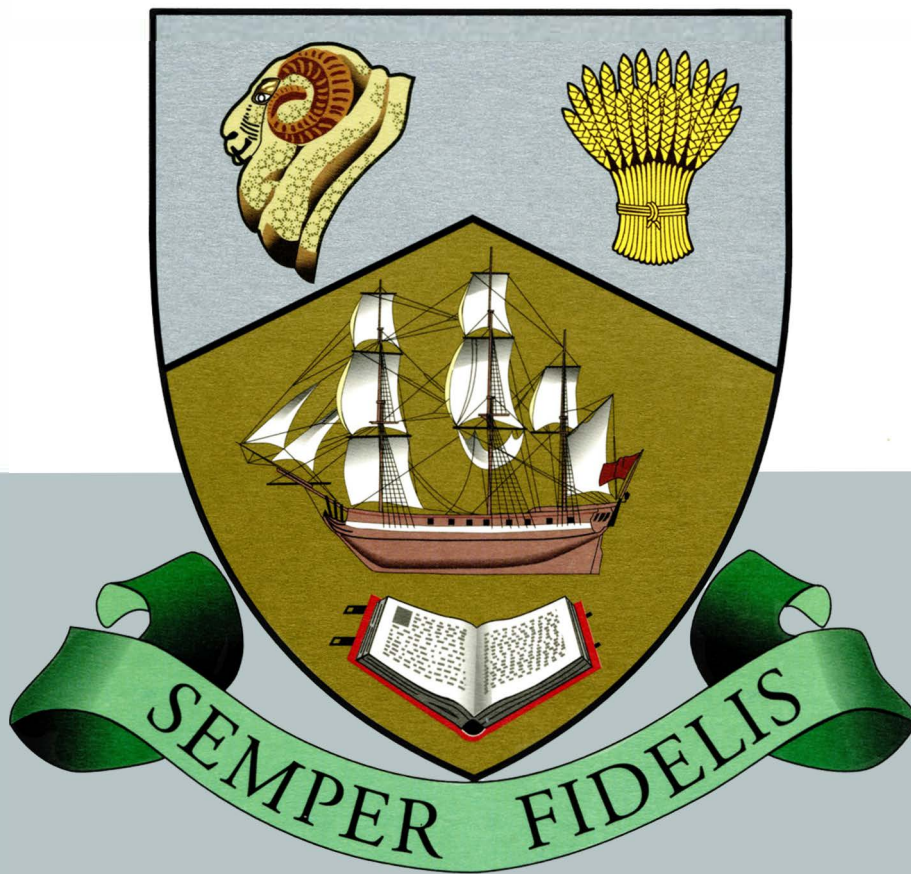


*Hassall Family  
History Association*

# Newsletter

**Edition 61**

November 2024



## Association News

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Hassall Family History Association held its Annual General Meeting for 2024-25 online on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> August. The purpose of the AGM was to receive reports on the Association's activities during 2023-24 and to elect the committee for the coming year. (Non-members were also welcome to attend the meeting). The outgoing treasurer spoke to the Association's finances for the past year, and the outgoing chair provided an overview of the year's activities. As there were no new nominations for membership on the committee, the outgoing committee was renewed:

John Brooks (treasurer), Andrew Hassall (member), Graham Hassall (chairperson), John Hassall (member), Margaret Hassall (member), Rowland Hassall (member) and Alison Shaw (secretary).

These formalities were followed by discussion of ideas for future Association activities, some of which are referred to in the updates below.

#### President's Report

*Graham Hassall*

The Hassall Family History Association made steady progress during 2023-24. We have a mailing list of 200, including 18 life-members and five honorary life-members (although not all members are up to date with their subscription). I wish to record my thanks to the other members of the Association's committee (Alison Shaw, John Brooks, John Hassall, Andrew Hassall, Margaret Hassall, and Rowland Hassall), each of whom has participated wholeheartedly in consulting on future plans and in carrying out the various tasks required to make progress. We are fortunate to have Alison as secretary, John Brooks as treasurer, and Margaret as webmaster (<https://www.hassall.net.au/>), each attending to the essential roles that contributed to the Association's effective functioning through the year.

The main innovation during the year was a reunion in Queensland 5-7 July, which included sessions at the country town of Kenilworth and in the Brisbane suburb of Sherwood. A full report plus photographs appeared in Newsletter #60, July 2024. Interest in the Queensland event drove the size of the HFHA Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/hassall> up from 368 page-members in August 2023 to 519 page-members in August 2024.

There has been less activity this year on the part of the family line coordinators, so this is something we can pick up in the year ahead. Two coordinators retired from their positions during the year: James Daniel (Samuel and Lucy line) and Barbara Scott (Mary & Walter line). In addition to thanking James and Barbara for their support for this initiative in the past, we welcome Spencer and Sue Lawry, who have agreed to replace Barbara as representative for the Mary & Walter line. In December 2023 the James and Catherine line held its annual picnic at Wattle Park (reported in Newsletter #58 – March 2024).

