>. Francis worked as an ironworker's assistant. They lived at Belmore.



They had three children. The first was their only son **Roy** born in 1924 who died as an infant<sup>clxxii</sup>. Their two daughters were **Thelma** and **Pamela**. Sarah died suddenly at hospital in 1965<sup>clxxiii</sup>. Pamela took care of her father at the family home until his death two years later<sup>clxxiv</sup>. Both Francis and Sarah are buried at Woronora Cemetery.

Thelma had a daughter and in 1960 married her cousin Frederick Keith Hamilton. He had three daughters from an earlier marriage. They adopted a son, Rodney, who is now living in Western Australia. They lived at Merrylands for many years until they moved to Queensland to retire.

Pamela had a daughter Sharon who has since died. She has retired to live in Queensland with her husband.

Francis had three children, three grandchildren and one great great grandchild.

## Endnote for Part 2

cvi	NSW BDM Marriage	1896/1615	(Millen & Byrnes)
cviii	NSW BDM Death	1937/14308	(Rosetta Millen [Miller])
cix	NSW BDM Birth	1897/6177	(James Arthur Millen)
cx	NSW BDM Marriage	1919/8866	(Millen & Turner)
cx	NSW BDM Birth	1905/37670	(Stanley Jack Millen)
cxii	NSW BDM Marriage	1929/6649	(Millen & Hart)
cxiii	NSW BDM Marriage	1929/4698	(Neeves & Millen)
cxiv	NSW BDM Death	1969/36861	(Edward T Neeves)
cxv	NSW BDM Death	1975/66	(Gladys Neeves nee Millen)
cxvi	NSW BDM Marriage	1905/10810	(Lenthall & Byrnes)
cxvii	NSW BDM Birth	1879/10616	(Frederick James Matthews)
cxviii	NSW BDM Death	1938/7702	(Frederick James Matthews)
cxix	NSW BDM Death	1932/11963	(Jessie Byrnes as Jessie Phillips)
cxx	NSW BDM Marriage	1911/2787	(Downey & Byrnes)
cxxi	NSW BDM Death	1922/4591	(Frederick Downey)
cxxii	NSW BDM Marriage	1910/9679	(Byrnes & Hines)
cxxiii	NSW BDM Marriage	1936/11418	(Berthon & Byrnes)

*cxxiv* **This story is about Joan Purdie's father. It was written by Joan's brother Ian who is into amateur radio.**  
[www.eham.net/user/profile/VK2TIP](http://www.eham.net/user/profile/VK2TIP)

*Dick Purdie (VK2ARP)*

June 30, 1989

Sqn-Ldr Dick Purdie M.B.E. VK2ARP (VK2RP) my father, was a professional telegraphist and First Class radio operator who enlisted in the Royal Australian Navy during WW1 in 1916 as a boy of 14 years. Dick remained in the RAN until 1928 when leaving to establish his own radio business. This business like so many others foundered during the great depression. He was immediately able to obtain work as a telegraphist with the Postmaster Generals Dept. handling all kinds of traffic at high speeds. Owing to his skills and naval technical background he was induced to join the newly formed Royal Australian Air Force in 1930 as a wireless operator. During WW11 he was part of MacArthur's famed RAAF signals intelligence unit. Dick remained with the RAAF until the end of the Korean War thereby earning the unique distinction of having served Australia throughout three wars. In 1954 HM Queen Elizabeth 11 presented my father with his medal in the Order of the British Empire for services to Australia in general and Wireless in particular. His later years were spent as a Postmaster only to be forcibly retired when they accidentally discovered he was celebrating his 72nd birthday. The final years were regular skeds with old navy and air force pals until they all disappeared one by one. As his son, my saddest moment was fulfilling an obligation to notify all those listed in his "book" of his passing - there was no one left - he was the last. -- A very grateful Son, Ian Purdie VK2TIP

Contributed by: Ian Purdie

cxxv	NSW BDM Death	1946/29665	(Ernest Byrnes)
cxxvi	NSW BDM Death	1947/29677	(Ethel Byrnes nee Hines)
cxxvii	NSW BDM Marriage	1909/3637	(Gates & Byrnes)
cxxviii	NSW BDM Death	1925/18717	(Laura Gates nee Byrnes)
cxxix	NSW BDM Marriage	1933/2577	(Gates & Parkes)
cxix	NSW BDM Death	1976/12259	(Edward Gates)
cxix	NSW BDM Marriage	1940/446	(Gates & Davey)
cxix	NSW BDM Death	1965/24510	(Gladys May Gates nee Davey)
cxix	NSW BDM Marriage	1942/1823	(Baker & Gates)
cxix	NSW BDM Marriage	1903/6705	(Byrnes & Forrester)
cxix	NSW BDM Birth	1904/25710	(Florence Byrnes)
cxix	NSW BDM Birth	1906/27715	(Clarice Byrnes)
cxix	NSW BDM Death	1968/20303	(Florence Byrnes nee Forrester)
cxix	NSW BDM Death	1961/10043	(Leslie Byrnes)
cxix	NSW BDM Death	1950/14474	(Thelma Rostron nee Hadley)

