



**PARRAMATTA FEMALE FACTORY FRIENDS INC.
NEWSLETTER – ISSUE NO: 40 July-August 2021**



Contact: parramattafemalefactoryfriends@gmail.com or PO Box 1358 Parramatta 2124
 PFFF website: parramattafemalefactoryfriends.com.au
 History: parramattafemalefactories.wordpress.com
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pffriends/>
 Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/parramattafemalefactoryfriends/>



The Parramatta Female Factory - Augustus Earle 1826 – nla.pic-an 2818460 National Library of Australia (NLA)

Patrons: Meg Keneally & Thomas Michael Keneally AO
President: Gay Hendriksen **Vice President:** Frank Williams
Treasurer/Public Officer: Kerima-Gae Topp **General Secretary/Editor:** Ronda Gaffey
Committee: Minutes Secretary: Lynette Watkins, Membership Secretary: Cate Whittaker, Anne Mathews, Stephen Bryant, Janice Ruse Huntington, Judith Dunn OAM

Next Meeting: Friday 20 August AGM at 1.00pm.
VENUE: Parramatta Female Factory Friends' Rooms, Gipps Yard, 5 Fleet Street, North Parramatta.

Content	Page
President.....	2
Noticeboard.....	3
History Corner.....	3
'Our Girls'.....	4
Research Muster.....	7
Serendipity.....	10

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Factory Friends,

Welcome to your Winter edition of the Newsletter. Firstly, I hope you are all keeping well with the current COVID-19 spread and lockdown. For the Friends this has meant no recent visits or tours. We will also advise you regarding the AGM. If it is onsite, then the COVID parameters apply, as they have done.



With our advocacy at the moment, it has been taking the form of letters and response requests regarding World Heritage, NSW Budget Bids and news regarding our home. All of this is at a time of 'treading water'. We are waiting on responses and following up.

If you did visit before lockdown, you will have noticed the north range is currently behind fencing while it is being conserved. This has included removing newer 20th century additions and making the northern range habitable. We have been advised this fencing will remain at least until the end of the year. You may also have noticed the gate way between the Gipps Yard and Roman Catholic Orphanage/Girls Industrial School is completed.

It is with sadness we share the fact that one of our founding members Kerry Martin died. She made a great contribution to the Friends as an advocate, secretary, treasurer and active member of the Friends from inception until her health prevented her. Her support, especially in the early years will be remembered.

Change is also occurring with our Committee. One of our long time Committee members, Steve Bryant will be standing down. A great vote of thanks goes to Steve for doing an amazing job as Tour Coordinator for a number of years now. His practical support at all our events has been invaluable. Thankfully, he assures us he will still be helping out at our events and where he can.

On a positive note we are hopeful that things will be more settled by October and we will be able to celebrate our Riot Day. This year it is planned for Friday the 29th. More information will be coming soon.

Prior to lockdown, we have been receiving more walk-up visitors who discover us as they walk around the site. This has included history lovers, descendants of the factory women and descendants of staff as well as one of the colony's early doctors, Dr William Redfern. Steadily the word is getting out.

Finally, thank you to all the outgoing Committee for all your wonderful support this year. They have worked hard on a range of things from tours to research, education to events, helping steer the PFFF on a sure footing.

The nominees for the incoming 2021-2022 PFFF Committee are: President Gay Hendriksen, Vice President Frank Williams, Treasurer Kerima-Gae Topp, General Secretary Ronda Gaffey, Committee members: Minutes Secretary Lyn Watkins, Membership Secretary Cate Whittaker, Anne Mathews, Judith Dunn OAM and Kevin Dodds. A ballot will not be required since there are nominees for all available positions.

I look forward to being able to catch up with you all at our AGM, life and COVID limitations permitting.

All the best
Gay Hendriksen
President



VALE - Kerry Martin

It was with great sadness that the Friends heard of Kerry's passing last month in Queensland. She was truly passionate about Parramatta history and the Factory. Kerry was always helpful and her good cheer and friendship will be greatly missed.

