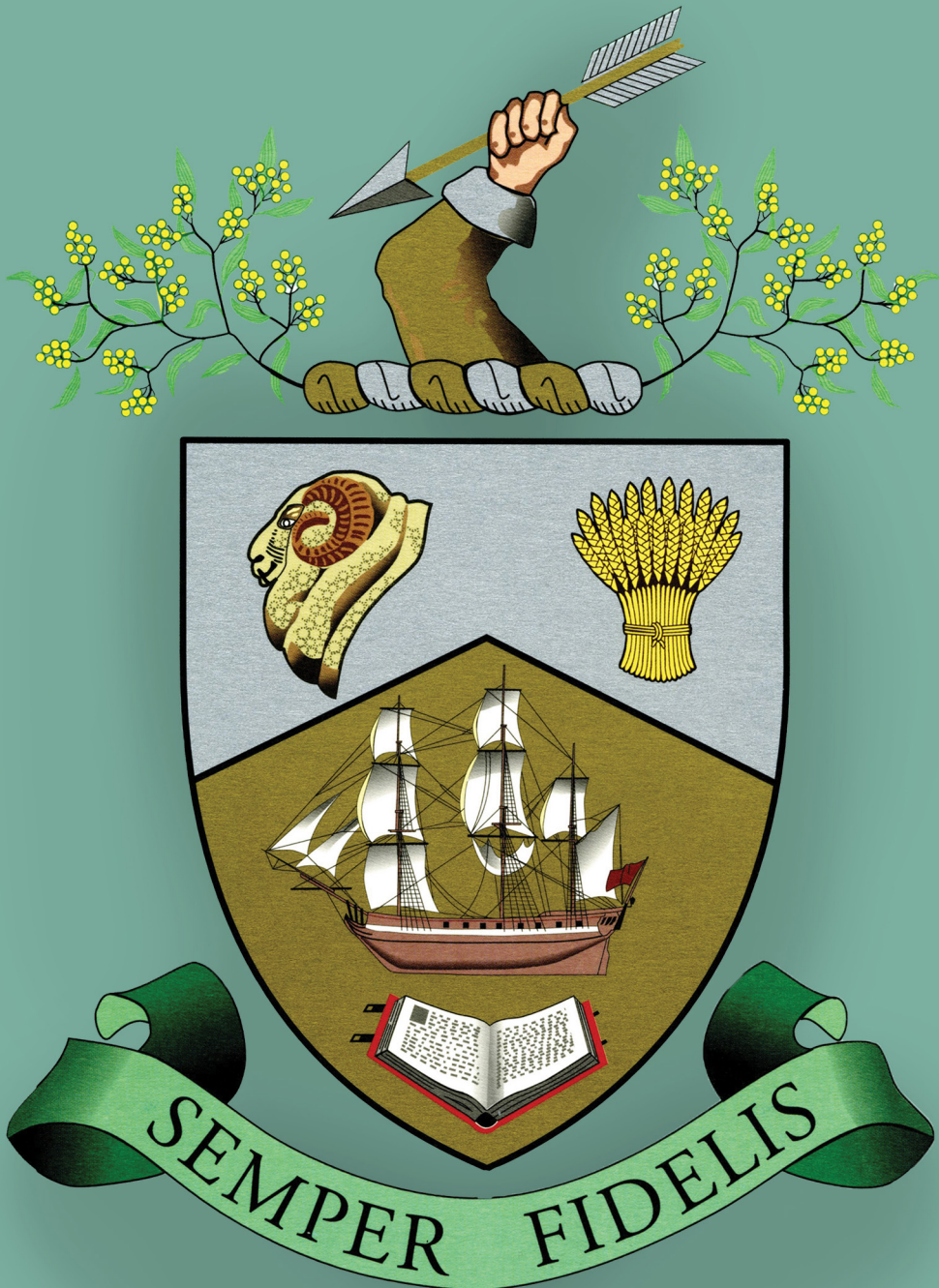


Edition 52

Hassall Family History Association Newsletter

June 2022



Association News

2023 reunion

Plans are continuing to progress toward the Hassall Family reunion to be held in Camden, Middleton Grange and Parramatta 5-7 May 2023.

On 13th April 2022 Graham Hassall, Alison Shaw, Melissa Blanks, Anthea Russo travelled to the Thomas Hassall Anglican College to consult with Principal Ross Whelan and Marketing and Community Relations Manager Carmen



Pasapera. The meeting emphasised the importance of creating an inclusive program that will be of interest to children and youth as well as adults.

Then, on Thursday 14th, Graham Hassall and Alison Shaw travelled to Parramatta to meet with staff at the City Council, with Rev. David Ould at St John's Cathedral, and with



Judith Dunn at St John's Cemetery. Present at the City Council meeting were Jessica Wheat (Events), Julie Lockhart (Senior Civic Liaison for the Lord Mayor), Bronwyn Pullen (Executive Officer to the Lord

Mayor), and Janelle Blucher (*Parramatta* Heritage and Visitor Information Centre). All expressed interest in our event and assured us that they would assist us in every way possible.

2023 Hassall Family Reunion – broad outline of program

Although details of the May 2023 event are still being finalized, the core program will take place at the Thomas Hassall Anglican College, Middleton Grange, on Saturday 6th May and at Parramatta on Sunday 7th, May. There will also be optional tours to Camden / Cobbity / Denbigh / Narellan Friday 5th and to the O’Connell/ Oberon / Bathurst area on Monday 8th. In this way family members can participate according to their interests and circumstances. We hope to make full registration available on a website from October 1st. The full conference programme plus registration details will include speakers, times, costs, and some transport and accommodation advice and options.

