John and Catherine MacDonald Family History.

John and Catherine (Macdonald) Macdonald

John Macdonald b. 1806 Isle of Skye, Parish of Kilmuir County of Inverness
Married 6th February 1827 at Skye, Parish of Snizort, County of Inverness

From the Old Parish Registers, Parish of Snizort, County Inverness Shire.
To Catherine Macdonald b. 1810 Isle of Skye, Inverness. (daughter of Hector & wife ?(Shaw) Macdonald, she died 6th March 1891 in Warrnambool Victoria Cert Ref No. 4341. They were said to be first cousins who eloped to marry. John & Catherine were believed to have lived around Snizort/Kilmuir, small neighbouring parishes on the Isle of Skye and the story of ‘crossing the border’ to marry because of family opposition came from Henrietta (Macdonald) Davies through to daughter Gertrude Mary (Davies) Benn. It would be hard to know which border they were referring to. Perhaps it was to a different Parish other than where they lived! The Isle of Skye comes under the jurisdiction of the County of Inverness.
Henrietta had said the poem ‘**Lord Ullins Daughter**’ was about very similar circumstances.

**Lord Ullin’s Daughter**

A chieftain, to the Highlands bound,
Cries, ‘Boatman, do not tarry!
And I’ll give thee a silver pound
To row us o’er the ferry!’--

``Now, who be ye, would cross Lochgyle,
This dark and stormy weather?”
``O, I’m the chief of Ulva’s Isle,
And this, Lord Ullin’s daughter.--

``And fast before her father’s men
Three days we’ve fled together,
For should he find us in the glen,
My blood would stain the heather.

``His horsemen hard behind us ride;
Should they our steps discover,
Then who will cheer my bonny bride
When they have slain her lover?”--

Out spoke the hardy Highland wight,--
``I’ll go, my chief--I’m ready:--
It is not for your silver bright;
But for your winsome lady:

``And by my word! The bonny bird
In danger shall not tarry;
So, though the waves are raging white,
I’ll row you o’er the ferry.’’--

By this the storm grew loud apace,
The water-wraith was shrieking;
And in the scowl of heaven each face
Grew dark as they were speaking.

But still as wilder blew the wind,
And as the night grew drearer,
A down the glen rode armèd men,
Their trampling sounded nearer.--

``O haste thee, haste!” the lady cries,
``Though tempests round us gather;
I’ll meet the raging of the skies,
But not an angry father.”--

The boat has left a stormy land,
A stormy sea before her.--
When, O! too strong for human hand,
The tempest gather’d o’er her.

And still they row’d amidst the roar
Of waters fast prevailing;
Lord Ullin reach’d that fatal shore,--
His wrath was changed to wailing.
For, sore dismay'd through storm and shade,
    His child he did discover:
    --
One lovely hand she stretch'd for aid,
    And one was round her lover.

``Come back! Come back!'' he cried in grief
    ``Across this stormy water:
    And I'll forgive your Highland chief,
    My daughter!--O my daughter!''

'Twas vain: the loud waves lash'd the shore,
    Return or aid preventing:
    The waters wild went o'er his child,
    And he was left lamenting.

By Thomas Campbell

'John Macdonald had enlisted for the 26th Regiment of Infantry on the 26th December 1825 at Edinburgh, in the County of East Lothian aged 19 years ? months.

Born in the Parish of Kilmuir on the Isle of Skye, in the County of Inverness.
Trade or calling - Crofter (small Farmer)
Size - 5 feet 6 ¾ inches
Complexion Black
Eyes – Grey
Hair – Black
Marks - None

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Promotions or reductions in Rank -</th>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Days</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Private</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>273</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporal 23rd September 1828</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sergeant 23rd April 1830</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(something seems wrong about the additions According to notes from the Regimental book belonging to Sergeant of the 26th Regiment of Infantry:- but this is as transcribed from original)

Services (if any) prior to Enlistment – none
Services Abroad - Landed in the East Indies 9th September 1837 (prior Australia)
Wounds – none
Distinguished himself.
Cause and Date of becoming non effective - Purchased his discharge 1st May 1837
If married date & Place of Marriage & Christian name of Wife -
Date - 7th February 1827
Place - Parish of Snizort, Skye, Inverness Shire
Name - Catherine Macdonald
Children (if any) Date & place of Birth & Christian name
28 the November 1829 - Madras - Flora d. 26th Sept 1913 at Mirboo South, Victoria
5th February 1832 - Meerut - Margaret Rose
17th November 1833 - Meerut – Catherine
5th October 1835 - Meerut- John Charles

Catherine Macdonald - Present with Regiment
Meerut Year 1833
Meerut Year 1834
Meerut Year 1835
Chazepre year 1836
-----am year 1837

Discharged 31st March 1837 by Order of General Hill having paid £15.0.0

(Original papers were held by Margaret Mathewman of Noble Park, Victoria who now may be deceased. Believed to now be in the ownership of Anne Platt, 9 Cuthbert Circuit, Wanniassa, A.C.T. 2903 who also seems to have moved away)

John Macdonald served in the British Colonial Army and was said to be Aide De camp to Lord Beauchamp (Governor of India). Research has not shown any Lord Beauchamp as a Governor of India during the years John Macdonald was serving there.

Lieutenant-General Lord William Henry Cavendish-Bentinck, GCB, GCH, PC (14 September 1774 – 17 June 1839), known as Lord William Bentinck, was a British soldier and statesman. He served as Governor-General of India from 1828 to 1835. Charles Theophilus Metcalfe, 1st Baron Metcalfe, Bt, GCB, PC (30 January 1785 – 5 September 1846), known as Sir Charles Metcalfe. He held many appointments including acting Governor-General of India, 20 March 1835 – 4 March 1836. George Eden, 1st and last Earl of Auckland, GCB, PC (25 August 1784 – 1 January 1849) was an English Whig politician and colonial administrator. He served as Governor-General of India between 1836 and 1842.

Was Beauchamp the name of an Officer John Macdonald served under? Whoever the ‘Beauchamp’ was in the Macdonald’s experience, the name lived on in the naming of Catherine and John’s daughter Henrietta’s child Frederick Beauchamp Davies, and his grandchild Beauchamp Barry.
Meerut is a city in the Indian state of Uttar Pradesh. It is an ancient city with settlements dating back to the Indus Valley civilization having been found in and around the area. The city lies 70 km (43 miles) northeast of the national capital New Delhi, and 453 km (281 miles) northwest of the state capital, Lucknow.

When thinking about the Macdonald's years living in India, one wonders what the conditions may have been like. There is some family folklore regarding Macdonalds having the help of servants and may have brought one or two with them to Australia. At this time this is purely speculation - we do not actually know. The rank of Sergeant would not have been as prestigious or as well paid as higher ranks, and this must be considered when imagining the lifestyle.

Research of the Latter Day Saints Website https://familysearch.org/ March 2015 provided further details of the Macdonald Family time in India. After obtaining the information about Malcolm Macdonald as the first born child, as shown on his mother's Catherine Macdonald Death Certificate, these new details reveal he was born in India and only survived 22 days. The variation in the spelling of Malcolm and birth date 1829 on the death entry (when it should be 1828), also Margaret Rose mother should be only named Catherine. I believe these are transcribing faults.
Malcolm Mcdonald
India, Births and Baptisms
Name: Malcolm Mcdonald
Gender: Male
Christening Date: 30 Dec 1828
Christening Place: Madras, Madras, India
Father's Name: John Mcdonald
Mother's Name: Catherine
Indexing Project (Batch) Number: C00067-4, System Origin: India-EASY, GS Film number: 521840, Reference ID: v 14 p 117

Citing this Record

Malcolm Mcdonald
India, Deaths and Burials
Name: Malcolm Mcdonald
Gender: Male
Burial Date: 07 Jan 1829
Burial Place: Madras, Madras, India
Age: 0
Birth Date: 1829
Father's Name: John Mcdonald
Indexing Project (Batch) Number: B00200-5, System Origin: India-EASY, GS Film number: 521839

Citing this Record

Flora Mcdonald
India, Births and Baptisms
Name: Flora Mcdonald
Gender: Female
Christening Date: 09 Dec 1829
Christening Place: Madras, Madras, India
Father's Name: John Mcdonald
Mother's Name: Catherine
Indexing Project (Batch) Number: C00067-4, System Origin: India-EASY, GS Film number: 521840, Reference ID: v 14 p 117

Citing this Record
Margaret Rose Mcdonald
India, Births and Baptisms
Name: Margaret Rose Mcdonald
Gender: Female
Christening Date: 15 Feb 1832
Christening Place: MEERUT, BENGALE, INDIA
Birth Date: 05 Feb 1832
Father's Name: John Mcdonald
Mother's Name: Margaret Catherine
Indexing Project (Batch) Number: C75003-4, System Origin: India-Easy, GS Film number: 498966, Reference ID: v 32 p 113

Citing this Record

Catherine Macdonald
India, Births and Baptisms
Name: Catherine Macdonald
Gender: Female
Christening Date: 26 Jan 1834
Christening Place: MEERUT, BENGALE, INDIA
Birth Date: 17 Nov 1833
Father's Name: John Mcdonald
Mother's Name: Catherine
Indexing Project (Batch) Number: C75003-7, System Origin: India-Easy, GS Film number: 498970, Reference ID: v 38 p 80

Citing this Record
The above records are consistent with John Macdonald’s Army Record information, with the exception of Malcolm’s birth and death. (Malcolm’s name is mentioned as the first born child on his mother Catherine Macdonald’s death certificate, otherwise he was unknown of until now) Perhaps because his life was so short he was not recorded on his father John’s Army records! As John & Catherine’s first born child I am lead to believe this is the correct person according to Indian records consistent with the time the Macdonald family were there. No birth for Malcolm has been found in Scotland which would match our Macdonald family, and the time frame before Flora’s birth.

March 2015 a copy of the 1849 Death certificate for Catherine & John Macdonald’s son John Charles was obtained, and revealed curious details, being unlike other death certificates from later years in the State of Victoria.
As can be seen the writing is very difficult to decipher & translates as follows:-

**Presbyterian Burials in the District of Port Fairy in the County of**

from the 1st day of July 1849 to the 1st day of October 1849

First column - Name – John Charles Macdonald (with numbers 2131 beneath)
Second column - Age - Fourteen
Third column – Abode – Warrnambool
Fourth column – When Buried – 16th September 1849
Fifth Column – Ship’s Name – St George
Sixth Column - Quality or Profession – Schoolmaster’s son (G.S.V. research identified this)
Seventh column – By Whom Ceremony Performed - ? T.W. McGillvray ?

From these details the question of why a ship would be mentioned arose, and could this be a clue to the Macdonald’s journey to Australia circa 1838? Genealogical Society of Victoria research April 2015 confirmed this to be correct. This was a very fortunate find, official registration did not come into place until much later.

It would seem the family returned to Scotland after John purchased his discharge 31st March 1837 from the Army in India and then may have found conditions were very difficult to re-establish a life at Snizort on the Isle of Skye, so they took up the opportunity of a future in Australia as ‘Bounty Immigrants’. Mention on passenger details of the ship St George passing by the ‘Cape’ indicates that the Macdonald’s travelled from Oban, Scotland, via the Cape of Good Hope to Australia. Research revealed that a Ship ‘St George’ arrived at Port Jackson, New South Wales 15th November 1838.

Further research of the ship ‘St George’ provides the information that this was one of the Bounty Ships bringing emigrants from the British Isles, to populate and provide labour for Australia.

**Adapted from an article by Philip Bowden Mitchell**


The 'Bounty' Scheme (1835-1841) was organised by the colonial government of N.S.W. on behalf of the settlers who were dissatisfied with British government programmes. Prospective settlers were offered bounties as an incentive to emigrate. Both schemes, in fact, provided significant financial assistance to emigrate, as the cost of the passage was prohibitive for the majority of intending settlers. The assistance provided was similar under each scheme.

In 1838 the amount offered was:
- 36 pounds for a man and wife under 40 years of age
- 18 pounds when the husband was over 40
- 18 pounds for each unmarried female 15 to 30 years of age
- 10 pounds for each child 7 to 14
- 5 pounds for each child 1 to 7
The previous image is from a photograph or slide taken by the late Dr John Turner (1933 - 1998), local historian and lecturer, and now held as a scanned image in the cultural Collection of the University of Newcastle, NSW - REF: C917-0173 Drawing - Emigrant Ship between decks, 1850. and believed to originally be from the Illustrated London News, issue 17 August 1850.

The journey was long and hazardous. During the emigrations of the nineteenth century, at least 26 ships were lost on the passage.

In 1838, the route used to travel to New South Wales covered more than 13,000 nautical miles. The ships would stop at Cape Town and perhaps Teneriffe (or the Cape Verde Islands) to replenish stocks of food and water. The psychological and physical impact of such a long journey on the emigrants was considerable, particularly as many rural people, had barely ventured beyond their own rural district, let alone contemplated a lengthy sea passage.

The arduous nature of the voyage was worsened by the poor standard of accommodation on the ships. Assisted emigrants, or 'steerage passengers', were housed in the lower decks, with only paying passengers living in the upper deck area. Married couples and children under 14 were in the centre of the lower decks, with the single women and girls in the 'after-berths', and the single males and boys in the 'fore part' of the ship. This would have meant that the three eldest Fairhall children were unlikely to have been with their parents during the journey, apart from seeing them on the upper deck during the day. (this article was written originally in regard to the Fairhall family) The 'steerage quarters' were cramped, with only six feet and four inches (193 cm) of headroom. A meal table ran the length of the ship, with two levels of bunks on either side. These bunks were each three feet (91 cm) wide. Married couples would have an upper bunk, and up to four of the children the bunk below. The 18 inches (45 cm) width allowed for each person was identical to that which had been used in the convict transports.

Understandably there was limited privacy. Men were able to have saltwater showers on the upper deck, but many women did not bathe during the whole journey. Those cramped unhygienic quarters encouraged the spread of infection. Some of the 'Government Scheme' ships, including the 'Maitland', were notorious for the number of deaths due to infection. It was not until after the 1830's that strict regulations to ensure
adequate hygiene, were enforced to reduce death rates. Before that time, however, many passengers died from diseases such as scarlet fever, typhus and cholera. To avoid these tragedies, surgeons were appointed to each vessel to ensure adequate standards of hygiene and nutrition. Interestingly, they were also employed to select a suitable quality of migrant for the journey.

The above print is recorded as "Dinner on board the first emigrant ship for New Zealand [and] The Hutt river and bridge in 1855".


However, in Charlwood, Don: The Long Farewell p110, it is recorded as being sourced from the Illustrated London News, 10 May 1851, held by the National Library, Canberra

For meals, emigrants were grouped into a 'mess' of 6-12 people who were usually from the same neighbourhood, church or factory, and the print above shows families eating at a long table between their sleeping compartments. A 'mess captain' would be selected to obtain the weekly rations and then take the food to the galley to be cooked. Meal rations varied from ship to ship, but were comprised of meat, bread, flour, suet, plums, rice, peas, coffee, tea, sugar, mustard and vinegar. Biscuits were also provided, but were often a source of complaint as they were frequently baked so hard they were impossible to eat. Prior to embarkation, emigrants were advised to bring jam and things to mix with the water when it gets stale!

The long journey was arduous and time hung heavily. When weather allowed pastimes such as concerts and dances were arranged on deck, though strict supervision of the single males and females was always maintained! On Sundays, formal Church of England services were led on the upper deck, either by a clergymen or by the captain. Non-conformist or Catholic services were held below-decks. Many emigrants, could not write or could not read, or both, so teachers were often organised to take classes during the passage.

Sydney in 1838
When the ship arrived in Sydney, on November 1838, the colony of New South Wales was only 50 years old. Sir George Gipps was Governor of the colony, which at that time incorporated present-day Queensland and Victoria. New South Wales was still very much a
convict settlement, with one of the largest military establishments in the British Empire. Convict transportation to the colony did not cease until January 1839. The population of New South Wales was only about 80,000 and Sydney was just a small town of approximately 23,000 inhabitants. Half of the population were convicts or their descendants. The population was to double by 1841 due to the influx of free emigrants, by which time there would be four free persons for every bondsman. Brisbane (Moreton Bay) and Melbourne (Port Phillip) were only recently-established small settlements. Present-day N.S.W. and Victoria had been explored by Hume and Hovell, Sturt and Mitchell, but the explorations into Queensland, South Australia and Central Australia would not be undertaken until the 1840's.