Progress with our five project areas has been "slow and steady": Richard Clarke and Robert Wiles have continued to document our shared Genealogy but we are still working out how to integrate the family tree with our website and with online services; the Hassall Heritage coordinator John Brooks has proposed the "Putting the Hassalls on the Map" project, requiring ~~the~~ mapping the activities of the early generations; the Research & Publication project produced four newsletters: #56 (August), #57 (November), #58 (March), #59 (June) and #60 (July) – each containing short articles and bibliographic updates; the Reconciliation project coordinated by Danielle Hassall was relatively quiet; and the Transcription project (Alison Shaw, Jenny Tasker and Graham Hassall) met on line most Wednesday

evenings to continue transcribing letters in the State Library of New South Wales digital collection: <https://fromthepage.com/statelibrarynsw/hassall-family-papers-1793-2000>

Following our major reunion in Sydney and surrounds in 2023, the Committee decided to plan for a reunion each five years – the next being in 2028. All Association members are welcome to suggest activities and projects – indeed, they are welcome to initiate projects that serve our fundamental goal of fostering and disseminating research on the life and heritage of Rowland and Elizabeth Hassall and their descendants.

## New Members and Renewals

Welcome new members and renewals since July: Susan Hughes (life-member), Neil Berecny-Brown, Andrew Hassall, John and Beverly Brooks, M. S. Skillington, Don Wotton, and Sonia Jago.

## Thomas Hassall Gift Relay Race

*Report by Tom Hassall – (James' line -AEJABC)*

In continuing the great relationship between the Hassall Family and the *Thomas Hassall Anglican College*, Karen Easton, Principal of the College, invited members of the HFHA to be the guests of honour at their *Thomas Hassall Gift Relay Race* on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2024.

The Hassall Gift is an annual college event. It is a relay race starting with the Pre-schoolers and ending with the Year 12 students. The race is on the school grass track (similar to the Stawell Gift) with two races – one for girls and one for boys. The runners represented the College's four sports houses (Wilberforce - Red; Lewis - Blue; Liddell - Green; Carmichael - Yellow), with 13 runners from each house. All runners passed the baton to the next grade symbolizing the journey through the school years. The enthusiastic cheering from the whole school was infectious and thrilling to hear.

Alison Shaw and I were given the task of being the race starters – we yelled: “ready” ... “set” ... and then the gun! The race began. There were some outstanding runners; and there were a few baton changes that could have had some more practice. We also participated in the presentation of the trophies and photos with the winning teams.

We were more than happy to represent the HFHA. The school was delighted to have Hassall descendants attending this momentous annual event. We were made welcome with a light lunch, and a tour of the school, and had the privilege to chat with many students and staff.

I really enjoyed the day, as did Alison, and am pleased that the HFHA is able to continue working with the *Thomas Hassall Anglican College*.



## Articles

### The First Melbourne Cup

Contributed by John Hassall

Australia's most famous race, the Melbourne Cup, is known as 'the race that stops a nation'. Victorians even enjoy a public holiday on the day! Communities and workplaces all over Australia down tools and get together, often around the BBQ, to watch this historic race. Did you know the winner of the very first Melbourne Cup, *Archer*, was owned by Rowland Hassall?

It's important to understand the significance of the horse in early Australia. Bear in mind that *Archer* won the inaugural Melbourne Cup in 1861 well before Henry Ford invented the car. Horses were the main form of transport, and working horses did the heavy lifting in industry and on the farm, making them without question the most valuable resource in the development of the new colony. Just like Formula 1 car racing today, the Melbourne Cup provided the testing ground for breeders to develop the best horse with the right blend of speed and endurance to suit Australian conditions.