May 2023 Hassall Family Reunion – preliminary outline				
	Friday 5 th Optional tour	Saturday 6 th Thomas Hassall School	Sunday 7 th	Monday 8 th Optional tour
AM	Tour to Hassall-family-related sites in / Camden / Cobbity / Narellan	Welcome ceremony Plenary Morning tea Choice of Breakout sessions (family line/projects/youth sports)	History walk, including St John’s Cemetery	Tour to O’Connell / Oberon / Bathurst
PM	Lunch or afternoon tea at Denbigh (Homestead of Thomas and Anne Hassall)	Lunch Plenary (guest speaker) Afternoon tea Conference Photos Breakouts repeated; pageant matinee for children;	2pm St John’s Cathedral Service	Tour to O’Connell/ Oberon/ Bathurst
Night	Mayoral Reception at Old Government House	Dinner (guest speaker) Pageant and/or music		

Sydney Research meeting held April 12th.



Geoff Barker displays material from the Thomas Hassall papers, State Library of New South Wales

The Hassall Family Research Meeting held in the Macquarie Room at the State Library of New South Wales on 12th April attracted eighteen participants: Beatrice Blanks, Melissa Blanks, Clair Castle, James Daniel, Shelley Farriss, Graham Hassall, Matt Kenny, Jenny Mackay, Jane Miura, Juliana O'Dean, Eileen and Irima Procter, Henri Quin, Barbara Robertson, Anthea Russo, Alison Shaw, and Roslyn Vaughan. Guest Speakers included Geoff Barker and Elise Edmonds, who are both Senior Curators at the State Library of New South Wales.

At the beginning of the meeting attendees were invited to introduce themselves and to share their interests in the family's history. Eileen Procter mentioned that Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies in Canberra (AIATSIS) had been gifted boomerangs that had at some time in the past been given to a Hassall family member by an Aboriginal elder. No additional details are available because the donor deposited the boomerangs at the front desk and left without leaving contact details or much of the history and story behind them. The Boomerangs are inscribed 'H Hassall'.



Eileen Procter, Shelley Farriss, Beatrice Blanks, Irima Procter and Melissa Blanks

In the first session *Graham Hassall* presented an overview of Rowland and Elizabeth Hassall's family life, including the dates of birth of their 9 children between 1794 and 1810, their dates of marriage, and their passing. Tragically, the last born, Elizabeth, drowned in 1812 at age 2, and another two sons (Samuel and Jonathan) and two

daughters (Mary and Eliza) passed away in their thirties. The remaining four lived between 60 (James) and 84 (Susannah) years. All eight children who reached adulthood married and had families, and Rowland and Elizabeth had some 62 grandchildren. Only a few of the lives of these second and third generation family members have yet been researched and written about.



Jenny Mackay and Barbara Robertson

In her update on the **Hassall Heritage Project**, *Alison Shaw* outlined how HFHA proposes to collect, collate, and present heritage items/artefacts for the 2023 Hassall Reunion and beyond, through i) **understanding what we have** so far...reunion 1994, books, pageant, known buildings and artefacts; ii) **collecting Hassall heritage item information** from completed forms found in the Hassall Newsletters; iii) **establishing a Restoration Project** to upgrade selected Hassall family grave markers; and iv) **encouraging Individual Projects**, e.g. an outline was presented of such a project on the naming of “Hassall” suburbs, streets and parks. This includes identifying whether named entities refer to our Hassall family or to another more distant branch.

The question of what to do with Hassall Heritage items will become clearer as we understand which items are in what location and who owns or is custodian of them. We are asking all members to complete the “Hassall Family Heritage Listing” form and return it to John Brooks, HFHA Treasurer for collation and understanding of Hassall heritage items.

Mid-morning *Geoff Barker* (Senior Curator, SLNSW) displayed material from the Thomas Hassall Papers acquired by the library in 2015 and answered questions about the library’s collection development policies.

In the afternoon session *Roslyn Vaughan* OAM spoke about researching the Ann Hassall & Robert MacKay Campbell family line. Ros said she was always told by her father that she came from “good stock” and that when, in her early 20s, her father died, she regretted she hadn’t asked more questions about her other ancestors – such as the Hassalls. Ros began researching Rowland Hassall’s youngest daughter, Ann, (Ros’ family line). She found the 1998 Hassall Bicentenary book online and recently encountered the Hassall Facebook group.

Ann Hassall married Robert MacKay Campbell who built ‘Wingello’ a country house which still stands and is undergoing a heritage listing application. Two of Ann and Robert’s daughters, Mary Hassall Campbell and Jessie Hassall Campbell, married sons of Henry Colden Antill, aide-de-comp to Gov. Lachlan Macquarie, and a son, Robert, married Catherine Anne Hassall (the daughter of James Hassall & Catherine Payne). Ros is

discovering that there are still many links between the Hassall, Antill and Campbell families left to explore.

Ros's presentation was followed by *Clair Castle's* sharing of "a portion" of Photos of Florence Jessie Howell (1855-1956) that are in her possession. These included original photographs: some on photographic paper, some on glass, some on tin and some in elaborately presented photo albums. From childhood Clair grew up, along with her family, having full access to these cherished family heritage items.



Clair Castle

In the day's final session, *Elise Edmonds* (Senior Curator, SLNSW), introduced the library's new software entitled *From the Page*, that we will be using from now on for transcription of the Hassall family papers. The files can be found online

at <https://fromthepage.com/statelibrarynsw/hassall-family-papers-1793-2000>

New Life Member

The Association welcomes Frank Hassall as our newest "life-members.

Membership renewal

Renewals of Hassall Family History Association Membership are due by 1st July. Members receive three newsletters per year, including news of Association activities and projects. The cost of membership helps to defray administrative expenses and will also assist with the costs of our 2023 reunion. A membership renewal form is attached to this newsletter.