NOTICEBOARD

*** NEXT MEETING: FRIDAY 20 AUGUST AGM 1:00pm. This will be followed by a General Meeting and afternoon tea.**
Venue: The Parramatta Female Factory Friends' Rooms, Gipps Yard, 5 Fleet Street North Parramatta. Please note, PFFF is registered COVID-19 safe.

*** FINAL REMINDER:** Annual fees are due July 1st each year. Payment by direct deposit: BSB: 633 000 Account: 151 276 763 - please ensure your name is on the EFT or payment by cheque to Parramatta Female Factory Friends Inc. P.O Box 1358, Parramatta 2124.



A WORD FROM THE TREASURER - Kerima-Gae Topp

Unless you attend our General Meetings, you probably only hear from me when membership renewals are due. Thank you to all those members who have renewed, and a 'big' thank you for including your names on your bank transfers. If you haven't renewed yet, please consider doing so as it is important for us to have strong membership numbers for our advocacy and in sharing our passion for the Factory site and the women's stories.

GUEST SPEAKER - PFFF JUNE MEETING

Members and visitors attending the June meeting were given a rare opportunity to experience a first-hand account of the archaeological excavations on the site - most recently, the Third Class Penitentiary yard. It was here that Factory workshops once stood (Fig.1).

Rhian Jones, Senior Archaeologist at Casey & Lowe, delivered an excellent visual presentation covering both the 2018 and 2021 digs. Many questions were asked, and even some of those with a good knowledge of the site, were surprised to learn new information. To this day, new and exciting artefacts from different eras are being discovered.

Dr. Mary Casey was unable to attend due to illness but Rhian did her proud with her vast knowledge and professionalism, and was gifted with the CD commissioned by the PFFF, *Mothers of the Nation*. The songs echo the emotions of the Factory women whose lives, Mary, Rhian and the team are teasing out. Rhian listened to the CD all the way back to the office apparently!

Thank you Rhian for such an excellent and informative talk.

Janice Ruse Huntington & Lyn Watkins
Speaker Program Convenors

HISTORY CORNER...

Back to the old! Recent work at the Female Factory site - the demolition of 20th C 'add ons' to Asylum period Liberty Vernon building which is just behind the end of the Greenway Hospital (on far right).

The buildings shown here are on the Factory footprint (c1821-1848).



Rhian Jones (right) with Lyn Watkins (middle) and Janice Ruse Huntington (left)



Fig 1.

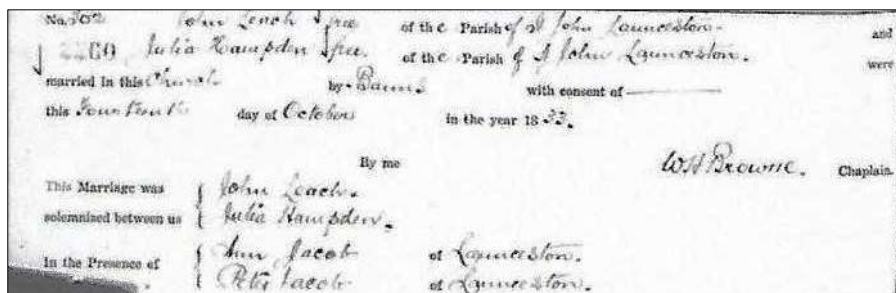


Photograph: Kevin Dodds

‘OUR GIRLS’ - ‘MATRON OVER FEMALE CONVICTS’ - JULIA LEACH c1803-1895
by Anne Mathews and Beth Matthews

In this edition, we focus on Mrs. Julia Leach (later Mood) whose tenure as Matron at the Parramatta Female Factory was short-lived. Since returning from a recent tour of Norfolk Island, where her first husband John Leach is buried, I have been intrigued and we have re-opened her file, hoping to bring her ‘out of the shadows’. Anne Mathews

Our research has meant linking threads of old and new information from numerous sources and recently we found a John Leach arriving per *Tranby* to the settlement of Swan River from Hull, England in February 1830¹. Shortly after, on 17 April 1830, he sailed to Launceston per *Warrior*². A Julia Hampden (aged 26), arrived in Hobart on 5 September 1832, on the first female immigrant ship, *Princess Royal*³ and there is a marriage of John Leach and Julia Hampden in Launceston on 14 October 1833, with both noted as ‘free’⁴.