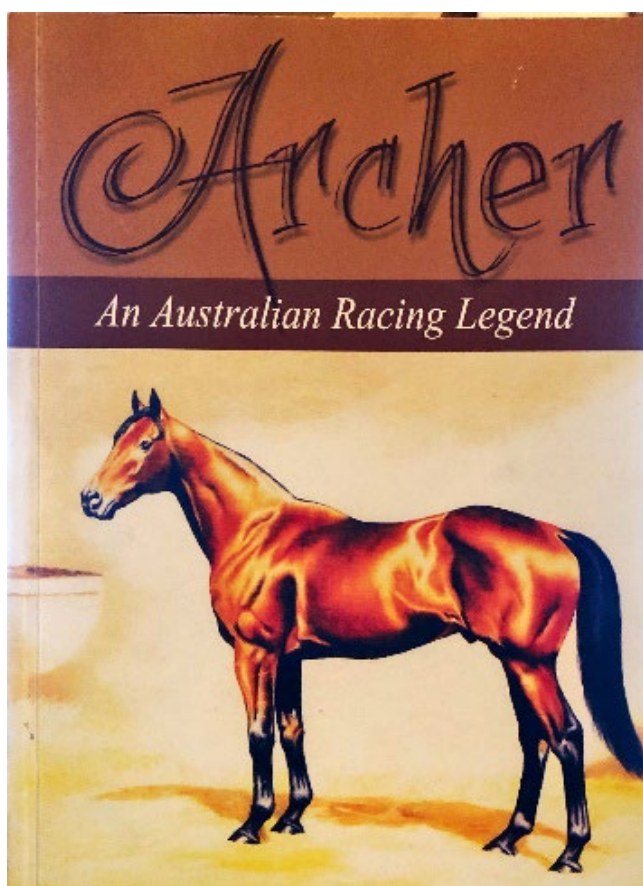
Horses are not native to Australia, and transporting horses from England was a real challenge. When the Hassall Family arrived in Australia in 1798 there were very few horses in the colony. The early settlers were required to breed future generations of horses, and obviously had to develop a breed best suited to Australian conditions.

The Hassall family established some excellent farms around Paramatta and Camden where they built Macquarie Grove, considered some of the very best pastures in the colony. They farmed sheep, cattle and of course horses. Sheep provided the wool necessary to clothe Australia's increasing population, as well as a major export for early Australia. The Hassall family were actively involved in the breeding and development of the Merino sheep, which adapted well to Australian conditions. History credits Macarthur with the early development of the sheep industry in Australia, yet we believe his neighbours - the Hassall's - were actively involved.

Rowland Hassall's son Thomas became the first ordained minister in Australia, tending a Parish stretching all the way to Goulbourn. Thomas needed to cover large distances to provide pastoral care to early settlers, and he gained the reputation as the 'Gallopig Parson'. Thomas needed a horse with stamina and endurance, and the necessary speed to travel between settlements. The Hassall family owned and bred horses and were motivated to breed a good strong stock with a robust constitution, and the endurance required to cope with the vast Australian outback.

The Melbourne Cup is run over two miles (3200 metres) and is considered the ideal test of speed and stamina: the most desirable combination for horses in early colonial Australia. The history books tell us the winner of the first Melbourne Cup, *Archer*, was owned by Rowland Hassall and Tom Roberts.

There are a lot of "Rowlands" in the Hassall family. Rowland H. Hassall was born in 1820 and died in 1904. He was the son of the first Rowland's third son Jonathon and his wife Mary Rouse, making



him the third generation of Hassall's in Australia. He was also the nephew of the 'Gallopington Parson', the Reverend Thomas Hassall. Rowland H. Hassall was one of the early settlers in Braidwood, which is between Canberra and the coastal settlements at Batemans Bay and Nowra. It was here that Hassall became friends with fellow settler Tom Roberts, where they no doubt shared farming and business interests.

Tom Roberts was the brother of Elizabeth Jane Royds, who was married to a well-regarded horse breeder in the district, Thomas Royds. He was a partner in a farm called Exeter, also located in the Braidwood area. Exeter farm imported the English stallion *William Tell*, the sire of *Archer*. Unfortunately, Thomas Royds - ironically an outstanding horseman - fell from his horse and died in 1852 while chasing kangaroos. This was four years before *Archer* was born. Two years after Royds' death, his widow, Elizabeth (Tom Robert's sister) married Rowland H. Hassall.

After his marriage, Hassall, together with Elizabeth and her brother Thomas, continued to breed racehorses. They bred *Archer*, and at least one other Melbourne Cup winner, *Tim Whiffler*, who won in 1867. *Archer* was born in 1856 at Hassall's farm, a big strong colt by the aforementioned stallion *William Tell*, and from the mare *Maid of the Oaks*. Although *Archer's* pedigree was very sound, for reasons unknown his owners preferred not to register their horses in the Stud Book, which placed him in the category of 'short pedigree': so officially, *Archer* was not considered a thoroughbred.

As was quite customary at the time, *Archer* was leased to his trainer Etienne de Mestre who had stables near Nowra. *Archer* was obviously an outstanding racehorse, and arguably one of the very best in Australian racing history. He was a tall 16.3 hands strongly built bay stallion with a long stride, and a pleasant nature. He wore the distinctive colours of all black with a black cap, and he often made his run from the back of the field with a powerful finish.

There's an urban myth that *Archer* walked or was ridden from his home in NSW all the way to Melbourne for the Cup. Truth is that he travelled from Sydney, where he'd been racing, to Melbourne, on 18th September (6 weeks before the Cup) on a steamship called 'City of Sydney' and arrived in Port Melbourne three days later. *Archer* was accompanied on that trip by his trainer Etienne de Mestre and his jockey John Cutts. While in Melbourne he was stabled at St Kilda Park, now known as Albert Park, where he was trained in the open spaces as well as the salt water at the local beach. It is believed that John Cutts was one of the first Aboriginal jockeys, who was given his opportunity as most of the colonial stockman had fled to join the gold rush which was at its peak at that time.