Few buildings of the Sydney of 1838 remain standing in 1988. Amongst these are the Rum Hospital (present-day State Parliament House), the Mint, Convict Barracks, Government Stables (the modern 'Conservatorium of Music') and St. James Church in Macquarie Street.

In 1838, the colony had been in such severe drought that the Governor had proclaimed November 2nd (four days before the arrival of the 'Maitland') as a national day of 'fasting and humiliation'. It rained on November 4th, leading to an outbreak of influenza. These circumstances must have created an unpleasant welcome for the families from Kent and Sussex, who were contending with deaths of family members and a long period in quarantine. The drought conditions would have been a far cry from the lush green hop-growing regions of south-eastern England. Also at that time, there was major concern about frequent fights between the white settlers and the aboriginal population. Life in the bush was virtually lawless, and there were frequent reports of massacres by both whites and blacks.

The most difficult problem for all the new British settlers was, however, the sense of isolation due to the vast distance of the new colony from 'home'. Very few would ever be able to return, even if they had the means. Corresponding with relatives in Britain by mail took a minimum of 5 months one way, and about a year to receive a reply. Telegraphic communications did not connect Australia to the rest of the world until the 1870's.

Despite these difficulties, the new colony provided significant opportunities for men and women of enterprise, faith and industry. The rigid distinctions of the English class system had not been transferred to this new society. These factors allowed the families an opportunity to create lives that were more productive and fulfilling than would ever have been possible in their country of birth.

Adapted from an article by Philip Bowden Mitchell in King, Colin: The Benenden Bowdens (Magenta Press, 1988)

Early in the year 1836 Dr. David Boyter was appointed agent of emigration to New South Wales on the plan suggested by Sir Richard Bourke, subject to the confirmation of the Secretary of State. He was instructed to proceed to Scotland, and in that country to select mechanics for emigration to the colony, of the following descriptions, and in the following proportions: viz., carpenters, one eighth; joiners one eighth; stone masons, one half; blacksmiths, one eighth; and bricklayers one eighth. These artificers were all to be married men, and accompanied by their wives and children; the ages of neither of the married couple to exceed thirty years.

*The Australian* reported that Dr. Boyter was to offer a passage to Sydney on the following terms:
Each married couple under thirty years of age a bounty of £30; Each child above two and under seven years £5; Each child above seven and under 15 years £10; Each unmarried daughter above fifteen and under thirty years £15; any young woman, under the protection of a family above 18 and under 30 years £15.

This bounty according to the present rate of passage money in London is perfectly adequate to pay the whole expense; it may, therefore be considered a free passage.

Dr. Boyter entertains the fullest expectations of being able to procure as many respectable families for Forfarshire and the adjacent counties as will require a ship of large tonnage for their conveyance; in which case, a ship of the first class will be brought into the Tay, and receive every person on board, with all their necessaries and luggage; and Dr. Boyter will feel bound to proceed direct to NSW in the vessel himself. As Dr. Boyter has frequently been in the Colony and made himself fully acquainted with everything relating to emigration, the whole superintendence and direction have been entrusted to him.

Ref: http://www.jenwilletts.com/surgeon_superintendents_-b.htm#BOYTER, David,

‘Australian Emigration—Fort William’
After some months of expectation and anxiety, Dr. Boyter, the Government emigration agent for Australia, arrived at Fort William on x 8th current. The news of his arrival, like the fiery cross of old, soon spread through every glen of the district, and at an early hour on Monday, thousands of enterprising Gaels might be seen ranked around the Caledonian Hotel, anxious to quit the land of their forefathers and to go and possess the unbounded pastures of Australia. . . . While we regret that so many active men should feel it necessary to leave their own country, the Highlands will be considerably relieved of its over-plus population.
(Inverness Courier, 30th May, 1838)

The Shamrock speaking to the packet ship St George off Cape Dromedary, c. 1841–1857, artist unknown, oil, ML 581 (Cape Dromedary is South of Bega, coastal N.S.W.)
The following newspaper item relates the experience of immigrants on board another ship which Dr Boyter had charge of selecting the eligible candidates coming to Australia.
The British King

The 8th government-chartered immigrant ship to sail from a Highland port in Scotland, was the Barque British King. Her predecessors were the William Nicol, Midlothian, Brilliant, St George, Boyne, James Moran and Lady McNaughton. The British King’s registered tonnage was 673 tons and her burthen upwards of 1,000 tons. She had a regular frigate deck from stem to stern of 124 feet with a ceiling of 8½ feet, width 28½ feet with double tier of berths for 256 passengers, besides children. In addition, the male and female hospitals each contained 9 berths and were situated immediately beneath the Surgeon’s cabin. The Surgeon thus had access at all hours to his patients from his own room by a hatchway, through which a wind sail could be put to the top of the poop, a matter of the greatest importance to the sick. Each adult was provided with a clothes bag, a bed and blankets, a knife, fork and spoon. The dining tables were affixed amidships and no chest was allowed to be taken to the hold. There was a wide promenade round the whole of the ship, which was rendered airy and agreeable by the provision of air ports on each side. According to the standard of accommodation for ships of those days, that of the British King was comfortable. The general outfitting was carried out probably at Greenock, under the supervision of Lieutenant Hermans, the
Government Agent for the ship, whilst Mr. Andrew Crawford, joiner, fitted up in a superior manner the sleeping and dining accommodation.

Sufficient stores were taken aboard for a trip to last some 5 or 6 months. These consisted mainly of Arrowroot, Biscuits, Flour, Meat, Molasses, Oatmeal, Pork, Port Wine, Sago, Soap, Vegetables, Vinegar, Water and Medical Supplies etc. From the Clyde River, she sailed under the command of Captain William Paton with a crew of 4 officers and 30 marines, to the port of Tobermory, “The Well of Mary”, so called from a spring of local celebrity, Isle of Mull. Up to the time of her departure, she was the largest ship that had ever sailed from the Clyde for Australia - but what a contrast she presents to the present day steamers! She was comparatively, a small ship but her name will long be commemorated with this trip.

**Highland Emigrants**

“Fogradh nan Gaidheal.
Thàinig soitheach 'g an iarraidh,
'S dh' fheum iad triall air an ànradh,
'G an giùlan thar fairge
Do gharbhlaich gun fhàrdaich.” (I cannot find an English translation of these words)

At Tobermory the migrants embarked under the superintendence of Surgeon Alexander Arbuckle, (see Medical Journal of Australia, " V2 N.15, 13.10.1934") 128 adults and 204 children, a total of 332 passengers, belonging to the Caird (1), Cameron (17), Campbell (29), Fletcher (11), Henderson (5), Frazer (15), Keay (3), McArthur (1), McCallum (13), McDonald (146), McDougall (2), McEachern (13), McFadyen (2), McFarlane (14), McKellar (1), McKillop (7), McKinnon (5), McNaughton (1), McNeil (1), Nicholson (1), Pender (7), Pierson (1), and Shaw (1) clans. The majority of them were natives of Argyllshire - the islands of Coll, Gometra, Tyree and Ulva and the district of Ardnamurchan; the remainder were from Invernesshire - Skye and Moidart; Dumbartonshire - Kilpatrick; Morayshire - Elgin and Aberdeenshire.

With her full complement of passengers aboard, the British King weighed anchor on October 28, 1838 and set sail on her long voyage of 13,000 miles direct for “down under”. That day her Gaelic speaking migrants bid adieu, probably for the last time, to their native heather hills and glens and braved the storms and perils of the Atlantic, Indian and Pacific Oceans. Many of them, especially those from the Isles, had lived on the level of the sea. The menfolk were mostly farmer-sailors - equally at home in the furrow of the land as in the furrow of the sea. Although a copy of the regulations observed aboard ship is not available, probably they were similar to those of the Asia from Cromarty, in which the Phemister family, descendants of whom reside at Copmanhurst, arrived at Sydney on May 10, 1839. These in the main were: -

1. Out of bed at seven.
2. Beds to be rolled up, and in fine weather carried on deck.
3. Breakfast at eight.
4. Clean decks at ten.
5. Dine at one.
6. Tea at six.
7. Four constables to be appointed.
8. A certain number of men to be on watch at night. One lantern to be kept burning at each hatchway.
9. Everybody under 15 years to be on deck at 10 a.m., weather permitting, to be inspected by the Surgeon or Teachers and seen to be clean. After inspection school.
10. On every Sabbath, the people to assemble for Divine Service.
11. Washing days every Monday and Thursday. When not fine, others to be substituted as the Surgeon may direct.
12. No washing on any account to be suffered between decks and no drying of wet cloths there.
13. No spirits to be allowed.
14. When wine in issue, the Surgeon enjoined to refuse same to any person neglecting these regulations; and in the case of gross misconduct or violence same to be reported to the Governor on arrival.
15. The constables and teachers to be exempted from cleaning the decks.
16. Passengers to bear in mind that on arrival in the colony their conduct during the voyage will be known and that therefore not only is it essential to their health and perhaps their safety to attend to the rules agreed to for their well-being on the passage but that individuals who thwart them may feel the consequences seriously in their prospects afterwards.

The fair breeze blew, the white foam flew, and after a lengthy and tedious passage of 123 days, without calling at any intermediate port, the good ship British King on February 28, 1839, entered the safe and beautiful haven of Port Jackson.

Arrival Sydney
Dr. John Dobie, Health Officer and formerly of the Royal Navy, whose name is perpetuated in the name of a street in Grafton and is also linked with the early history of the Clarence River, conducted the medical examination of the passengers. All except 2 were found to be quite healthy. Dr. Dobie granted pratique and the British King dropped anchor in Neutral Bay. During the passage 7 minors died and 6 babies first saw the light of day.

On arrival, Surgeon Superintendent Arbuckle reported that Divine Service was kept every Sabbath since leaving Tobermory - 240 Protestants and 83 Roman Catholics attended. School was also established. Thirty-five scholars attended regularly, all of whom made great progress. One of the teachers was Mr. John McFarlane, father of Mr. Duncan McFarlane, well-known on the Clarence. For the preservation of the health of the passengers, they were made to appear on deck whenever the weather permitted and the greatest attention was always paid to cleanliness. Dancing and other amusements were encouraged to prevent idleness and to preserve contentment and cheerfulness among the passengers. Probably Duncan McDonald, a native of the Isle of Tyree, who was recorded on the passenger list as a “farmer and piper”, provided the bagpipe music for the Highland dance.

Whilst at sea, the British King exchanged colours with the Cassandra bound for Bombay on December 5, with the North Briton from Sydney to Batavia on February 18, and she also spoke in Bass Strait on February 25, a brig supposed to be the Black Joke from Launceston to South Australia.

The Immigrants
The British King was hauled into Sydney Cove, where she landed her migrants on March 4, and commenced discharging her cargo of soap, vinegar, whisky, ale, geneva, bottles, wine and handspikes and stores. The immigrants were domiciled at the Immigration Building, Bent Street, until they met with engagements. These Highlanders and those who had landed before them, being hardy and frugal in their habits and in general of strict integrity and virtue, were eagerly sought after as employees by the colonists. The majority of them were farmers and shepherds. One of their number was a qualified Surgeon - Duncan McDonald, native of Mull.

In The Australian newspaper of March 23, 1839, the following letter of appreciation was published:

“To the Editor of The Australian,
Sir,
Requested by my fellow passengers to communicate through the medium of your valuable journal to the local Government and the public generally, the high estimation which Supt. Arbuckle, Capt. Paton and other officers of the British King are deservedly held by the whole of the passengers. I feel much pleasure in complying with such a creditable proposal.
It is admitted by all the gentlemen who have been on board that they never witnessed an immigrant ship enter the harbour of Port Jackson in superior condition as to general cleanliness and the consequent good health of its inmates than the British King and certainly none her equal, who made the passage without calling at any intermediate ports. The expenses generally incurred at the Cape of Good Hope, have been avoided and the health of the passengers preserved unimpaired. We are indebted under the guidance of Providence for such a happy issue to our voyage, to the close and unremitting attention conjoined with the superior intelligence and experience of Dr. Arbuckle and Capt. Paton. These gentlemen are so affable in their manners that to obey their commands was a pleasure, and their natural dispositions are so benevolent as to render their orders easy and agreeable. The former’s kindness and assiduity will never be obliterated from the hearts of those who emigrated from their native land under his charge and if ever any of them should return thither they will consider themselves more than fortunate by taking their passage under the command of a gentleman equally qualified with the latter.

Our thanks are likewise due to the first and second officers who invariably treated us with affability and kindness. The common sailors participated in a high degree in these benevolent feelings so prevalent among our seafaring countrymen, and our wives in particular are very grateful for their assiduous attention to children.

I am your obedient servant,

An Immigrant, by the British King.”

-----------------------------------------------
Below is a list of some of the Bounty Ships with details of departure etc.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Ship</th>
<th>Port of departure</th>
<th>Number of emigrants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13 March 1837</td>
<td>John Barry</td>
<td>Dundee</td>
<td>323</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 July 1837</td>
<td>William Nicoll</td>
<td>Hebrides</td>
<td>321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 August 1837</td>
<td>Midlothian</td>
<td>Hebrides</td>
<td>282</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 1837</td>
<td>Brilliant</td>
<td>Hebrides</td>
<td>298</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 January 1838</td>
<td>Duncan</td>
<td>Greenock</td>
<td>260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 April 1838</td>
<td>Lady Kennaway</td>
<td>Leith</td>
<td>283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 May 1838</td>
<td>William Roger</td>
<td>Greenock</td>
<td>296</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 July 1838</td>
<td>Saint George</td>
<td>Oban</td>
<td>326</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 August 1838</td>
<td>Boyne</td>
<td>Cromarty</td>
<td>285</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 September 1838</td>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>Cromarty</td>
<td>270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 September 1838</td>
<td>Lady McNaghten</td>
<td>Cromarty</td>
<td>205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 October 1838</td>
<td>James Moran</td>
<td>Loch Broom</td>
<td>210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 1838</td>
<td>British King</td>
<td>Tobermory</td>
<td>326</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 May 1839</td>
<td>Hero</td>
<td>Leith</td>
<td>201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 June 1839</td>
<td>David Clarke</td>
<td>Greenock</td>
<td>283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 September 1839</td>
<td>George Fyfe</td>
<td>Tobermory</td>
<td>178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 1839</td>
<td>Henry Porcher</td>
<td>Skye</td>
<td>211</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 1839</td>
<td>Glen Huntly</td>
<td>Oban</td>
<td>305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 January 1840</td>
<td>Dauntless</td>
<td>Greenock</td>
<td>200 approx.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 1840</td>
<td>Calder</td>
<td>Greenock</td>
<td>200 approx.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>20 ships</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>5,263 persons</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Many Scots had previously immigrated to Canada, but, in 1837-38, the Lower Canada Rebellion prevented others from choosing Canada as their destination to begin new life. Had times been different perhaps the Macdonald family would have chosen to emigrate to Canada instead of Australia.

As you can see the ship St George left Oban on the west coast of Scotland on the 4th July 1838 to sail to Australia, arriving at Sydney 114 days later on the 15th November 1838. The following photos taken in 2015 give an idea of the coast the Macdonald’s may have seen as they departed Oban’s Scottish shores for the last time.
Old Oban pier built 1812, where the ship St George may have docked.
It would seem from comments on the Macdonald family ship records that they were less happy with the journey, generally they were displeased with the Surgeon. Further information from the LDS site shows the Macdonald family as passengers on Board the ship St George on a typewritten card (this has been copied from original shipping records, because typewriters were not in use in 1838). All of the names are correct and the children's ages consistent with birth/christening records from India. John's age is correct but, Catherine would be approx 27 years using information already known, or perhaps she was genuinely older!
Apart from the general details which are recorded as on the typewritten card there is a comment at the bottom of the original page –
‘Genl complaints against the Surgeon Made a statement to the Governor after Cape of G Hope’

Also a handwritten note on the top right – ‘John Macdonald son of Charles Macdonald’ –
Personal details – John Macdonald, Native of Scotland, Parish of Snizort – son of Charles Macdonald, tailor and farmer, of same place & Janet his wife. 31 years December? Health very good, Presbyterian, can read.

This then leads to more research of the fellow passengers, revealing several other family members who matched details on John Macdonald’s entry.

Copy of the original Entry to Australia Document for Catherine Macdonald
Apart from the general details which are recorded as on the typewritten card there is a comment at the bottom of the page –

‘Same complaints as husband’

Also a handwritten note on the top right – Personal details – Catherine Macdonald, Native of Scotland, Parish of Snizort – daughter of Hector Macdonald, farmer, of same place & Margaret his wife. 30 years November 1837, live at home. Health very good, Presbyterian, can read. Children listed on the right John – three, Flora – nine, Margaret rose – seven and Catherine – six.