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cxl	NSW BDM Death	1958/14017	(Ronald Hadley)
cxli	NSW BDM Marriage	1927/4689	(Leitch & Byrnes)
cxlii	NSW BDM Marriage	1943/5264	(Byrnes & Skinner)
cxliii	NSW BDM Marriage	1906/10877	(Witcom & Byrnes)
cxliv	NSW BDM Death	1946/20815	(Ernest Witcom)
cxlv	NSW BDM Death	1967/21373	(Emma Witcom nee Byrnes)
cxlvi	NSW BDM Marriage	1920/2809	(Byrnes & Lack)
cxlvii	NSW BDM Marriage	1944/18304	(Byrnes & Beadman)
cxlviii	NSW BDM Marriage	1915/2922	(Hindmarsh & Byrnes)
cxlix	NSW BDM Marriage	1944/17016	(Hindmarsh & Burton)
cl	NSW BDM Marriage	1944/23570	(Hindmarsh & Cruwys)
cli	NSW BDM Death	1953/15726	(Robert Hindmarsh)
clii	NSW BDM Death	1969/31526	(Ivy Hindmarsh nee Byrnes)
cliii	NSW BDM Death	1963/23991	Doreen Hindmarsh nee Burton)
cliv	NSW BDM Death	1949/18010	(John Bruce Hindmarsh)
clv	NSW BDM Marriage	1915/10640	(Byrnes & Hayes)
clvi	NSW BDM Death	1947/25840	(Annie Ethel Byrnes nee Hayes)
clvii	NSW BDM Marriage	1943/18118	(Byrnes & Bunyan)
clviii	NSW BDM Death	1965/14501	(Alfred Henry Byrnes)
clix	NSW BDM Marriage	1946/21730	(Allpass & Byrnes)
clx	NSW BDM Marriage	1918/1086	(Byrnes & Miller)
clxi	NSW BDM Marriage	1941/12073	(Byrnes & Baldock)
clxii	NSW BDM Death	1965/23749	(Stella May Byrnes nee Baldock)
clxiii	NSW BDM Marriage	1940/20428	(Byrnes & Mills)
clxiv	NSW BDM Death	1973/69004	(Ronald Byrnes)
clxv	NSW BDM Death	1923/20963	(Harold Byrnes)
clxvi	NSW BDM Death	1976/ 27686	(Florence Byrnes nee Miller)
clxvii	NSW BDM Marriage	1919/11903	(Ahmelman & Byrnes)
clxviii	NSW BDM Marriage	1945/20934	(Walker & Hamilton)
clxix	NSW BDM Marriage	1944/1266	(Hamilton & Bottle)
clxx	NSW BDM Death	1969/41273	(Franz Hamilton)
clxxi	NSW BDM Marriage	1923/4009	(Byrnes & Green)
clxxii	NSW BDM Death	1924/11378	(Roy Byrnes)
clxxiii	NSW BDM Death	1965/12205	(Sarah Byrnes nee Green)
clxxiv	NSW BDM Death	1967/31992	(Francis Byrnes)

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(current as of June 2004)

*Story of Sqn-Ldr Dick Purdie M.B.E.* [www.eham.net/user/profile/VK2TIP](http://www.eham.net/user/profile/VK2TIP)

(This site is now password protected and not available to the general public)

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The Ryerson Index <http://www.ryersonindex.org/>

State Records NSW: <http://www.records.nsw.gov.au/>

Penrith Library newspaper search. Includes an index to The Nepean Times

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Australian Dictionary of Biography: <http://www.adb.online.anu.edu.au/adbonline.htm>

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## **Appendix 1 Decadency Charts of the Children of Alfred Byrnes and Constance Rhoda Lovell**

The following pages show decadency charts of the children of Alfred and Constance Rhoda Byrnes.

Due to privacy considerations I have not included dates of birth or marriage for people who are still alive.

To obtain this information I have tracked people down through the electoral rolls and telephone books and asked them about their family and sought some information about the earlier generations. Thank you to all those people who responded to my requests and who gave permission for me to use their information and anecdotes in this publication.

Some people also sent me photographs of their families with permission to use them in this family history. In the interests of keeping this project manageable I have not included all of the photos but I have used a representative selection. Special thanks to Gaye Camilleri, Cheryl & Ron Lavett and Barbara Jones.

The information in these charts was collected over a number of years and may not be up to date at the time of publishing. No doubt some deaths have occurred and some new babies have been born.

# Descendants of Rosetta Elizabeth May BYRNES

1-Rosetta Elizabeth May BYRNES b. 10 Nov 1876, Coonabarabran, d. 7 Sep 1937, Kingswood

+James MILLEN d. 14 Dec 1954, m. 26 Mar 1896, Kingswood

— 2-James Arthur MILLEN b. 23 Dec 1897, Penrith

+Albertha Grace TURNER

— 3-Irene Grace MILLEN

+Len SHUGG

— 4-Clifford Leonard James SHUGG

+Lisa

— 4-Clive Gordon SHUGG

+Joanne JASON

— 4-Stephen Arthur SHUGG

— 3-Darryl James MILLEN

+Iris WARWICK?