The death registration for Julia Mood shows her first marriage to John Leach in Launceston and a second marriage to Ralph Mood; her place of death is Church Street Parramatta aged 91, in 1895. She had been in the colony for about 63 years. Her occupation is noted as: *Matron over Female Convicts*⁵. From information on Julia’s death registration, we believe this could be ‘our Julia’ who arrived in 1832 and who married John Leach in October 1833, in Launceston.

This surmise is further supported by a reference to Julia Leach and her husband the Rev. John Leach (a Wesleyan minister) living in Van Diemen’s Land in 1835. A Quaker missionary, James Backhouse, who had travelled throughout the colony, mentions John and his wife in some detail in a book of reminiscences, published in London in 1843:

*20th. We took leave of John and his wife...They left VD Land in consequence of the increased disposition of John Leach who has had consumptive symptoms for several years. General Bourke has appointed him in the office of Catechist to the penal settlement of Norfolk Island, in the hope that the mild climate may conduce to lengthen his life, and that he may be made serviceable to the prisoners there, as he has been in an eminent degree to those in V.D. Land*⁶

John and his wife left Sydney for Norfolk Island in June 1835, aboard the ship *Governor Phillip*⁷. Sadly, within three months of arriving on Norfolk, John passed away on 14 September 1835. He was 34 years old. His tombstone is large and with an epitaph⁸.



Two years later, in a letter written by Lord Glenelg to Governor Bourke, Julia Leach, wife of the late John Leach, “formerly employed in instructing the convicts on Norfolk Island”, is recommended for the position of Matron at the Parramatta Female Factory. Glenelg writes: “from the high testimonials which I have received and the experience which she has acquired in the management of female prisoners in this country, I have no doubt that she will prove well qualified to maintain the good order and discipline of the Establishment”⁹. It is implied that Julia was experienced in working with gaol inmates in England (“this country”), though the exact nature of her experience is not specified.

We believe that the John Leach referred to in Glenelg’s letter, is the John Leach who arrived in Launceston in 1830 and who was appointed as a catechist to the *Notman party¹⁰ and later, appointed as a catechist by Governor Bourke to Norfolk Island¹¹. We believe this is the same John Leach referred to by James Backhouse and that his wife, who travelled to Norfolk Island with him, is Julia Leach who later became matron at the Parramatta Female Factory.

A catechist taught Christian faith and morals. Both Quakers and Nonconformists such as Wesleyans came to the colony for this purpose.
*Robert Notman was a Superintendent of Convict Road Parties working on road construction in V.D’s. Land (1824-1837)

Julia Leach was recommended for the position of matron by Mrs Fry, the Quaker prison reformer, so it is possible that Julia had worked with or visited female prisoners in London gaols. As John's wife, Julia would have had some experience of convictism in the colony through his work in V.D's. Land and on Norfolk Island. It is assumed that Julia returned to England shortly after her husband's death, as implied in the Glenelg/Bourke letter referred to earlier.

On 23rd January 1838, Julia Leach arrived in Sydney on the ship *Bencoolen*¹². John Clapham, his wife Agnes and son were also on board. Clapham had been appointed to the Factory as House Steward and Storekeeper on a salary of £150 and Agnes as School-mistress with her salary £70. As appointees from England, the Colonial Agent had been directed to *provide "moderate allowances"* for their passage. As matron, Julia Leach was to receive £130¹³.

Shipping Intelligence.	
ARRIVALS.	
23.—	Bencoolen (barque), Gilbert, London September 21, merchandises. Passengers, Mr. R. Graham, Mr. M'Kenzie, Mr. and Mrs. Passmore and child, Mr. Apprace, R. N., Mrs. Apprace and family, Mr. and Mrs. Clapham and child, Misses Royes, Mrs. Leach, Miss Haslingden, Mr. and Mrs.