The first Melbourne Cup was run in 1861 and was quite an event. Leaving the straight the first time two horses fell, and another bolted off the track. Cutts held *Archer* back until the field settled, and then gave *Archer* his head to stride out along the back straight, steadily passing the other runners and he was leading as they entered the straight and continued to power home and win by an impressive six lengths. *Archer* started at 8/1, and it's believed that his trainer, Etienne de Mestre, had some large bets and took a lot of money from the Melbourne bookies. The next day, *Archer* backed up in the Melbourne Town Plate, also at Flemington, and won again.

The following year - 1862 - the now six-year-old *Archer* was back in Melbourne for the second Melbourne Cup. This time *Archer* was 2/1 favourite and carried the top weight of 10 stone 2 pound, which is about 64kg. It was the largest ever field in Australian racing at the time with twenty horses assembled. Jockey John Cutts held *Archer* back where he was last by several lengths. Gradually *Archer* moved past tiring horses, and on entering the straight had a lot of ground to make up on the leaders. *Archer* continued to make ground with his long stride and took the lead about 200 metres from home to win by eight lengths. This remains the greatest winning margin in the Melbourne Cup, matched only by *Rain Lover* in 1968.

Not only did *Archer* win the first and second Melbourne Cups, he was well on the way to 'equine immortality' with the possibility of a third Melbourne Cup, but there were dubious bureaucratic issues with his entry. Apparently, the entry was logged via telegram in time, but there was a public holiday in Melbourne, and the telegram wasn't delivered until after Cup nominations were closed. We may speculate the power brokers or bookmakers who stood to lose another fortune were highly motivated to ensure that *Archer* didn't run. This caused an uproar in racing circles, and outraged many

other owners, including all those from New South Wales who withdrew their horses from the race in protest. As a result, there were only seven starters, all local Melbourne horses, attendance was down and the event was a disaster for the Victorian Turf Club.

The winner of the 1867 Melbourne Cup, *Tim Whiffler* was also owned and bred by Hassall and Roberts and leased to the trainer Etienne de Mestre. In a most unusual circumstance, there were two *Tim Whiffler*'s running in the 1867 Melbourne Cup. The winner, owned by Hassall was from Sydney and the other *Tim* was from Melbourne, to distinguish they were referred to as Sydney Tim and Melbourne Tim.

Rowland H. Hassall, his wife Elizabeth, and Roberts became extremely successful horse breeders, and were involved in owning and breeding many successful racehorses at the time, possibly including other Melbourne Cup runners. The area around Braidwood, where Hassall had his farm, became a popular horse breeding district. One of Australia's legendary trainers, Tommy (TJ) Smith was born and raised in the district, and he trained the winner of the 1955 Cup *Toparoa* as well as the 1981 winner, *Just a Dash*. His daughter, leading Sydney trainer Gai Waterhouse, trained Melbourne Cup winner *Fiorente* in 2013.

Rowland appears to have been a friend of the Dangar family who were major participants in horse racing. The Dangar family purchased the Hassall family property Macquarie Grove at Camden in 1877, and they bred the champion *Peter Pan*, who won the Melbourne Cup in 1932 and 1934, in the golden years of racing, after *Phar Lap*'s famous 1930 Cup win.

*Old Rowley* won the Melbourne Cup in 1940 at the amazing odds of 100/1, but I haven't discovered a family connection. We know it's a Hassall name, my own grandfather, Rowland was known as Old Rowley, his son Rowland, and his son (my cousin) Rowley all carry the traditional family name. Even though we can't prove a family connection, we know of at least one family member who had a 'decent wager' with the local SP bookie and won a small fortune. It's likely that Hassalls all over Australia cleaned up on the punt.

Horse racing is obviously part of my own DNA, and I've had an interest in quite a few, mostly slow horses, and enjoyed some nice wins in regional Victoria, but never at Flemington and never even close to a Melbourne Cup. The closest I managed to get to the Melbourne Cup was sitting next to the Cup winning owner on a flight to Sydney who graciously allowed me to hold his famous trophy. And if truth be known, I'm that guy at the Cup BBQ with beer in hand, proudly bragging that my ancestor, Rowland Hassall owned *Archer*. And when they don't believe me, I just tell them to ask Google.

As we piece together the Hassall Family history in early colonial Australia, in this case their relationship with horse racing and breeding, we welcome any tidbits of information that can add to the rich history of the Hassall family in early Australia.



## Gospel – the story of Michael Shelley

Contributed by Anne Dudzinski



Families have ups and downs, and this is so true of the Shelley Line since Susanna Shelley married William Shelley Jnr in 1827. I am a direct descendant of them, born Anne Shelley, and I have collected names and dates of our last 5 generations.

