

PARRAMATTA FEMALE FACTORY FRIENDS INC.
NEWSLETTER – ISSUE NO:10 AUG - SEPT 2016
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 PFFF website/online petition: parramattafemalefactoryfriends.com.au
 History: parramattafemalefactories.wordpress.com
<https://www.facebook.com/parrafactory/>



The Parramatta Female Factory - Augustus Earle 1826 – courtesy NLA

President: June Bullivant OAM **Vice President:** Judith Dunn OAM
Treasurer/Public Officer: Kerima-Gae Topp
Secretary: Alice Kershaw
Committee: History Project Anne Mathews Beth Matthews
Pub/Newsletter: Ronda Gaffey

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THE PFFF CALENDAR FOR 2016 – SEE PAGE 2
NEXT GENERAL MEETING - FRIDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER
GUEST SPEAKER AT 1:30PM GENERAL MEETING AT 2:00PM AT
THE COACH HOUSE, HAMBLEDON COTTAGE, HASSALL STREET,
PARRAMATTA.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear Members

Welcome to a new year, and the 2016-17 Committee, who were elected at the AGM on 15th July 2016.



I would like to thank Gay Hendriksen for her dedication to the "Friends" both as a founding member but also for the amount of hours she has dedicated from her personal life since the formation of the organisation five years ago. Thank you to all the committee members who have served along with Gay to produce a forward looking, vibrant and well known group who are passionate about their history. The new Committee, made up of very experienced and long term members of the "Friends", will build on the work that was commenced all those years ago; it is as follows: President June Bullivant OAM, Vice President Judith Dunn OAM, Secretary Alice Kershaw, Treasurer/Public Officer Kerima-Gae Topp, Committee members: Beth Matthews, Anne Mathews and Ronda Gaffey.

We would like to thank Brian Powyer (President P&DHS) for well conducted elections. His job was particularly difficult due to the fact that the PFFF Constitution lodged with the Department of Fair Trading in 2012 restricted the number of elected committee members to four office-bearers; President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and three ordinary committee members. Gay, Judith Dunn and Ronda Gaffey were working on updating the constitution but amendments had not been finished and put to members to lodge to the Department of Fair Trading.

This does not stop sub - committees being formed; the chairman of those committees may attend meetings and report however, they are unable to vote. There are a number of members who have indicated they would like to work on these committees, which will be ratified and announced a little later.

My vision is and always has been the history of Parramatta; since 1988 I have been involved in trying to save the important and precious convict buildings of the area. When my husband Barry and I formed the Granville Historical Society in that year, the motivation was to support groups and communities who were protecting their area for the people who lived there.

From 1990 we were working with people like Dr Carol Liston, Terry Kass, Judith Dunn OAM and John McClymont and many more professional historians, fighting to save the "Parramatta Female Orphan School" now the Whitlam Centre and University of Western Sydney Campus, which was a large learning curve and a moving experience – to learn from the Pioneers of Parramatta History was unbelievable.

The Granville Historical Society has always supported the Parramatta Female Factory Friends and this year received a grant from Parramatta City Council, funding Granville school children to tour the factory site. This will involve new arrivals to Australia and is designed to give them a sense of place. Students will be provided with show bags as a memento of the day, thus promoting the site to a generation of young people.

The Committee meets soon and will be planning for "Riot Day" in October. Gay Hendriksen has very kindly offered to continue with the organisation and hosting of the speakers. Gay has also offered to continue with advocacy and collection of our National and World Heritage Listing Petitions- the committee appreciates the offer of her continuity of service and support for "Riot Day" which is such an important event.

Our future focus includes PFFF governance and code of conduct; our goal will be to continue working with people who can support us in our advocacy, our vision and charter. This includes a meeting with our MOU partners to discuss the best way forward.

Wishing all members well and I look forward to hearing from you - if you have any information or concerns, please feel free to contact the Committee.