Within weeks of her appointment, Julia Leach's suitability for the position of Matron was being questioned:

We are afraid that there is something exceedingly rotten in the state of management of this place. We occasionally hear of great changes being about to take place in the discipline...The present Matron, Mrs Leach, is doubtful a very respectable woman, but we question if any single female is calculated to manage such an establishment, indeed it requires a man of more than common nerve to be able to control such a number of depraved characters as are congregated within the walls of the Factory... The Sydney Herald, May 1838

In the 'Return' for May 1838 (published in the Sydney Gazette & NSW Advertiser), there were 644 women in the 'factory' and 140 children - 302 of the women were 'under colonial sentence' - the challenges for Julia Leach would have been considerable.

Governor Gipps wrote to Glenelg on 7th July 1838, saying that he had dismissed John Clapham because of the ongoing complaints made against Mrs Leach and his failure to accept her authority. He also wrote that he had no option but to ask Mrs Leach to resign finding her *"deficient in self-command"*¹⁴.

Her time at the Factory was marked with ongoing dissension with John Clapham. He was a fierce critic, accusing her of drunkenness and being too close to the women¹⁵. In his letter, Gipps comments that while John Clapham could be excused for *"a good deal of what he had done,- but not even in that case, can he be justified for the cruel and unfounded accusations that he has brought against her."*¹⁶ It is interesting to note the Governor's defence of Mrs. Leach.

Following Julia Leach's resignation, Mrs. Sarah Bell (Matron) and Mr. John Bell (Superintendent) were reinstated. After her dismissal, Julia Leach wrote to the Governor asking for fiscal support saying that she was alone in the colony, with no home and no income¹⁷.

Six months after her resignation, Julia remarried. Her husband, Ralph Mood, arrived in the colony in 1826 (free) aboard the ship *Portland* - he was 24 years of age. In the 1828 Census he is listed as a baker and living in Cumberland Street, Sydney. In 1837, Ralph Mood was a publican, with the licence for *the Duke of Wellington*, Church Street and George Street Parramatta¹⁸. Ralph and Julia were married in Parramatta in January 1839¹⁹. They had a son, Christopher John, born c1840²⁰.

Ralph and Julia lived in Church Street, over a number of years, until their deaths. Their sandstone house, *Ebenezer Cottage*, was close to the Factory, being located on the east side of Church Street between Dunlop and Factory Street. In a photograph taken c1870, Julia and her husband Ralph Mood are standing at their gate - posing, holding hands. A Norfolk pine stands in the front garden...²¹

Ralph died in January 1886, aged 85. He had been in the colony for 60 years. Julia died at her home in Church Street Parramatta in August 1895. She was aged 91²². Both Julia and Ralph Mood are buried in a family plot in the Presbyterian section of Mays Hill Cemetery. They are buried in an unmarked grave²³.

Julia Leach is an intriguing figure. Was Julia so intimidated or so continually undermined by John Clapham that her position was made impossible? Was she criticised because she was a woman on her own? Was she so unfairly treated?



25.

Julia Leach emerges as a woman motivated ‘to do good’; she had connections in religious circles; she would have witnessed human suffering and she committed to take on a challenging role on her own. Despite her public humiliation and dismissal, she remained in Parramatta for the rest of her life and would have witnessed the Female Factory transition into the Asylum years. Her husband Ralph Mood was described as an honest and esteemed citizen of Parramatta²⁴ - there is no reason to doubt that Julia was too. On her death registration, the informant was her “Friend and sole executor of her estate” John Byrne, and the doctor attending her was Dr. Walter Brown*. She was a true Parramattan, who is now, ‘out of the shadows’.

References:

‘Our Girls’ - unpublished work by Anne Mathews and Beth Matthews sourced from original papers State Archives and Records NSW

¹ Arrival *Tranby*, Fremantle 3 Feb 1830 <https://www.fremantlestuff.info/ships/tranby.html> accessed 2/7/21

² Departure *Warrior* for Launceston, Tasmanian Archives accessed 9/7/21

³ Transcription: Passenger List *Princess Royal* 1832 <https://www.frank.net>elabs.final> accessed 9/7/21

⁴ Marriage Register, St John’s Church, Launceston, Libraries Tasmania: Tasmanian Names Index online - accessed 9/7/21

⁵ Death Transcription from NSW Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages- Joy Murrin Transcription Agent, www.joymurrin.com.au