— 4-Carol MILLEN

— 4-Nancy MILLEN

— 3-Clive Stanley MILLEN

+Hazel

— 4-Susan MILLEN

+Unknown

— 5-Bronwyn Megan

— 3-Margaret Anne MILLEN

+Lionel HAYDEN

— 4-Mark HAYDEN

— 4-Kerry HAYDEN

— 4-Gay HAYDEN

— 4-Angela HAYDEN

— 3-June Elizabeth MILLEN

+Em CHRISTOPHERSON

— 4-Linda CHRISTOPHERSON

— 4-Barry CHRISTOPHERSON

— 4-Arthur CHRISTOPHERSON

— 4-Fay CHRISTOPHERSON

— 2-Stanley Jack MILLEN b. 19 Sep 1905, d. 24 Nov 1987, Goulburn

+Alma Hetty HART d. 15 Nov 1981, Goulburn, m. Apr 1929, Petersham

— 3-Joan Elaine MILLEN

+Horace PRESTON

— 4-Grahame John PRESTON

+Unknown

— 5-Cory Ethan PRESTON

— 5-Braelyn Jo PRESTON

— 5-Maddison Renee PRESTON

## Descendants of Rosetta Elizabeth May BYRNES Cont.

4-Criena Anne PRESTON

+Unknown

5-Travis Paedric PRESTON

5-Callum Leslie ARCHER

3-Barbara Ruth MILLEN

+Ronald JONES

4-Pauline Margaret JONES

+Des HENDERSON

5-Timothy Daniel HENDERSON

4-Mark Andrew JONES

+Yuet Fong CHAN

5-Melanie Yee Fa JONES

5-Shaun Jin Siew JONES

4-Wendy Maree JONES

+Michael Joseph PSAILA

5-Matthew Ian PSAILA

5-Craig Joseph PSAILA

5-Jack Henry PSAILA

3-Judith Alison MILLEN

+Michael MARKHAM

4-Belinda Lee MARKHAM

4-Gillian Louise MARKHAM

3-Desma Patricia MILLEN

+Percy Edwin CARTER

2-Gladys MILLEN b. 9 Jun 1908, d. ~1975, Pine Grove Crematorium Rooty Hill

+Edward Thomas NEEVES b. 1907, d. ~1970, aged 63 Pine Gove Crematorium Rooty Hill, m. 1929

3-Kevin John NEEVES b. 4 Sep 1938, d. 3 Apr 1989, Emu Plains

+Iris GLEDHILL d. 17 Jul 2000, Aged 56

4-Raymond NEEVES

4-Norma NEEVES

4-David NEEVES

+Katherine Ann

3-Edward Stanley (Ted) NEEVES

+Nola FERRY

4-Glen Edward NEEVES

+Laurie CURNOW

4-Cathryn Anne NEEVES

+Unknown

5-Jack

4-Julie May NEEVES

+Anthony HOWARD

## Descendants of Rosetta Elizabeth May BYRNES Cont.

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- 5-Melanie Anne HOWARD
- 5-Luke HOWARD
- 5-Michael HOWARD
- 2-Alfred Roy MILLEN
- +Nellie Doreen AHEARN d. 14 Aug 1988, m. 1940, Penrith
  - 3-Frances MILLEN
  - +David Phillip ROBERTS
    - 4-Mark David ROBERTS
    - 4-Julienne ROBERTS
  - 3-Robert MILLEN d. <1988

## Jessie Evelyn BYRNES

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**1-Jessie Evelyn BYRNES b. 22 May 1878, Coonabarabran, d. 27 Jul 1932, State Hospital, Newington NSW**

+Richard Henry LENTHALL , par. Richard Henry LENTHALL and Sarah Ann RIDDLE

+Frederick James MATTHEWS b. 17 Oct 1878, Moruya, d. 4 Apr 1938, LidcombeState Hospital, m. May 1906, par. Frederick James MATTHEWS and Christina Isabella WADDELL

## Descendants of Grace Florence BYRNES

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**1-Grace Florence BYRNES b. 8 Sep 1879, Penrith, d. 27 Aug 1966, (Rookwood Crematorium)**

+Alfred John DOWNEY b. 1882, Narrabri, d. 9 Apr 1967, (Rookwood Crematorium), m. 10 Jan 1911, Randwick, par. John Edwin DOWNEY and Laura Phoebe LOVELL

2-Frederick J DOWNEY b. ~1919, d. 24 Apr 1922

# Descendants of Ernest Edwin BYRNES

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## 1-Ernest Edwin BYRNES b. 3 Aug 1881, Penrith, d. 3 Nov 1946, Pendle Hill

+Ethel HINES b. ~1885, Wallabadah, d. 1947, Pendle Hill, m. 31 Aug 1910, Willow Tree, Quirindi, par. Samuel HINES and Mary Ann BAKER

2-Jack BYRNES b. 29 Jan 1924, West Wyalong, d. 1 Nov 1967, (Prospect Cemetery)