June M. Bullivant OAM
President

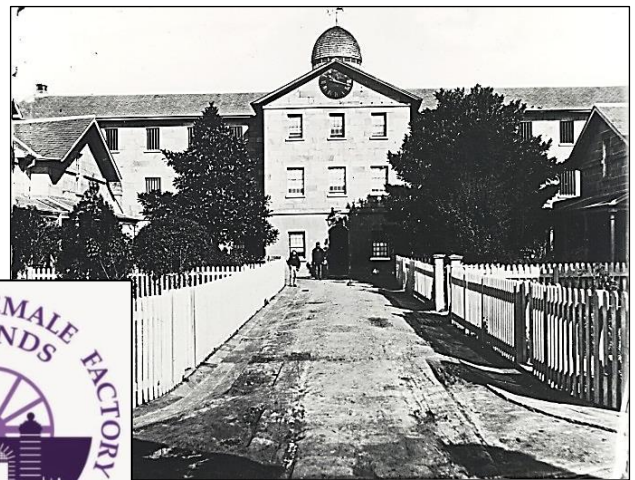
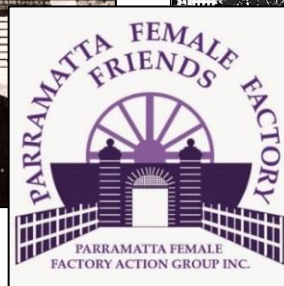
NOTICEBOARD- IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - 2016

- **MEETINGS** – guest speaker at 1:30pm and **General Meeting** at 2:00pm –
When: the 3rd Friday of every **second** month **Venue:** Coach House, Hambledon Cottage.
Meetings for 2016: Friday: 16th September, 18th November, 16th December 2016
Guest Speaker for September is Dr Terry Smith – local historian and factory woman’s descendant
- **NSW&ACT FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETIES INC - STATE CONFERENCE 2016, AT CAMDEN - 9TH- 11TH SEPTEMBER 2016** – see page 10 for details
- **‘IT’S A RIOT!’ A SPECIAL EVENT PLANNED FOR FRIDAY OCTOBER 28TH 2016**
- **MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS DUE JULY 1ST** – if overlooked, please forward your membership fee \$10 to The Treasurer, PFFF PO Box 1358, Parramatta 2124 or EFT BSB: 633 000 ACC: 151 276 763 - please add your name to the EFT transaction. Cheques made payable to the Parramatta Female Factory Friends Inc. Thank you.

HISTORY CORNER – THE PFFF LOGO



The Entrance to the Parramatta Female Factory (above)
photos: courtesy Society of Australian Genealogists



The Hospital (left) Matron’s Quarters (right)

The PFFF logo comprises various elements from both these photos (c1870s). They include the arch and stone columns of the entrance gate with a spinning wheel placed above which represents the women’s work at the factory; the 19thC picket fences which ‘framed’ the Matron’s Quarters and the Hospital, have also been included. The PFFF logo was designed by Amiel Dizon and is very distinctive, recognisable and says it all!

WHY PURPLE?

Have you ever wondered why you see the colour purple on our logo, brochures, Petition clipboards and pens and so many members and guides wearing purple t-shirts, purple skirts, scarves or even brooches?

Purple is a colour associated with *nurturing, calming the mind, uplifting spirits and feminine energy* and certainly, by all accounts, ‘our girls’ appear to have loads of the latter! It was adopted by the Friends mainly because the colour was intended to make a statement about the organisation and about the factory women.

Purple and green were colours adopted by the Suffragettes in their struggle for female suffrage (just as the PFFF struggle has been for recognition of the women, their place in history and for the factory site). It was the colour featured in suffragette jewellery with the amethyst being the symbolic gemstone as well as peridot.

From notes provided by Anne Mathews

“OUR GIRLS” PROFILES BY BETH MATTHEWS AND ANNE MATHEWS CHARLOTTE BADGER – A FIRST FACTORY WOMAN & PIRATE!

Charlotte Badger was convicted at the Worcester Assizes on 9th July 1796 for theft and house breaking and sentenced to seven years transportation. Charlotte spent time in gaol before embarking the ship, ‘*Earl Cornwallis*’ which arrived in Port Jackson on 10th June 1801.