This is not a 'nice' Hassall story. It concerns a Michael Shelley, very intelligent and charismatic man who changed into a religious fanatic who negatively impacted many people. This is why the Canberra families have been very quiet about passing on additions to the Hassall Family Tree. We were afraid of being found.

This story is being told in a new book by Australian author Lech Blaine, launched November 5, 2024. We have been aware of Lech since he was interviewed by Richard Fidler on 'Conversations' about his first book *Car Crash* which was published in 2021. In October 2024 Lech's new book *Australian Gospel - a family saga* was featured in the *SMH Weekend Magazine*.

A few days ago, three of us went to hear Lech speak about it at the Canberra Writers Festival. Lech Blaine is the youngest biological child of Lenore and Tom Blaine, who took into foster care three of Michael and Mary Shelley's children. The children had been taken from the Shelleys by

social services for their own safety. Michael and Mary Shelley died in 2017 so we are free from an unexpected visit.

We learnt that the book is about parental love for children, at great expense to both families. Lech spent 11 years interviewing many people and writing the book. He calls it creative non-fiction. Somehow, our branch flew under the radar so at the Writer's Festival we introduced ourselves to him. I can now pass on to Robert Wiles more details of our part of the Shelley Line for inclusion in the Hassall Family Tree.

## Spooky experiences

Contributed by Ann Brockhurst

Has anyone ever had a spooky experience in relation to their ancestors? Or have you come across a family heirloom that you did not know existed? I have; and I will tell you about them.

In 2019 I did a trip down to Yass (I live in Queensland). I went to the cemetery as I wanted to find the graves of my ancestors. I had some very obscure directions that I had downloaded from the internet and, as anyone who has ever tried to find that one grave in a very old, large cemetery would know, those directions don't help much. Anyway, my husband Des and I wandered around and around. We just could not find the graves we were after. Then suddenly, I had this strange 'chill' go down my spine. It was like nothing I have ever felt before and the sky started changing colour. My husband Des called me over to look at something else he had found, but this chill did not leave me. For whatever reason, I walked straight back to where I had been standing and noticed a neat headstone that was facing the opposite direction from all the other headstones. I went round and looked at the headstone and I was just overcome. It was the headstone of my ancestor, Argyle McCallum. Argyle McCallum was the husband of Ann Campbell. Ann Campbell was the Granddaughter of Rowland Hassall and Elizabeth Hancox. Even today while writing this, I get goosebumps. After finding the headstone, it was time to head into town for a meal. We walked up and down the streets of Yass and finally decided we would

have dinner at a pub called 'The Australian'. The pub had a section out the back where you could see the old original brickwork and we sat there and had a meal. It wasn't until I had returned to our motel that I realised that the pub used to be called 'The Clubhouse' and it was the last place in Yass that Argyle had a drink at before he died, and it was even mentioned in his obituary. There are many pubs and eateries in Yass, at least there were in 2019. I couldn't believe that we had been to that particular one. The next day we were wandering the streets of Yass again and we found ourselves behind the shops where there were some old stables. I later found out that Argyle built those stables. I haven't been back to Yass since 2019, but I'd love to, and I hope my ancestors come out to guide me once again. But this is not the first time they have helped out

...My father collected guns. He had a deep respect for the part they played in history, and he had a vast collection of historical items – some dating back to the early 1800's (muskets). As a child growing up in the 1980's, we spent many long hours being dragged from junk shop to junk shop (they are called antique shops now) looking for old guns or historical items that caught dad's interest. Sadly, dad never collected anything of value. Now with that in mind, let me take you back a few decades. In 1916, my great uncle (my grandmother's brother) Robert Stuart McCallum had his 8<sup>th</sup> birthday, and he was given a .22 calibre rifle or a 'boys gun'. This was the done thing in those days, and it is this little rifle, and thousands like it that saved the lives of many families during the depression years as children were sent out to hunt rabbits with them. The rabbits were not only consumed by starving families but were taken into town each evening and sold to the townsfolk to make money; and to keep them alive too. It also helped control the rabbit population which was overtaking the countryside at the time.

Then World War two broke out in 1939 and Robert Stuart McCallum like many men of his age signed up. He enlisted at Castle Hill near Sydney. Stuart, as he was known, put his signature on all his belongings - including on the inside of the forestock or where the barrel sits in of his little .22 rifle. Stuart then gave all his belongings away to his mates and set sail for Egypt as an Australian Infantry Gunner. After returning to Australia briefly in 1942 for his sister's and my grandparents wedding, Stuart was sent to Papua New Guinea. He never returned. He died of Malaria in 1943 and is buried in Suputa. No family has ever been able to visit his grave.