+Joan PURDIE

3-Ronald BYRNES

+Beverley

3-Maureen BYRNES

+William Donald (Don) THOMSON

4-Sarah Jane THOMSON

3-Pamela BYRNES

3-Alan BYRNES

3-Robyn BYRNES

2-Constance BYRNES b. 12 Jul 1911

+William Alva Edison BERTHON , m. 1936

3-Maree BERTHON

+Brian Richard MURPHY

4-Roslyn MURPHY

+Troy

5-Chelsea

5-Lachlan

4-Brad MURPHY

# Descendants of Laura Beatrice BYRNES

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1-Laura Beatrice BYRNES b. 22 Dec 1883, Castlereagh, d. 26 Dec 1925, Marrickville

+Henry George GATES b. 1874, Randwick, d. 3 Oct 1940, Hurstville, m. 1909, Darlinghurst, Sydney

— 2-Edward Hart GATES b. 12 Feb 1910, d. 30 May 1976

+Jeanie McBean PARKES

└ 3-Ronald Edward GATES

+Gwendolyn Rosemary CRONAN

└ 4-Garry Ronald GATES

+Joanne BROGAN

└ 5-Daniel John GATES

└ 5-John (Jack) William GATES

└ 4-Geoffrey John GATES

+Julianne

└ 5-Kristen GATES

— 2-Harold George GATES b. 10 Jun 1912, d. 25 Dec 1999

+Marion Katherine THOMAS

└ 3-Kenneth Lloyd GATES

+Sue

└ 3-Neil Ronald GATES

— 2-Frank Lovell GATES b. 11 Jul 1917

+Gladys May DAVEY

— 2-Dorothy Lovell GATES

+Ronald Henry BAKER , m. 25 Feb 1942, Penshurst

└ 3-June BAKER

+Thomas DAVIS

└ 4-Melissa Jane DAVIS

└ 4-Fiona Lee DAVIS

└ 4-Shannon Rory DAVIS

└ 3-Val May BAKER

+Dennis CONROY

└ 4-Jason Mark CONROY

└ 4-Shane Timothy CONROY

└ 3-Faye BAKER

+John REIF

└ 4-Jacqueline Faye REIF

└ 3-Ross BAKER

+Pamela

+Rachel DE-SOUV

# Descendants of Leslie Henry BYRNES

---

## 1-Leslie Henry BYRNES b. 2 Sep 1885, Penrith, d. 26 Apr 1961

+Florence Mary FORRESTER b. 1887, Penrith, d. 1968 age 80, (old Bathurst Cemetery), m. 1 Aug 1903, Cranebrook, par. William Henry FORRESTER and Agnes WITCOM

— 2-Florence Millie BYRNES b. 7 Jul 1904, d. 3 Mar 1995, (Bathurst Cemetery)

+Cecil HADLEY d. 18 Dec 1983, m. 1 Jan 1922, C of E, Nyngan

— 3-Thelma Millie HADLEY b. ~ 1925, Bathurst, d. 18 Mar 1950, (old Bathurst Cemetery)

+Harry ROSTRON

— 4-Barbara ROSTRON

+Johnny KLOCK

— 5-Craig KLOCK

— 5-Carine KLOCK

+Ross ELMS

— 3-Cecil Keith HADLEY b. 19 Sep 1925, d. 1 Nov 2000, (Lawn, Bathurst Cemetery)

+Daphne May BARKER

— 4-Faye Keitha HADLEY

+Jeff MARKWICK

— 5-Michelle MARKWICK

— 5-Jason MARKWICK

— 4-Bruce Kevin HADLEY

+Kerry ROGERS

— 5-Adam John HADLEY

— 5-Matthew HADLEY

— 5-Melissa Kathryn HADLEY

— 5-Kristin HADLEY

— 4-John Robert HADLEY

+Joan Maree GOODWIN

— 5-Lisa HADLEY

— 5-David John HADLEY

— 4-Alan HADLEY

+Alexis

— 5-Rebecca HADLEY

+Sue DIXON

— 5-Aden HADLEY

— 3-Leonard Charles Leslie HADLEY b. 12 May 1927, d. 15 Dec 1999, (Lawn, Bathurst Cemetery)