Further research of the ship St George passengers matching family details on the same journey, revealed other family members: - John Macdonald’s parents Charles & Janet, brothers Alexander & Normand and sister Rachael.

Copy of the original Entry to Australia Document for Charles Macdonald
There is a comment at the bottom of the page – **Complaints against the Surgeon which were made to the Governor at the Cape.**

Personal details – Charles Macdonald, Native of Scotland, Parish of Snizort - Charles Macdonald aged 50 years in May 1838, son of Donald Macdonald farmer of the same place and with his wife, calling – tailor farmer. Health very good, Presbyterian, can read.

**Copy of the original Entry to Australia Document for Janet Macdonald**
There is a comment at the bottom of the page – **Complaints against the Surgeon similar to the husband.**

There is a comment at the bottom of the page – **No complaints.**

Personal details – Rachel Macdonald, Native of Scotland, Parish of Snizort – daughter of Charles Macdonald, tailor and farmer of same place & Janet his wife. Lived at home, 23 years June 1838. Health very good, Presbyterian, can read.
Copy of the original Entry to Australia Document for Alexander Macdonald

There is a comment at the bottom of the page – **General complaints.**

Personal details – Alexander Macdonald, Native of Scotland, Parish of Snizort – son of Charles Macdonald, tailor and farmer, of same place & Janet his wife. Shoemaker, 21 years August 1838. Health very good, Presbyterian, can read and write.
There is a comment at the bottom of the page – **General complaints against the Surgeon.**

Personal details – Normand Macdonald, Native of Scotland, Parish of Snizort – son of Charles Macdonald, tailor and farmer of same place & Janet his wife. Agricultural Labourer, 19 years January 1838. Health very good, Presbyterian, can read.

From all these passenger details of the ship St George we can see that not only John and Catherine Macdonald and children immigrated to Australia, also John’s parents Janet & Charles and their children (his siblings) Rachel, Alexander & Normand.

With so many facts matching our known Macdonald family, there is no doubt all these St George passengers are our ancestors.
Millers Point, Sydney (or Sydney in the Forties), c. 1845, Joseph Fowles, watercolour, ML 66

Millers Point was an important centre for commercial expansion, as entrepreneurs such as Robert Towns and John Lamb set up private wharves. New South Wales flourished upon the efforts, and money, of these merchants.

The Macdonald family could have seen a similar view of Sydney had they arrived a few years earlier than this artist’s interpretation. Whether they set first foot on land in Port Jackson or Melbourne is a fact yet to be determined.

Convict ships were still arriving in Australia in 1938 – Ship ‘Earl Grey’ arrived at Sydney a few days after St George on the 21st November, 1838 at New South Wales, the average sentence: 10 Years | Life sentences: 23 | Passengers: 290.

It was only 5 years since Britain abolished the slave trade in 1833.

Charles Sturt discovered the Murray River 14th January 1830.

These small snippets of information give an idea of the times the Macdonald family had lived through.

------------------------------------------------------
An inquiry 23rd April 2015 DC ENQ 40320 - St George arrival date – sent to:-
Immigration Museum Discovery Centre
GPO Box 666
Melbourne VIC 3001
Australia
Email idc@museum.vic.gov.au

In regard to a group of Macdonald’s of the same Christian names appearing on the September 1838 census taken in Victoria, which would have been before arrival of St George at Sydney on the 15th November 1838:-

Dear Betty,

Thank you kindly for your enquiry regarding the landing date of the St George and your family’s arrival into Australia. We assigned your enquiry to one of our volunteer researchers, who has given us the following response:

I have found a record of the St George arriving in Sydney from Oban, Scotland, on November 15th 1838 but nothing about it stopping in Melbourne. At that stage the Yarra was too shallow for ships to travel up and people and cargo were offloaded and carried overland from Williamstown or Liardet's Beach or similar. It is entirely possible that the St George came anti-clockwise around the Australian coast, stopping for example in Fremantle and Melbourne, before heading up to Sydney. The passengers in question may have left the ship and travelled overland into Melbourne before the St George even arrived in Sydney, which would explain why they were showing on the September census.

The Victorian Census from 1838 is stored on microfilm held by the Public Records Office of Victoria so we don’t have access to it to look at unfortunately. I apologize that I can’t give you a definitive answer on this one, as the records from that period are not the greatest and a lot of them were disposed of in the late 1800s which is very unfortunate for us.

You can find contact details for the Public Records Office of Victoria here.

Best of luck with your research, and if you have any further questions please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards,

Siobhán

Port of Melbourne (from Museum Victoria)

The first direct overseas immigrant ships to reach Melbourne arrived in 1838. Unlike the small coastal vessels that established the settlement four years earlier, these ships were too large to pass up the shallow Yarra River. People and goods were off-loaded into small boats and carried overland from Williamstown or Liardet's Beach (now Port Melbourne), creating costly and inefficient double-handling of goods.
Below copies of the Macdonald family entries on the St George Ship list.

- John & Catherine Macdonald:

- Charles & Janet Macdonald:

- Alexander & Normand Macdonald:

- Rachel Macdonald:

List of wage rates & trades for immigrants from the Ship St George list on the following page.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Dom Day</th>
<th>Wages per Week</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Squatter</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beckhauer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clerk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpenter</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Druggist</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farm Butler</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Farver</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Farm Foreman</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Gardener</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House Servant</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ploughman</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Plumber</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Steward</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schoolmaster</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Servant</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tailor</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Coachman</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boy's Muckin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dairy Hands</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cook Housekeeper</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milkman</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stove Room Stoker</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House Servant</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farm Servant</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laundry Maid</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
When the John Macdonald family first arrived at Port Phillip in 1838 they would have seen the town looking much as in these interpretations by artists of the times.
Melbourne was such a young settlement when the Macdonalds arrived, having only been founded in 1834, so it is easy to imagine the town still very undeveloped, few houses and other buildings constructed, probably still many rough tents or lean to dwellings. Rough dry dusty or muddy tracks for roads, very little sanitation to speak of and a mix of population.
There would still have been a lot of native wildlife, dense bush and indigenous local tribes. One wonders what John and Catherine and their children’s impressions were, as they stepped foot onto Australian soil!

When & how the Macdonald family arrived at Melbourne is still unknown, but the Port Phillip Census records for the nominal date 12th September 1838 (meaning recorded around the 12th September, not necessarily on the exact date) has the names of all our Macdonald family on it. The exception being Janet McKinnon - was she recorded under her maiden name, instead of as the wife of Charles Macdonald? All other names match the passenger record - Maggie being Margaret and Kitty being Catherine. It would be hard to imagine that the two groups of people during a similar time frame, all bearing the same names on both records, could not be one and the same family.

Normand Macdonald is recorded on both passenger list and Census as 'Normand' with a d, which is a less common spelling, another comparison point.

Perhaps the ship St George did pass via Port Phillip and the passengers were offloaded into smaller boats or taken overland to arrive at Melbourne, in view of the comment from the Immigration Museum letter.

The Port Phillip Nominal Census of 12/9/1838 lists the following people:

- Charles Macdonald
- John Macdonald
- Alexander Macdonald
- Normand Macdonald
- Catherine Macdonald
- Rachael Macdonald
- Flora Macdonald
- Maggy Macdonald
- Kitty Macdonald
- John Charles Macdonald

Also in the same house are – John Smith, Janet Mackinnon, Ann Macpherson and Mary Dallas.

Janet (McKinnon) Macdonald may be using her maiden name on the census, Maggy and Kitty could be the children - Margaret and Catherine? Could this be a group of people staying in a Hotel as family folk lore relates, was where the Macdonald’s stayed initially on arrival in Melbourne?

Presuming the Macdonald family had newly arrived in September 1838, (which could fit the Ship St George sailing time) they may have only stepped foot onto dry land within days of this record.
The 1841 census lists 3 John Macdonald’s but no family.

On the ships passenger list most of the Macdonald’s stated travelling destination was to ‘John or Mr Macdonald’ Port Phillip, except for John who was to do 'Piece Work' for a Mr Coyle in Sydney and Alexander to work for Captain Rossi as shoemaker at Golbourne (presumably Goulburn N.S.W.). It is unknown if John Macdonald did take up work in Sydney for a time.

Liardets Beach (Port Melbourne) after 1839

Reconstructed aerial view of Melbourne in 1838 By Clarence Woodhouse 1888
The Phenomenal City (SLV catalogue, Melbourne 1984), centre spread.

The sheltered harbour soon made Williamstown an ideal port and much of the cargo bound for Melbourne came into the Williamstown area, just as it does still today with the Port of Melbourne only a few kilometres up the Yarra River.
After leaving India, returning to Scotland, and then their arrival in Melbourne in 1838, we now know the ship they travelled was the St. George - over the next few years further children were born to John and Catherine Macdonald:

Henrietta b. 9th December 1840 in Melbourne, Victoria (no official birth record has been found).

Hector Cumming Albert (later known as H. A. C. Macdonald), Lily Victoria and Janet Adelaide, born 30th December 1841- these children were said to be the first white triplets born in Victoria.

Moving forward from 1838 the Macdonald family made a new life from July 1940 on the property in the Parish of Keelbundora between Darebin Creek and River Plenty.

On the 9th December 1840, John and Catherine Macdonald’s daughters Henrietta and (and her twin sister?) Jessie Macdonald were born. Up to now no actual birth record has been found for them in Victoria or N.S.W., but it would not be unusual for a birth to be unrecorded so early in Victoria’s history.

It is assumed the 3rd January 1842 Port Philip Patriot newspaper reporting - that on the 31st December 1841 Macdonald triplets were born - is accurate in stating that twins had been born 12months previously.
According to 1st January 1842 ‘Port Phillip Gazette’:– On Thursday Mrs Macdonald, wife of a respectable settler presented her husband at Mr Mortimer’s Hotel with a Christmas box consisting of two girls and a boy, whom with the mother are doing well. The girls were Christened Victoria and Adelaide and the boy Albert.’

The family had now increased, with the births of Hector Albert Cumming, Lily Victoria and Janet Adelaide. It could be assumed that Henrietta’s twin Jesse died at a young age, because nothing further is known of her apart from being recorded on her mother’s Death Certificate.

It would be interesting to know of Catherine’s reaction to the report that ‘if all goes well she is yet likely to present him with many similar gifts on each return of the season’. Catherine had already borne 10 children in total, two had died at a young age and she was also to lose triplet Janet Adelaide at only a few weeks of age and John Charles at age 14. My opinion is that she had completed her ‘bit’ to populate the world! There were no more children born to Catherine and John Macdonald as far is known.

Having obtained a copy of Catherine Macdonald’s death on the 23rd March 1891, all her children are mentioned and there is the name Malcolm as her 1st child who is deceased. This is a name which had not been previously known to me at all, so I am making an assumption
that this child died at a very early age. Then there is a Jessie who is deceased, (who was also
previously unknown of) mentioned after Henrietta who was born 9th November 1940, so
could this be a twin to Henrietta as mentioned in the newspaper items? Perhaps she died
when very young also?

Unfortunately one of the triplet infants Janet Adelaide, died on the 23rd March 1842, aged 3
months.
Her parents were John and Catherine Macdonald of Floraville, a farm situated on the River
Plenty, now part of the outer suburb of Mill Park. (written circa 2012 R.G.P.)
The Baptismal record shows the children being Baptised on the day of their birth, perhaps the
Vicar of St James Old cathedral the Reverend Adam Compton Thomson, (the only Anglican
priest in the Port Phillip District at the time) was summoned to perform the ceremony
immediately in view of the babies being delicate and unique with their unusual triple birth. It
is remarkable when the primitive conditions of the day are considered that only one baby
died. Were the children born at the Mortimer’s Crown Hotel because this was where the
Macdonald’s first stayed after arrival and so was well known to them? Perhaps conditions at the Darebin Creek property were not suitable for the confinement or Catherine went into labour early, while on a visit to Melbourne?

William Mortimer owned and conducted the ‘Crown Inn’ on the south east corner of Queen/Lonsdale Street – known as ‘Mortimers Corner’ (‘Melbourne and It’s Metropolis’ – Garryowen)

A 1847 advertisement for William Mortimer Crown Hotel
(‘From the top of the premises is seen a bird’s eye view of Melbourne, Williams Town, Hobsons Bay, The shipping etc. etc.’)
Perhaps this is an indication of the hotel appearance in 1841 when Catherine was confined there for the triplet’s birth.
The first land sales are reported to have occurred in 1837 and the convict built stone jetty at Gem Pier was built in 1838 when a ferry service between Williamstown and Melbourne commenced.

‘Pastoral Pioneers of Port Phillip’ – Billis & Kenyon – list John Macdonald, Floraville, Lower Plenty 1841 – 1842
‘Floraville’ possibly on part of Crown Portion 8, Parish of Keelbundora.

‘Floraville’ Lower Plenty Bridge, S.D.B., (Plenty River near Yarra Junction) 1844 – 1854
J & R Bakewell & Shaw, began to purchase land in the area buying out John Macdonald. Parish of Keelbundora described as – brackish round swamp.

It is known John Macdonald did have a property ‘Floraville’, near the junction of the Plenty & Yarra Rivers, as mentioned in the Macdonald family information about their time in Victoria. Land sales were made from October 1839. (ref: Ken Smith Port Phillip Pioneers Group). Where did John Macdonald obtain money to purchase his land with deposit of 10% purchase price? Balance was paid in July 1840 as below.

It is known that on 13th July 1840 Conveyance from John Wood Esq. to John Macdonald Esq. 197 acres 1 rood 37 Perches of land part of Portion 27 of the parish of Keelbundora, in the County of Bourke, for which John Macdonald paid Wood £403 17s 3d.

The general area where ‘Floraville’ seems to have been located Parish of Keelbundora – now near Mill Park and in South Morang
Map from 1838, showing Melbourne and the Keelbundora Parish land portions
The river to the right of Portion 27 note was originally called the Yarra Rivulet, but this name was changed to River Plenty. On the map the property is further away than first thought, from the Junction of the Yarra and Plenty Rivers, but I believe this is the correct location according to the land conveyance details.

Title particulars of the 'Floraville' property obtained from the Registrar general’s office 456 Lonsdale Street Melbourne:-

13\textsuperscript{th} July 1840 Conveyance from John Wood Esq. to John Macdonald Esq. 197 acres 1 rood 37 Perches of land part of Portion 27 of the parish of Keelbundora, in the County of Bourke, for which John Macdonald paid Wood £403 17s 3d.

2 days after purchase of the property on the 13\textsuperscript{th} July 1840 - on the 15\textsuperscript{th} July 1840 Mortgage of the same property by Macdonald to Godfrey Howitt M.D. to secure the repayment of £400 and interest thereon by Macdonald to Howitt.
Godfrey Howitt M.D.

Entomologist & Medical Doctor Godfrey Howitt M.D. who worked at the Melbourne Hospital circa 1840s. Howitt erected the prefabricated wooden cottage he had brought from England, and by 1845 his land extended from Collins Street to Flinders Lane with a frontage to Spring Street where he made a large garden. He also had many pastoral interests.

The area where the farm was located was called Heidelberg, and many of the wealthier settlers bought land there, including John Walpole Willis, (1st Victorian Supreme Court Judge). He also maintained a town house as several of the other wealthy folk also did. There was a very good road made from Heidelberg to Melbourne with a toll turnpike which made a daily journey there easily done. Politicians of the times also settled on land there, and just as in today's political world, no doubt their influence assisted in obtaining a very good access road to Melbourne. John Macdonald was considered to be a 'Gentleman' of some standing to have been able to purchase land in this area, even if for one of the more distant blocks available.

John Macdonald was involved in a court case with Turner and others over a debt owing on the digging of a 89 feet deep well at 'Floraville' on 13th July 1840. By 1842 John owed a debt of £400 which was foreclosed on and by 20th November 1843 he was declared Insolvent. After the initial flurry of investment in property, land speculation etc. in the fledgling colony, a very bad time of economic depression took place when many were unable to repay debts, sadly John Macdonald was one of them.

There were several J or John Macdonald/McDonald's and so it cannot be certain if our ancestor is one them specifically. A John Macdonald appeared on newspaper's of the day as a clerk for the council and in a shop.

In 1841 a John Macdonald signed a ‘Letter of Welcome’ to Victoria’s Governor C.J. Latrobe.

1st Lieutenant of Victoria - Governor Charles Joseph La Trobe & His home in Jolimont.
The following years were to bring times of difficulty for the Macdonald family.

