

Moama Cemetery

The Moama Cemetery Working Group is still looking for information about burials in any of the many unmarked graves at the Cemetery. A total of 681 plaques bearing the names of people who are buried in unknown unmarked graves at the cemetery, are now in place on the plinths. Besides these a number of plaques have been placed around the cemetery when the site of a grave is known.

If anyone can provide information about anyone known to be buried at Moama, especially in an unmarked grave, please contact:- Anita Bartlett, PO Box 1343 Echuca 3564. or 0439 992 767

PAPERS PAST—100 YEARS

The Herald Melbourne 5th Jan 1925

The Jam Season is here Young and Inexperienced house keepers may be grateful for a few hints from older women, who, in working out jam-making operations year after year, have found out little wrinkles that simplify the process.

*To prevent jam sticking It is a good plan to pour a few drops of olive oil into the preserving pan and grease the bottom And sides by rubbing it with a piece of clean tissue paper.

*To save stirring, put a half-crown in the bottom of the pan before putting in putting in the fruit.

*Jam has a knack of boiling over. A piece of butter put into the mixture will prevent this.

*To make Jam clear, add a piece of butter the size of an egg a quarter of an hour before removing the fruit from the fire. This will make the jam quite clear.

The Argus 16th Feb 1925

Pigeon Homing Season Long-distance Season Opens.

The official opening of the 1925 racing season for members of the Victorian Homing Pidgeons Association was held on Saturday when 1600 young birds belonging to members of the clubs affiliated with Association were taken to Kilmore East liberated to fly a 40 mile airline. Added interest taken in the race owing to it being the first occasion on which the northern route has been flown.

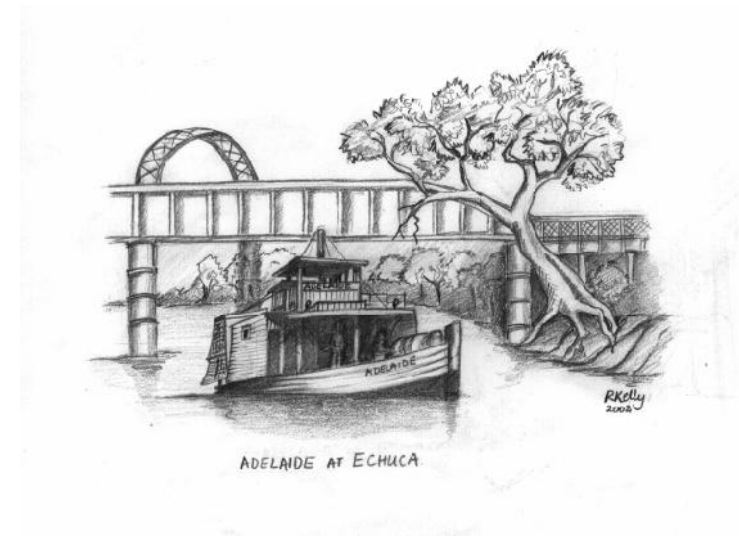
Kyabram Free Press 31 Mar 1925

Tatura Police Court Friday, March 27, 1925.(Before Mr C. J. Rogers, P.M.)

Close Season Breach. Edward Dryden and Edward Dryden Jr were proceeded against for having killed native game (opossums) during close season; also with having been found with native game in their possession. Sub Inspector Brown appeared for the prosecution and Mr Galloway Stewart for the defence. Both pleaded not guilty to killing but guilty to having game in their possession.

Bridges & Branches

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Quarterly Newsletter
of the
ECHUCA-MOAMA FAMILY HISTORY
GROUP INC.

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The Monthly Group Meeting is held at the Old Telegraph Station, 60 Chanter Street in Moama on the second Tuesday of each month, except January, at 1.30pm. **The Monthly Group Activity Session** is held from October to March, on the third Thursday at 7.30 pm, and April to September on the third Saturday at 1.30 pm. Venue Christ Church Anglican Echuca.

Excursions can replace the Group Activity Sessions.

The **Research Room** in the Old Telegraph Station, 60 Chanter Street in Moama is open and manned every Monday and Friday between 11.00am - 3.00pm, except on Public Holidays

At other times contact Janice 0404 872 524

Towns /areas covered by the EMFHG Inc

In Victoria: Ballendella, Bamawm, Barmah, Echuca, Echuca Village, Kanyapella, Kotta, Koyuga, Lockington, McEvoy's, Millewa, Nanneella, Patho, Piavella, Pine Grove, Restdown, Rochester, Roslynmede, Strathallan, Tennyson, Tongala, Torrumbarry and Wyuna