+Mina Yvonne SHANNON

— 4-Glenda Gay HADLEY

+Ronald Frederick TAYLOR

— 5-Ronald John TAYLOR

— 5-Shane Leonard TAYLOR

+Patrick REEDY

— 4-Lynette Mina HADLEY

## Descendants of Leslie Henry BYRNES Cont.

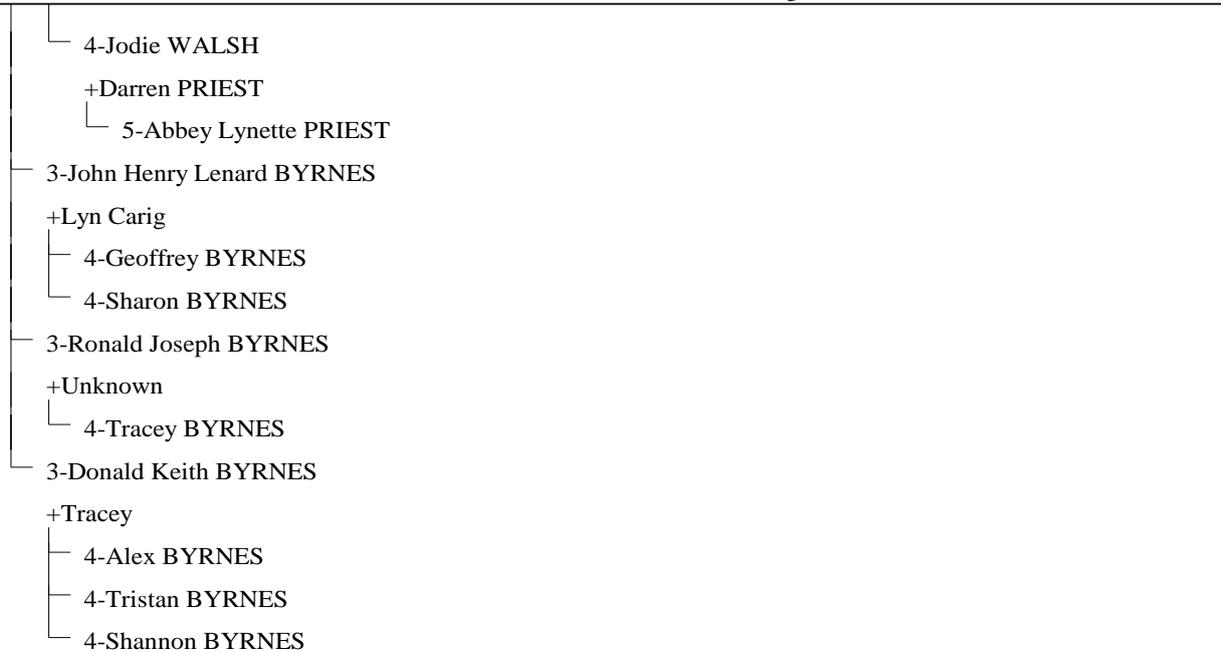
- +Robert Caswell ROBINSON (see Lynette Mina HADLEY on page 1)
  - 5-Tania Lyn ROBINSON
  - 5-Kim Sheree ROBINSON
- 4-Geoffrey Leonard HADLEY
  - +Suzanne EDWARDS
    - 5-Justin HADLEY (BROWN)
  - +Michelle Louise GHERKIN
    - 5-Caitlyn HADLEY
  - +Linda FINDLAY
    - 5-Caelan HADLEY
- 4-Peter Ronald HADLEY
  - +Gaye HOBSON
  - +Lee Diane GUSTOWSKI
    - 5-Rachael Lee HADLEY
  - +Jane EVANS
    - 5-? HADLEY
- 3-Ron HADLEY d. 7 Mar 1958, (old Bathurst Cemetery)
- 2-Clarice Myrtle BYRNES b. 28 May 1906, d. 16 Apr 1995, Kelso
  - +John LEITCH b. 25 Apr 1905 ?, d. 1975, (Bathurst Cemetery), m. 1927, Penrith, par. Donald LEITCH and Joanne
    - 3-Donald Leslie John LEITCH b. 25 Apr ?, d. 25 Aug 1984, (Bathurst Cemetery)
      - +Colleen
        - 4-Janice Margaret LEITCH
        - 4-Susan Gay LEITCH
      - +Rodney
    - 3-Daphne Myrtle LEITCH
      - +Allen Maxwell (Max) KINGSTON
- 2-Muriel Jean or Joyce BYRNES b. 1909, d. 1910
- 2-Elma A BYRNES b. 1912, d. 1914
- 2-Hilton Roy (Luke) BYRNES b. 23 Dec 1920, Castlereagh, d. 29 Jun 1988, Hilltop
  - +Sylvia SKINNER
    - 3-Joyce Lillian BYRNES
      - +Ken DUKES
        - 4-Vicki DUKES
        - 4-Colin DUKES
    - 3-Lesley Gay BYRNES
      - +Charles CAMILLERI
        - 4-David Emmanuel Paul Joseph CAMILLERI
          - +Lucy BENTLY
            - 5-Timothy CAMILLERI
            - 5-Annette Julie CAMILLERI
        - 4-Girl CAMILLERI

## Descendants of Leslie Henry BYRNES Cont.

- └ 4-Anthony CAMILLERI
- └ 3-Enid Mary BYRNES
  - +William John JACKSON b. 3 Sep 1939, Emu Plains, d. 16 Apr 1975, Penrith
    - └ 4-Joanne Gay JACKSON
      - +Geof SIMPSON
        - └ 5-Gary Robert SIMPSON
      - +BOWEN
        - └ 5-Zackary Greg Jackson BOWEN
        - └ 5-Melissa Rose Jackson BOWEN
        - └ 5-William John Jackson BOWEN
    - └ 4-Julie Ann JACKSON
      - +Danny JARVIS
        - └ 5-Benjamin Paul JARVIS
        - └ 5-Chris William JARVIS
    - +Derick ESCHBACK
      - └ 4-Scott ESCHBACK
  - └ 3-Hilton Roy (George) BYRNES
    - +Susan PAYNE
      - └ 4-Michelle BYRNES
  - └ 3-Jeanette Thelma BYRNES
    - +Kevin Munro SMOOTHY b. 3 Dec 1945, d. Aug 2002
      - └ 4-Kathy SMOOTHY
      - └ 4-Cheryl SMOOTHY
        - +Unknown
          - └ 5-Nathan
          - └ 5-Jade
          - └ 5-Phillip
          - └ 5-Matthew
          - └ 5-Sara
  - └ 3-David Frederick BYRNES b. 2 Feb 1952, d. 2 May 1952
  - └ 3-Lynette May BYRNES
    - +Raymond Edward WALSH
      - └ 4-Alison WALSH
        - +Brian MATTHES
          - └ 5-Jacalyn Renee MATTHES
          - └ 5-Brooke Maree MATTHES
          - └ 5-Jayden Edward MATTHES
      - └ 4-Linda WALSH
      - └ 4-Garry WALSH
        - +Marnie
          - └ 5-Jarlah WALSH