⁶ James Backhouse, *A Narrative of a Visit in the Australian Colonies* (London 1843) June 1839, p289 quoted in *Colonial Era Cemetery Book Norfolk Island* by R. Nixon Dalkin p40 No 31, Norfolk Island Historical Society, pub., Pacific Publications. Sydney 1974

⁷ *The Australian* (Sydney, NSW 1824-1848), Friday 9 Oct 1835, Family Notices p3

⁸ Brief history of John Leach and description of his tombstone inscription from *Colonial Era Cemetery of Norfolk Island* by R. Nixon Dalkin p40 No:31, Norfolk Island Historical Society, pub., Pacific Publications. Sydney 1974

⁹ Glenelg to Bourke, 5 July 1837, Historical Records of Australia (HRA) Series 1 vol 19 p6-7 edited by Frederick Watson, nla.gov.au accessed 2/7/21

¹⁰ John Leach appointed catechist, Notman Party by Governor Arthur, Colonial Secretary’s Correspondence, 1824-1836, Tasmanian Archives

¹¹ Glenelg to Bourke, 5 July 1837, HRA Series 1 vol 19 p6-7

¹² *The Colonist* (Sydney 1835-1840), Ship Arrivals, Sydney 24 January 1838

¹³ Glenelg to Bourke, 5 July 1837, HRA Series 1 vol 19 p6-7 ¹⁴ *ibid*

¹⁵ *Shape Without Form: These Outcast Women The Parramatta Female Factory Women 1821-1848* by Annette Salt pub., Hale & Iremonger 1984 pp 60-61

¹⁶ Gipps to Glenelg 7 July 1838. A22675-6 Gov Despatches SARNSW

¹⁷ Carol Liston *Mrs Fry’s Experiment*, in *Women Transported Life in the Female Factories in Australia*, Gay Hendriksen, Carol Liston, Trudy Cowley published Parramatta Council 2008 p40

¹⁸ Publicans’ Licences Index 1830-1861 entry for Ralph Mood 1837, NRS 144011 [4/68] Reel 5053 Licence 157/Place Church Street, Parramatta; George Street, 1836

¹⁹ Death Transcription from NSW BDM for Julia Mood, Joy Murrin Transcription Agent, www.joymurrin.com.au ²⁰ *ibid*

²¹ Description for photograph: Julia and Ralph Mood; Caroline Simpson Library Collection: Sydney Living Museums

²² Death Transcription from NSW BDM for Julia Mood, Joy Murrin Transcription Agent, www.joymurrin.com.au

²³ *More Tales From the Western Road Cemetery*, compiled by Friends of Mays Hill Cemetery 2012

²⁴ *Cumberland Mercury* (NSW 1875-1895) Obituary, Ralph Mood, Wednesday, January 27 1886 p1 col 1 Trove: NLA accessed 13/7/21

²⁵ Photograph of John and Julia Mood c1870: Caroline Simpson Library & Research Collection; Sydney Living Museums CSL&RC PIC: small picture file: American & Australasian Photographic Co Record no: 42056, published with permission 8/7/21

*John Byrne was owner of the Australia Flour Mill in Parramatta and at one time Ralph Mood had been in his employ before working as assistant clerk for the Council Borough of Parramatta. Dr. Walter Brown was a long serving Honorary Medical Officer of the Parramatta Hospital.

Many thanks to members, John Gaffey, Gary Carter, Ronda Gaffey and Kerima-Gae Topp for their additional research contributions.

THE RESEARCH CENTRE MUSTER

Welcome to the latest Muster. The researchers have been busy on a number of fronts. Firstly we have received some great book donations. Thanks to the City of Parramatta Local Studies Library for their kind donations and Anne Mathews for coordinating these coming to the centre. Thanks also to Kay Weaver, Janice Ruse Huntington and Kevin Dodds for individual book contributions. We are also receiving information on the factory women and staff for our vertical files so if you have a factory ancestor or if you have relevant Colonial books, digital resources or hard copy information for our vertical files, please contact me at parramattafemalefactoryfriends@gmail.com