Annual General Meeting

The 2022 Hassall Family History Association Annual General Meeting was held online on 5th May. The committee for the year 2022-23 comprises **Graham Hassall** (chairperson), **Alison Shaw** (secretary), **John Brooks** (treasurer), **Melissa Blanks** (member), **Kay Clapton** (member), **Rowland Hassall** (member), and **Katrina Shirrefs** (member). The chairperson's annual report, set out below, summarizes the Association's activities during the past year, as well as its plans for the year ahead.

Chairperson's report 2021-2022

The past year has been challenging for all due to the impact of COVID-19 on the lives of individuals, families, and societies in general. As a family history association, we adapted by holding events online, and continuing to produce the newsletter as well as communicate with individuals on family research matters. This will be only our second AGM as an Association, which is once again being held online so that as many members as possible can take part. The shift from an informal family history group allows us to take on larger projects in the future, should we wish. In the short term, the only impact on Association members is that we need to have you online for this short meeting, which takes less than one hour.

Family reunion

We continue to plan a large event in Sydney for May 5-7, 2023. This will be of interest to all descendants of Rowland and Elizabeth Hassall and will mark 25 years since the 1998 bicentenary reunion. The 2023 event will include visits to Denbigh in Camden, St John's Cathedral and Cemetery in Parramatta, plus talks and social events hosted at the Thomas Hassall Anglican College at Middleton Grange. Further details appear elsewhere in this newsletter and in October/November we will commence registration and share details of the program. We need volunteers for a range of tasks before and during the reunion.

One major objective of the Reunion will be to connect the younger generations with this aspect of their shared past. In his speech to the Hassall Family Bicentenary celebration in 1998 ANU historian Dr Niel Gunson said "The Hassalls are one of the great representative families of Australia; they have been here almost since the beginning of white settlement, they have participated, often silently, in the momentous events that have shaped our national identity and their name has a permanent place in the annals of Australian achievement." I believe that the descendants of Rowland and Elizabeth continue this quite achievement to the present time, and one purpose in our coming together from time to time is to learn more about this, and to celebrate it.

Membership and Records - Benefits of Membership

We email the newsletter three times per year to approximately 100 members. Not all these members are up to date with their subscription, but we know that they remain interested in the work of the Association. The Association needs members for several reasons: firstly, because we are now a registered Association and office bearers are elected annual by the membership; second, the act of sending a subscription lets us know the number of people who have a genuine interest in the Association's work and progress; and third, these contacts are our main means of getting in touch with additional family members. The benefits of membership are receiving three newsletters per year, receiving invitations to HFHA events, assisting with finding connections to other family members and access to genealogical records and other historical documents held by the Association.

Life Members

The Association builds on the efforts of a number of people, and in recognition of this, we sent life Member Certificates to Jean Stewart, Ian and Susie McIntosh, Robert Wiles, Jane Miura, Joyce Warn, Huon and Fran Hassall, Sally Anderson, David NH Hassall to acknowledge their long-term support.

Networking

We are expanding the Association's networks in a number of directions. The first of these is through "family line" meetings. We are holding eight online meetings in the second half of the year, open to any and all descendants of Rowland and Elizabeth.

Coordinators have been identified for most of these lines: ■ Thomas Hassall & Anne Marsden (Alison Shaw); ■ Samuel Hassall & Lucy Mileham (James Daniel and Melissa Blanks); ■ Jonathan Hassall & Mary Rouse (John Brooks); ■ Mary Hassall & Rev Walter Lawry (Barbara Scott); ■ James Hassall & Catherine Lloyd (Rowland J. Hassall); ■ Eliza

Hassall & Rev William Walker (Jennifer Walton-Smith; ■ Susannah Hassall & William Shelley Jr (Jean Stewart); and ■ Ann Hassall & Robert Campbell (Ann Brockhurst).

The benefits of holding these online events are (1) to expand awareness of the Association and its purposes; (2) to promote news of our 2023 reunion; (3) to help connect family members; and (4) to share news of our current projects (Hassall Heritage, Genealogy, Research and Publication, and State Library of New South Wales Hassall papers transcription).

The National Trust

Thanks to an alert from Jane Miura, the April 12th Research Meeting at the State Library of New South Wales was listed in the National Trust's Australian Heritage Festival (1 April – 31 May 2022) <https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/ahf/>

Facebook

The Facebook group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/hassall>, which has grown to 190 “members”, has proven to be a means of sharing information rapidly, as well as finding new family members with an interest in history. The site has allowed members to share personal family news and to upload historic photos. All past Association newsletters are also available there.

Newsletter

Edition 51 of the Association's newsletter was issued in February 2022. We are grateful to the staff at the Thomas Hassall Collage who arrange for its distribution electronically and by post.

Website

We have procured the site Hassall.net.au but are in need of assistance with construction of a website.

Projects

1. Hassall Heritage

In the past year we launched the Hassall Heritage project, to document historic sites and artifacts associated with the family's history. Historic sites include homes and properties, graves, as well as roads and districts bearing family names. John Brooks is coordinating this project. We are on the contact list of the NSW government's “Blue Plaques program” <https://www.heritage.nsw.gov.au/celebrate/love-your-local-heritage/blue-plaques-nsw/>

2. Genealogy

We hold a genealogical database using *Family Treemaker* established by Richard Clark. We need a volunteer to maintain the database through contact with family members offering supplementary information or requesting it.

3. Research and Publication

Newly discovered research materials are included in each newsletter. We maintain a bibliography of published work on or referring to members of the Hassall family and seek to

foster original research that will result in additional publications. The bibliography is available upon request from project coordinator Graham Hassall. Copies of Jean Stewart's *Rowland and Elizabeth Hassall: the history of their family in Australia* have all been sold. We would like to revise the text, to include updates and corrections, before reprinting.