Fast forward to about 1985. Our family had a yellow Ford Bronco and, on our way, back home from visiting friends out bush, dad decides that he wants to visit a junk shop in Toowoomba. An old



shotgun caught his eye and dad stood around for ages haggling with the shop's owner over this old shotgun that he wanted for his collection. In the end, and much to myself and my sister and brothers' relief, the shop owner said 'look, I'll throw in this old .22 to sweeten the deal'. Done! We went home, dad put the little .22 in the cupboard and set to work restoring the old shotgun.

Years later, on a boring rainy afternoon, dad decides to get the little .22 rifle out and clean it up. Dad would spend hours polishing parts of old historical items such as this. Now I remember the day clearly and I can still see dad's face. I would have been about 11 at the time. Dad held the stock (the timber part) of the little rifle that he had taken apart. He put it up to the light and started screaming for my mother to come into the room. There, on the inside where the barrel sits; was the signature 'R.S. McCallum'. We compared it to documents that we had with Stuart's signature, and it was identical. The next day we took it to show my grandmother. She was used to dad and his gun collection (in those days, they were stored on racks on the wall) and did not think much of it when dad walked in with a gun under his arm. Dad gave her the rifle and asked, 'do you know what this is?' and she said, 'of course I do, that's Stuart's gun!' My poor Grandmother who mourned the loss of her only brother all her life then had to have a scotch to recover from the shock (two fingers and hold the ice).

For context, Robert Stuart McCallum and his sister Roma Faith McCallum (my grandmother) are the great great grandchildren of Rowland Hassall and Elizabeth Hancox. The little rifle was a gift to Stuart from his parents. My Grandmother cried and cried when she was told of how it had come into our possession. Because Stuart had given away all of his belongings when he enlisted, she had very few items of his. How the little rifle went from being given to a mate back at Castle Hill, Sydney in 1939 to finding its way to a Toowoomba junk shop in Queensland in 1985 is anyone's guess. But I have not heard many stories of family heirlooms finding their way back like this.

As a teenager, I shot some tin cans with the little rifle as did my sister and brothers. All so we could have that connection with Stuart. It was retired after that day, and I am now the proud custodian of this precious family heirloom. (yes, I have a licence). I have had a few instances since, while researching where I feel like I have been guided to a story or I have stood in a place such as the Hebel Chapel at Cobbity and felt a strange sense. It's always comforting.

## **1995 Inaugural meeting (Hassall family gathering)**

*Contributed by Huon Hassall*

*Photo at right:  
1998 Reunion  
management  
committee*



This photo is of the Inaugural meeting in Queanbeyan to select a willing Committee to organise the Hassall bicentennial event and to discuss ideas for the bicentennial celebration.



**Group of 15** (L to R): David Hassall (*Melbourne*), David's partner, Rowland Hassall (*Melbourne*), Rowland's partner, Jenny Hassall (*wife of Geoff*), Geoff Hassall (*Braidwood*), Huon Hassall (*Queanbeyan, standing*), Judy Hassall (*wife of David*), David Hassall (*Melbourne, Coffs harbour*), Rodney Hassall (*Nimmitabel*), Peter Procter (*Canberra*), Dr Robert Wiles (*Cooma*), Dawn Wiles (*wife of Robert*), Wiles children x 2,

**Photographer:** Fran Hassall (*wife of Huon*)

## Family lines

### Samuel and Lucy Line

Vale Gavin Hassall.

*Contributed by Andrew Hassall*

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of Hassall Family History Association Life Member, Gavin Alister Hassall on Thursday 29th August. He was 92.5 years old. The family of Gavin and Fiona Hassall, friends and relatives celebrated his long and successful life at a memorial service on Monday 9th September at Buderim, Queensland.

Gavin was a student at Barker College in 1948 and 1949. He joined the NSW Courts Department in 1950 and was Clerk of Courts, Coroner and Acting Magistrate until he resigned at Walcha in 1961. Gavin married Fiona Mary Perrin at



Barker College Chapel on 21st January 1961. Gavin and Fiona moved to Capella in Central Queensland where they successfully grew grain and beef cattle.

Gavin is survived by his wife of 63 years, Fiona, sons Andrew and John, daughter Nerida and 5 grandchildren.” The Photo is of Gavin as choir boy about 1942, aged about 10. This is believed to be at St Paul’s Anglican Church, Cooma. (Gavin is located in the 1998 *Hassall Family* book at ABEJAB)

### James and Catherine Line

Thomas Donald Hassall died on October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024, aged 94, in Nhill Victoria. Youngest son of Rowland James and Elizabeth Hassall (both deceased) brother of Rowland Patrick; John Wynne; Sheila Elizabeth Cogan (all deceased) and Barbara Carey. May he rest in Peace.

### Mary and Walter Lawry Line

The Association wishes to thank Barbara Scott for keeping in touch with descendants of Mary and Walter Lawry for the past several years. Barbara is retiring from this role, which is being taken up by Sue and Spencer – Lawry. The majority of this line of the family live in New Zealand and we look forward to remaining in close contact.