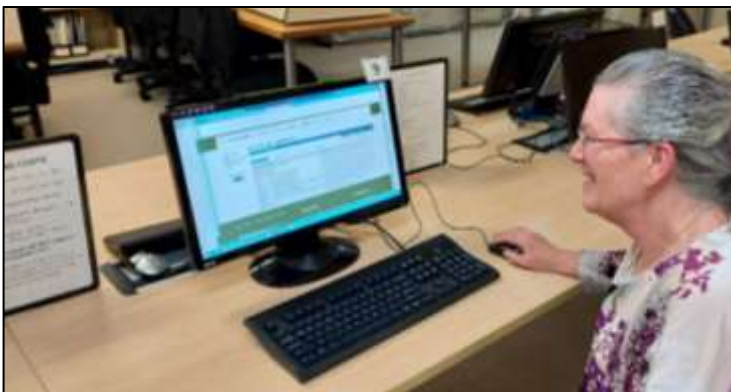
Pre-COVID lockdown, the research group did some benchmarking on family history library and resource centre organisations. The State Library Staff and Society of Australian Genealogists staff were very helpful and gave us some great clues.

We continue to respond to research inquiries which have been coming from various sources, email, personal requests and Facebook requests.

Our first workshop went very well with some great tips on family history research shared by Kevin Dodds. This was the first in our series which will be happening on the third Friday every second month. As we have great talks on general meeting days we have decided to conduct our Research Centre workshops on the alternate months. The next one is planned for September 17th and will cover Part 2 of Family History research guides.

Do feel free to drop in and say hello.

Gay Hendriksen Coordinator – PFFF Research Centre



RESEARCH UPDATES & CONNECTION EXPERIENCES IN RESEARCHING

While looking into an enquiry for convict Ann Thew, I discovered she arrived per *Lucy Davidson* in 1829 and was involved in the Riot at the Parramatta Female Factory in 1831. She was transported for 3 years to the Penal Settlement of Newcastle for her part in the Riot. I wonder how well she knew my ancestor?

Research is so interesting; I recently discovered an ancestor, Honora Harrington, who arrived on the *Edinburgh* in 1828, was involved in the 3rd class Riot in 1831 and was sent to Newcastle. Honora was sent back to Parramatta Female Factory for the second time in 1830/1, as she was pregnant. I found a list by Jen Willetts naming 28 convicts who were transported for 3 years to the Penal Settlement of Newcastle. My ancestor was not on that list, I wonder how many more there are to find?

Lyn Watkins – PFFF Researcher

The Research Team received an interesting enquiry from the Gunning and District Historical Society, wanting to know if a Lucretia Dunkley (nee Davies) had passed through the Parramatta Female Factory. Lucretia had arrived on the *Pyramus* on 5 March 1832 and married Henry Dunkley in 1834.

By January 1843, Lucretia and her lover Martin Beech had murdered Henry Dunkley, been tried, and hung at Berrima Gaol in October that year. Their skulls were donated to the Australian Museum! A gruesome tale indeed. Subsequent to the enquiry, it is thought that Lucretia might have been sent to Maitland or Newcastle.

Whilst our team was not able to confirm a Parramatta Factory connection, the enquiry brought some worthwhile connections. The enquirer donated a fascinating book, 'The Day that Dunkley Died', to our library. It contains excellent historical references and sources. There was an added bonus, one of the research team has a personal family history interest in the Gunning district!

Janice Ruse Huntington – PFFF Researcher

THE COOK AND THE CARPENTER ANN (NORA) HART

There is enough evidence to conclude that Ann or Nora as she was known, was a great cook. What is not known is whether she cooked in the Parramatta Female Factory as her assignment to James Hassall was that of a cook. She remained with the Hassall family for her service of about 3 years until she gained her Certificate of Freedom and raised a family at the magnificent Stanhope Farm that was on Old Windsor Road near Kellyville and now the name of the suburb Stanhope Gardens.

Fig. 1. The photograph shows old shelter barns on the Stanhope Park Dairy Farm. In 1928 Jack Peel bought 188-hectare dairy property Stanhope Park on Old Windsor Road, Kellyville. It was demolished in 1977 to make way for development © Blacktown Library.