In NSW Bunnaloo, Caldwell, Mathoura, Moama, Thyra and Womboota

The Editors welcome articles, notes, queries, book reviews, comments and any items of interest. Contributions to Bridges & Branches are accepted in good faith but the Echuca-Moama Family History Group Inc. or the Editors, do not accept responsibility for the accuracy of information nor for the opinions expressed. Items can be emailed to:-
ksdurrant1@bigpond.com or judysupercool@gmail.com

the revolved. This was the case for the prosecution. The accused in answer to the usual query, said "Oh yes, I wish to say I took the things. That's all." In the second case the accused being charged with having broken into the house of Athol Lamont and stealing a calico tent, in which he was resting when he was arrested. A third charge was breaking into the house of Alexander Fellows and stealing a frying pan, billy can, knives and folks, pannikin, tea and sugar. The accused was committed to the General Sessions to stand trial.

Riverine Herald 12th Aug 1879

Echuca General Sessions

Robert Hamilton, the youth who was committed for trial on Monday, at the Police Court on three charges of housebreaking in the Torrumbarry and Mount Hope districts was placed in the dock. He pleaded guilty to the first count in all three cases (that of stealing) The Crown Prosecutor said that Miss Hamilton (sister of the accused) was in court, and desired to address a few remarks to His Honor before sentence was passed. Miss Hamilton, who evidently felt acutely the position her brother was in, stated that this was the first time her brother had been guilty of any dishonorable acts. He had left home in March last in consequence of the harshness on the treatment by his father towards him. He had not been home again till Monday fortnight. It was no use for him to go home, and if he were discharged the only thing to be done was to get him a situation somewhere he would be taken care of and looked after. Constable Coffey went into the box and stated that he had called at the house of the father, who owned 1000 acres of land, 700 of which were freehold, on Saturday last, to inform him of the position of his son. He said the constable could not have

brought his more glad tidings that he was truly pleased, he would help to have him crucified, and would be present at court to drive him one inch nearer the gallows. He said that he had stripped the boy naked and flogged him with a stirrup leather. There is a family of ten Hamiltons, two of which are girls. The family was most cruelly treated by the father, who was in a good position. It was a very hard case and everywhere he (Constable) called the people had condemned the father. He had called at over 100 places where everywhere they said the same.

In reply to His Honor, Miss Hamilton said if the boy were discharged she could get him an appointment at once where he would be properly treated.

The lad said he had nothing to say why sentence should not be passed.

His Honor said:- "You have pleaded guilty to three separate presentments charging you with breaking into houses and stealing there from, but independently of any extenuating circumstance, there is the general fact that that you are very young as compared with persons who for most part stand in a criminal position, and both my brother magistrates and myself would take that into consideration. Boys usually look up to their father for protection, but in this instance some misfortune has deprived you of the protection and the man who should have filled that position seems to have formed a personal hatred. If not the effect of mental disease, must be of great wickedness.

You are not to consider for one moment that you are being excused of your crime, but it is only fair that the public should know why you are being treated so leniently. If you act honestly you will never be called on to appear. You are discharged." Miss Hamilton returned her heartfelt thanks to the bench.

Riverine Herald 13th August 1879

A Youthful Desperado

Yesterday a youth of 18 was brought into Echuca, and lodged in the lock-up on a charge of house-breaking at Torrumbarry, where he has been carrying on in a very high-handed manner for some time, and whose arrest has probably prevented his development into a dangerous character. Our Torrumbarry correspondent gives the following account of the affair:- On Thursday, at three o'clock in the afternoon, a case of housebreaking and robbery here was reported to our local police. The house had been entered by breaking a window. Constable Coffey tracked the suspected offender for three miles towards Echuca along the bank of the Murray; then went off the road towards Wharparilla, then returned to meet him, assisted by some farmers, whom he had requested to advance from the Torrumbarry direction, so as to cut off his retreat. When captured the fellow was resting in a small tent, which he had stolen. He had a loaded gun and revolver, also powder, shot and bullets, likewise a good supply of food, and nearly all the articles stolen from John McDonald's house at Torrumbarry, last Sunday week, which had been entered and ransacked. Early in July a warrant was issued by the Camperdown magistrates for the arrest of the same person for obtaining goods on false pretenses'. His name is Robert Hamilton; he is aged 18, and has respectable connections at Terricks. The police had been scouring the district for him for the last eight days. He is in the Echuca lock-up, and the case will come on next Monday. After his arrest Hamilton expressed his intention of defending himself.

Riverine Herald Sat. 9th Aug. 1879
A youthful Housebreaker.