### James and Catherine line

This year the James and Catherine Line Annual Picnic will take place once again. It is on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December, at Wattle Park, Burwood (in Melbourne). From 11am.

## Projects

### Research and publication

#### Second edition of *The Hassall Family* to be published

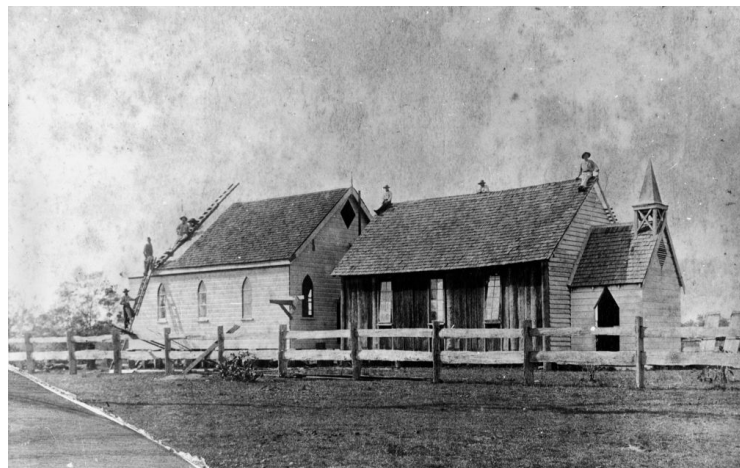
The Association has decided to publish a second edition of *The Hassall Family*, by David J. Hassall and Jean Stewart, first published in 1998. Margaret Hassall and Catherine Hassall are assisting. This landmark publication coincided with the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the arrival of Rowland and Elizabeth Hassall in Australia. The editors are making a concerted effort to track down descendants from the female lines and welcome any contributions.

#### St. Matthew’s Church, Sherwood

*Contributed by Sonia Jago*

Sonia Jago has shared two photos of the first St. Matthew’s Church, Sherwood during construction in 1893 and in c.1920 drawn from the Shire of Sherwood Wikipedia page. (There were at least two St Matthews, Sherwood church buildings in separate locations.)

**Left:** Construction of St. Matthew's Anglican Church at Sherwood, ca. 1893.jpg Wikimedia commons.



**Left:** St. Matthew's Anglican Church and cemetery at Sherwood, ca. 1920.jpg  
Wikimedia commons.



## 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.

Alcorn, G. *"Arkstone Forest" to "Langrove": 1830's to 1867; ("Springfield") and ("Everton"); a History of the Early Settlement of the Rye Park Area and the People Who Brought This About.* 1976.

8 pages. At the foot of the title is this note: In compiling this history, many thanks to Mr Stewart Hume, for information on the Hume and Howell families, Reverend W. Wright for the Hassal [sic]family. (The late) Mr P.D. Bickford for "Everton" information. Also the Lands Department for help on land purchases and leases"

Barry, A. *Evangelists of Empire?: Missionaries in Colonial History.* University of Melbourne, 2008.

Online at

[https://www.google.com.au/books/edition/Evangelists\\_of\\_Empire/FPwFkFq4yKcC?hl=en&gbpv=0](https://www.google.com.au/books/edition/Evangelists_of_Empire/FPwFkFq4yKcC?hl=en&gbpv=0) - Includes brief references to Rowland Hassall, William Shelley and Samuel Marsden.

Bolt, Peter. *William Cowper (1778-1858) : The Indispensable Parson : The Life and Influence of Australia's First Parish Clergyman.* Bolt Pub Services, 2009.

This book with numerous references to Rowland can be read at the Internet Archive.

"Clerical Jubilee." *Telegraph (Brisbane, Qld.: 1872 - 1947)*, 13 May 1898 1898, p. 4.  
<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article1764752907> August 2024.

Clerical Jubilee.

The jubilee of the Rev J. S. Hassall was celebrated at Sherwood last night. Old and young, major and minor church dignitaries, Anglicans and non-Anglicans, assembled to do honour to a kindly, devoted, and beloved clergyman of the Queensland branch of the Church of England. Mr. Hassall began his work in Australia fifty years ago, and he has taken his part in the ups and downs of Australian life, scattering seeds of truth and kindness wherever he went. For upwards of 30 years his centre of work has been in Queensland, and the Oxley district his special charge. The gathering last night was a grateful testimony of a grateful people to one who in ministering to them had served his Master faithfully. The financial gift was not to be despised, and it will no doubt be useful and appreciated, but was it ample? Mr. Hassall has reached an age when rest and not work should be his portion. He loves his work and promises to persist to the end, which he pathetically foreshadowed. Why should this be? Mr. Hassall and others like him have done their work and have spent their best years in doing it. Why should they not be placed in such a position that rest may be theirs—rest free from any financial anxiety? As it is, such as he must be content to plod on to secure their stipend or retire on an allowance less in amount than the State gives to a retired policeman.