4. State Library of New South Wales - Hassall Family papers transcription

A regular group meets online on Wednesday evenings to collaborate on transcription. We have completed Rowland Hassall's correspondence from 1797 to 1812 – approximately 300 pages. Despite having so many eyes look at the text, a majority of these pages still have words that are indecipherable. Others are also participating in transcription, for which we are grateful.

Acknowledgements

Throughout the year the Association's Committee has met online. I wish to thank Melissa Blanks, John Brooks, Kay Clapton, Rowland J. Hassall, and Alison Shaw, for the efforts they have made this year in so many creative directions, as member of this Committee. Thanks also to Ross Whelan and his staff at the Thomas Hassall Anglican College for their ongoing support; as well as Geoff Barker, senior curator at the State Library of New South Wales, for continued support for the Hassall Papers Transcription Project. Finally, thanks to all Association members who have corresponded with us in the quest for more understanding of Hassall family history.

(Signed) Graham Hassall (HFHA Chair 2021-22)

Treasurer's report on finances for the Calendar Year ending 31 December 2021.

HFHA finances are driven by Membership and Projects – there are few if any regular expenses - mainly due to excellent support from THAC. The main project for the year has been production and distribution of the "Rowland & Elizabeth Hassall" book. Income from sales was \$2463, costs were \$2161 for printing and \$632 for postage. So this made a small loss but we still have 6 books left which can close the gap. So a good effort by those involved. Membership provided \$1210 of which \$500 came from Life Membership. Grants and donations provided another \$580 and with Membership gave us a surplus. Another \$260 from more recent membership gives us a bank balance of \$7869-29 as at today's date. This will provide us with seed funding for events planned for next year.

(Signed) John Brooks (HFHA Treasurer 2021-22)

Volunteering opportunities

Members can volunteer to assist with any of the Association's projects. We would particularly welcome any offers to help set up a simple website. We welcome additional help with developing our genealogical tables and with transcription of the Hassall Family Papers held by the State Library of New South Wales.

Family line meetings

In August and September the Association is convening online meetings to bring together descendants of Rowland and Elizabeth Hassall's eight children. These are listed below in date order, together with the names of the meeting hosts. Please check for your family line, put the date in your diary, and share with your children/cousins/nieces/nephews. The purpose of these meetings is to get to know your family line, learn about the Association's current activities, and in particular, find out about the reunion being planned for May 2023 in Sydney.

(Eastern Australian Standard Time)

Ann Hassall & Robert Campbell (Ann Brockhurst)

August 5th, 7.30- 9.00PM; Zoom address: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84185573321>

Eliza Hassall & Rev William Walker (Jennifer Walton-Smith)

August 13th, 7.30-9.00PM; zoom address <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83944025149>

James Hassall & Catherine Lloyd (Rowland J. Hassall)

August 27th, 3.00 – 5.00PM; zoom address: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82603018262>

Jonathan Hassall & Mary Rouse (John Brooks)

August 27th, 7.30 – 9.00PM; zoom address <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82686926750>

Mary Hassall & Rev Walter Lawry (Barbara Scott)

September 3rd, 4.00 – 6.00PM (Australia) 6.00-8.00PM New Zealand) Zoom Address <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86505538166>

Thomas Hassall & Anne Marsden (Alison Shaw)

September 3rd, 7.30-9.00PM; zoom address <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86961646935>

Susannah Hassall & William Shelley Jr (Anne Dudzinski)

September 17th, 7.30-9.00PM; zoom address: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86030422264>

Samuel Hassall & Lucy Mileham (James Daniel & Melissa Blanks)

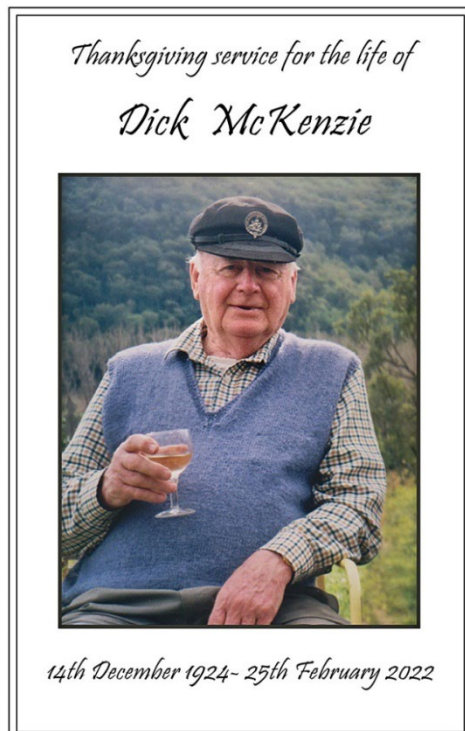
September 24th, 7.30-9.00PM; zoom address: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89408619636>

Members' News

■ Thomas Hassall & Anne Marsden Family Line

George Alistair Hope (1932-2022), formerly of “Darriwill North”, Moorabool, passed away on 23rd February in Geelong. He and wife Ellen were keen family historians who attended many Marsden and Hassall events over the years. The Association extends its condolences to Ellen and children John, Kate and Peter and their families.

■ Samuel Hassall & Lucy Mileham Family Line



Richard McKenzie (1924-2022) was very interested in his Hassall connection and attended the early functions leading up to the 1998 Hassall Bicentenary. Richard's connection goes back to Samuel Hassall. Samuel Hassall's daughter Elizabeth married William Howell and they had a daughter who they named Lucy. Lucy married Fredrick Wild, whose son George married Hannah Smith. Their daughter, Georgina, married Gordon McKenzie and their son, Richard McKenzie was born 14th December, 1924.