At the Echuca Police Court yesterday, before Dr Croker and Mr Seward J'sP., a youth Robert Hamilton, described on the charge sheet as a laborer, a native of Victoria, aged 18, was charged with breaking into several houses at Torrumbarry and Wharparilla, and stealing there from. Four charges of stealing were preferred against the accused on the sheet. Sergeant Hayes prosecuted, accused being undefended. The first charge was that of stealing from the house of John McDonald, farmer, of Torrumbarry, jewellery, and other property to the value of £4. John McDonald deposed that on the 27th, ult he left his home secure, the doors and windows being locked. Between 7 and 8 o'clock at night he returned home and found that the things being strewn all over the floor. He found that one of the panes of the window had been broken and the fastening removed. Entrance must have been affected through the window. Missed were a powder-flask, shot-belt, a pair of gold earrings and broach, silver penholder, leather pouch, pipe, telescope, and other articles. He identified the property produced as part of what was taken from his premises. Angus McLeod, publican, of Torrumbarry stated that the last witness lived about three quarters of a mile from his house. He knew the accused, who stopped at his place on the 26th ult. He left, going in the direction of Mount Hope, and the plains. Constable Coffey, of Torrumbarry, arrested accused on the Murray River Bank, near Wharparella. Found accused in the possession of property produced, which he admitted stealing. When the accused was arrested, he had a gun and revolver, and ammunition, the gun was loaded but not

President's Report

Welcome to another year of family history research. Perhaps this is the year that you will write some family history stories for our magazine. It is a wonderful opportunity to share your research with other members, particularly if you are writing about local families.

Once again it has been a quiet start to the year in the research rooms and while this may be due to the hot weather over summer, it is also a reality that more and more family history resources are available on line now. While this provides easier access to resources it can also be a trap with genealogy websites offering hints about possible ancestors that may be 'the garden path' trip. Every hint you receive requires confirming from at least three different sources to confirm that it is valid.

This on-line genealogy resource has generated the copy and paste era, where there is acceptance of someone else's research, and family trees are put together from many other family trees that contain information that is not about your ancestor. Beware of family trees with little or no documentation, and with no analytical thinking in the construction of those trees. One of the most thorough approaches is to get a second opinion of what you have found on line, from a member of our group. A new set of eyes can often point out misunderstandings and suggest other paths that you could investigate.

We regularly are asked to do sausage sizzles at Bunnings. The money raised has been the main source of our fund raising in the last few years, as it provides us with the opportunity to accumulate resources to purchase equipment, and other necessary requirements for our rooms. I would encourage members who wish to

contribute to the group, that a few hours at a sizzle is a very easy way to do this. It also allows shorter hours for the members who regularly participate. More volunteers please! It is a great opportunity to spend time with your family history friends.

If you have not been to our guest speaker nights or been on one of our excursions, I do recommend that you come along. We have supper or afternoon tea and have a lunch on our excursions. We always try to have a number of interesting speakers, so I encourage those who have not been for a while to come along, and not only be entertained, but find out interesting information about the other people's lives. It is a very enjoyable experience.

Recently I have been reading a very entertaining book called Kill or Cure by Peter J Phillips. The book talks not only about Lotions, and Potions, but the Quacks and shady characters of the nineteenth century in particular peddling this fraudulent merchandise in the guise of miraculous cures to the public. The author had a close connection with Echuca as he was the medical officer at Echuca Hospital for 31 years from 1965 to 1996. He wrote three books about the riverboats. I think we have at least one in our library. He died late last year and the Echuca Historical Society paid tribute to him. The National Library of Australia houses the Phillips Collection which contains about 350 photographs mostly of paddle steamers on the Murray and Darling Rivers as well as other local photos of Echuca and the hospital. He wrote two books on the history of the Echuca Hospital, (one of them definitely is in our library). Peter Phillips stated that it was the Murray River paddle steamers that brought the dubious medical

practitioners and their fake cures to inland settlements, along with medicines that were being advertised widely across the world. More on these miraculous cures and charlatans will be in future editions.

Here's to a great year in family history research.
Judy McCleary

The Melbourne "Hawket."

This paper, speaking of Mr. Jack Willis, the promising young athletic boxer who recently defeated Joe Dunn, "Starlight," and others, and who is Champion Lightweight of N.Z. and South Australia, says his success was due to the "wearing of one of Freeman & Wallace's Invigorators."

"I derived much benefit from your Electro-Medical treatment."

JACK WILLIS.

Mr. Harry Petersen, Hairdresser, Hotel Australia, declares :

"I wore your Electric 'INVIGORATOR' which, with your medical treatment, completely cured me of Chronic Indigestion and Rheumatism of the abdominal muscles, causing bladder Irritation. I am now perfectly well."

HARRY PETERSEN.

Hotel Australia, Sydney.