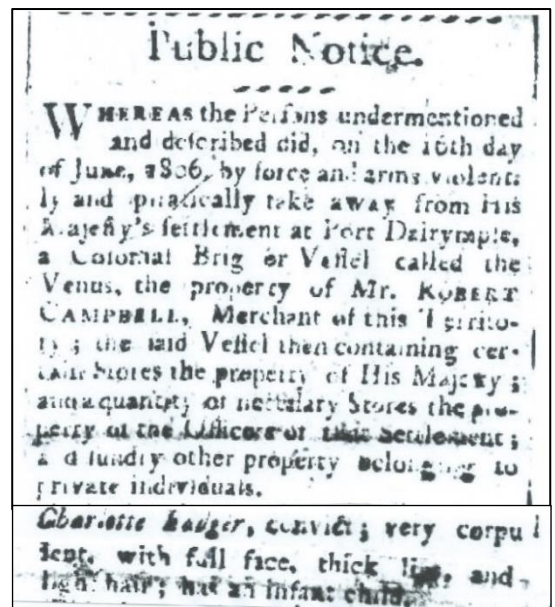
Charlotte spent the next five years in the first Parramatta Female Factory (above the gaol) where she gave birth to a daughter Anny. Whilst in the factory, she became friends with Catherine Hagarty and in April 1806 they were assigned to a settler in Hobart and along with a group of male convicts, set sail on the ‘*Venus*’ (a ship owned by the Sydney merchant Robert Campbell). At some stage during the voyage the women were put ashore at Twofold Bay and left for 15 days. When the ship returned, the women were locked below decks. Captain Chase ordered Charlotte and another convict woman to be whipped for “causing trouble”. No one would carry out the punishment so Chase did it himself accusing the men of mutiny. The ship arrived in Port Dalrymple, Tasmania on 16th June 1806.

On the voyage to Hobart, Charlotte and Catherine had become very friendly with first mate Benjamin Kelly and John Lancashire, a fellow convict. Whilst Captain Chase was ashore delivering his despatches, Charlotte, Catherine, Benjamin and John seized the ship. Although none were able to sail, it was reported they reached the Bay of Islands in New Zealand. Charlotte and Catherine were put ashore with enough supplies to get settled. The two men continued with their piracy but were eventually captured by Maori and killed. Catherine became ill and died in April 1807.

What happened to Charlotte and her daughter was a mystery although there was much speculation. In 1826 a Captain of a vessel arriving in Sydney had reported “*a large English lady with child*” fluent in Maori and Tongan, being in Tonga eight years earlier in 1816. Could this have been Charlotte? In the “*Public Notice*” of her escape reported in the Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser - Sunday 20th July 1806, was described thus: “*Charlotte Badger, convict, very corpulent, with full face, thick lips and light hair, had an infant child*”.



Bay of Islands c1800s: source unknown



Sydney Gazette & NSW Advertiser 20 July 1806

Sources: “*Our Girls*”, unpublished work by Beth Matthews and Anne Mathews;
Women Transported – Life in Australia’s Convict Female Factories by Carol Liston, Gay Hendriksen and Trudy Cowley

PFFF BOOK LAUNCH – FRIDAY JULY 15TH 2016



Following the AGM, *Brian Powyer* (President Parramatta & District Historical Society and *Enid Turbit* (Vice President and Family History Group Convenor – P&DHS) launched our new publication “*HerStory-Lives of the Parramatta Female Factory Women*” which accompanies the current “*HerStory*” Exhibition which the Society has kindly extended to the end of October 2016.

Certificates of Appreciation were presented to our hosts the P&DHS, the Parramatta Leagues Club whose community grant funded publication of the book and, the Hambleton Cottage Guides for their great support with the Exhibition.

Thank you to everyone for making the afternoon such a success and a special thanks to the PFFF Committee catering team and member Kaye Weaver!

Books will be available for purchase at all PFFF events - cost \$15.