Ann (Nora) Hart was born in 1815 in Dublin, Ireland. Her parents were James Hart and Mary Castello, 35. In 1819, her mother Mary Castello passed away at the age of 39. On 1 March 1832, aged 17, Ann, a servant maid, was convicted of *picking pockets* at Dublin, Ireland. Ann sailed on the convict ship *Caroline*, its Master, a Captain McDonald. Ann is described as 4'11", ruddy and freckled complexion, dark brown hair, dark grey eyes, forehead low, scar on knuckle of forefinger of right hand, blue mark (tattoo or birthmark) on her back.

On 6 August 1833, Ann Hart was sent to the Parramatta Female Factory for assignment. On 1 July 1834 (offence unknown, at Sydney Court), Ann was sent back to the Parramatta Female Factory and spent 2 months in 3rd class. It is here that I believe Ann first met Thomas Magee who shortly after his arrival in 1833, was employed as a carpenter for the Parramatta Female Factory. Further, it could be concluded that Ann spent a minimum time in the Factory before being assigned upon her arrival in 1833 until 1834, when Ann returns to the factory for 2 months. From there, it is more likely than not, despite her assignment in December 1837, Ann would have been assigned shortly after the

expiration of the prison term in September 1834. However, there is the slight possibility Ann remained in the Factory for 3 years of her 7-year sentence. Ann spent at least over 2 months or 3 years in the Parramatta Female Factory.

Fig. 2. - James Milshaw Hassall, Free "Nautilus" 1798

In December 1837, Ann was assigned to James Hassall, at Parramatta as cook. James Hassall (1802-1862), landowner and farmer, was born in Parramatta, fourth son of Rowland and Elizabeth Hassall. In 1838, it is then I believe, that whilst working for the Catholic Church, Parramatta, James Hassall approved/condoned the relationship between Ann and Thomas.



On 16 February 1838, Ann gave birth to a son Thomas Magee, born in Parramatta, NSW. Thomas passed away on 11 May 1884 in Brewarrina, NSW, at the age of 46. On 3 March 1838, Thomas Magee (her son) was baptised at St Patrick's Church, Parramatta witnessed by a Ms. Margaret Read and officiated by Father Rev. Mr. J. C. Summer.

On 8 April 1838, Ann received a Ticket of Leave and on 1 January 1840, her Certificate of Freedom.

On 5 November 1841, Ann gave birth to a daughter, Mary Ann Magee at Windsor, NSW. Mary Ann passed away on 17 August 1901 in Bathurst, NSW, at the age of 59. In late 1843, Ann gave birth to a daughter, Caroline at Stanhope Farm, Baulkham Hills, NSW. On 23 December 1843, Caroline was baptised at St. Patrick's Church, Parramatta witnessed by a Ms. Ann Cullen and officiated by Father Rev. Mr. Nicholas Joseph Coffey. On 10 November 1845, Ann gave birth to a daughter, Frances Julia at Stanhope Farm, Baulkham Hills. On 21 May 1848, Ann (Nora) Hart age 33, married Thomas Magee at St. Matthew's RC Church in Windsor, NSW. On 7 May 1852, Ann gave birth to a daughter, Elizabeth Magee at Stanhope Farm, Baulkham Hills. Elizabeth passed away on 9 November 1900 in Miles St, Jundah, Queensland, at the age of 48. In 1854, Ann gave birth to a son, John Joseph at Stanhope Farm, Baulkham Hills. He passed away on 26 May 1878 in Swallow Creek, Rock Forrest via Bathurst, aged 24.

On 17 August 1885, Ann's husband Thomas passed away in a home at Cnr. George and Pepper Streets, Bathurst, at the age of 84. They had been married 37 years. On 4 December 1903, Ann (Nora) Hart died at the Dunwich Benevolent Asylum and was buried in an unmarked grave at the Dunwich Cemetery, Dunwich on Stradbroke Island, Queensland, Australia when she was 88 years old. There is a memorial to all residents who died at the Asylum and are buried in the Dunwich Cemetery.