■ James Hassall & Catherine Lloyd Family Line

We note the passing of William Michael Peter Hassall 1934-2022.

Projects

Hassall Heritage



Judith Dunn came to St John's Cemetery on 14th April to discuss with Graham Hassall and Alison Shaw the visit that we are planning for May 2023. Judith (seen in photo, left) pointed out deterioration to Rowland Hassall's grave (seen in photo, right). Although the

Cemetery Trust takes responsibility for maintenance, it welcomes contributions from family members.



Research and Publication:

We have recently come across the following article by Archdeacon George Spencer Oakes, published in the *Sydney Morning Herald* on 4th February 1928. (Note: the following article may include some historical inaccuracies, but is being reproduced for its overall interest)

Rowland Hassall: A Pioneer Colonist.

(ARCHDEACON OAKES.)

Rowland Hill Hassall, with Eliza, his wife, and three young children, arrived in Sydney from Tahiti in 1798. Their descendants have now reached the seventh generation, and are scattered far and wide over the Commonwealth and New Zealand. Their children were Thomas, Samuel Otoo, Jonathan, Mary Cover, James, Eliza Cordelia, Susannah Marsden, Ann, and Elizabeth. Thomas and Samuel were born at Coventry, England, Jonathan at Tahiti, and the others at Parramatta. They all married, and had large families, and it would be interesting to know how many of their offspring are alive in Australia at the present time. Their history in this country covers exactly 130 years, and as they intermarried with most of the old families of the early days is to some extent the history of Australia during that period. The following particulars have been supplied by a granddaughter of Rowland Hassall, Mrs. C. A. Campbell, aged 81 years, now of Dandenong, Victoria.

OUR GRANDFATHER.

Rowland Hill Hassall was born in Coventry, Warwickshire. He came of a good family, and his parents attended the chapel of the Rev. (by courtesy) Rowland Hill, after whom he was named. In the old churchyard are the graves of many of our forebears. When he was 17 years of age, our grandfather had a serious illness. There was an epidemic of black measles, of which his brother died, and he himself lay as dead for three days, and was measured for his coffin. He knew all that was taking place, and tried to speak, but could not. They placed him in the coffin, and were just about to close down the lid when he opened his eyes. It was this circumstance that decided him to devote his life to the service of God. For some years he worked with his father as a weaver, and used to travel round collecting orders. His sample box is in my brother's possession at the present time.

When the London Missionary Society decided to send the ship *Duff* on her first voyage to the South Seas, our grandfather sailed in her as an artisan missionary, choosing the trade of a blacksmith. Just before leaving England, grandfather was presented with eight Bibles, Oxford edition, the woodcut plates of which are very fine. Three of them are still in our possession, and we intend presenting them to the Mitchell library, where there is a room reserved for memorials of our grandparents. The other five were unfortunately destroyed when a fire took place at my brother's house, as was also a very valuable oil painting of our grandmother. Lady Mitchell had a painting of the picture of the missionaries landing at Tahiti, by Buonarrotti, the Italian artist. This also is in the Mitchell library. The original sketch was made by the super-cargo of the *Duff*. In the picture, Samuel is seen as an infant in his mother's arms, Thomas, aged 3, is standing by her side. The King, Pomarre, is standing by his son, Otoo, in whose favour he has abdicated. Both Otoo and his queen are borne on men's shoulders. The aged priest in front is ceding the district of Matavai to the missionaries, with all trees and bread fruit pertaining thereto. On the extreme right are Mr. and Mrs. Henry, who

remained at their post when the other missionaries left for Sydney, and, it is said, were killed and eaten.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

On reaching Port Jackson, the refugees found that Sydney consisted of seven huts, built of wattle and daub, with thatched roofs. These were reserved for the officers. A ship was supposed to call once a year with supplies, but there was often a shortage, and the people were sometimes on the verge of starvation. Rowland Hassall got a grant of land seven miles from Sydney. Here he built a house and settled down with his family. All went well for a few months, when one night, as they were seated by the fire, the door was suddenly thrown open, and two men rushed in, demanding their money or their lives. It seems that Mr. Hassall had saved £600 from the money his father had given him, and this he kept in a box fitted with a false bottom. One of the assigned servants had discovered this hiding place and, with a companion, had come to secure it. Mr. Hassall seized an old sword, that was hanging on the Wall, and made a bold attempt to defend his family and property, but the weapon was wrenched from his grasp, and, in the confusion, Mrs. Hassall received a severe wound in the arm. When the robbers had gone off with their booty, the poor woman found herself alone with her young children, and her husband insensible on the floor of her erstwhile happy home. Leaving the elder boy with his father she set forth with her baby in her arms, to walk through the night to Sydney, a distance of seven miles. After a terrifying experience, help was forthcoming, but for six weeks the sufferer lay between life and death. Incidentally it may be mentioned that Mr. Hassall refused to prosecute the assigned servant who had wrought him such grievous injury.

When he regained his health, our pioneer found himself in a very unenviable position, but with undaunted courage he decided to make a fresh start by opening a shop at Parramatta. This was probably the first private business of the kind in the colony. It proved a profitable concern, and Mr. Hassall was soon again in a comfortable position. He was the first to import wax-headed dolls from England. These created quite a sensation, and people drove thirty and forty miles to see them, and they sold readily at £1 each. He also imported the first piano privately owned. It was now time to think about building another house, but he had to send to England for the bricks, which came out as ballast in the ships. Those used in providing a house for the Rev Samuel Marsden came out in the same way, as it was thought that the soil at Parramatta was not suitable for this industry. The new home was situated in George street, Parramatta, with a garden running down to the river, where oranges, lemons, and peaches grew in great abundance.

SETTLING ON THE LAND.