Wednesday 2\textsuperscript{nd} February 1842 – Domestic intelligence:- A wet nurse. On Wednesday a most respectable female named Quigley brought before the Police Bench a Mr Macdonald, whose wife it may be remembered brought forth three children at one birth, at the Crown Inn, Lonsdale Street, on a demand of wages due for her services in attending his lady as a wet nurse. Mrs Quigley had been engaged it appears, for the sum of 40 Guineas. On expiration of some weeks Mrs Macdonald thought fit to discharge her, when she applied to Mr Macdonald for payment of her wages, he told her to ‘be off’, she went accordingly and summons Mr Macdonald, whose only defence was , that he did everything in his power to persuade Mrs Quigley to return, whose services were still urgently wanted, but that she refused. Mrs Quigley said that although she had agreed to only nurse one child, yet she suckled two of the little strangers, from a wish to relieve the mother. The Bench after expressing their astonishment at the conduct of Mr Macdonald, intimated their regret that Mrs Quigley had not sued in the Supreme Court, when assuredly she would have recovered the 40 Guineas, which were justly her due. Mr Macdonald was ordered to pay the sum sued for without delay.

Saturday 26\textsuperscript{th} March 1842 – Died at ‘Floraville’, on River Plenty, on the 23\textsuperscript{rd} instant, Janet Adelaide, infant daughter of Mrs John Macdonald aged 3 months. (could this sad incident possibly be in any way related to Mrs Quigley dismissal as wet nurse, and so leaving the babies without sufficient nourishment?) - Janet Adelaide may be buried at the Old Melbourne Cemetery which is under Victoria Market car parking area.

Saturday 30\textsuperscript{th} April 1842 – Law intelligence, Wednesday April 27\textsuperscript{th} Tucker and others vs Macdonald – Plaintiff sought to recover £200.5s for work and labour done by the Plaintiff to the property of the Defendant, as per contract, in the sinking of a well to the depth of 89 feet – verdict for £200. Counsel Mr Cunninghame.

9\textsuperscript{th} July 1842 – (Advertisement)Under power of sale in a mortgage deed. Valuable cultivation farm, only 12 miles from town. Bear and Son will sell by auction, at their rooms in Queen Street, on Monday 13\textsuperscript{th} July at one o’clock. All that piece or parcel of land, containing one hundred and ninety seven Acres, one Rood and thirty Perches, of rich black soil, situate in the Parish of Keelbundora, County of Bourke, and known as ‘Floraville Estate’, on the Plenty Road, the whole farm fenced in and subdivided into two paddocks of about one hundred acres each, there is about fifty acres under cultivation, or ready for the plow. On it is erected an excellent weather boarded house, containing six rooms and out offices , with barn and huts, stockyards etc., a well ninety feet deep of good never failing water. The view of the house is extensive; the roads are good, and the distance from town so short, that produce may be conveyed to the market at very trifling expense, terms at sale. Further particulars may be obtained of the Auctioneers, or of Messrs Deane & O’Cock solicitors, Little Collins Street.

13\textsuperscript{th} August 1842 (Notice) :- The creditors of Mr John Macdonald of Floraville, River Plenty, are requested to send in their accounts immediately to H.W. Mason, Collins street.

31\textsuperscript{st} August 1842 Conveyance under power of sale in above Mortgage Deed by Howitt (the Mortgagee) to John Bakewell and Robert Bakewell (purchasers) for £575. (Note J & R Bakewell were related to Dr Howitt)

Wednesday 8\textsuperscript{th} march 1843 (Advertisement) To Be Let, the Capital Compact Farm , Floraville, lately in the occupation of Mr Macdonald, only 11 miles from Melbourne,
consisting of 200 acres of excellent land, The greater part clear, and first rate soil. Thirty acres are now in crop, and speak for themselves. The house is furnished with a veranda, and contains six rooms. The huts and stockyards are all superior. The proprietors being desirous of procuring a good tenant, intend to let the whole at an exceedingly low rent. For further particulars apply to Messrs J. and R. Bakewell the proprietors, Plenty Bridge.

George Alexander Gilbert, 1815-?, artist
J & R Bakewell's Property The Plenty, c.1850
Pastel La Trobe Pictures Collection, State Library of Victoria, H29575
(may be a painting of the former Macdonald property - the Bakewell's owned quite a lot of land in the area)

Saturday 11th March 1843 – shipping intelligence, cleared out. March 9th – ‘Sally Anne’, schooner for Portland bay, passengers (include) Mr & Mrs Macdonald (no children - may be the Macdonalds from Casterton).

February 1843 Corporation of Melbourne appointed Rate Collector’s, second appointment was a John Macdonald who produced sureties from George Evans and Horatio Cooper. (George Evans a builder, settled at Sunbury and owned the ‘Emu Bottom’ property and licensee of the ‘Royal Oak’ Hotel in Queen Street, and Horatio Cooper was an assistant to Robert Hoddle during the first land sale of Melbourne)

1st June 1843 a John Macdonald, was a voter in Lonsdale Ward, of City of Melbourne.

June 1843 Collector Macdonald reported that when he approached George Cavanagh for payment of rates on 12 Elizabeth Street, the Herald Editor ‘absolutely refused to pay’.

John Macdonald and J. Wilson a Livery Stable Keeper travelled to 'Lady Bay' (Warrnambool) to inspect the area. (ref: Ken Smith Port Phillip Pioneers Group)
1849 son - John Charles Macdonald died at Warrnambool aged 14 years Reg. No 2131
(March 2015 research of his Burial Certificate reveals the name of a ship St George, which is
found to be the vessel which the Macdonald family immigrated to Australia aboard in 1838)

1850 John Macdonald Headmaster of 1st National Education Board School at Warrnambool,
located on south west corner of Timor and Banyan Streets.

1850 John Macdonald in Business as Auctioneer and Commission Agent In Warrnambool.
Member of Public Wants Committee and Secretary of Roads Committee.

30th March 1850, – 1st census of Warrnambool conducted by John Macdonald and William

11th December 1850 2nd census of Warrnambool by John Macdonald, Thomas Denney and

1851, Directory – a J. Macdonald farmer near Woodford. – a J. Macdonald On Merri Creek
15 miles from Belfast (Port Fairy)(may not be our J. Macdonald)

1853, J. Macdonald, schoolmaster, Post & Telegraph Master.

1853 12th April, - Land sales, J. Macdonald purchased lot 47 -48 in Warrnambool Town
(Crown allotment 15, 16, Section 20 Township of Warrnambool, Parish of Wangoom).

1853 1st September - John Macdonald Post Master, salary £35.0.0 p.a. for all of his service,
until he resigned 30th June 1854.

1853 21st December – The first series of wool sales by Public auction was commenced by
Craig and Macdonald at Warrnambool. 24 Bales were offered, locks & pieces brought a ¼
pence lb, but would have brought more had wool been presented in better condition.

1854 1st January – J. Macdonald member of match committee for Highland game of Shinty
(the first athletic game in Warrnambool) field of the course was from mouth of Merri River
to Hopkins River, a distance of about 2 miles.

1854 5th April – Daughter Flora Macdonald b. 28th November 1828 at Madras, India d. 22nd
September 1913 at Dumbalk North, Victoria, married at the Wesleyan Church, Warrnambool

1854 1st May – J. Macdonald, committee member of Villiers Building Society. Estate Agent
and Auctioneer with John Hollins Craig.

1854 August – J. Macdonald Secretary of Wants Committee.

Schomberg Wreck (1855-1855)

Designing and building ships has always been a competitive business, especially in the mid-
19th century. At that time, the race was on to design ships able to sail from England to
Australia in record breaking time.
Schomberg, the most famous of the Black Ball Lines' fleet of passenger ships was said to be the most perfect clipper ship ever built. It was designed and built in Aberdeen to beat the very fast clippers of North American designer Donald McKay.

When James Baines, owner of the Black Ball Line launched Schomberg he said, "by the grace of god, this ship under the capable command of Captain Forbes will break the record he has already made". Captain Forbes, who was drunk at the time, replied, "with or without the help of god I'll make the trip in 60 days". However, at the equator Schomberg experienced a number of windless days which slowed the journey down considerably.

Unfortunately Captain Forbes never had another chance to put Schomberg through its paces. On the same voyage to Australia, only a day's sailing from Port Phillip Bay, Schomberg stranded and wrecked on a sand spit at Peterborough.

1854 27th December:—Wreck of sailing clipper ‘Schomberg’ at Peterborough, Captain ‘Bully’ Forbes. (This was a controversial ship wrecking at the time)

Captain James ‘Bully’ Forbes was charged in the Supreme Court with negligence because of the suspicion that he was playing cards with two female passengers below decks while his ship ran aground. None of the passengers spoke terribly highly of him, complaining that he strutted the deck with a loaded revolver and that half-naked women were emerging from his cabin at all hours of the night. Despite a protest meeting, two inquiries and the court proceedings, he was found not guilty and cleared of all charges on the grounds of insufficient evidence.

1856 – Merri Street, Auctioneer, Freehold land, Koroit Street and on Hopkins – Warrnambool Division.

1856 11th January – Auction sale of goods on Beach opposite wreck by Messrs Macdonald and Lascelles of Warrnambool.

1856 2nd January – John Macdonald elected member of 1st Warrnambool Council and designed the Warrnambool Crest which was adopted at a special meeting on 13th February 1856. John Macdonald’s photo is on the Pioneers Honour Roll in the Foyer of Warrnambool City Council Offices.
1856 18th January – Further sales of boat fittings and salvage.

1857 14th September – Sat at a special meeting and then lost his Council seat in the elections of January 1858.

1858 26th March Melbourne ‘Argus’, Family Notices, Funeral notices.

The friends of the late John Macdonald Esq. are respectfully informed, that in consequence the inquest not being held yesterday as appointed, the Funeral will take place THIS DAY (Friday 26th inst) To move from the Harvest Home, Deep Creek Road about 12 o’clock, passing through Essingdon, and across the Flemington Bridge, to the place of interment in the old cemetery, Melbourne. JOHN SLEIGHT

The ‘Warrnambool Examiner’ 2 April 1858

Died – By fall from his horse, whilst proceeding from Melbourne to the Deep Creek, on the 24th March, Mr John Macdonald, auctioneer. Formerly of Warrnambool.

BDM Microfische:- John Macdonald aged 53 d. 1858, West Cert No. 7089

No Will found in Microfische.

‘Old Melbourne Cemetery’ records – Macdonald, grave 253 C of E. (this cemetery is now covered by the car park area of the Victoria Market, Melbourne)

Inquests:- John Macdonald age 52, 1858, Ref. No. 318 Male. Fall from horse, Auctioneer.

(Deep Creek joins with the Maribyrnong River (formerly Saltwater River) at Shire of Bulla Boundary on the western side of Tullamarine Airport)

Includes some Extracts from – ‘By These We Flourish’, by C.E. Sayers

‘History of Warrnambool’, by R. Osborne.
More About John Macdonald:- Warrnambool’s first school house was the small all purpose room on the south west corner of Timor & Banyan Streets – a church, when a Protestant preacher came along, a meeting place of citizens wanting to ventilate community needs and for a time in the early 1850s the reading room of the nascent, almost always penniless, Mechanics Institute.

A meeting was held in the community hall, built primarily for church services, on the 28th December 1849 to discuss the proposed National School. The meeting agreed to transfer the hall to the National Education Board as an equivalent for one third of the amount that would be required for the erection of the Masters residence.

Although John Macdonald was on the ground early in 1850 the school did not open until 11th June 1850.

It seems the meeting had before it a letter from one John Macdonald of Melbourne seeking appointment as School Master. His offer was accepted and he arrived in Warrnambool in early January 1850 with his wife Catherine, his daughter Flora and son Hector. Flora assisted her father in the school and Hector gave occasional help. Hector was to become Town Clerk of Warrnambool in later years.

The School House was never very satisfactory, a cheerless, bare walled place, built in a swampy hollow. It suffered when a fence was built around it, the walls whitewashed and a Masters house was built on part of the site. In 1874 the buildings and land were sold at auction, the house pulled down and cottages built on the site.

There is a belief that Macdonald started to teach before the school was formally taken over. All arrangements as to his management had been agreed with him soon after his arrival. These arrangements included a rate of fees to be charged for the teaching of various subjects. The charges totalled sixteen shillings a quarter for reading, writing and arithmetic. An extra four shillings a quarter was charged for English grammar and Geography.

It had been estimated that twenty five to thirty children would attend the school. An attendance it was believed would yield a comfortable livelihood for a teacher. Warrnambool’s National School was one of the most successful that was established in the state at that time. Macdonald had left the school by the end of 1850 to become an auctioneer and commission agent. Extract from:- ‘By These We flourish’ by C. E. Sayers

Origin of Warrnambool Street Names - Ref. Warrnambool Council

Macdonald Street

825 m John Macdonald (1806-1858) was born in the parish of Kilmuir, Skye, Scotland and served in the British military from 1825 to 1837, mostly in India. He came to Port Phillip District in 1837, living firstly at Darebin Creek and then to Warrnambool in 1849. He was Head teacher in Warrnambool’s first school (National School) which opened on 9th Dec 1850. An active member of many local committees, including the first Town Council 1856-
1857. He designed the town’s crest and composed its motto, "By these we flourish". He died as a result of a fall off his horse on 24 June 1858.

His son, Hector Cumming Albert Macdonald (born 1841) was Town Clerk of Warrnambool 1885-1892.

In Gaelic mac means 'son' so Macdonald refers to a person who is the son of Donald (Donald means world ruler).

Warrnambool A north-south street in South Warrnambool that starts at the Merri River bridge, near the old Woollen Mill, and continues south to the T-intersection at Thunder Point.

Previously, the northern end of Macdonald was a dead-end at the river but it was realigned with Harris Street when the new bridge was constructed.

The 1872 map of Warrnambool shows Macdonald Street had already been named by then. The street can be seen, unnamed, on an 1866 map.

The section south of the old Merri River was once known as Marine Drive. This can be seen on a map from 1913 and a reference to it in Council minutes.

**Denneys Street**

920 m Thomas Denney (c.1807-1881) was a storekeeper in the early 1850s. Councillor from 1857-62 and 1864-65, held the position of Mayor 1860-61. With Richard Osburne he founded the first Sunday School in Warrnambool.

Note that the 1858 electoral roll and most other records of the day show him as Thomas Denny, not Denney.

Denneys Street was named by Council on 2nd Aug 1872. Note that Council named it "Denney Street" and not "Denneys" and not "Denny" - over time it has become "Denneys Street".

Warrnambool - a narrow street that lies between Banyan and Craig streets just north of and parallel to the highway. The lane on the east side of Craig Street is not part of Denneys Street - it is known as Hassett Lane.

Flora Macdonald assisted her father teaching at the 1st National Education Board School at Warrnambool.

24th November 1852 Flora Macdonald purchased Lot 7, Allotment 7, Section 15, Town of Warrnambool, Parish of Wangoom. (land in Lava Street adjacent to property owned by T. Denney and W. Bateman)

Married Thomas Denney Of Warrnambool - a search of B.D.M. microfiche fixed the date of marriage 1854 (Cert No. 01785) but did not show any children of the marriage(1854 – 1861). Flora listed as Governess on the wedding Certificate.

Thomas Denney was witness at the wedding of Flora’s sister Henrietta to Alfred Davies on 1st June 1864 at Warrnambool.

Denny according to one family story was a drunkard and Flora was supposed to have left him, another story mentions a restraining order that he was not to go near Flora, although her letter dated 27th February 1907 suggests this may not have been the case, as she writes of him with affection.
Copy of a letter held by Warrnambool Historical Society:

To Mr Vidler  

Kyogle, 27th February 1907

Sir I duly received your letter, with the request that I lend you a portrait of my dear husband, I would gladly do so if I had one.

We were unfortunate with ours, I gave then to and artist to do some finishing touches to them and his studio caught fire one night, so we lost them and they were never replaced.

I may mention that my father John Macdonald in company with Mr John Wilson drove overland from Melbourne to the first land sale of Warrnambool and bought several blocks in town lots – also that my father with Mr Denney were members of the 1st Council, my father was the first auctioneer and had the Post Office and school there, they both took much interest in the progress of the place, my brother H.A.C. Macdonald when a boy wrote the first petition to the then Governor for the gentlemen of the ‘Wants Committee’, the first minister to preach was Mr Harcourt, Wesleyan, he preached and the congregation met in Mr Denney’s wheat shed, all sitting on bags of wheat. Mr Denney and Mr Osborne opened the first Sunday School there, we got our letters once a fortnight from Melbourne, no bridges over the Hopkins or Merri Rivers, both had to be forded, with very bad roads – we were always glad to see ‘Flash Jack’ the mailman and his waltzing horse come in, he was very pleasant and obliging.