## Descendants of Leslie Henry BYRNES Cont.

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## Descendants of Emma Gertrude BYRNES

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**1-Emma Gertrude BYRNES b. 30 Sep 1887, d. 20 Mar 1967**

+Ernest WITCOM d. 20 Aug 1946, m. 1906, Penrith

└ 2-Alfred Jack WITCOM b. 4 Jan 1911, d. 10 Jul 1985

# Descendants of George Lovell Byrnes

---

## 1-George Lovell BYRNES b. 11 Nov 1889, d. 2 Nov 1979, nursing home Pendle Hill

+Ella Margaret Mary LACK b. , Brewarrina?, m. Mar 1920, Marrickville, d. 12 March 1972 aged 78, (Rookwood)

— 2-Ray BYRNES b. 25 Mar 1921, d. 14 Jul 1990, Koolewong

+Willa Doreen BEADMAN b. 20 Dec 1922, m. 19 Aug 1944, Penrith, d. 1 Aug 1997

— 3-Maxwell Raymond BYRNES b. 28 Jun 1945, d. 9 Oct 2001

+Marilyn

— 4-Tracey BYRNES

— 4-Scott Andrew BYRNES

— 4-Shane Robert BYRNES

— 3-Keith BYRNES

+Lucy (Inelous) HAKKER/HACKER

— 4-Matthew BYRNES

+Piri WYNYARD

— 5-Jera Lori WYNYARD-BYRNES

— 4-Glenda BYRNES

+Dion JOHNSTON

— 5-George Ray Dion JOHNSTON

— 3-Julie Hazel BYRNES

+Bill WEBBER

— 4-Rebecca Jane WEBBER

+Colin Roy CROOK

— 4-David William WEBBER

— 2-Nita BYRNES

+George WILLIAMS d. 1991, Ingham Queensland

— 3-Allen WILLIAMS

+Ellie, Elly

+2nd Wife

— 4-Melissa WILLIAMS

# Descendants of Ivy Matilda BYRNES

---

## 1-Ivy Matilda BYRNES b. 13 Aug 1892, d. 14 Jun 1969, Burwood

+Robert Ruben HINDMARSH b. 21 Jul 1888, Grahamstown, NSW, d. 20 Aug 1953, Liverpool, NSW

— 2-Ronald Robert HINDMARSH b. 8 Mar 1916, d. 14 Mar 1986, Gosford

+Sarah Jane CRUWYS

— 3-Robert Ronald HINDMARSH

+Sharon Therese CALLAGHAN

— 4-Nathan James HINDMARSH

— 4-Erin Anne HINDMARSH

— 3-Brian John HINDMARSH

+Sharon THORN

— 4-Melissa Louise HINDMARSH

+Taukolo Pacifiki TONGA

— 5-William TONGA b. 2004, d. 2004

— 5-Koloko Mateki Mateialona TONGA

+Pattie SWADDLING

— 2-Bruce Gordon HINDMARSH b. 13 May 1917, Katoomba, NSW, d. 22 Mar 1986

+Doreen BURTON b. 28 Jul 1924, d. 28 Jun 1963

— 3-Betty Dora HINDMARSH

+Alan Edward REYNOLDS

— 4-Mark Alan REYNOLDS

+Toni Michelle KRUCK

— 5-Ashleigh REYNOLDS

— 5-Shannon REYNOLDS

— 4-Matthew Alan REYNOLDS

+Unknown

— 5-Tyla Louise REYNOLDS

— 4-Peta REYNOLDS

+Jason Jay MEYERS

— 5-Madison Jay MEYERS

— 5-Jessica Jay MEYERS

— 3-Judith Anne HINDMARSH

+George Edwin COLLISON

— 4-Craig Irvine COLLISON

+Melanie

— 5-Jacob George COLLISON

— 5-Page Anne COLLISON

— 4-Lisa Doreen COLLISON

+FULTON

— 5-Tara Elizabeth COLLISON-FULTON

+HILL

— 2-Albert HINDMARSH b. 13 May 1917, d. 1917

# Descendants of Walter Stanley BYRNES

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**1-Walter Stanley BYRNES b. 26 Feb 1895, d. 19 Sep 1978, (Rookwood Crematorium)**