Coming Events

APRIL

Tuesday 8th @ 1.30 pm Committee Meeting

Saturday 19th @ Easter no meeting

MAY

Tuesday 13th @ 1.30 pm Committee Meeting

Saturday 17th @ Excursion Numurkah Museum

JUNE

Tuesday 10th @ 1.30 pm Committee Meeting

Saturday 21st @ 1.30 pm Nicole Jenkins (Deniliquin) River Boats

July

Tuesday 8th @ 1.30pm Committee Meeting

Saturday 19th @ 1.30 pm Luncheon AGM

Edward (Ted) Howard Hunt was born in 1870 in Bendigo. His parents were John Hunt 1834 - 1920 and Ann Lydia Richards 1837 - 1913. Edward was a farmer in the Mallee and later in Gippsland. His first marriage was to Jessie Mabel Whiting 1878 - 1937. They had three children; Ruby Myrtle, was born at Boort in 1896, and died in 1979. Lawrence Edward was born at Boort in 1899, and died in 1959 in Coburg. Norman Horace was born in Carlton in 1900, and died in Heidelberg in 1972.

Edward filed for divorce from his wife Jessie Mabel on the 10th October 1904, on the grounds of desertion and adultery. Jessie was found guilty of adultery. The custody of the three children, Ruby, Lawrence and Norman was awarded to Edward, although Jessie claimed that Norman Horace was not Edwards' child. On the 11th November 1904, the Decree Nisi was issued and this decree was made absolute by the Supreme Court of Victoria on 24th April 1907.

On the 27th May 1907 Edward married Sophia Poxon in Fitzroy, and they had one child Edward John, who was born in 1909, at Loch Victoria.

Sophia, who was my great grandmother, had been married to William Poxen, but he died suddenly in 1898 leaving her with four children. Sophia was still living at Lake Marmel Terrapee, in the Mallee, when she married Edward Hunt. According to the Electoral Roll, she was a farmer.

In 1919 Sophia was listed as a house wife at Glen Forbes and Edward as a miner; the electoral place was

Wonthaggi, Flinders. In 1924 Edward was a farmer and Sophia a house wife at Glen Forbes.

Edward Hunt committed suicide by taking strychnine on the 8th May 1928, at Glen Forbes while his wife was away. A note was found on the table that stated that he had had a "rotten spin". Edward was 58 years old, a dairy farmer, and he was an old resident of the Wonthaggi district, when it was known as Canvas Town. The matter was reported to the coroner for investigation.

One of the people called to give evidence at the inquest was Edward Hunt (jnr). According to Edward his father and mother had a quarrel, and his father ordered his mother out of the house. She left and went to live with her daughter, Mrs Alfred Jones in Glen Forbes. He said "Since my mother left my father and I have been getting on in better terms".

The police attended at the scene. Senior Constable James Nicholas Slater of Wonthaggi Police could not find any signs of foul play. The body was lying on its back in the room. There were no marks on the body, and no marks of violence.

The Inquest results was suicide by Edward's own hand. The burial was on the 10th May 1928 at Bass Cemetery. Probate was granted on the 23rd July 1928.

My grandfather William Henry (Harry) Poxon always spoke highly of his step father. Edward was always kind to Pop, and he always stuck up for Pop.

Sue Shaw

The Advertiser (Adelaide) May 2nd 1939
 Captain Thomas Henry Freeman, an old river skipper, died recently in Melbourne, where he had been living in retirement for the past 20 years. He was in his 82nd year. A son of Captain Freeman, marine surveyor, of Echuca. Victoria, he owned and captained the steamers *Agnes*, *Emma*, and *Canally*. In 1901 he went to Goolwa to live, and fitted up a powerful steamer called the *Shannon*, which was later wrecked on King Island during a voyage to Tasmania. For some years Captain

Freeman freighted the wool from Tolarno station on the Darling to Goolwa, whence it was railed to Victor Harbor and transferred to ocean-going vessels by lighters. In 1883 Captain Freeman married Miss Emma Mansfield Osborn eldest daughter of Mr. William Osborn of Goolwa. Mrs. Freeman, three sons, and three daughters, Messrs. George. William, and Harold, of Victoria and Mesdames Bills (Minyip) and Cutler and Hawke (Mildura) survive.
Thanks to Frank Tucker for his original research

A word about game.

In cold and frosty weather game may be hung for two or three weeks without becoming tainted, but when the weather is warm and damp care must be taken to hang it in a well ventilated place. A sprinkling of pepper will keep flies away. As soon as there is any evidence of taint, remove the feathers and draw the birds. Wash them in water with plenty of salt and a little vinegar. If badly tainted repeat the process two or three times, and afterwards rinse in fresh water. Dry thoroughly before cooking.

When choosing game see that the flesh is firm and plump and not discoloured. Blue patches denote that the bird has hung too long. Game should weigh heavily for the size.