I am enclosing a photo of a group of young men, with a slip describing them, this is all I can do at present. If at any time I can give you any information respecting the place or people, if you write to me I will do so to the best of my ability.

With many best wishes, for the prosperity of Warrnambool and District.

I remain, yours truly

F. Denney.

The diary of William Sedley Benn tells of Mrs Denney on a selection between ‘Avonmore’ and ‘Riversleigh’ at Dumbalk North on the 12th October 1886 where she was a tenant on a selection of her brother-in-law Peter Carmichael.

Fred Davies at Mrs Denney’s on the 1st November 1886. Property of 160 acres called ‘Glen Islay’. ‘Glen Islay’ worked with the help of her nephews Fred & Percy Davies, income seemed to be derived from cattle.

February 1887 William Sedley Benn fencing at Mrs Denney’s for Peter Carmichael.

6th March 1887 Mrs Denney went with William Sedley Benn to see a selection of 160 acres that she had not seen before, which had been granted in selection area – Crown Allotment 10, Parish of Mirboo South.

June 1893 she received instructions to leave ‘Glen Islay’ by the 14th July 1893 (this was following the death of Peter Carmichael). She stayed with neighbour John Wills while William Sedley Benn built her a home on her own selection, which she then worked with her nephews Fred & Percy Davies. She also worked as a seamstress for the district people and is remembered as the earliest travelling dressmaker for the area, and rode a magnificently
highly spirited Arab Hack, of sturdy build and if in other hands than the owner, would easily bolt. At the first sign of bolting Mrs Denney would loosen and drop the reins and speak to the horse and all was under control. Mrs Denney prevailed upon Alf Goad to break this Arab to harness as he was highly proficient with horses and did break this hack into his three horse wagon team.

‘Glen Islay’ was let to a new tenant Bain, who left the property on the 24th April 1897, a clearing sale was held on the 23rd September 1897 to dispose of plant.

Fred Davies sold the farm at Dumbalk.

18th April 1904 Mrs Denney left with Fred & Grace (Jones) Davies and their 2 daughters to travel by train to Kyogle on the Richmond River, northern New South Wales.

1st April 1913 Mrs Denney returned to Victoria and stayed with William Sedley Benn at ‘Riversleigh’, in whose home she died at Dumbalk North on the 22nd September 1913. Buried at the Mirboo North Cemetery, interred in the same grave as her sister Henrietta (Macdonald) Davies.

**Thomas Denney**

Thomas Denney was working at Portland in a store owned by William McDowell. November 1847 W. McDowell brought Denney to Warrnambool to manage a new General Store - Henna & Merri Street. Later he took Denney into partnership and the business became Denney & Co., on the east side of Banyan Street about midway between Timor and Merri streets.

1847 The first school at Warrnambool was held only on Sunday irrespective of creed, held at Denney’s Store – conducted by Richard Osborne and Thomas Denney. First Methodist church services held at Denney’s produce store. Denney was a devout Methodist. Store was also used by Presbyterians.

1849 Port Phillip District electoral Roll:- Thomas Denney – Warrnambool.

22nd February – Warrnambool Mail robbed. A number of Warrants and Orders stolen, some ownership of Thomas Denney, Joseph Coulstock and others, robbers indicted 18th April 1849.

‘Robbery of the Warrnambool mail 18th April 1849 – Felix Daley, Thomas Daley and Daniel Byng were indicted for stealing several Warrants or Orders for the payment of various sums of money, the property of John Coulstock of Tower Hill, near Belfast, on the 22nd February a second count vesting the ownership of Thomas Denney and another. The Prisoners were defended by Mr Stawell. On the day mentioned the mail carrier between Warrnambool and Belfast was riding with his mails toward the last named town about 8 o’clock in the evening, when he arrived at Cronin’s Public House, some 7 miles from Belfast. Passing onward he was thrown from his horse, and reappearing after a number of hours at the inn, gave his horse and mails to a man (supposed to be Byng) who was standing at the door; he then proceeded to the tap room, where he remained for nearly an hour. On returning to the door, he could find no trace of mails, man or horse, and off he went to search along the Port Fairy Road. He came back to the house toward day break and to his surprise found his horse safe and sound in the stable, with the mail bags strapped to the saddle and in all appearance un-tampered with. So mounting the horse, he proceeded without delay to Belfast, and delivered the mails
to Mr Hutton, the Postmaster. According to his statement, he was neither drunk nor sober when he had the fall, but his version of the mishap, in his examination before the Police Court, was somewhat different. The postmaster finding on inspection that the mail bags had been robbed, gave Mr McDermot into custody, but he was subsequently released in the absence of any evidence to inculcate him. Cronin the publican, on being questioned, stated that when he heard of the disappearance of the mails, he went in search, and on a flat not far from his house, recovered the horses with what he believed to be the mails intact (one large and two small bags) fastened on the saddle, and leading the animal back to his place, was prepared to start for Belfast when the Postman made his appearance, and he handed over the animal and its belongings to him. The prisoners Thomas Daley and Byng were staying at the public house, and were about there at the time; but it was noticed that they were up and away at a very early hour the next morning. This and other information subsequently procured led to the arrest of the three prisoners. In addition to the foregoing facts, it was proven that the day after the robbery Byng and Felix Daley made some purchases in Belfast at Hovenden’s store, for which Daley paid by £10 cheque, receiving a difference between the purchase money six £1 notes and some silver. Later on the same day the other Daley and a person not known, called at Rutledge’s store and bought largely, paying with a £30 cheque, and receiving some balance. F. Daley and Byng also put up at the Merri Jig hotel, where they made merry on a cheque for £2.19.11. Evidence was also given of the identity of several cheques, and their posting at Warrnambool in letters to Belfast. The defence was that the whole affair was only a matter of suspicion. The prisoners were not charged with robbing the mails, but with simple larceny, and the jury returned a rather inconsistent verdict; for whilst convicting Felix Daley, they acquitted the two others. The prisoner (who arrived free in the colony) was sentenced to twelve months imprisonment.’


1849 1st October - Thomas Denney Postmaster, salary 20% of collections up to 1850 £12.0.0 p.a. for 1851 – 1852 and £35.0.0 p.a. for 1853.

1850 30th March – 1st Warrnambool census: Thomas Denney - 2 people in house.

1850 11th December – 2nd Warrnambool census: Thomas Denney - 2 people in house.

1851 & 1852 - Thomas Denney of Warrnambool mentioned in ‘Belfast Gazette’ also ‘Thomas Denney & Co.’.


1852 25th November – Land sales – Thomas Denney and William Bateman Lot 1, Allotment 1, Section 1, Parish of Wangoom.


1853 Early in the year McDowell sold store and Denney became partners with the new owners Batemans, for a short time, and then sold out partnership for 6 thousand pounds.

1853 October - went into partnership with F. P. Stevens on what was known as Redfords corner.
1853 - T. Denney, Secretary of the Wesleyan Church. Patron of the National School.

1853 17th October - Member of Mechanics Institute Board (Chairman).

1853 19th November - T. Denney elected member of Road Committee.

1854 Wesleyan Trustee of Warrnambool Cemetery Trust.

1854 August - T. Denney elected member of the Wants Committee.

1854 16th August - 1st Warrnambool District Road board formed with T. Denney as member. Later this board was found to be unconstitutional.

1854 16th September - 2nd reconvened Road Board – T. Denney again elected as member.

1854 October - T. Denney – elected as Warrnambool Director of Western Steam Navigation Company – company was very successful for a number of years.

1856 - Public Wants Committee.

1857 Warrnambool Musical Association formed. Male singers T. Denney and others.

1857- T. Denney – Councillor City of Warrnambool.


1857 15th September – City of Warrnambool representative at conference of Municipal Councils and Road boards of Warrnambool and Belfast (Port Fairy).

1858 May - T. Denney member of Western Coast Fishing Co.

1859 12th April – Warrnambool Show, prize to T. Denney for fruit and vegetables, 2nd prize for wheat.

1859 July- T. Denney, President of new Philharmonic Society.

1859 - T. Denney, trustee of Savings bank (Warrnambool).

1859 - T. Denney, Councillor.

1859 7th December- A meeting of Our Mutual Improvement Society Anniversary, speakers included T. Denney who spoke on progress, songs from T. Denney, piano played by Miss Macdonald.

1860 - 61 Chairman of Council.

1862, 64,65 - Councillor.

1860 16th February - Mr & Mrs Denney called at Skilbeck’s ‘Yangery Creek’, Illowa farm.

1861 26th January - Mr & Mrs Denney again called at Skilbeck’s.

1861 9th March - Sarah Midgley went by boat up the Hopkins river as far as Denney’s old farm.
1864 1st June - Thomas Denney, witness at the wedding of Alfred Davies to Henrietta Macdonald at Warrnambool.


1870 22nd April – Business and goods of Thomas Denney, being sold by auction by John Craig, due to illness of Thomas Denney. ‘Examiner’.

1870 3rd May – Notice of auction again in ‘Examiner’.

Extracts from:- History of Warrnambool by R. Osborne –
By These We Flourish by C. E. Sayers –
Diaries of Sarah Midgley and Richard Skilbeck

T.W. Wicking (Warrnambool Historian)


More about Thomas Denney – d.25th July 1894 Mersey, Tasmania - Burial: Don Congregational Cemetery, Devonport, Tasmania.
27th November 1858 Catherine & John Macdonald’s daughter Margaret Rose (b. 5th February 1832 at Meerut India d. 1923 at Warrnambool, Victoria

Family name (surname) BRECKON
Given names Margaret Rose Event Death Father's name / Spouse's family name MACDONALD John Mother’s maiden name / Spouse's given name Cath (Mcdonald) Reg. year 1923 Reg. no 13012

married Francis Breckon (b. 17th June 1831 in Goldsboro, Whitby, England) in Warrnambool.

Their children:
Francis Macdonald Breckon b. 30th November 1859 at Warrnambool, Victoria, d. about 1931 in Melbourne.
Flora Denny Breckon b. 26th June 1861 at Terang, Victoria. d. 24th November 1933 at Melbourne, Victoria.

Catherine A Arnup
Australia, Victoria, Index to Probate Registers

Name Catherine A Arnup
Occupation Married
Death Date 01 Jun 1934
Event Place Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
Residence City Yarra Junction
Event Date 11 Jul 1934
Series Number 264
Record Number 066
Probate Record Entry:

John Hector Breckon, b.2nd July 1864 at Terang, Victoria d.11th August 1886 possibly at Bendigo, Victoria.

Lillias Eleanor Breckon, b.2nd December 1866 at Warrnambool, Victoria d. 8th August 1957 at Surrey Hills, Victoria.
Lilin... Eleanor Breckon Australia Births and Baptisms

Name Lilin... Eleanor Breckon
Gender Female
Christening Date 25 Mar 1889
Christening Place Ballan, Victoria, Australia
Birth Date 02 Dec 1865
Father's Name Francis Breckon
Mother's Name Margaret Rose

The next generation:-

Francis Macdonald Breckon b. 30th November 1859 at Warrnambool, Victoria, married Mary A. Miller

Their children:-

Argyle Leslie Breckon m. Rhoda ???
Francis Vincent Breckon m. Margaret Josephine

Arthur Breckon

Flora Denney Breckon, b. 26th June 1861 at Terang, Victoria. m. Frederick Gallin b. Koroit Victoria

Their children:-

Frederick John Gallin,b. 30th October 1885, Koroit, Victoria d. in W.A.
Myrtle Kate Gallin,b. 15th January 1894 in Victoria d. in W.A.
Fred. Chas. Gallin mentioned in the record of Myrtle Kate Gallin

Name Fred. Chas. Gallin
Gender Male
Wife Flora Gallin
Daughter Myrtle Kate Gallin

Myrtle Kate Gallin

Name Myrtle Kate Gallin
Gender Female
Christening Place Fremantle, Western Australia, Australia
Birth Date 15 Feb 1894
Father's Name Fred. Chas. Gallin
Mother's Name  Flora Gallin

**CITING THIS RECORD**

**Myrtle Kate Gallin** Australia Births and Baptisms

Name  Myrtle Kate Gallin
Gender  Female
Christening Place  Fremantle, Western Australia, Australia
Birth Date  15 Feb 1894
Father's Name  Fred. Chas. Gallin
Mother's Name  Flora Gallin

**CITING THIS RECORD**

**William Marmaduke Gallin** b. 13th January 1887 at Koroit, Victoria. d. in W.A.

**William Gallin** BillionGraves Index

Name  William Gallin
Event Type  Burial
Event Place  Palmyra, Western Australia, Australia
Cemetery  Fremantle Cemetery
Latitude  -32.05357
Longitude  115.78153
Death Date  16 Sep 1947
Affiliate Create Date  2013-03-24 03:40:57
Affiliate Image Identifier  3354561

**CITING THIS RECORD**

Lillie Gallin b. 16th January 1890 in Victoria d. W.A. m. Harold Jackson
Frank Gallin b. 3rd March 1899 in W.A., m. Rhoda Cousins 3rd February 1934
Fred. Chas. Gallin mentioned in the record of Frank Carmichael Gallin

Name: Fred. Chas. Gallin
Gender: Male
Wife: Flor(?) Denny Gallin
Son: Frank Carmichael Gallin
Name: Frank Carmichael Gallin
Gender: Male
Christening Place: Fremantle, Western Australia, Australia
Birth Date: 01 Mar 1899
Birthplace: Fremantle, Western Australia
Father's Name: Fred. Chas. Gallin
Mother's Name: Flor(?) Denny Gallin

CITING THIS RECORD

‘Sunday Times’ Perth newspaper 19th January 1919
A GIFTED BLIND BOY. Master Frank Gallin, of 28 Jenkinson Street, South Fremantle, who has gained his Diploma of Associate(A.L.C.M.), London College of Music. He is Australian born, is 19 years old, and the first blind person to gain the distinction in West Australia, if not in all Australasia. Master Gallin also passed the examination for the junior, intermediate and senior divisions in the Trinity College of Music, London. He is a pupil of Mr. R. Jackson, School Of Music, Fremantle.

Frank Carmichael Gallin Australia Births and Baptisms
Name: Frank Carmichael Gallin
Gender: Male
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Christening Place</strong></th>
<th>Fremantle, Western Australia, Australia</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Birth Date</strong></td>
<td>01 Mar 1899</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Birthplace</strong></td>
<td>Fremantle, Western Australia</td>
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<td><strong>Father's Name</strong></td>
<td>Fred. Chas. Gallin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mother's Name</strong></td>
<td>Flor(?) Denny Gallin</td>
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**CITING THIS RECORD**


**Frank Gallin** Australia, Victoria, Index to Probate Registers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Name</strong></th>
<th>Frank Gallin</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Occupation</strong></td>
<td>Piano Tuner</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Death Date</strong></td>
<td>23 Sep 1978</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Event Place</strong></td>
<td>Melbourne, Victoria, Australia</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Residence City</strong></td>
<td>Malvern</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Event Date</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Series Number</strong></td>
<td>850</td>
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<td><strong>Record Number</strong></td>
<td>324</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CITING THIS RECORD**


**Probate Record Entry:-**
Frank & Rhoda (Cousins) Gallin 27th January 1938 & as the were in later years.
A good ear for color

For a blind person, the problem of telling colors apart might seem an impossible one—but it’s not.

Mr Frank Gallin, 67, of Malvern, is blind. But he distinguishes colors by sound.

At his home yesterday, he held a small wooden box in front of a Sun reporter and correctly told him he was wearing a dark-grey suit, a white shirt and a dark tie.

Throughout the demonstration a continuous buzzing sound came from the 10in.-by-6in. box, and the volume varied as it was moved about.

Distinctive sound

In the box there is a photo-electric cell, connected to a small block oscillator, which reacts to the varying intensity of light by producing a distinctive sound.

The color which reflects most light produces the loudest sound and by this method Mr Gallin easily distinguishes black from white.

His “color machine” is still in the experimental stage.

But his ambition is to invent a machine which will tell him clearly a blue from a green or a red.

Mr Gallin has been a piano-tuner for 48 years and this has given him the acute sense of hear-
Lillias Eleanor Breckon, b. 2nd December 1866 at Warrnambool, Victoria d. 8th August 1957 at Surrey Hills, Victoria. m. Robert Halford Platt 11th February 1891 in Blakeville W.A.