Kevin Dodds – PFFF Researcher

Fig. 3 - Concert in the Victoria Hall for the Dunwich inmates, 1909 - the Queenslander, 13 February 1909, p25



Ronda Gaffey writes: *Janice told me she was looking for the Ashfield house of a distant forbear and well known artist, Byron Ruse, and since I lived in Ashfield, asked if I could check it out. Always curious (and I love old houses), I called in at Thirning Villa, the Rooms of the Ashfield & District Historical Society to see what I could find. Two hits! First I found a reference to Byron Ruse in the card index and then in the Sands Directory - in an entry for 1917, he was living at 42 Elizabeth Street, Ashfield - the house was 'Wembury', named after a small village in Devon, England, a place which was popular with artists. A Google map revealed that sadly the house has gone (now a block of flats is there - c1960s).*

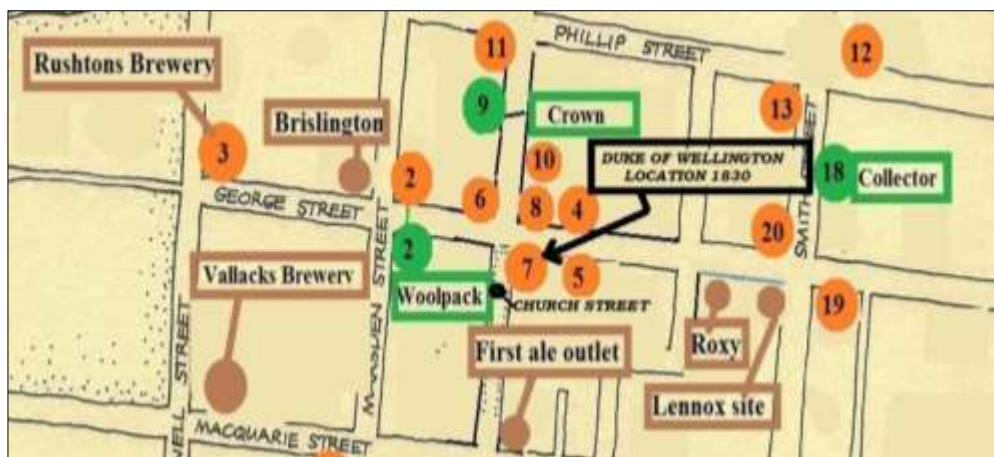
Two weeks later, I was guiding at Hambleton Cottage - at the end of the tour, I was the chatting with the visitors - they had recently purchased an old house and were interested in researching its history. I told them about my preliminary inquiry for Janice and in finding the house name 'Wembury' - one of the visitors replied, "I was born in Wembury". I forgot to ask if the name Ruse was familiar!

And there is more! Byron Ruse is a second cousin, four times removed; his great grandfather was James Ruse (the First Fleet) and his first wife Susannah.

Elizabeth Street Ashfield, where Byron lived and had his dental practice, was named after Elizabeth Underwood, wife of Joseph Underwood, to whom James Ruse (Junior) was apprenticed in 1801. Elizabeth was Joseph's second wife and a daughter of emancipist, John Harris, to whom James Ruse sold Experiment Farm. Janice

Anne Mathews writes:

In researching Julia Leach and her second husband, Ralph Mood, we discovered that he was a publican in Parramatta. Seeking assistance from member and author Gary Carter, I was chuffed to discover that Julia Leach's husband Ralph Mood, was publican of the Duke of Wellington in Parramatta in 1837-8. My 3x great grandfather Robert Davis, was also publican of the Duke of Wellington in Parramatta in 1842-1849. They may well have known each other!



Map showing pub locations, North Parramatta, *The Last Shout - a History of Pubs in Parramatta* by Gary John Carter pub., 2015

SALES - PFFF PUBLICATIONS

Herstory - Lives of the Parramatta Female Factory Women Book 1
Herstory - Another Chapter Unfolds Book 2, \$15 each

Herstory-History-Ourstory Bicentenary Book, \$40 - a wafer comprising women's profiles, photographs and video, is \$25

CD *Mothers of the Nation*, the 1821-2021 Bicentenary Song Suite, \$15.

All these items and more, are for sale at the Friends Rooms, at events or by email order. P&P is extra on all items.

Email order enquiries to: parramattafemalefactoryfriends@gmail.com