+Annie Ethel HAYES b. 1897, Wattle Flat, d. 10 Dec 1947, Callan Part Mental Hospital, Leichhardt, m. 1915, Penrith,  
par. Harry HAYES and Florence M FRANKS

├── 2-Alfred Henry BYRNES b. 7 Jul 1917, d. 24 Dec 1964, Blacktown

├── +Lucy Maude BUNYAN d. 4 Nov 2000, m. 1943, Parramatta

└── 2-Rita Florence BYRNES b. 1915, d. 19 Aug 2001

+Ronald Trafford ALLPASS

├── 3-Ian Trafford ALLPASS

├── +Gail Frances

├── 4-Daniel ALLPASS

└── 4-Shannon ALLPASS

# Descendants of Alfred Roy BYRNES

## 1-Alfred Roy BYRNES b. 26 Mar 1897, d. 14 Apr 1970, (Banksia Wall, Pine Grove)

+Florence May MILLER d. 1968, Reg at Bathurst, m. 20 Jan 1918, Marrickville, par. William MILLER and Agnes

— 2-Harold G BYRNES b. 1 Aug 1922, (Methodist Castlereagh), d. 5 Dec 1923, (Penrith Cemetry)

— 2-Reginald Alfred BYRNES b. 17 Aug 1918, Lambridge, Castlereagh, d. 10 Feb 1979, (C of E Penrith General Cemetery)

+Stella May BALDOCK d. 1 Sep 1965, m. 1941, par. Unknown and Unknown

— 3-Eric Gordon BYRNES

+Betty Ann REYNOLDS

— 4-Craig BYRNES

— 4-Jeffrey BYRNES

— 4-Kim BYRNES

— 3-Robert BYRNES

+Lorraine CAUGHLAN

— 4-Rachael May BYRNES

+Craig BUSBY

— 5-Olivia Jayne BUSBY

— 5-Lara Jay BUSBY

— 4-Deen John BYRNES

— 4-Reanne Leigh BYRNES

— 3-June Elizabeth BYRNES

+Eric TAYLOR

— 3-Douglas John BYRNES

+Vicki

— 4-( 4 Children)