Their children:-

Estelle Margaret Jane Platt b. 1st January 1892 d. 4th October 1978 m. Harry Thomas Shannon 5th November 1921

Arthur Norman Platt b. 15th December 1893 d. 28th August 1916 WW1 in France

Halford Leonard Platt b. 11th January 1897 d. 15th July 1971

Frank Macdonald Platt b. 16th February 1899 m. (1) Jessie Sutherland b. 28 December 1921 m. (2) Eva Fouracre 1965

Roberta Ethel Platt b. 1901

Etta Eleanor Platt b. 26th November 1907 d. 9th April 1952

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13th January 1865 – Marriage notice of his daughter Catherine to Peter Carmichael in ‘Argus’ ‘Daughter of the late John Macdonald’. Cert No.00821

Peter Carmichael, & Catherine (Macdonald) Carmichael.

(Catherine b.17th November 1834 at Meerut, India d. 1905 at Hawthorn, Victoria Cert No. 12820 ) Peter Carmichael, b. 8th June 1837 was the son of John & Christine Carmichael in Kilmeny, Islay, Scotland He died 22 June 1891 at King Street, Warrnambool Victoria Cert No.8530.

Their child:

John Albert (Bertie) Carmichael b.10th July 1868 at Terang, Victoria Cert No. 20056 d. June 1938 at Fitzroy, Victoria Cert No. 4067, buried at Springvale, Victoria. m. 1906 Cert No. 343 Catherine (Kate) Vosper Jakins b.1883 at Ballarat, Victoria d. Cert No. 8927, daughter of Dr William Vosper Jakins & Charlotte (Arthur) Jakins.

Their child:

Dudley Albert Carmichael b. January 1909 at Richmond, Victoria Cert No. 5934

‘Bertie’ Carmichael lived at Burnley and his death may have been sudden and unexpected – further research required.

Peter Carmichael, born on 8th June 1837 at Kilmeny in Islay, Scotland. Came to Australia circa 1858. In Terang about 1859. He married Catherine Macdonald of Warrnambool, brother in law of Flora (Macdonald) Denney and was a school teacher at Terang, living in High Street.

1865 13th January - Marriage notice in the ‘Argus’ newspaper Melbourne:- Catherine daughter of the late John Macdonald of Warrnambool to Peter Carmichael.

Carmichael family in Argyleshire (Islay close by) refer book ‘The Carmichael’s from Carmichael’, possibly some early relationship to P.C.

‘Back to Terang’ booklet 1955 p.25

‘In the early days of the settlement parents built a rough wooden structure in which elementary education was imparted to their children. This was burned down about the year
1872, when a stone building forming the central part of the present school was erected at a cost of £300/0/0 was raised by subscription. Mr Peter Carmichael M.A. (Glasgow University) was head teacher until 1884, he afterwards became an inspector of schools. (Shire of Hamden 1863-1963 Centenary book had the same information)

‘Terang & District Historical Society’ newsletter, p.3 July 1976, from a talk given by Mr David Richards. ‘There are a number of stories about the local Terang Primary School. ‘Vision & reality’ states that it was first built by the parents as a rough wooden part slab construction (1855) which was burnt down in 1871 -72. A stone building was then erected by a local builder at the cost of £150/0/0, all locally raised (a 1950 issue of the ‘Terang Express’ puts the figure at £300/0/0) a Peter Carmichael who subsequently became a district inspector was Head Teacher here until 1884, but whether his term began in 1855 or in 1872 Mr Richards cannot say. All theses doubts can be resolved by someone with the time to study the archives at Latrobe Library.

Another issue of the ‘Terang & District Historical Society’ newsletter states ‘On October 11th 1984, the Terang Primary school will celebrate its 125th Anniversary, Peter Carmichael, the first Head Teacher, remained in office for 25 years. He was Master of Arts and later became Inspector of Schools. The original school was destroyed by fire. Peter Carmichael – Head Teacher reopened the school on 11th November 1859 – 2nd October 1884. The cost of the new school caused some discussion, and the building is said to have been designed by Alexander Kerr, a highly thought of Architect from Warrnambool. Cost £150/0/0 from ‘Vision & realisation’ or £520/0/0 from ‘Hampden Guardian’ 3rd October 1871.

‘Hampden Guardian’ 3rd October 1871 – ‘At a season of unprecedented depression it is gratifying to observe that all classes and denominations have contributed their quota toward the funds, Messrs David McKinnon, John Thompson, Neil Black and C.C. Finlay contributed £30/0/0 each and the rest of the inhabitants subscribed in proportion to their means.’

From the Education Department - Historical Section

Peter Carmichael

Ref 81/972

Born on the 8th June, at Kilmeny in Islay, Scotland.

He was first appointed as Head teacher at Terang National School No 617 from 11th October 1859.

Peter Carmichael’s agreement with the Secretary of National School Board of Education at the time of his appointment:

‘Sir, Having been officially informed that the Commissioners of National Education have been pleased to nominate me to the National School at Terang. I hereby agree to remain at the above school for the period of twelve months or any less term the Commissioners or local Patrons of the school may determine and I further agree not to resign my situation without giving at least one months clear notice to the local Patrons of the school.’
1860 The Secretary of the Board of Education advised Carmichael that, if he were to gain promotion, he would have to take the Boards examination for classification. Carmichael protested. He was a Master of Arts, a qualification which far exceeded any certificate the National Board could offer him and the cost of travelling to Melbourne and back was unwarranted. The surprising fact is that he made no reference to the time involved in such a journey. The nearest Railway station was at Geelong 90 miles away and to reach the railhead he would have had to travel in nothing faster than a Cobb & Co coach. £18 annual net value, 3 in occupation of the house.

1870 Peter Carmichael had 6 acres of land and a house at Terang.

Peter Carmichael also held various positions at Thomson Memorial Church, Terang, including Manager, Treasurer, Trustee, Secretary and Elder, between 1866 – 1891(Terang & District Pioneer Register pre 1900)

1877, Selected land at Mirboo (one of the first Selectors in the Tarwin Valley) –C.A. 10 Parish of Mirboo South, 320 acres. Selection files 4398/79, 12331/19.20 (The Unfolding Hills by Warwick Eunson, Chapter 3)

In 1877 Peter Carmichael rode from Moe, via Gallagher’s camp, to the Tarwin Valley. His observations and reflections form the earliest contemporary selectors description of the Mirboo district. Although overawed by the forest and surviving a fall from his horse which rolled into a creek, he was enthusiastic for the beauty of the fern gullies and the richness of the soil – a dark chocolate on his selection except for the acres along the Tarwin River frontage. Nevertheless he looked at his prospective investment in terms of the capital cost in bringing 320 acres to pasture and plough. It is believed that Carmichael took a small quantity of chocolate soil back to his Western District home in Terang and it was this box of chocolate soil which George Goldsmith saw in a window in Hamilton. It aroused such interest that it took him and his family to Gippsland. (Goldsmith was a neighbour or friend of William Benn (assumed to be William Crawford Benn) at Merino, and his letters were to encourage William to go to Gippsland to see the prospects)

In the Christmas week of 1878 Carmichael returned to his selection and released a number of English Trout in the Tarwin River.

9th January 1879

**Introduction of Salmon Into The Tarwin** (letter to the editor of the Argus newspaper)

Sir: Knowing the interest you take in acclimatisation, I offer no apology for detailing the efforts I have recently made to introduce the most valuable species of the salmonidae, into the above river. Having had the occasion to visit the Tarwin, I sent word to Sir Samuel Wilson some weeks ago that I should be happy to take charge of any of the salmon family if he could spare any of the young fry for that river. Sir Samuel at once offered to let me have 75 young salmon, salmon trout etc. He also lent me 3 suitable padded cans and a pair of bellows to aerate the water. The railway department also helped in the good work by providing through Mr Swift the secretary of the Geelong and Western District Fish Acclimatisation Society, a
free pass for self, fish and ice. On Monday the 23\textsuperscript{rd} inst I started from Geelong for Melbourne to provide myself with the necessary quantity of ice, returned to Burrumbeet, where the young fry were delivered to me, and got back to Melbourne with my precious charge at 11 0’clock that night. The landlord of the Albion Hotel kindly allowed his tap (not the bear tap) to play upon the young fry during the night, and at 6 o’clock next morning I started for Oakleigh, having had to hire a special car for that purpose. Working the bellows every quarter of an hour, and throwing a lump of ice into the water occasionally to keep the temperature below 60 degrees was comparatively easy work until reaching the Railway Station at Morwell, when the real difficulties of the journey began. I had hopes before leaving Melbourne of being able to deposit the fish in the Tarwin before sunset on Tuesday. I made provision for having a conveyance ready at Morwell on my arrival, and rumour had, as usual, distorted all the circumstances of the enterprise. It was commonly reported along the Railway line that Sir Samuel Wilson in person was engaged in bringing salmon to the Tarwin. While the train stopped at one of the small stations I was much amused by the bearing of a person who addressed me, the local poet probably. Seeing me engaged in supplying the water with air, and having heard of the successful efforts of Sir Samuel in supplying the more accessible rivers of Gippsland during the previous summer with salmon fry, I was at once taken for that gentleman, and congratulated upon my public spirit and expenditure I had incurred in introducing such a valuable fish into the country. With pain I was forced to confess that though I might without impropriety attach some cabalistic letters to my name, I have not yet won my spurs.

From Morwell to the Tarwin I was accompanied by Mr John Gallagher, so well and favourable known in that district as a guide to the excellent land on both sides of the river. The road to the edge of scrub country is easily traversed by horseman, but it is so ill adapted for wheeled vehicles that the American wagon, when the cans were placed, was smashed, and we had to stop at a roadside public house for the night. We managed to rig up our vehicle next morning, and got three miles further, when the fish had to be put on a pack-horse and conveyed to the river. All the young fry were alive and active when we placed them in the Tarwin, about 6pm on Christmas Day. For the information of the residents on the Tarwin, most of whom had left to spend their holidays elsewhere, it may be mentioned that Mr Gallagher had made himself responsible for the hire of the horse and wagon, having sufficient faith that the selectors on the river would subscribe towards the necessary expenses. I have no doubt they will do so. Yours etc. Peter Carmichael, State School Terang January 2\textsuperscript{nd} 1879.

The full text of his story – ‘The Tarwin Country by a Free Selector’, Published in the Gippsland Mercury:–

‘For some months past the columns of the Metropolitan Press have occasionally held notices from the parties who profess to be in a position to point out to intending selectors, country of extraordinary richness. This country was represented as being 17 miles south of the Gippsland Railway, the nearest township to which was Moe. It was not much of a township certainly. The inhabitants all told would not muster 100 souls. We must not however despise the day of small things. This township small as it is has conveniences which more pretentious
townships do not possess, for it has a bank and a telegraph office, though not sufficiently large to muster as many children as would be sufficient to warrant the Education Department to establish a state school. I was somewhat surprised to learn that there is not one milch cow in the place. Those of the inhabitants who are partial to imbibing the lacteal fluid have to provide themselves with preserved milk. I trust that when next I visit the township I shall not have to drink tea without either milk or cream.

I confess that when I read the advertisement alluded to I was very sceptical indeed respecting the bona fides of the advertiser. I thought it was nothing but a publicans doge to bring water to his own mill. The land referred to as being superior to anything in the colony. I certainly thought from my knowledge of Tower Hill and other lands in the Western District that this statement should be received with a great deal of caution and instead of stimulating me to set out for this land of promise it had rather a deterrent effect. The land fever however was strong upon me and I at last mustered up sufficient courage to set out and test for myself the capabilities of this hitherto unknown territory.

As the statements I am going to make may possibly induce a rush towards this quarter, I shall proceed to give in detail the incidents of the journey, the hardships to be surmounted, the nature of the soil of the Tarwin, the desirability of settling down there and such other things as will aid the intending selector on his journey. To one who has been accustomed to live in the neighbourhood of rich land, the journey from Melbourne to Moe is a very dreary one. Poor country is the rule and a patch of good land the exception. I never before realised how much the prosperity of the country depends upon Gold mining and how careful we should be not to hamper the digger by oppressive laws.

For 35 miles after leaving Bunyip there is only one patch of really good land – a belt of country some 6 miles in diameter at Brandy Creek, now officially known as Buln Buln. It is a relief to the weary traveller when he suddenly comes upon an oasis in the desert. The soil at Brandy Creek appears to be all that can be desired, but it is very thickly timbered, and it must take a mint of money to bring it under the plough. The road from then is about the worst I have seen in the whole colony, the railway is certainly much required.

On arrival at Moe we alight at the Railway Hotel, a roadside house of somewhat primitive construction, but the homeliness of the accommodation is more than compensated for by scrupulous cleanliness and more than average civility on the part of my ‘host’. The real difficulties of the journey may now be said to begin. Here, the would be, selector hires a horse and a guide to conduct him to Gallagher’s camp which is situated on the verge of the Tarwin country. I may mention in passing, that the charges at Welsh’s Railway Hotel are extremely reasonable -1/6 for meals and beds and 10/- a day for horses inclusive of horse feed.

Between Moe and the edge of the good land on the Tarwin there is a stretch of 20 miles – three fourths of which is worthless, except for pastoral purposes. The herbage is very coarse indeed. The soil is a dark colour mixed with a decomposed Quartz. There are on the road two
or three patches of chocolate soil, but it is not until you come within 6 miles of the Tarwin, that really good country commences.

Here as I have said before Mr Gallagher has fixed his base of operations. He is the only man in the district who is acquainted with the Valley of The Tarwin, and his splendid bushmanship is something to excite the wonder. He has no difficulty in making straight for a peg, although a stranger would be apt to imagining that a peg in such scrub would be as hard to find as a needle in a haystack.

Of course Mr Gallagher turns his knowledge of the country to account. For showing the land and helping the selector to fix his pegs, a fee of ten pounds per block is charged. This appears at first sight a considerable sum but when it is considered that a man has to be most constantly on the move through the bush, so dense that one cannot travel at a greater rate than a mile an hour, I do not think the charge excessive. I would not like to do it for the money. Some persons who were unable or unwilling to pay the sum have essayed a selection without any guide, but they had to abandon the project and no doubt gave the district a bad name.

On approaching the camp (Gallagher’s) one’s courage is very apt to get damped as the timber here is very dense and the scrub almost impenetrable. But as the River Tarwin is approached, the trees become fewer in number, not more than half a dozen large trees per acre. Some of the trees are of great length.

One was met that measured between 300 and 400 feet in height, and there are others though not so long as this, of such a girth that a regiment of soldiers could pass through their hollow stems in single file, with drums beating and colours flying. As all these monsters are hollow inside they would not therefore be hard to dispose of. Blackwood trees three feet in diameter and of corresponding height are not uncommon. In the gullies and along the banks of the river graceful, palm like and umbrageous fern trees from 10 to 14 feet high, are met in great profusion and give a charming character to the landscape. It is impossible to pick out a block of 320 acres that has not a watercourse running through it, in fact the whole country is bursting with springs.

But what about the character of the soil, this is the most important question that forces itself to the attention of the intending selector and not the beauty of the landscape. I have seen all qualities of soil Victoria – poor loamy soil, only adapted to grazing purposes, the rich volcanic soil of Tower Hill and other volcanic formations in the Western district – I unhesitatingly state the land now so rapidly being taken up on the Tarwin is not inferior to any land in the colony. I have travelled over 10 miles the country and I could hardly in all that distance discover any difference in the qualities of the different blocks I passed over and I was assured by those who had gone down the river (Tarwin) that the quality of the land improves as it is followed towards the sea. There are about 200,000 acres left as good as any that has been selected but at the present rate of selection there will be none left within six months.

A few words regarding the geological formation of the country, how a rich chocolate soil, four feet in depth resting upon a bed of sandstone came to be formed is a puzzle. I only came
across a few boulders of igneous rock. The subsoil is undoubtedly volcanic but the surface soil is mixed with a good deal of vegetable matter, decayed leaves etc. The country has every appearance of having been very much disturbed. I examined the sandstone strata in the bed of the river and the rock appeared to have been heaved up into position nearly perpendicular to the original deposit. The Tarwin has the best bottom of any river I have seen in the colony, hard and gravely – well adapted for a salmon and trout stream, I should imagine. I was informed that the river abounds in eels and blackfish. The forest is singularly destitute of animal life at present.