The Modern Housewife's Book

The Gipsies who lately were in Echuca arrived here yesterday, but received little encouragement from the townspeople, and have left for Deniliquin.
Riverine Herald 12 July 1906

Mathoura

A number of men came into town last week and took possession of the Kangaroo hotel during the absence of the local constable, who, however returned in time to prevent anything serious happening. Two of the party, Frank Quinn and Thomas Adams were arrested for indecent language, and a few minutes later John Marass was also arrested, after considerable trouble. The three were later brought before the court and Quinn and Adams were each fined 10s, while Morass, whose language was of a very bad and indecent nature, was fined £1, in default fourteen days in Deniliquin goal. For resisting the police Morass was also fined 5 pounds or two months.

Riverine Herald 12 July 1906

Adam Callander

5th Jan. 1838, Scotland - 17th Mar.1902, Rupanyup, Victoria



Adam Callander

Adam Callander was born 5th January 1838, in Balforn, Scotland. He was the 7th child of Adam Callander and Elizabeth Brown, who between them had 12 children. Adam senior, his wife Elizabeth, and their surviving 6 children, Alexander, Adam, Finlay, Agnes, Michael and William, sailed to Victoria on the *Cairngorm* arriving in 1854. Adam was a baker, and was no doubt, looking for a better life for his family. At that time, Adam junior was aged 17 years of age.

On 8th July 1867, in Belfast (now known as Port Fairy) at the Wesleyan Church, Adam Junior married Alice Passmore. Alice was born 19th Mar 1848 at Molong, Sydney, NSW. Her parents being John William Drummond Passmore and Eliza Sophia Dickinson.

Even though their usual residence was given as Warrnambool, Adam set up his bakery business in Belfast. They proceeded to add to their family, welcoming two sons. Charles Finlay Callander was born in 1868, and William

Alexander Callander followed shortly after in 1869.

Unfortunately, tragedy struck soon after. On the 7th July 1870, 22 years of age, and three years after their marriage, Alice passed away. An inquest was held the same day, with the finding being, suicide. Verdict was 'that deceased poisoned herself by taking an overdose of strychnine, while in a fit of temporary insanity'.

According to witness, Mr. Edward Griffiths, chemist and assistant to Mr. Atkinson, Alice had visited the previous day, 6th July, and asked for enough strychnine to kill a large dog. He gave her 12 grains, half of the quantity to have killed the dog, and costing one shilling. He didn't notice there was anything strange about the deceased.

Alice must have had a history of instability though, as Dr. David Jermyn testified that he had treated her some years previously for arsenic poisoning. Adam testified that he had sold his business one month previously, and was leaving Belfast with his family. Alice had not been reconciled with having to leave her home, and seemed to have lost all care for her baby, for whom she had cared for so well before.

After her death, a note was found in Alice's pocket:

Dear Adam,

I cannot dare to live any longer. I will take poison this night. If it does not take effect will you forgive me. Send dear Willie to Mrs. Barkley and take Charlie to Melbourne. I am mad. Yours Al.

Two days later on the 9th July, Alice was buried at Belfast.



Adam Callander's Bakery, Ararat.

Such a sorry story. Alice had a history of depression, and was maybe suffering post-natal depression, so leaving her home was the last straw. Seven years later, Adam re-married. On 6th December 1877, he wed Hannah Sanderson, at 19 Dorcas St., Emerald

Hill (now South Melbourne), according to the rites of the Baptist Church. Adam was now aged 39 years, and Hannah, who had to have her father's permission to marry, was only 20 years old. Hannah had been born at Belfast (Port Fairy), so maybe there was some previous connection between the families.

Adam and Hannah proceeded to have 7 children; they being born in Carlton, Sunbury, Hotham West, Stawell and Rupanyup, from 1877-1899. Adam was my great grandfather, William Callander's, elder brother.

Catherine Murnane

A Past Life

My Auntie Dot, known also as Dorrie and Dottie, was born in Sydney on 21st of March 1907 and she only ever had one parent her mother, Mary Jane Jones, whom she loved dearly. Her friendship with her mother was to last forty-nine years. Dot moved from Sydney to Melbourne with her mother and older brother, Elliott, because her father, Dave had left his wife in 1906 in Sydney, when she was pregnant with Dot, to continue working on a ship as a steward, between Sydney and San Francisco. He never returned to Australia, after this date, and lived the rest of his life in California when he was not at sea. His personal life was spent avoiding commitment to women he was involved with, having several liaisons with women and then moving on until he married a nurse in 1926. From one of

those liaisons he had another child, a half sister to Dot in 1912. Dot was never aware of this sister, Vivien as her father left the mother to fend for herself with Vivien, and moved on to the next liaison.