All the children received grants of land, some of which were situated in the Camden district, then known as the Cowpastures. The fourth son, James, received his when only 11 years of age, under the following circumstances: He was walking with his father down a street in Sydney, when they met the Governor, who engaged them in conversation. "Can you read, my boy?" said the Governor. "Yes, Sir, and I can write, too," was the reply. "Good," said the Governor. "Now I will tell you what I will do. If you write a letter to me, without assistance from anybody, and ask me for a grant of land, I will give you one." This was done, and that is how James Hassall got his start in life. He afterwards did some exploring in search of new country, and is said to have built a hut at Bathurst in the very early days and eventually took up land at Burrowa, near Yass.

Amongst other things, Rowland Hassall was entrusted with the care of a small herd of cattle, the gift to the colony by George III. "Farmer George," as he was popularly called. These, as is well known, escaped from custody, and set forth on their own account to seek for

fresh fields and pastures new. When the Governor heard that the cattle were missing there was great excitement. He called a public meeting, and ordered everybody to leave what they were doing and look for the lost herd. A large reward was offered for their recovery, but it was some years before they were found. At last a local poet, who shared a two-roomed cottage with a garrulous wife, determined to make an excursion into the unknown wilds, in order to be alone and commune with nature. One night, when about to retire to rest, he was startled to see a pair of horns appear above the crest of an adjacent hill, and presently a brindle cow appeared on the sky-line. Investigating more closely, he discovered the missing cattle, with 53 descendants. He at once set forth for Sydney to report his find, and was well rewarded for his pains. As soon as they were headed for home the herd followed the brindle cow, and were soon safe in the stockyard at Parramatta. The country where they were found was long known as the "Cowpastures," and now includes the well-known Camden Park Estate. It is on record that Mrs. King, the wife of the Governor, accompanied by Mrs. Marsden, rode over 70 miles in one day to see the newly-discovered herd.

DEATH OF A PIONEER.

Mr. Hassall ended his adventurous life in a somewhat prosaic fashion, falling a victim to influenza. The record says: "The complaint was general, and many inhabitants were consigned to the grave in a few days. Mr. Rowland Hassall, a gentleman universally beloved as a pious, benevolent, and valuable member of society, died of this novel and severe distemper on August 30, 1830."

It may be mentioned that Thomas, the eldest son of Rowland Hassall, was the first Australian candidate for the ministry. He was sent as a locum tenens to Port Macquarie in 1824, before the church was built. St. Thomas', Port Macquarie, celebrates the centenary of its opening on February 28 next, and there is much historic interest in this old building, which has now been completely restored. Mr. Hassall was for a brief period in Bathurst in 1826, and was then permanently appointed to the Cowpastures, where he built a church at Cobbitty, and remained as incumbent for 40 years, until his death, in 1868. He was buried in the cemetery of St. Paul's Church, Cobbitty.

Bibliography

The Association maintains a bibliography of publications relevant to the family's history. The following titles have been added to the Hassall Family Bibliography since the last Newsletter.

Annie Heloise, Abel-Henderson. Review of *The Letters and Journals of Samuel Marsden, 1765-1838*, John Rawson Elder; *Marsden's Lieutenants*, John Rawson Elder; *Marsden and the Missions: Prelude to Waitangi*, Eric Ramsden, Peter H. Buck. *The American Historical Review* 42, no. 4 (1937): 755-56. <https://doi.org/10.2307/1839488>. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/1839488>.

The focus of this article is review of publications concerning Samuel Marsden - especially in relation to his activities in New Zealand. However, the review also acknowledges the value of Rowland Hassall's seldom-used papers at SLNSW.

Barnard, Marjorie. *Macquarie's World*. [Melbourne]: Melbourne University Press, 1961.

Barnard refers to Thomas Hassall as a "lame duck" chaplain, given that his territory stretched from Cobbitty at Narellan to Goulbourn in the Southwest, and Wollongong on the coast.

Bubacz, Beryl M. "The Female and Male Orphan Schools in New South Wales 1801-1850." PhD, University of Sydney, 2007.

Cameron, Lindsay Logan. "The Convergence of British and American Methodism in the South Pacific." PhD, Australian National University, 2017.

This thesis can be downloaded from <http://hdl.handle.net/1885/117323>

Denholm, David. "Some Aspects of Squatting in New South Wales and Queensland, 1847-1864." PhD, Australian National University, 1972.

Includes an interesting table of top 100 farmers in NSW, which includes both Rowland and Jonathan. The thesis can be downloaded from <http://hdl.handle.net/1885/109578>

Dunn, Judith. *The Parramatta Cemeteries: St. John's*. Edited by Society Parramatta District Historical. Parramatta [N.S.W.]: Parramatta and District Historical Society, 1991. Judith Dunn's book appears to be the authoritative study of St John's Cemetery, which of course includes specific details of Rowland and Elizabeth's grave. Judith still has copies of her book available.

Evangelical magazine

The Evangelical Magazine volume V, 1797, (611 pages) can be viewed and downloaded from Google Books. The volume includes a letter from Thomas Haweis and Joseph Hardcastle, to the missionaries at Tahiti: "Mission to Otaheiti." *The Evangelical Magazine* V (1797): 510-12.

<https://books.google.com.au/books?id=ofcDAAAQAAJ>.

Garran, J.C., and L. White. *Merinos, Myths and Macarthurs: Australian Graziers and Their Sheep, 1788-1900*. Canberra: Australian National University Press, 1985.

In this book we learn that Mary had a little lamb – well actually, it was a Bengal Ewe. The book includes details of Rowland's sheep breeding activities. It can be downloaded from <http://hdl.handle.net/1885/114835>

Goodin, V.W.E., and Society of Australian Genealogists. *St. John's Cemetery, Parramatta: Monumental Inscriptions and Key to Graves*. Society of Australian Genealogists, 1964. <https://books.google.com.au/books?id=TTsYHQAACAAJ>.