With regard to the danger attending the trip to the Tarwin, the risk of accident is not greater than in any other part of the colony totally destitute of roads. I had a very narrow escape, while riding on a track at the edge of a creek. The ground gave way and my horse stumbled and rolled into the water from which I and my guide had some trouble in rescuing him without his being any the worse for immersion. How I managed to get clear of the saddle before the horse turned over I am unable to explain.

The new country is situated in the heart of South Gippsland. I must not conclude without a warning to those who may wish to settle in the Tarwin. Mr Trench’s poor man has no business there, it will take a good deal of capital to make the country fit for grazing. To make some of the blocks fit or the plough will necessitate an expenditure of £20/0/0 per acre. I was accompanied on the upward journey by a young man who had capital of 15/- for every acre he intended to take up. He found that it would take at least double this sum to enable him to make a fair start and he turned back, which was the best thing he could do under the circumstances.

So far as I have been able to ascertain the settlers generally are of a very superior class – the sons of retired Melbourne merchants and other representatives of the middle class. I was very much pleased to see a young gentleman who has abandoned the overcrowded paths of commerce, manfully wielding an axe with a fixed resolve to make an impression upon the primeval forest. Cruel blisters marked his first attempts in this direction, but he has evidently brought to the task a heart that will make light of such drawbacks.'

Peter Carmichael selected a block of 319 acres on the southern bank of the Tarwin and fronting on. He shared boundaries with Frank Dodd, Eliza Sherar, John Keogh and Peter Lacey. The land board approved the licence on the 1st of July 1878. Ref: ‘the Unfolding Hills by Warwick Eunson and the diaries of W.S. Benn.

As time passed the attendance at the school increased and on the 7th June 1872, the Board of Patrons notified the authorities in Melbourne that they had appointed Mrs Jane Nicholson to the position of Work Mistress, a term more ‘poetic’ than Female Assistant, which was used later.

Inspector Brodribb described him in August 1873 as a ‘Worthy Man’ and in May 1875 as ‘Intelligent’. The following year Brodribb was most generous in his praise for Mr Carmichael: 'Progress excellent - the school has again distinguished itself, taking one of the
highest percentages of marks ever gained in this district: the quality of the work done is commendable and a faithful adherence to the programme is shown.’

Mr Carmichael ceased duty at Terang on 2\textsuperscript{nd} October 1884 and the following day, commenced work as an Inspector of Schools, a position he held until his death on the 22\textsuperscript{nd} June 1891.

Peter Carmichael was active in local South Gippsland affairs, so is presumed to have been living on the block and by January 1885 had 170 acres cleared. The soil near the creek is grey and on the high country is a dark chocolate.

1886 - Sister in law Flora (Macdonald) Denney was living in the house in October.

1886-91 - Peter Carmichael is mentioned in W.S. Benn diaries as living at Dandenong.

1891 - Will of Peter Carmichael show a witness as Geo G. Lander, this leads to the probability of Carmichael and Lander being close friends, with Carmichael selecting land on the trip in 1877, Lander selecting in 1878. Lander was to forfeit his block to W.S. Benn in November 1883. Lander was a teacher at Caramut and Carmichael at Terang.

1888 - Inspector Peter Carmichael pointed out that the Stationmasters and Railway gatekeepers had better houses than teachers. (Vision & realisation p. 266)

As District Inspector he returned to report on the school on the 9\textsuperscript{th} of August 1889 and again 29\textsuperscript{th} May 1890.

The Argus (Melbourne, Victoria), Wednesday 24 June 1891, page 1
Death:
Carmichael –On the 22\textsuperscript{nd} inst, at King Street.
Warrnambool, Peter Carmichael M. A. Inspector of Schools, aged 54 years.

Camperdown Chronicle (Vic.: 1877 – 1954) \textit{Thursday 25 June 1891} p 2

We regret to have to record the death of Mr. Peter Carmichael, M.A., inspector of schools’, which took place on Tuesday, at his residence, King Street, Warrnambool. The deceased gentleman had been in failing health for several months, but it was only within the last few weeks that he was compelled to relinquish duty. The disease from which he suffered was incurable, and no hope of his recovery was therefore entertained. He died at the comparatively early age of 54 years. The funeral took place on Wednesday afternoon, the remains being interred in the Warrnambool Cemetery. The body was conveyed from the house to the hearse, and from the latter to the grave, by school, teachers, a number of whom were present at the ceremony. Mr. C. Tynan, Senior Inspector of schools, and Mr. W. Bryant, were amongst the mourners. The Rev. Gray Dixon, M.A., officiated at the grave, and delivered a very nice oration over the remains. The Standard notes that the late Mr. Carmichael came to the colony in the year 1860, being then fresh from one of the Scottish Universities, where he graduated, taking the M.A. degree. He received an appointment under the National School Board, to the head teachership of the National School, Terang, where for 25 years he did excellent service, many who are now in good positions, being indebted to Mr. Carmichael for the educational attainments they possess, and I for the sound moral training.
inculcated by their late teacher. Six years ago, the late Mr. Carmichael was appointed Inspector of Schools, a post for which, by his scholastic attainment, he was particularly well fitted. In the district under his charge during his term of office, Mr. Carmichael won the esteem of the teachers and in fact, of all with whom he came in contact. He may be said to have almost died in harness, for it was not till within the last few days he could be induced to resign his position, having the hope that he would yet be restored to health and continue the duties he loved so well. The deceased gentleman was married to a sister of our esteemed town clerk, Mr. H. A. C. Macdonald. The greatest sympathy is felt for Mrs. Carmichael in her bereavement.

It seems that the selection of Peter Carmichael was forfeited after his death by 1893.


Will series 48/364 Peter Carmichael – This is the last Will and Testament of me Peter Carmichael of Warrnambool in the County of Villiers and Colony of Victoria, Inspector of Schools. After payment of all my just debts funeral and other expenses I give an bequeath unto my son John Albert Carmichael the sum of one hundred pounds sterling and all the residue of my real and personal estate and any Government Compensation that may be received unto my wife Catherine Carmichael during her life in trust for my son the said John Albert Carmichael subject to the control of my Trustees. As soon as the interest of the money amounts to one hundred and fifty pounds sterling per annum the Trustees will hold the estate in trust for the benefit of my son during the lifetime of his mother. My Trustees will have the power to sell lease mortgage or pay any monies for land in the suburbs of Melbourne conditionally purchased and pay over to my wife any sums she may require whether out of interest or capital at their discretion. In the event of my son dying without heirs or unmarried the estate will be equally divided between Reginald Charles Macdonald and Emily Flora Wentworth Macdonald, my nephew and niece. Should the estate allow it and my trustees will be at liberty to give my wife more than the sum of one hundred and fifty pounds sterling per annum previously specified and I herby appoint Hector Albert Cumming Macdonald of Warrnambool, Town Clerk, Archibald Paton, Kew near Melbourne, warehouseman and Catherine Carmichael my wife as Trustees of my will.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this Eighth Day of June in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety One

Peter Carmichael

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this Eighth Day of June in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety One – Peter Carmichael – signed by the said Peter Carmichael, the Testator and by him declared to be his last Will and Testament in the presence of us present at the same time who in his presence and at his request and in the presence of each other have herunto subscribed our names as witnesses. William Bryant Geo. G. Lander

The Argus (Melbourne, Vic.: 1848 – 1957) Saturday 26 January 1907 p 13

CARMICHAEL-JAKINS-On the 22nd December, 1907, at the Catholic Apostolic Church, Carlton, by the Rev John Kirkhope, John Albert, only son of the late Peter Carmichael, M.A., Inspector of schools, Warrnambool, to Catherine
Vosper, second daughter of Dr Jakins, Camberwell, (At home 4th and 5th of February, “Glengarry”, 123 Burwood Road Hawthorn.)

**Camperdown Chronicle Tuesday 30 August 1932, page 8**

**Bequest to School.**
Pleasant news has been received by the headmaster of Terang schools (Mr. W. S. Mitchell) to the effect that under the will of the late Dr. Alfred Victor Millard Anderson, a Collins Street practitioner, who died on August 2, £100 has been invested in securities, and from the annual income from this, prizes are to be awarded to the boy and girl scholars at Terang State School who shall show the most progress and improvement during each year. These prizes are to be known as the Peter Carmichael Prizes. The trust is in perpetuity. (Dr Anderson was a former pupil of Peter Carmichael)

24th June 2014 – After an enquiry at the school regarding this award, the following reply was received:

Hello Betty,

The Peter Carmichael Perpetual Award is still in place at Terang College. It was awarded to the Dux of Year 6 at Terang Primary School.

In 1996 Terang Primary School merged with Terang High to form Terang College.

The award is still given to the Dux of Year 6 and is presented at our annual awards night at the end of each school year.

Our Year 5/6 students are now at the old Terang High school site with Yr 7-12 students. Our Prep to Yr 4 students are at the old Primary School site.

There is a good article about Peter Carmichael in ‘The School By The Lake - A history of Terang Primary School’. Have you read it?

Regards

Kerrin McKenzie

Assistant Principal

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A further email 29/06/2014- from Graeme Downie P.4 campus Leader - The award today still recognises student achievement at Yr 6, but was called the Peter Carmichael Citizenship Award for a number of years in the 1990s and early 2000s. It has now reverted back to an achievement for excellence award and is held in high esteem by the community. The award is a certificate and $50 voucher.
1st June 1864 – Wedding Certificate of daughter Henrietta lists John Macdonald as School Teacher. (Henrietta b. 9th November about 1840 d. 20th August 1903 at Dumbalk, Victoria)

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<th>Date</th>
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<th>Place of Birth</th>
<th>Place of Residence</th>
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<td>School Teacher</td>
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Henrietta b. 9th November about 1840 d. 20th August 1903 at Dumbalk, Victoria

Alfred Davies & Henrietta (Macdonald) Davies (their history is recorded separately)

Matriarch, Catherine (Macdonald) Macdonald died 6th March 1891, in Warrnambool Victoria, aged 81 years, Cert Ref No. 4341. Buried in Warrnambool Cemetery Church Of England section Comp 35 / Grave 37 (see earlier reference to her Death Certificate on Page 16)
Hector Albert Cumming Macdonald b. 31st December 1841 m. Approx 1872 at Warrnambool, Emily Jane Hallam b. 11th March 1854 at Nottingham England.

Hector Macdonald’s life in Warrnambool:-

1850 - Arrived in Warrnambool with his mother Catherine & father John Macdonald (the first official school teacher) and family, he occasionally assisted at the school.

1865 - 10th January trustee of the Baptist Church.

1868 - Warrnambool Volunteer Artillery.

1869 - Some pastoralists in the Warrnambool district formed a Meat Preserving Company with a Capital of £20,000, divided into 400 shares of £5 each. Directors were R. B. Paterson (chairman), J. R. Evans, W Lindsay Sen., T. E. Bostock Sen., P. P. Stevens, H. Phillips, O. F. W. Palmer, T. McL. Palmer. J. R. Evans – Manager, H. A. C. Macdonald – Secretary.

1869 - Secretary Warrnambool Meat & Preserving Co. Sergeant Warrnambool Militia Volunteer Corps.

1872 - Meatworks sold up. (on site of later Woollen mills) Secretary Mechanic Institute and Librarian.

1873 - Corp Aide & Secretary of Warrnambool Militia Volunteer Corps.

1876 – 85 Manager of Warrnambool tramway. (this was a horse drawn tram connecting the township with the wharf)

1878 – 90 Secretary of Harbour Improvement Committee Warrnambool.

1885 - Committee member of a company founded to exploit Gold and coal found in the Otway Ranges.

1885 – 92 Town Clerk of Warrnambool.

1886 - Engine keeper Warrnambool Voluntary Fire Brigade and Drill instructor.

1890 - June – Member of party searching for the ‘Mahogany Ship’ (to west of Warrnambool) T. H. Osborne, J. Archibald, H. Macdonald, E. Greening and H. Parkinson. (this search uncovered Aboriginal bones and artifacts, no evidence of wreck found)

September 1892 Hector Macdonald was dismissed & resigned as Town Clerk. Hector went to New Zealand, Emily and children went to Napier, New Zealand about 1893 and were met there by Hector.

Extracts from:- By These We Flourish by C. E. Sayers, History of Warrnambool by R. Osborne, Pastures New by Billis & Kenyon, 1865 Warrnambool City Rate Book.

Extracts from the Warrnambool Council Minutes & ‘Warrnambool Standard’ newspaper Friday 28th October 1892 follow, giving the reported reasons for Hector Macdonald’s dismissal from his position as Town Clerk. It would seem Hector had neglected his duties for some reason.
Thurs. 27th Oct. 1892
The Meeting was called to consider and decide upon the position of Town Clerk.

After some discussion

Coun. Hickford moved Coun. McMeekin seconded that Mr. H.A.C. Macdonald be dismissed from the position of Town Clerk by reason of neglect and irregularities in the performance of his duties, the said dismissal to date from 30th September, 1892.

Carried.

Page 282
Wednesday 30th November, 1892.
H. Lawson, Acting Town Clerk.

Page 289
Tuesday, 6th December, 1892

APPLICATIONS TOWN CLERK & COLLECTOR FOR DAY SERVICE.

Coun. Philp moved in accordance Coun. Hutton seconded that applications be called for the position of Town Clerk.

Carried.
A MUNICIPAL OFFICER IN TROUBLE.

THE TOWN CLERK OF WARNA-UMBOO DISMISSED.

HIS RESIGNATION OF OTHER APPOINTMENTS ACCEPTED.

THE WATER TRUST MEETING.

Special meetings of the Warrambool Town Council and of the Warrambool Waterworks Trust were held last evening to consider the position of the Town Clerk and Secretary, Mr. H. A. C. Macdonald, whose resignation had been received.

The Water Trust meeting was first held. There were present—Com. King (chairman), Simpson, Stephens, Hatton, Cleverdon, Russell, McMeekin, Ward, Hickford, and Fletcher—the latter being the Government nominees.

The Chairman said the meeting was called to decide with reference to the Secretary, Mr. H. A. C. Macdonald, who as they were aware, had been suspended by him under instructions from the Trust. His resignation had been sent in and received, and now they had to finally deal with him. They knew the position of the books from the Government auditor's report. From last December until the end of September, the books were not entered up, and the Secretary had shown great negligence. It was for the Trust to decide whether they would dismiss him or otherwise. He (the chairman) most decidedly considered they could do nothing but dismiss him.

Com. Stephens thought they could not do otherwise than dismiss the secretary, and proposed that this be done.

Com. Fletcher remarked that for negligence in the performance of his duties, the secretary had been suspended, but prior to this he had in his resignation, and they thought he should accept it from the date it was sent in. He did not think they should dismiss him, as if this were done, he might be entitled to his salary up to date, though he did not think he would. He thought the resignation should be accepted, and moved an amendment to this effect.

Com. Ward rose to second Com. Stephens' proposal, as he thought they could not do anything else but dismiss the secretary. He did not perform his duties to the Trust, and they had no right to accept the resignation when he did not do his work.

Com. Russell seconded the amendment, remarking that his only reason for doing so was the difficulty in regard to payment of salary. By accepting the resignation they would get over the difficulty.

The Chairman—if the objection to pay is to stand in the way of doing our duty, then I say 'No.' I would rather we pay a few days' salary than swear from resolute and right. The negligence was so gross and the appearance surrounding it so bad that I think we should dismiss him. Besides he absconded himself from duty by going away. He has been paid for all the days he was attended with the exception of one or two.

Com. Cleverdon remarked that, seeing there was nothing wrong except the books being left, they should adopt the milder course of accepting his resignation. They should not bear in mind anything that took place in connection with any other officers held by the secretary; they should only consider his position as secretary of the Trust, and not any other appointments that he held. Seeing that the secretary only neglected to keep his books posted he did not see that there was much against him to compel them to take the extreme course of dismissing him. He (Com. Cleverdon) desired to be careful, and did not wish to bear in mind what took place in connection with other offices—they were dealing with him as secretary of the Trust. That officer failed to keep his books posted up and went away without giving in, nor, and sent in his resignation.

Com. Hickford said he was at first inclined to vote for dismissing the secretary, but after hearing Com. Cleverdon's remarks he thought the wisest course would be to accept the resignation. They were dealing with the Water Trust and not the Council, and in connection with the former the secretary was only backward in his work.

The amendment—to accept the secretary's resignation—was first put, and carried. Coms. Russell, Fletcher, Hatton, Cleverdon, Hickford and Simpson voted for it. Those who voted for Com. Stephens motion were the Chairman and Com. McMeekin, Stephens and Ward.

(Com. Philip here took his seat.)

THE TOWN COUNCIL.