David & Doris Jones 21 Mar 1910

Southern Argus, May 11th 1896 The steamer *Shannon* (T. H. Freeman) has all her machinery taken out to be fitted with compound engines. The boiler, which arrived last week by road and was drawn by 12 horses, the other machinery arriving of the latest type, and will be very light on wood. Her engine and boiler, which is a compound portable one, was imported by Captain Wolter of the steamer *Pilot* for his steamer, but when he disposed of the *Pilot* the new machinery was not sold, and has been lying at Port Adelaide since. Captain Wolter had several offers for it, but would not sell below the cost price. It is a 16 horse-power motor, and the sister engine works the electric light in the Theatre Royal, Adelaide. The machinery will be very suitable for the river effecting a great saving in wood. *Southern Argus*, January 12th 1899 (Goolwa, January 10th)

A very successful steamer excursion was run here on Friday last on behalf of the All Nations Fair. The fine steamer *Shannon*, which was kindly lent for the trip by Captain T.H. Freeman, left the Goolwa wharf with between three and four hundred passengers on board. The weather was all that could be desired, and, after a fast trip, Tauwichterie (a small island in the Coorong) the land of sand and rabbits was reached. Here, everyone for four hours, thoroughly enjoyed themselves, some shooting, some fishing, others sailing or rowing. After all had got on board, the steamer left on her return journey. At the Murray Mouth the steamer made a stop for about an hour, mostly everyone again landing and adding to their enjoyment. After all had re-embarked, the steamer left for home where she arrived in good time after a fast and uneventful voyage. The excursion was a marked success, both financially and otherwise, everyone declaring it to be the most pleasant held here for a considerable time. The thanks of the local committee are due to Captain Freeman for his kindness in

lending his fine vessel, as it saved them a considerable expense. FONT?? All arrangements were carried out without a hitch, the various members of the committee working like Trojans. *Riverine Herald*, July 15th 1899 Captain Thomas Freeman, who for many years traded to Echuca from the lower river ports, but who, a couple of seasons ago removed to the lower river and traded to South Australian ports, on Saturday morning last, passed Wentworth with the steamer *Shannon* and two barges en route for Echuca. We understand it is Captain Freeman's intention to make Echuca his home port once again. *Riverine Herald*, December 13th 1900 Steamboat Excursion:- At the invitation of Captain T. H. Freeman, about 60 members of the Rangers, including the band, had an enjoyable trip down the river in the fine steamer *Shannon* yesterday. There were also a good number of civilians (who) availed themselves of the opportunity to pass a pleasant afternoon. Shortly before the vessel reached Echuca on the return journey, Captain McKenzie called the Rangers to attention and thanked Captain Freeman for his kindness. *Swan Hill Guardian*, July 17th 1903 One of the largest loads which has ever been taken down the river passed through on Saturday evening last, when Captain Freeman with the *Shannon* and barges *Nonpareil* and *Belubla* travelled downstream en route for Mildura. The load was taken on board from Treacy's Mills at Wee Wee Rup, and consisted of 5,000 redgum sleepers weighing 420 tons, for the Mildura Railway. Captain Freeman is to be complimented on having got successfully through the bad bends of this part of the river for such an enormous load.

Captain Thomas Henry Freeman

Thomas Henry Freeman, came to Echuca with his father, a sailor, who had arrived in Victoria at the time of the gold rush, and later moved to the Echuca Moama area. When he was thirteen years old Thomas blew off three of his fingers with an explosive he was firing.

Thomas began as a cabin boy on the *P.S. Pride of the Murray*, then became a deckhand, and then bargemaster. He decided to leave the river and went to sea, but he deserted his ship at Brisbane and worked his way back to Echuca.

In 1879 Thomas gained his Masters Certificate from the Echuca Steam Navigation Board and then took the *P.S. Agnes* to Hay with a load of flour. Over the years Thomas skippered at least a dozen steamers and owned a number of them.

Riverine Herald, February 20th 1885
Launch of the *Emma*:- The hull of Mr. T. Freeman's new steamer *Emma* was launched from the yards of the builders, Messrs. Wilson and Burkett, yesterday afternoon. The launch was a very successful one, the vessel running into the water smoothly. The christening ceremony was performed by Mrs. Freeman as the vessel began to slide down the ways. The vessel is of a very light draught, drawing only 6 inches forward and 6¼ inches aft. Her length overall on the keel is 75 feet, breadth of beam 18 feet, and depth of hold amidships 4 ft. 6 in.

Thomas bought the *P.S. Shannon* and fitted a new engine and boiler from a harbour tug. Thomas had a passion for speed, and spent a lot of money on the *Shannon*. He took the *Shannon* out through the Murray mouth and to Port Adelaide to have her fitted with a boiler from a coastal tug. Thomas later sold the *Shannon* to buy the *Canally*.