This study of the "...oldest, known, undisturbed grave in the Commonwealth" (p.1) includes details of the resting place of Rowland and Elizabeth Hassall, as well as two of their grandchildren. Dunn's 1991 publication *The Parramatta Cemeteries St. John's* praises Goodin's work before noting its limitations. On the beneficial side, Goodin transcribed some details from graves which have subsequently permanently disintegrated. Goodin transcribed the cemetery memorials (ie, the engravings) "under enormous difficulty as the cemetery was then in a wildly overgrown state" (p. 7). Several headstones were missed altogether, and there were many instances of incorrect figures, such as "3" being mistaken for "5"; and there are also instances of stonemasons incorporating incorrect figures in their restoration efforts – all of which result in wildly incorrect dates.

Goodin, Vernon W. E. "Public Education in New South Wales before 1848. Part II." *Royal Australian Historical Society Journal and Proceedings* 36, II (1950): 65-128.

Goodin, V.W.E., and Society of Australian Genealogists. *St. John's Cemetery, Parramatta: Monumental Inscriptions and Key to Graves*. Society of Australian Genealogists, 1964. <https://books.google.com.au/books?id=TTsYHQAAACAJ>.

Not viewable at google books so not seen yet – but surely has Hassall references.

Gunson, Walter Niel, ed. *Australian Reminiscences & Papers of L.E. Threlkeld, Missionary to the Aborigines, 1824-1859*, Australian Aboriginal Studies; No. 40. Canberra: Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies, 1974.

This 382-page edition of Threlkeld's papers includes several references to Thomas and Rowland, plus 242 references to Samuel Marsden.

Gunson, Niel. "The Deviations of a Missionary Family: The Henrys of Tahiti." In *Pacific Islands Portraits*, edited by J. W. Davidson and Deryck Scarr, 31-54. Wellington, N.Z: Reed, 1970.

In this chapter Gunson draws on the Hassall papers at SLNSW to tell the story of William Henry and his family. It includes discussion of prospective romantic arrangement between Thomas Hassall and Henry's daughter Sarah. The book can be downloaded from <https://openresearch-repository.anu.edu.au/>

Johns, Leanne. "Women in Colonial Commerce 1817-1820: The Window of Understanding Provided by the Bank of New South Wales Ledger and Minute Books." MA, Australian National University, 2001.

Johns, Leanne. "Entrepreneurs and Their Business Networks in Colonial Sydney, 1817-1824." PhD, Australian National University, 2007.

This thesis includes Rowland Hassall in an analysis of commercial networks in early Sydney. It can be downloaded from <http://hdl.handle.net/1885/150145>

Karskens, G. *The Rocks: Life in Early Sydney*. Melbourne University Publishing, 2013. <https://books.google.com.au/books?id=wwSODwAAQBAJ>.

Refers to a person named Rose (Rosetta) Bean, daughter of Irish Catholic free settler James Bean, who worked for Rowland Hassall in Parramatta.

Lake, Meredith. "Promoting the Welfare of These Poor Heathens': Contextualising Samuel Marsden's Attitudes to Indigenous Peoples." In *Launching Marsden's Mission: New Perspectives on the Beginnings of the Church Missionary Society in New Zealand*, edited by Peter Bolt and David Pettett, 101-28. London: Latimer, 2014.

Lum, Julia Christine. "Art at the Meeting Places of Britain and Oceania, 1778-1848." Ph.D., Yale University, 2018.

The abstract states: "This dissertation analyzes four distinct, yet networked, sites where British landscape aesthetics came into contact with the material culture and geographies

of Oceania in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century.... This project traces the impact of the metropolitan construction of the “South Seas” in London, the effects of cross-cultural diplomacy on a painting of the so-called “cession” of a district in Tahiti, the Māori-shaped landscapes of Aotearoa New Zealand, and the genesis of a Tasmanian landscape school in the wake of the violent removal of Indigenous peoples from their carefully-managed territories. British artists came face-to-face with Pacific Indigenous material cultures, landmarks, and laws, all of which fundamentally shifted the terms of artistic production. By reinvesting a history of colonial art with the interactions on contested lands that generated its cultural production, this dissertation produces new insights and vantage points from which to interpret European landscape aesthetics”

The introduction explains the content of Chapter Two, “Matavai Bay, Tahiti: Economies of Canvas and Cloth”: “Tahiti, constructed by both French and British accounts as emblematic of a “South Seas” paradise, is the site of Chapter Two. Matavai Bay, on the northern coast of Tahiti-nui, was the location where Cook assembled observatories to trace the transit of Venus; based on the chronicles of Cook and other voyagers, it was recommended as the site for the first Protestant mission to the South Pacific. A large painting by Robert Smirke, *Cession of the District of Matavai*,¹ displayed at the 1799 Royal Academy 2716 exhibition, was intended to commemorate the supposed gift of Matavai to the London Missionary Society by the Pomare chiefly family. Using textual accounts and likely also consulting artifacts assembled in England, Smirke depicts with unusual specificity the landscape of the Matavai Bay region, the barkcloth dress of high-ranking Maohi (Indigenous Tahitians), and the austere clothing of the missionaries, who were members of a pious artisan class. His canvas not only registers the British fascination for barkcloth manufacture and dye techniques, but also simultaneously reveals and disavows its importance to diplomatic, or taio, relations. Gifts of cloth consecrated the meeting between two groups, and as territorial and prestige contests escalated so too did European entanglement in Maohi politics. This chapter explores the impact of the Maohi ritual, political and botanical landscape on the changing picture of Tahitian paradise.”