The councillors mentioned above were present at the special meeting of the Town Council.

The Mayor said that they were called together to decide the position of the Town Clerk, Mr. Macdonald. From what they all knew they could not do otherwise than dismiss him. He had suspended him because there was a serious deficiency in one item of £144.

This had not been done in one month or two or three, but had extended over at least eight or nine months. With this fact before them it was quite sufficient for the Council to dismiss him.

Com. Hickford—There is no necessity of going into details; we know enough about it. I propose that the Town Clerk be dismissed. I would suggest that his dismissal date from the time of his suspension or from the time he absconded himself.

It was explained that the Town Clerk absconded himself from the 27th September.

Com. Ward—We cannot very well say he absconded himself, because he was suspended.

The motion was seconded by Com. McMeekin.
Hector Macdonald had helped to support his sister Henrietta (Macdonald) Davies and family after her husband Alfred Davies left in 1877. Gertrude Davies was to speak of these days in later years and of playing with Hector & Emily’s girls.

The below notes were written by Hector & Emily Macdonald’s youngest child Jean Carmichael Macdonald b. 9th October 1895 in New Zealand:

**The Macdonald Family**

*By Jean Carmichael Macdonald*

My father, Hector Albert Cumming MACDONALD, was born in Warrnambool, Victoria, Australia round about 1844. He was born on the stroke of midnight 31st December. He never knew whether his birthday was on New Year’s or the last day of the year. He was one of triplets, the first white triplets to be born in Australia. All the triplets survived but one died in infancy and the other when she was 21. Dad was the only boy. His father was in the Indian Army and he brought his family out to Melbourne a few years before my father was born. Grandfather was a great gambler, and he must have had considerable money for the story goes that he bought land in Victoria and gambled it all away. The land he bought and gambled is now a city, the city of Kew. When the family arrived in Australia they stayed in a hotel and bought some Indian servants with them. The day they arrived was St Patrick’s Day. St Pat’s Day was a great day in Melbourne in those days. There were huge demonstrations and parades through the main street and at night lots of drunken Irishmen celebrating. That night the Indians thought they would like to see the city and they went into the main street. Unfortunately for them they wore orange turbans and were chased home by a raging drunken mob. My Aunt Flora said she would never forget their dark flashing eyes and their terrified cries of “oh missy”.

Dad had brown eyes, a good nose and was considered good looking. He was of medium height. He was very spoilt. He was quick at figures and eventually passed his accountancy examinations. Later on in life he became Town Clerk of Warrnambool.

My mother, Emily Jane HALLAM, was born in Nottingham, England on March 11th 1854. She had an elder sister, Nell “Ellen” and a brother. She was the youngest child. Grandfather Hallam died when the children were young. He had Irish blood in him and had black hair and blue eyes. Mum had fair hair, blue eyes and the most wonderful complexion. I believe Nottingham girls were noted for their lovely complexions. Grandmother must have been an enterprising woman for she left Nottingham for Australia leaving the children with their Grandmother, Mrs Cooke. She got a position in the leading drapery shop in Warrnambool, Powell and Kramer. She eventually married the single Mr POWELL. There were two brothers. She then sent for the children to come to Australia. They were placed in the care of the captain. My Mother had an accident on board. She fell out of her bunk, putting her jaw out of place. The stewardess used to love her grin and the Captain blamed the Stewardess for the accident.

When the ship got into Warrnambool my grandmother and a woman friend went down to meet them. Mum said she had by this time forgotten what her Mother looked like, but she’d hoped that the prettier of the two women would be her mother. This was not to be. They were taken to their new home – and the houses were so different from the ones in Nottingham that my Mother said when she saw the house “is this the barn?” Grandmother always said how proud she was of her two little English daughters who had such good manners but it wasn’t long before they were scaling fences and shouting “by jove” and “by jingo” just like their Australian friends.

The children took the name of POWELL, not Hallam and they seemed to have had a happy life. Mr. Powell was a very kindly man. When he retired from the business he bought some land in the country and grew hops. They had one child, a daughter, Aunt Fan. She was 10 years younger than Mum.
Mum was only 18 when she married Dad who was 10 years older. He was a man of the world and she was an innocent Victorian girl. The Macdonald’s did not like the idea of their adored and spoilt son marrying someone from a family who was ‘in trade! The Powells who were a very fine family and well respected in the town also were disappointed. They did not think dad was worthy of their daughter and how right they were. But the fact that both sides were against the marriage, only made them more determined. Mum always advised her friends when they were troubled about their daughters going with people they objected to, not to stop them from seeing each other and not to object too much. She always did this with her own daughters. Sal told me once that when she was seeing a lot of a young Englishman named Cyril Pardoe who made frequent visits to the house and then his visits stopped, Mum said to her “you never seem to see Cyril these days”. Sal said “Oh I’ve had him”. Mum said with relief “oh Elsie I’m so thrilled”. “Why?” said Sal. “Oh I think he drank too much” she said. But she would never have uttered a word against him in case she made Sal more determined to have him.

However in spite of all the protests, they got married. Dad was a selfish man right from the beginning. When Mum was expecting her first child he used to spend his evenings at the Club drinking and not getting home until early hours of the morning. Mum’s doctor, a friend of the family reprimanded my father about his habits and said he would not be responsible for Emily’s health if he didn’t spend more time with her.

They soon had a tribe of girls. Kit, Flo, Blanche, Ad, Lyd, Sal, Rube, Flete and Reg. Dad was crazy to have a son but no luck. He used to get a fit of sulks every time a new girl appeared. Then after Rube, the seventh daughter arrived, Mum got pregnant again and this time it was a boy. Ronald Gordon. Dad was overjoyed. He put a sovereign in each of the baby’s fists and said “If ever I touch another drop of drink again, may I be shot”. Famous last words. The child only lived three months. I think that did it. About this time Dad had joined the volunteer movement. A cannon went off and broke the drum of his ear. Mum always maintained that his brain was also affected by the shot. For whenever he had bouts of drunkenness he used to go quite mad.

Then Flete was born and after that Reg. But by this time it was too late to do anything about stopping the drink. Finally the crash came and Dad lost his job. They had nothing but their furniture and clothes. Friends and relations took the children. Dad went to New Zealand during the Gold Rush period. He met a very nice man named Cohen whom he had kept in touch with. Mr Cohen lived in Napier and he told Dad he could get a job there if he liked to come. I think he paid his fare. Mum took the two youngest children with her to Melbourne. They lived in a slum opposite a shirt factory. Mum made shirts for the factory at 2/6 a dozen. The children used to take the finished shirts to the factory and Flete was old enough to sign her name for them. Finally dad got a job and (with the help of friends and the selling of effects) they all arrived in Napier one sunny day. Dad had written to Mum saying he was not drinking and suggested that she should take in dressmaking. Mum said she couldn’t bare that, but she would teach the piano.

When she was young her stepfather noticed that she was musical and sent her to learn the piano. At that time they had no piano, for they were rare in Australia, and for a couple of years Mum used to practise on the kitchen table. Then they bought a piano and she was very clever at it, and loved it. When they arrived in Napier, Dad was down at the wharf to meet the family and Mum said she could tell by his face and colour of his complexion that he had not stopped drinking. They had to walk from Port Ahuriri to White Road, Napier. There he had rented a house for them without a stick of furniture. Everything had to be bought on time payment.

So that was how and why they went to NZ. I was born a couple of years later.
The file named ‘The Macdonald Family’ was written by Aunty Jean Macdonald. She was the youngest in the family and was rather spoilt. She clearly didn’t know about the birth of the two boys that died, and so her writing is just from her perspective, so not all of what she has written is actually correct. For a start, the triplets were born on 30th December, not 31st as she states but it will give you some information. I retyped it just as she had written it, including the spelling mistakes!
His children’s photos: - Katherine (Kit) Macdonald – Flora (Flo) Macdonald

Adelaide (Ade) Macdonald – Lydia (Lyd) (Macdonald) & husband Theodore Newton

Elsie (Sal) Macdonald – Ruby (Rube) Macdonald
Fleta (Flete) Macdonald

Reginald (Reg) Macdonald

Reginald (Reg) Macdonald

- Jean macdonald
Jean & Kit Macdonald

Jean Macdonald as a teenager

The Macdonald family & friends one Christmas:- Hector, Jean, unknown male, Emily, Rube (at back) Blanch, Reg and unknown female (partially hidden)

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Hector & Emily (Hallam) Macdonald’s children:

Albert Hector Macdonald b. 1871 at Geelong d. 1873

Katherine Lillias Bosvil (Kit) Macdonald b. 18th July 1872 at Warrnambool Cert No. 20391 d. 1951

Flora Emily (Flo) Wentworth Macdonald b. 28th May 1874 at Warrnambool Cert No. 12895 d. 1944

Ella Blanch Henrietta (Blanch) Macdonald b.1878 d.1897

Adelaide Margaret Frances (Ade) Macdonald b. 14th February 1879 at Warrnambool Cert No. 06135 d.1968

Lydia Jessica Victoria (Lyd) Macdonald b. 11th December 1881 at Warrnambool Cert No. 6231 d. 9th July 1973 d.1973 (Suzanne (Newton) Torkington’s grandmother)

Elsie Sarah (Sal) Macdonald b. 5th November 1882 at Warrnambool Cert No. 06097d. 1956

Ruby Josephine Macdonald b. 1883 at Warrnambool Cert No. 27195 d. 1981

Fleta Marie Mabel (Flete) Macdonald b. 1886 d.1958

Ronald Gordon Macdonald b. 1885 at Warrnambool Cert No. 05299 - d. 3rd March 1885 Buried at Warrnambool

Reginald John Charles Macdonald b. 1888 at Warrnambool Cert No. 25566  d. 1969

Jean Carmichael Macdonald b. circa 1895 New Zealand d. 1993

(Emily, Kit, Flora, Blanch & Elsie are all recorded in Gertrude (Davies) Benn’s 1883 Birthday Book indicating her affection for the family)

(The family hated the long names they were given and were in the habit of calling each other by vastly abbreviated names:- information from Granddaughter of Lydia (Macdonald) Newton - Suzanne (Newton) Torkington)

Jean Carmichael Macdonald was living at 5 Governor Road, Wellington, New Zealand in 1935.

I had the pleasure of knowing three of the Aunties and Uncle Reg and his wife quite well. Aunty Rube and Jean were especially close to me, and when my Dad got sick and later died, I was Aunty Jean’s caregiver. She was a delightful person, with a wonderful sense of humour and very intelligent. Jean wrote to many famous people, had a delightful personality always telling people what she though, never holding back. I have a copy of a letter she received from Sir George Bernard Shaw, which was in reply to one she had written to him expressing her fondness for his works and how much she adored him because of this. She had seen him on a news reel at the cinema and was shocked that he looked nothing like her dreams of him. As I have previously stated my Aunts were delightful personalities, all of them were ‘health fanatics’ and today would have been ‘greenies’. Aunt Jean insisted on being ‘disposed of’ in
a cardboard box, as she saw no need to have a tree destroyed in her honour! They were very hard on their father Hector criticising him a great deal. Only three of the family had children, including two sisters (Lydia and Flora) who married twin brothers, so there are very few Macdonald descendants here – and none with the name Macdonald, as Reg did not have children, and the other two sons died young.

Above information from Granddaughter of Lydia (Macdonald) Newton - Suzanne (Newton) Torkington

In 1935 Jean Carmichael Macdonald wrote a letter to Playwright George Bernard Shaw (of the play ‘Pygmalion’ later to be made into the musical ‘My Fair Lady’).

The transcript of his reply :-

Dear Miss Macdonald,

It is perhaps just as well not to see the people you admire too much, nor marry the people you love too much.

At the nearest Cinema you might have seen a ridiculous movie/talkie of an old man with a white beard, just like any other old man with a white beard. The plays which have pleased you are mostly written by a younger not a bit like him.

So it is just as well that I am left to your gorgeous imagination. In that, as you desire. I shall not die.

Faithfully G. Bernard Shaw
Marriage Certificate for Emily Jane Hallam & Hector Cumming Albert Macdonald approx 1872 at Warrnambool.

Death Certificate for Hector Albert Cumming Macdonald 5th December 1907

Hector Macdonald – Cemetery Information

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John Macdonald’s youngest daughter Lillias Victoria Macdonald

b. 30th December 1841 d.1872

Lillias Macdonald school exam prize (Warrnambool Examiner newspaper 19th August 1854 p2c4)

Lillias Macdonald school exam prize (Warrnambool Examiner newspaper 21st October 1854 p2c4)

Lillias V Macdonald lease on selected land at Elingamite available (Warrnambool Examiner newspaper 17th March 1868 p2c4)

Lillias Victoria Macdonald Youngest daughter of the late John Macdonald married Thomas Clark 24th August 1871 at Warrnambool. (Warrnambool Examiner newspaper 29th August 1871 p2c2)

Lillias Victoria (Macdonald) Clark b. 30th December 1841 died in 1872

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According to Napier Hill Cemetery records Hector Macdonald’s grave does not have a head stone.
Information regarding - John Macdonald's Brother Normand & Sister Rachel.

Births in the Paris of Tallangatta, District of Allansford, Shire of Warrnambool, County of Heytesbury

John Macdonald's brother Norman is registered as the father of John Charles Macdonald born 19th October 1860 - stated he is a Farmer 36 years born in Snizort, Inverness-shire, Scotland, unmarried, from Tallangatta. The mother is Margaret Grant born Strathspey, Scotland. Registered 18th January 1861 at Warrnambool. witnessed by Singleton, Registra J. Mander? (in fact Norman was closer to 41 or 42 years in age - according to shipping records he was born in 1819) This would seem to be his natural born son who is later mentioned as the Adopted son, informant on Norman's Death Certificate.

As at January 2016 the whereabouts of John's mother Margaret Grant is unknown. From Norman's Death Certificate information he was said to have been unmarried. Was Margaret a local lass, did she work on the farm or was this a chance encounter that brought about John Charles Macdonald's birth?

Deaths in the Paris of Tallangatta, District of Allansford, Shire of Warrnambool, County of Heytesbury

:- John Macdonald's sister Rachel Macdonald - housemaid - died 18th August 1877 aged 73 years, (actually 63 years) from Abscess, Gastric Fever over 6 months. She was last seen by Dr Hutchinson on the 11th August 1877. Her parents are listed
a Charles Macdonald - Farmer and Jessie (should be Janet) Macdonald formerly McKinnon - housemaid. The informant was her brother Norman Macdonald and his residence is Tallangatta. Rachel was buried at Warrnambool Cemetery on the 20th August 1877 by undertaker John Watson. Rachel was born at 'Skye, Scotland and was a resident of Victoria for 39 years and was unmarried.
John Macdonald's brother Norman Macdonald - Farmer died 31st August 1894 aged 73 years, from Heart Disease and old age. He was last seen by Dr Thomas Scott on the 8th December 1891. His parents are listed as unknown - father's occupation Tailor and mother as formerly McKinnon - occupation unknown. The informant was his adopted son John C. Macdonald of Allansford and Norman's residence is Tallangatta. Norman was born Isle of Skye, Scotland and was a resident of Victoria for 56 years and unmarried.

The adopted son John C. Macdonald is actually his naturally born son by Margaret Grant. They were unmarried.

The Probate records show that Probate of Norma's Will was granted on the 28th November 1894 and according to the newspaper report the estate was worth £1,540.

According to the details on arrival in Australia Norman was 19 years in 1838 and so should be 75 years at death in 1894.

From this information it seems Norman and his sister Rachel had lived on the same property as
This information has been compiled with the use of Roger Porteous (Great, Great, Grandson Catherine & John Macdonald) extensive research information and further details which have been found since his death 23rd December 2012. As with Henrietta (Macdonald) and Alfred Davies Family information, I have been aware of Roger's presence looking over my shoulder to see how I would record his findings. We owe him a great debt of gratitude for all the work he was able to accomplish over many years.

Thank you to Suzanne Torkington from New Zealand for her information about her Great Grandfather Hector Albert Cumming Macdonald's family.

Thank you also to Rex Benn (Great, Great Grandson of Catherine & John Macdonald) for proof reading and assistance with editing.

The Internet has also been a great tool to help 'flesh out' our family history and find those extra tid bits. Please let me know of any further Macdonald family information you may have to add to the current data.

All comments whether they be complimentary or not, are very welcome. They all add to this great learning curve called life.

Betty Woolley

Compiled by Betty (Winchester) Woolley - Great, Great Granddaughter of Catherine & John Macdonald.

June 2014 & amended with new information to May 2015
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