Riverine Herald, May 26th 1892 The steamer *Success*, Captain Freeman, was yesterday loading some 100 tons of flour on the Moama side of the river; after taking in the flour she was moved to the wharf where she received an additional cargo of potatoes, chaff etc. It is the intention of Captain Freeman to sail for the Murrumbidgee on Friday or Saturday if possible.

South Australian Register 9/1/1896 Goolwa. The steamer *Success*, with Captain Cummins, arrived yesterday, and also the *Shannon*, with Captain Freeman, with 1256 bales of Tolarno wool, for shipment at Port Victor to London. The railway authorities, it is thought, are treating this port unfairly in supplying only a small number of empty trucks when such a number of steamers are arriving and are expected. The *Success* and *Shannon* have their loads still on board, and there are no empty trucks here. January 16th 1896 (Goolwa, January 11th) 'The *Success* and *Shannon*, Captain T. W. Freeman's line, have discharged their cargoes and the *Shannon*, which is one of the light draught steamers on the Murray, will leave again with the *Nonpareil* barge, which is of light draught. The owner expects that the *Shannon* will get up and back on the present rise. No time will be lost on the voyage, and it is hoped that this firm will meet with a successful trip.

Adelaide Observer, February 22nd 1896 (Goolwa, February 18) 'The steamer "Shannon", Captain Freeman, arrived from the Darling last Thursday, having discharged all the cargo at Morgan and Murray Bridge. The *Shannon* made a quick passage to Menindie and back, the whole trip being done in less than one month. The *Shannon* is light draught and carries 150 tons on 2 ft. 6 in. water.

Both Dot and my father, (Elliott) never talked about their father, but the bitterness was evident when Dot was coming to the end of her life. She never knew this man whose rejection of her, her mother and her brother would have affected her self-esteem, and impacted on their lives with her mother having to work until she was 70. They were supported through these times by their Melbourne and Sydney Families as evidenced by the letters, post cards and birthday cards celebrating family milestones and other life events. Mary moved back to Melbourne with her two small children as she had no means of support in Sydney. They lived in Brunswick, at 21 Munro Street: a small Victorian weather board house, that had four rooms and a kitchen. The family lived with Mary's mother, who was a midwife, and so delivered lots of babies in Brunswick. Dot's mother, Mary worked long hours being a single mother, to support Dot and Elliott. The Burrows family was large as Mary had four sisters, so her children had lots of cousins, and there was a large extended family that spent a lot of time together. Dot and Elliott's early life was typical of working-class Brunswick between 1910 and 1917. Life in the small single fronted cottage was exciting with four boarders who shared the same room, two on night shift and two on day shift. My father remembered that these men never used the front door but always exited through the window in their room, which was on the side of the house. The family joke was that the beds were never cold, but times were tough during the war and having a place to sleep was a blessing. Mary's mother obtained double the boarding rate by renting this one room. There were three other rooms that

housed the rest of the family, Dot, Elliott and Mary, her mother's room, which either had her husband, or her daughter and her child, or one of her other daughters. When it became crowded these family members would go to Mary's stepbrothers' house which was just around the corner. The electoral rolls of the time revealed this constant movement between two houses.

In 1917 Dot, her mother and Elliott moved to 17 Carrington Street Moonee Vale, ((later Pascoe Vale South), into a larger house with a larger garden. This house was to remain in the family for sixty-eight years, and would hold many memories for not only Dot but my own family. The house was bought by Adam Smith who was the brother of Mary's favourite sister's husband, Bob. Mary had become great friends with Adam and he had fallen in love with her, expressing this on postcards and in letters he had written to her. Mary was constrained by the fact that she was never going to be divorced from her philandering husband, because he was uncontactable. Such was Adam's commitment to Mary, that after he bought the house in 1917, he made a will leaving all his property and possessions to Mary, so in 1946 when he died, she had a secure future and a house to live in for the rest of her life. Mary and Adam did spend 13 years in the house together after her children married, but because of her Christian faith she would not have him move in before the marriages.

In the 1920's, Dot lived a typical teenager's life, attending Coburg West Primary school, (a tradition continued by later generations), after beginning her school life at Brunswick Primary School. Photographs tell us that she went swimming at the local baths, that she

played tennis in the school team, and that she went to Grade 8, the Merit certificate. Once she moved to Moonee Vale, she and Elliott attended Sunday School, in a large two-story house, owned by Mr. Frank Strange, on the hill behind their house. The stories I heard confirmed that he was also strange by nature and quite frightening to children. They had to walk through the Chinese market gardens to attend every Sunday. Dot's mother ensured that her children knew the Bible as she was quite religious and gave each of them a copy. Dot received hers in 1915, and when she married her husband Allen received a copy too. All members of the family, including Mary's grand children were to receive Bibles as gifts.