Marsden, Samuel, Marsden Elizabeth, and Marsden Anne. *Some Private Correspondence of the Rev. Samuel Marsden and Family, 1794-1824*. Australian Historical Monographs. Dubbo, N.S.W.: Review Publications, 1976.

This is a collection of 33 letters written by Samuel, Elizabeth and Anne Marsden in the possession of Miss Stokes, of London. They were first printed in Sydney in 1942, then reproduced as volume 4 in the *Australian Historical Monographs* series printed by George Mackaness. The letters refer to Rowland and to Thomas – although footnote 26 refers to Rowland as “Rev. Robert Hassall, assistant to Marsden at Parramatta”!

Marsden, John Buxton. *Memoirs of the Life and Labours of the Rev. Samuel Marsden of Parramatta*. London: Religious Tract Society, 1858.

Given Marsden’s close connection with both Rowland and Thomas Hassall – Rowland as some-time manager of his business affairs and Thomas as his son-in-law – it is surprising to find that the editor of Marsden’s “memoirs” refers to each of them just once.

¹ This portrait can be seen online at https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:The_Cession_of_the_District_of_Matavai_in_the_Island_of_Otaheite_to_Captain_James_Wilson_for_the_use_of_the_Missionaries_Sent_Thither_by_that_Society_in_the_Ship_Duff,_by_Robert_Smirke.jpg and is reproduced on page 18 of the current newsletter

Murray, Robert White, Kate, and Penrith Council. *Dharug & Dungaree: The History of Penrith and St Marys to 1860*. North Melbourne: Hargreen Publishing in conjunction with the Council of the City of Penrith, 1988.

This book draws on James Hassall's *In Old Australia*.

Newell, Jennifer Elizabeth. "Tahitians, Europeans and Ecological Exchange 1767-1827." PhD, Australian National University, 2005.

This PhD is online at <http://hdl.handle.net/1885/149769>

Norman-Hill, Rosemary. "Reclaiming Darug History: Revealing the Truths About Settlement on Darug Ngurra through the Lens of an Australian Aboriginal Historical Research Methodology." Doctor of Indigenous Philosophies, Southern Cross University, 2020.

Notes Rowland Hassall's participation on the committee that oversaw the Parramatta Native Institution.

Oakes, G.S., "Rowland Hassall. A Pioneer Colonist." *Sydney Morning Herald*, 4 February 1928.

This article by Archdeacon George Spencer Oakes provides some family folklore about Rowland and Elizabeth's origins in the colony, stating, for instance, that Rowland brought the first piano into the country. Oakes also explains how James Hassall received his first grant of land from the Governor. (the article is reproduced in this newsletter).

Oliver, Douglas. *Ancient Tahitian Society*. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 1974.

This book includes a rare find: an excerpt of a letter from Rowland Hassall to LMS, 28 January 1798, in the LMS Archives in the UK:

About 7 o'clock this morning ... there came an old man up to me and I enquired where he was going. He told me for the priest ... his Master's granddaughter was now in labour, and that he was going for him to offer this Child to his god. I Requested the Old Man to call for me when the p. was come, accordingly in about half an Hour he came, and we went together toward the house. When we came within 100 yards of the house I saw the woman under a large BreadFruit tree in the midst of the long grass in greate pains without help, and in the open air, you must needs think, that I was Much affected at the sight. I requested that she might be taken into the house, to which they replied that their costoms would not admit it, the house being sacred and if the woman was to go in before the expiration of ten days the House must be Burnt down. After the Child was Born I went towards her and found the Child lieing in the grass, with a cut all across the Cheek, But a fine boy. I asked them to take him into the house and wash him &c. But they answered, the Child is unclain and will be till it be given to the god twice, after it might go in the house and not till then, upon which they brought the child to the P. [at the marae].

Onslow, Sibella Macarthur, ed. *Some Early Records of the Macarthurs of Camden*. Sydney: Angus & Robertson, 1914.

Centre, Parramatta Heritage. *Pioneers, Family & Historical Society's*. Local Studies Research Series. Parramatta, n.d.

Have to ignore the title's misplaced apostrophe – how did they let that happen? Anyway, this 9-page booklet includes in its section “Family related books including histories, genealogies, letter books and journals” the item “HASSALL FAMILY (See Vertical File)” – so there must be at least a small item awaiting discovery there.

Pettett, David. "Samuel Marsden, Blinkered Visionary: A Re-Examination of His Character and Circumstances through the Study of His Sermons." PhD, Macquarie University, 2016.









Pitt, Nicholas. "Clay and 'Civilisation' - Imperial Ideas and Colonial Industry in Sydney, 1788-1823." *History Australia* 16, no. 2 (2019): 375-98. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14490854.2019.1588749>.

This article examines pottery made in Sydney by early European settlers. The yard of Elizabeth Hassall in Parramatta was one of the excavation sites reported on.

Pollon, Frances. *Parramatta, the Cradle City of Australia: Its History from 1788*. Parramatta: The Council of the City of Parramatta, 1983.



The Cession of the District of Matavai in the Island of Otaheite to Captain James Wilson for the use of the Missionaries Sent Thither by that Society in the Ship Duff, by Robert Smirke (1798)

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The **Hassall Family History Association** fosters and disseminates research on the life and heritage of Rowland and Elizabeth Hassall and other members of the Hassall family and encourages historical research on other early settler families - particularly those with whom the Hassalls are related or with whom they share historic experience in early Australia. Membership is open to all. Donations are welcome to cover the group’s activities. Newsletters are published three times each year (approximately February, June, and November) and are distributed with the assistance of the Thomas Hassall Anglican College.

Life Members: Sally Anderson, David N.H. Hassall, Huon and Fran Hassall, Frank Hassall, Roland Hassall, Ian and Susie McIntosh, Jane Miura, Jean Stewart, Joyce Warn, and Robert Wiles.

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