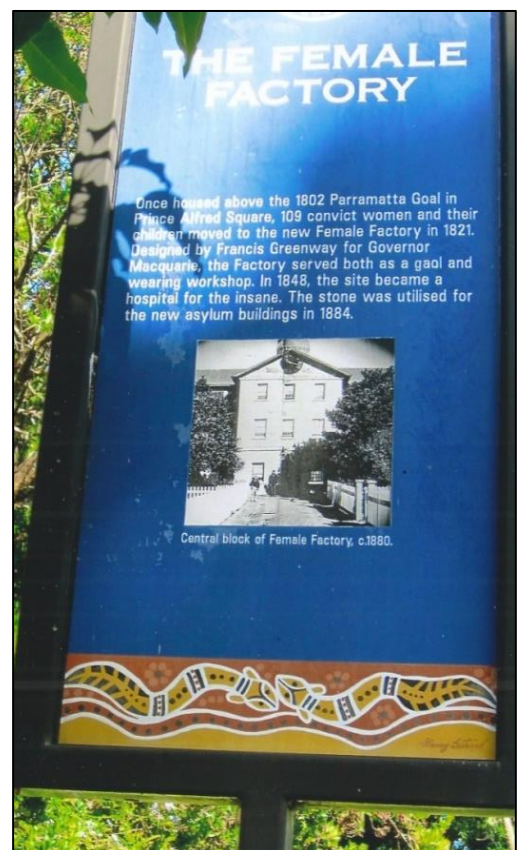
Photos: Trevor Patrick

HIDDEN AWAY IN THE FOLIAGE!



Photos: Beth Matthews

On one of her recent visits to the factory site, Beth Matthews, spied signage which appears to have been hidden from view by vines and over-hanging tree branches for some time. While the sign is not exactly at the site entrance, it is great to see.



THE FEMALE ORPHAN SCHOOL - A BRIEF HISTORY

from notes by Judith Dunn

Many Parramatta Female Factory women were separated from their children shortly after arrival in the colony, when placed on assignment or, when the child was three years of age. In many cases the women were reunited with their children on marriage, a few never, perhaps – the place of the Female Orphan School in the women's narrative is a very poignant and significant one.

In 1803 there was a female orphan school near what is now, Circular Quay Sydney, but its proximity to large numbers of convicts and sailors deemed it an unsuitable site. A new orphan school was proposed "in a remote place" which was just outside the boundary stones of Parramatta with Hannibal Hawkins Macarthur's farm on one side, John Palmer (who also owned Woolloomooloo) on the other and Marsden's land behind. Situated on the Parramatta River, it had its own wharf and boatshed for easy transport to either Sydney or Parramatta. Paintings by Joseph Lycett (1) and Augustus Earle show an imposing Palladian style building situated on high ground above the river.

(1)

The institution was instigated by Governor Lachlan Macquarie with the building reputedly modelled on Elizabeth Macquarie's childhood home in Airds, Scotland. The Reverend Samuel Marsden was in charge of the building phase and is reputed to have allowed no convicts to work on its construction which took five years.



Construction proved a challenge - it was the first three storey brick building in the colony and Marsden was stranded in New Zealand during the building phase. The building was begun in 1813 and it opened with 100 girls in 1818.

The institution was first known as the Female Orphan Institution and became the model orphanage for the colony, supported by a large portion of the colony's taxes. The children came from all sections of colonial society and included children of convicts, single parents who could not cope, children orphaned on the voyage out, aboriginal children and those referred by the clergy of the colony. Children were sent from as far away as Queensland and even India to be cared for at this model orphan school. Children of convict women in the Female Factory were sent there for two reasons. It was thought the bad behaviour of the women would rub off on their children and the mothers would be distracted from their work if they were also looking after their offspring.

Forward thinking from its establishment, the children received lessons in reading and writing as well as traditional female work which included weaving, plain sewing, cooking, laundry, and all other domestic work. Rev. Marsden described the syllabus as being suitable for a boarding school for young ladies when what was needed in the colony, was a house of industry.

Girls were accepted from the ages of 2 to 12 after which jobs would be found for them. Children in the school, above the age of 12 were more likely to be working as junior nursery maids and cooks etc. Some lucky factory women were assigned to work at the orphanage where their children had been placed. There are also recorded instances of well-behaved convict women being allowed to visit their children.