Marsden, family. *Letters to Mrs. Stokes*. 1824.

Letters from Samuel Marsden, 1794-1824, his wife, Elizabeth, 1794-1805, and his daughter Anne, Mrs. Thomas Hassall, 1813-1820, dealing with family matters, social conditions in the colony, missionary work in New Zealand, wool production etc. The collection includes a covering letter to Miss Stokes from Rev. S.E. Marsden, Bishop of Bathurst, 1885, a typescript copy of a synopsis of the letters compiled by Dr. G. Mackaness and a carbon copy of a report on the letters made in the Mitchell Library, 1962

This is only available in the State Library of New South Wales.

Procter, Peter. *45 Immigrants : Have You Come Far? : The Advantageous Arrival in Australia of the Busby, Cluderay, Collet, Dunn, Edwards, Gazzard, Gray, Grono, Hassall, Hebblewhite, Hicks, Jeffries, Kerwin (Kirwan), Lord, Mobbs, Newling, Ould, Paul, Prenderville, Procter, Robb, Skerritt, Two Stewart, Theobald, Walker, and Two Williamson Families, Together with Their Spouses from the Bristow, Bromley, Coade, Dixon, Driver, Frater, Grover, Hancox, Hayhurst, Hesleton, Menzies, Stanton, and Williams Families*. P. Procter, 2004.

This is only available at the Australian National Library, Canberra, although some family members may have purchased a copy from Peter

"Tahiti Records." *Cairns Post* 08 February 1935, p. 12. <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article4153625715> April 2024.

This article includes:

Mrs. Orsmond died on January 6, 1819. The Mitchell Library has a letter written by Mrs. Mary (Hassall) Lawry to her brother Thomas Hassall (then in Wales), dated February 23, which establishes the fact that Mr. Orsmond was desirous of obtaining this daughter of Rowland Hassall as his second wife. "The good people (at Tahiti) sent him (Mr. Orsmond) to look for me," she remarked, "but he came too late, for which I did not at all feel concerned but pleased. He has taken poor Isabella, the Sunday School teacher. . . Ann Hassall, her sister, went into further details in a letter written the following day:

"Mrs. Orsmond, of Tahiti, died about a year ago, and he came up ... to get another wife, but he said all the flowers are culled because Miss Mileham, Miss Rouse and my sister were to be married in a few days after he came, and he was a good while choosing, but when Christmas Day came was joined to Miss Nelson, and has taken her away. The Sunday School has lost in her a sincere friend and a good teacher . . ."

Family Line	Coordinator
1. <span style="color: red;">■</span> Thomas Hassall & Anne Marsden	1. Alison Shaw <a href="mailto:alison.shaw@optusnet.com.au">alison.shaw@optusnet.com.au</a>
2. <span style="color: blue;">■</span> Samuel Hassall & Lucy Mileham	2. Melissa Blanks <a href="mailto:melissajb3@outlook.com.au">melissajb3@outlook.com.au</a>
3. <span style="color: yellow;">■</span> Jonathan Hassall & Mary Rouse	3. John Brooks <a href="mailto:brooksjno@gmail.com">brooksjno@gmail.com</a>
4. <span style="color: green;">■</span> Mary Hassall & Rev Walter Lawry	4. Sue and Spence Lawry <a href="mailto:sueandspence@xtra.co.nz">sueandspence@xtra.co.nz</a>
5. <span style="color: purple;">■</span> James Hassall & Catherine Lloyd	5. Rowland J Hassall <a href="mailto:rowlandjhassall@gmail.com">rowlandjhassall@gmail.com</a>
6. <span style="color: grey;">■</span> Eliza Hassall & Rev William Walker	6. Jennifer Walton-Smith <a href="mailto:jennywaltonsmith@icloud.com">jennywaltonsmith@icloud.com</a>
7. <span style="color: pink;">■</span> Susannah Hassall & William Shelley Jr	7. Anne Dudzinski <a href="mailto:annedudzinski@optusnet.com.au">annedudzinski@optusnet.com.au</a>
8. <span style="color: magenta;">■</span> Ann Hassall & Robert Campbell	8. Ann Brockhurst <a href="mailto:brockhurst1@live.com.au">brockhurst1@live.com.au</a>

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 by the Association's webmaster.

Life Members: Sally Anderson, Joseph Gordon, Adrian Hassall, Craig Hassall, David N.H. Hassall, Graham Hassall, Frank and Rosemary Hassall, Jonathan Guy Hassall, Rowland J. Hassall, Susan Hughes, Naomi Lewis, Jane Miura, Alison Shaw, Jean Stewart OAM, Joyce Warn, and Robert Wiles.

Honorary Life Members: Huon and Fran Hassall, Ian and Susie McIntosh, and Ross Whelan.

*Website*

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