After she left school Dot began working at the factory of British Tobacco where her mother worked. She was a typical young woman as she was always reluctant to get up in the morning, so her mother would appear in the doorway of the bedroom with her hat and coat on and say "Come on Dorrie, I'm leaving." This scenario was a forerunner of similar scenes that would take place in that very house forty years later, when two sisters also found it difficult to get up and off to school, exasperating their mother too.

Dot loved socializing and this meant going out dancing on Friday and Saturday night. She and Elliott would head off into the city from Moonee Vale. This was quite a trek in the early days, as the closest public transport was the tram that ran along Sydney Road, so they had to walk about three kilometres. As this could not be done in dancing shoes Dot would wear her walking boots, and leave them under a bush near the tram stop, so that she could walk back home with

them once she and Elliott had caught the last tram home. Often, they would go their separate ways in town and then meet up at the town hall to catch the tram home. Also, there were parties at Elliott's friend Jack's place, an enormous house that was literally just down the road. At this time there would have only been three houses in the street.

Dot met the love of her life, Alan on a weekend away with a girlfriend at a guest house during the 1920's. It was not love at first sight, but Allan pursued her and they were married in 1933 at St. John's Church in West Brunswick. Allan and Dot shared a long life together, over 50 years of marriage, through the depression, World War 2 and into the 1980's. They enjoyed each other's company, went to many places in Australia and travelled overseas to Europe, by boat and called into many foreign ports. I remember that we received gifts from Egypt, an exotic place in the mind of a twelve-year-old. Dot began her married life in Footscray and stayed there most of her life. She and Allan lived in Essex Street for many years and during that time they had two dogs, Cobber and Curly. In the early years Dot rode a bicycle to go shopping and visit her friends, while Allan worked long hours. Dot was a very independent woman eventually having her own car which was a Morris Minor, and this impressed her nieces when she came to visit her old home and her mother. By 1964 Dot and Allan downsized to a unit in Gordon Street, so that they could take three-month holidays at Hervey Bay in Queensland, every year in the winter. They were certainly trend setters in relation to the winter holiday in Queensland. They made many friends during this time, not only in Hervey Bay,

but playing golf and lawn bowls locally. Dot took up lawn bowls when she gave up tennis, at the age of 56, because in her own words, her bottom was too big for running around the tennis court. Golf was a game that Dot won many trophies playing. When age caught up with her, she switched to playing Bingo and the Pokies. The Pokies took her to N.S.W with her friends, and she would meet her sister-in-law, Mavis who she regarded as one of her best friends, at the Bingo in Moonee Ponds, every Friday afternoon. My Aunt really didn't have much faith in banks, so when she qualified for the pension, she would bring home most of it and stash it in the house, in the laundry in a shoe box, folded into canvas deck chairs in the garage and various other hidey holes. When we had the task of cleaning out her home, we found over \$5000 and some in bills that were out of circulation. I remember feeling guilty when I had to take them to the bank to be deposited thinking that the teller might accuse me of some long past bank robbery.

The two events in Dot's life that that she spoke of often that saddened her the most were the death of her mother, Mary and her beloved, Allan. She had many friends too, but one, Lorraine was the one that she loved and relied on in her later years. Sadly, for Dot Lorraine too died suddenly, but Dot soldiered on, with her amazing little body surviving injuries and a previous bout of pneumonia, to ninety-six and a half years. Her mind was as sharp as it was when she was in the prime of life.

In her later years, Dot appreciated her family's support. She also said that her long life was a form of punishment, because she missed Allan and as she saw her friends dying, she wanted to join

them. Without realizing it Dot, at this time, provided a window into the past, with her recollections of the people and the events in her life. She preserved the family events in our minds, and certainly re-enforced the importance of family history, being the last of her generation. Many an afternoon I would visit her and we would talk about the past, the family struggles, the secrets that the family kept for generations, the sadness of sudden deaths in the family, and the moral code that prevented her mother the enjoyment of a fulfilling relationship with the man who adored her. In his death notice Mary described Adam as a "dearly loved pal of Mary" and loved uncle of Dorrie and Elliott". An understated declaration of love.

Dot was a one-eyed Carlton supporter. She was in many ways a woman ahead of her time; an independent thinker, a straight talker, a woman who held the family in her heart, and one who enjoyed life at its best. She lived through a century of change and she adapted to those changes without any angst. She had wicked sense of humour, but she was also aware of her selfishness in her later years, as she often talked about it. Dot never worked after she was married but that was not uncommon for a woman of her era. Unlike many other women she had no children to look after, and she would say that was the one disappointment in her life. In her times there was no medical invention to change this, so luckily, she had the freedom to enjoy herself.

I held her hand in those last moments of her life, sadly remembering that I could not be in that moment for my parents to hold their hands.

Judy McCleary