(2)

The daily routine at the School was rigorously laid down with the girls rising at 5:30am in summer and 6:30am in winter. By 7:30 the girls had completed their morning wash and tidied their rooms before morning prayers. School began at 9:00am with a break for lunch and a return to lessons at 2:00pm. On Sundays the girls were taken by boat to church in Parramatta.

The girls were well cared for under the supervision of staff which included a Matron, a cook and laundress. The diet was thought to be excellent with baked meat four days a week and soup on the other days with baked bread on five days each week. The girls were fed, housed, clothed, trained and taught which was a great advancement for colonial children.



(3)

One of the Matrons, Mrs Martha Betts (3) was the youngest daughter of the Rev. Samuel Marsden and in 1850 she was in charge when the boys were transferred from the Male Orphan School at Bonnyrigg. At the time her husband Josiah Betts was Master, clerk and storekeeper. Martha and Josiah were Matron and Master until Josiah's death in 1863 after which Martha continued as Matron with her son Edward as Master.

When the school at Bonnyrigg was closed and the two orphanages combined (with sexes segregated) the name of the institution was changed to The Protestant Orphan School. By 1887, the focus on caring for children changed to the fostering out system and the orphanage closed, re-opening as Rydalmere Hospital for the Insane. It closed in the 1980s.



The site was left derelict and scheduled for demolition however, restoration eventually began in 2000; this was done in three stages. The Western Sydney University took partial possession in 2003 and the total restoration was completed in 2013. (4)

The Governor General, the Honourable Quentin Bryce AC officially opened the Female Orphan School building 24th September 2013, 200 years to the day since the building's foundation stone was laid by Governor Lachlan Macquarie. It is now home to the Whitlam Institute, the Whitlam Prime Ministerial Collection and the Margaret Whitlam Galleries.



The Whitlam Institute UWS today

source: <https://www.whitlam.org>

Sources: Notes by Judith Dunn; *The Female Orphan Institution 1814 Rydalmere Hospital 1986 Rydalmere Hospital Parents and Friends Association* – written by April J Coleman; Female Orphan School website, https://www.whitlam.org/about_us2/the_female_orphan_school_precinct

(2) Photo: The School House c1870: The Govt Printing Office; (3) Image: Martha Betts: sketch from *Marsden and Missions* by E. Ramsden – published by Angus & Robertson; (4) Photo: The Protestant Orphan School c1880: NSW Govt. Printing Office

| No. | NAME. | Age | When Admitted. | Time of Quitting the School. | Parents Name. | Residence. | Remarks. |
|-----|--------------------|----------|----------------|------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|--|
| 85 | Elizabeth Senior | 3 | Aug 1825 | | Father gone | | Bye-bone |
| 86 | Sarah Macarthur | 1 | Jan 25 | | Father gone | | |
| 87 | Elizabeth Morrison | 5 | Sept 11 | | | | |
| 88 | Catherine Hedley | 3 | | | | Home Factory | and Paul's Ferry, Burdett's Penitentiary |
| 89 | Ann Richards | 2 | | | has father | Mother in Factory | |
| 90 | Ann Hill | | | | | | |
| 91 | Ann Jane Thomas | 2.3 | | | | | App'd to the School 1 Jan 1830 |
| 92 | Catherine Conley | 2.3 | | | | | dead |
| 93 | Elizabeth Christie | 9 | | | Mother | | App'd sent to 10 April |
| 94 | Ann Richardson | 2.2 | | | | | |
| 95 | Jane Croft | 1 | | 23 | | | Apprenticed to the Institution 1830 Jan 1 |
| 96 | Jane Croft | 7 | | 33 | | | Apprenticed to the Institution 1830 Jan 1 |
| 97 | Ann Macarthur | 4 | Jan 3 1825 | | | | Apprenticed to the Institution 1830 Jan 1 |
| 98 | Ann Macarthur | 3 | Jan 3 1825 | | | | Returned to her Mother |
| 99 | Mary Ann | 2 | | | | | Bye-bone |
| 100 | Mary Ann | 9 | Sept 14 | | | | Dismissed by the Parents |
| 101 | Ellice Thomas | | Jan 20 | | has father | | |
| 102 | Mary Ann | | Jan 20 | | | | dead |
| 103 | Bridget Birnie | 9 | Jan 20 1825 | | | | Apprenticed |
| 104 | Ann Butler | 6 | Jan 20 | | | | |
| 105 | Ann Macarthur | 4 | Jan 20 1825 | | has father | | Apprenticed to the Institution 1830 Jan 1 |
| 106 | Mary Neil | | Jan 20 1825 | | | | Dismissed by the Parents 1827 Burdett's Penitentiary |
| 107 | Mary Ann Nelson | | Jan 20 | | Mother | | Returned to her Mother |
| 108 | Harriet McGee | 4 months | Jan 20 1825 | | Father & Mother | | Returned to her Mother |
| 109 | Anna Smith | 3 | Jan 20 | | Mother | | |
| 110 | Sarah Williams | 8 | Jan 20 | | dead & also Williams | | Bye-bone |
| 111 | Ellen Susan | 2 | July 10 | | has mother | Lydney | Confession |
| 112 | Jane Hann | 5 | July 30 | | has father | Parramatta | Parents in distress |