— 2-Betty Jean BYRNES

+Robert Leslie GEORGE

— 2-Thelma May BYRNES

+Edward Charles FITZPATRICK b. 25 Mar 1914, d. 1985, m. 31 Oct 1948

— 3-Cheryl Gaye FITZPATRICK

+Ronald Frederick Arthur LAVETT

— 4-Darlene Lisa LAVETT

+Lee Alexander PALFREY

— 4-Tanya Beckwith LAVETT

+Lindon Frank SMALLWOOD

— 4-Dean Ronald Frederick Edward LAVETT

— 4-Lana Cheryl May LAVETT

— 3-Edward Stanley FITZPATRICK

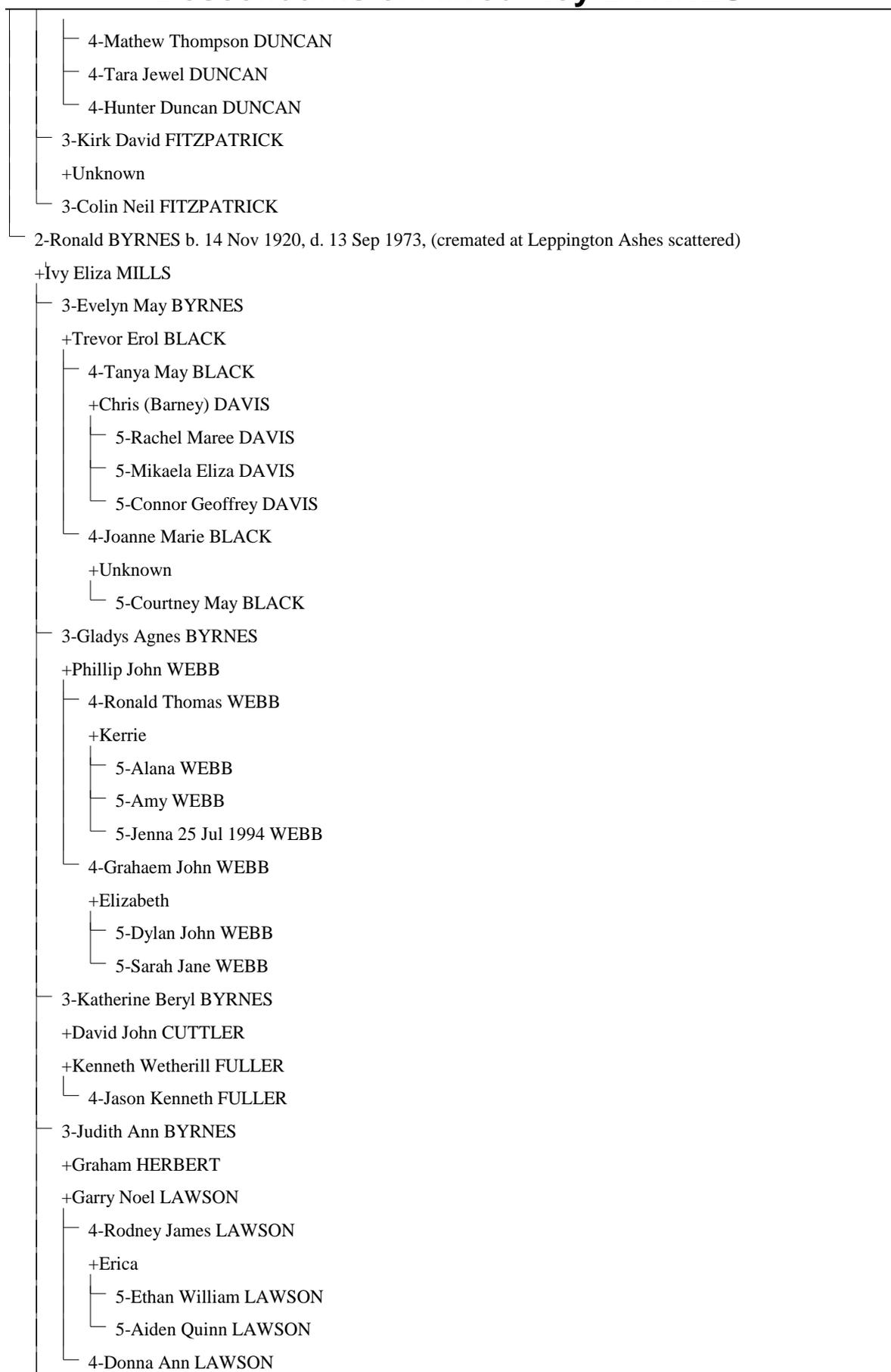
+Unknown

— 3-Gloria Jayne FITZPATRICK

+Wayne HERON

+Keith DUNCAN

## Descendants of Alfred Roy BYRNES Cont.



# Descendants of Alfred Roy BYRNES

Cont.

---

+Mark (see Donna Ann LAWSON on page 2)

— 5-Chantelle Louise

— 5-Teghan Eliza

3-Constance Dorothy BYRNES

+James Thomas SELBY

— 4-James Ronald SELBY

— 4-David James SELBY

— 4-Melinda Raye SELBY

# Descendants of Constance Victoria BYRNES

---

## 1-Constance Victoria BYRNES b. 26 Mar 1897, Cranebrook, d. 12 May 1985, Westmead

+Frederick Christian HAMILTON b. 14 Dec 1894, d. 29 Nov 1969, (Rookwood Crematorium), m. 20 Nov 1919,  
Darlinghurst NSW, par. Christian Henri AHMELMANN and Eliza Jane HAIR

— 2-Jean Victoria HAMILTON

+Jeffrey Murray WALKER

— 3-Jeffrey Murray WALKER

+Moyra Anne

— 4-Adam WALKER

— 4-Ben WALKER

+Unknown

— 5-Daughter WALKER

— 4-Sean WALKER

— 3-Warren WALKER

+Sharron Rae

— 4-Blake WALKER

— 4-Emma WALKER

— 3-Ross Charles WALKER

+Gail Ann

— 4-Bree WALKER

— 4-Scott WALKER

— 3-Grant Harrold WALKER

+May

— 4-Belinda WALKER

— 4-Bradley WALKER

— 2-Frederick Keith HAMILTON

+Betty BOTTLE

— 3-Joan HAMILTON

+HAMMANT

— 4-Trevor HAMMANT

— 4-Kerry HAMMANT

— 4-Colin HAMMANT

— 4-Leanne HAMMANT

— 3-Jean HAMILTON

— 3-Lynn HAMILTON

+John MELLORS

— 4-Tara MELLORS

— 4-Tanya MELLORS

+Stuart LIGERTWOOD

— 5-Brenton LIGERTWOOD

— 5-Brianna LIGERTWOOD

— 5-Regan LIGERTWOOD

## Descendants of Constance Victoria BYRNES Cont.

---

- 4-Sonya MELLORS
  - +Robert BRENNAN
    - 5-Riley BRENNAN
- 4-Samantha MELLORS
- 4-Krystal MELLORS
- +Thelma June BYRNES , par. Francis Bruce BYRNES and Sarah GREEN (see Frederick Keith HAMILTON on previous page)
  - 3-Rodney HAMILTON

## Descendants of Francis Bruce BYRNES

---

### 1-Francis Bruce BYRNES b. 17 Feb 1900, d. 4 Jul 1967, Belmore

- +Sarah GREEN d. 6 Feb 1965, (Woronora Cemetery), m. 27 Jan 1923, Sutherland, par. Unknown and Unknown
  - 2-Roy BYRNES b. 8 Jun 1924, d. 1924
  - 2-Thelma June BYRNES
    - +Frederick Keith HAMILTON , par. Frederick Christian HAMILTON and Constance Victoria BYRNES
      - 3-Rodney HAMILTON
    - +Victor Sydney BROWN
      - 3-Cheryll BROWN
        - +Morris GARLAND
  - 2-Pamela May BYRNES
    - +Colin WELSH
    - +WILLIAMS
      - 3-Sharon WILLIAMS
        - +Steve MYERS
        - +Ray RICHARDS
          - 4-Cassandra RICHARDS
  - +Fred HOWARD

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