Recently Beth Matthews 'revisited' the Female Orphan Institution records at the NSW State Archives and has shared some of her 'finds'. The entries reveal so much more of the Parramatta female factory women's narrative and the history of colonial, institutional care of children.

Above is one of the pages of countless entries for the year 1826. It shows the child's name, their age, time of quitting the school, parent's name/s, their residence and remarks. It is interesting to note the entry for children of factory women (entries 4th and 5th from the top), the reference to parent as "father gone" (indicating a child abandoned possibly), children deceased (noted under remarks as "dead"). There are also entries which show girls who have been apprenticed either to work at the Orphan School or assigned/apprenticed privately as well as a record of children returned to their mother or father.

In the following extract for the year 1828 there are five entries for children of factory women. It is interesting to note the ages of the children listed and in one listing, a number of children from the same family (e.g. the Field children aged 6 months, 4 years and 7 years). Another interesting entry is the assignment of Anne Liddy aged 12 to Macarthur Esq – possibly Hannibal Macarthur of Vineyard House which was situated close by.

| NAME. | Age | When Admitted. | Time of Quitting the School. | Parents' Name. | Residence. | Remarks. |
|--|----------|------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|---|
| <i>Errol</i> M ^{rs} W ^m Ellen | 5-6 | 1828 March 14 | | Geo. Nelson, Ellen Blackmore | | Mother Geo. Blackmore |
| Sperry Mary | 6-7 | April 22 | | Math. L. Lang, George | | 1838 |
| Howell Mary | 10 | June 12 | | Sam ^l & Bridget Howell | Factory | Ch. of the Convicts |
| Othman Ploja | 7 | " 18 | | Charles Ann Othman | Greenwich House | did July 29 th 1828 of Newing Co |
| Othman Joseph | 4 | " 18 | | " " " | " | " |
| Othman Charles | 2 | " 18 | | " " " | " | " |
| Nelson Mary | 11 | " 20 | 1828 | Geo. David Nelson | Sydney | did Aug 2 nd 1828 of Newing Co Slaughter in Convict Opposite Bank Lane |
| McIntosh Maryanne | 7 | " 31 | | Charles Mary Mcintosh | " | 1838 |
| McIntosh Mary | 3-4 | " 30 | Aug 19 th 1828 | Mother | Factory | did Aug 19 th 1828 of Newing Co |
| Fanning Bath | 3 | " 24 | | Phyl. Fanning W. Mcintosh | " | " |
| Bratt Sarah | 5 | " 24 | | Sam. Bratt & Ann | Factory | " |
| Wells Esther | 1 | July 14 | | William & Rebecca Wells | " | " |
| Ford Mary Ann | 5 | July 12 | | Phyl. M. Ford & Ann Hall | " | " |
| Winter Elizabeth | 8 | Aug 3 | | James & Phyl. Winter | " | " |
| Winter Anna | 6 | Aug 3 | | " " " | " | " |
| McCarthy Violet | 10 | Sept 15 | | Walter & Ann McCarthy | " | " |
| Macnamara Sarah | 8 | 1825 Jan 12 | 1828 | " | " | " |
| McGinn Catharine | 8 | " | " | " | " | to her mother at Sydney |
| Mary Ann | 3 | 1828 Sept 29 | | " | " | " |
| Reade Margaret | 5 | July 1828 | | Phyl. & Ann Reade | " | Ch. of Convicts |
| Liddy Ann | 10 | Sept 21 1828 | Oct 1 1828 | " | " | inmate to 1828 |
| Field Mary Ann | 7 | Sept 27 | | Patrick and Maria Field | Field of Mars | to 4 th of the East |
| Field Susannah | 4 | Sept 27 | | " " " | " | " |
| Field Jane | 6 months | Oct 18 | | " " " | " | " |
| Foy Ann | 6 | Oct 2 | | Patrick and Phyllis Foy | " | " |
| Foy Jane | 4 | Oct 2 | | " " " | Sydney | " |
| McCarthy Frances | 5 | Oct 12 | | " | " | " |
| McCarthy John | 2 months | Oct 12 | | " | Factory | " |

The entry of a child, Mary Howell aged 10, 12th June 1828 (3rd from the top of the page), daughter of Sam (Samuel) and Bridget Howell is perhaps typical of a situation faced by a family. Bridget Howell (per Alexander 1822) had been charged with receiving stolen goods ("a quantity of bran") at the Sydney Quarter Sessions in April 1828 and sent to the Factory. In the 1828 Census, another child Samuel, aged 8 years of age is a "lodger" living in the care of Andrew Gillies (aka Gallice) in Hunter Street Sydney (2). At the time, Mary's father, Samuel Howell was 63 years old and listed as a blacksmith working for his daughter Maria's husband, Wm Bruce and living in Pitt Street Sydney (3). It is possible that when Bridget entered the factory, Samuel and Bridget had separated and Bridget was in a relationship with Andrew Gillies because later, when she left the factory, Bridget lived with Andrew who had cared for young Samuel earlier.

There is a petition from Bridget requesting the return of her daughter Mary (27th March 1832) which was later granted. At the time, Bridget was living with Andrew Gallice and running a shop in Sydney.(4)

Sources:
(1) The Admission Books - The Female Orphan School 1817 -1832: SRNSW
(2) Roots Web AUS-PT-JACKSON-CONVICTS-L [PJ] Convicts Update- Samuel HOWELL
(3) 1828 Census: SRNSW
(4) <https://roots-boots.net/bilton/howell.html>

BACK PAGE -

- Another date for your diary! **History Week** is from **September 3rd to 11th** – check your local Library or Historical Society websites – there is a lot happening for history and family history buffs. Check out the NSW History Council website: <http://www.historycouncilnsw.org.au> which has some tantalising events!
- A reminder: If you have a factory ancestor and would like to share 'herstory', or would like to submit a female factory related article, please send your contributions to the PFFF gmail address – attention Ronda G - PFFF Newsletter.
- We hope to see many of you at the **NSW & ACT FHS Camden Conference** – if you come, don't forget to visit the PFFF table. There will be sales, familiar faces and much more!



Come join us in Camden
Learn about your heritage in the place we like to call home

Camden Civic Centre

9th, 10th and 11th September 2016

NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies State Conference hosted by
Camden and Picton Family History Societies

- FREE access to public on Friday – come and learn how to trace your family tree and speak to the experts.
- Conference on Saturday and Sunday
- Wide Variety of speakers
- Explore the world of genealogy
- Family history products for sale

For more information on the
2016 Conference – Cowpastures and Beyond
Web Site: cowpasturesandbeyond.org.au
Email: nswact2016conference@gmail.com



Wivenhoe House



St. John's Church



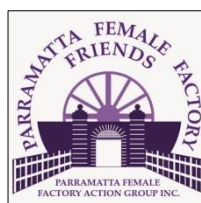
Studley Park House



St. Thomas Church



NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies Inc
2016 State Conference
Hosted by
Camden Area Family History Society Inc
Picton & District Historical & Family History Society Inc.



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