

PARRAMATTA FEMALE FACTORY FRIENDS NEWSLETTER – ISSUE NO:11 OCTOBER – NOVEMBER 2016

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The Parramatta Female Factory - Augustus Earle 1826/nla.pic_an 2818460

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NEXT MEETING – FRIDAY 18TH NOVEMBER AT 1:30PM – GUEST SPEAKER

GENERAL MEETING: 2:15 - 3:30PM

AT THE COACH HOUSE, HAMBLEDON COTTAGE, HASSALL STREET PARRAMATTA.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The last two months have been a very busy time. The 2016-17 Committee has settled in and is working hard to promote the work that our Charter has set out for us, although as President I still have my training wheels on.

The Australian Heritage Office called for submissions for National Heritage Listing for the North Parramatta Precinct which includes the female factory. The attendance by members Beth Mathews, Anne Mathews, and Kerry Martin at the NSW ACT Federation of Family History Associations held at Camden this year was extremely successful with 200 signatures being secured for National Heritage Listing. It was also good to see other PFFF members there. Alice Kershaw worked with our MOU partners NPRAG at the Wisteria Fete at Cumberland Hospital and collected 400 signatures over two weekends.



A letter of thanks has been forwarded to the secretary thanking members for their help with this important task.

Our publicity officer, Ronda Gaffey, her brother, John and I spent the day at the Open Day at Linnwood House c1891, a magnificent old museum house in Guildford which facilitates community groups to set up a table for a small charge. This resulted in a huge amount of interest in the "Friends" and our activities with more signatures and publicity for Riot Day. Thank you to the "Friends" of Linnwood.



Wisteria Fete – PFFF & NPRAG stall

PFFF research officers, Beth Matthews and Anne Mathews have been very busy. The enquiries coming in from social media has kept them well and truly run off their feet - Riot Day bookings, tour requests from community groups, schools and individuals as well as receiving the amount of requests from members of the community. The resource that this Committee has researched is worth its weight in gold. It is a credit to their hard work and is an important resource for the history of forced transportation of the women to the colony. I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank Anne and Beth on behalf of the "Friends".



The Linnwood House stall - John & June

I have spoken to our Riot Day guest speaker Meg Keneally, a thoroughly delightful person who had a female ancestor in the factory. Meg is bringing 3 generations of her family; her mother, children and husband Craig. Kerima-Gae Topp met Meg and her father, Tom Keneally when they joined one of her tours last year.

Vice President, Judith Dunn has been very busy with her new position as Chair of the Friends of St Johns Cemetery, Parramatta. This is a good connection for PFFF as a lot of the women are buried at the cemetery. Judith's activities have included her monitoring of the female factory site as usual. She has a large file of photos as a record of the changes at the site. In addition, Judith has taken a group of young people studying history at Sydney University to the site ("History Beyond the Classroom") with Mike McDonnell. He is a fellow I met a couple of years ago at the Parramatta RSL to discuss the work that was being done to protect Parramatta Heritage.

And of course our Riot Day is on Friday 28th October 2016. We have our guest speaker, trade tables are in place and tours are arranged although you will need to book. It will be a full and informative day!

Lastly, I extend a very warm welcome to new PFFF members Penny Tilling, Maree Cairns, Nicole Elliott, Jacqueline White, Elda Crea, Kimmie MacPherson and Clare McGuinness.

President
June Bullivant OAM



"History Beyond the Classroom" tour with Judith Dunn

NSW ACT FAMILY HISTORY CONFERENCE 2016

On Friday 9th September, Beth Matthews, Kerry Martin and myself arrived at the Camden Civic Centre for the commencement of the 2016, NSW ACT Family History Conference. We had taken with us *Herstory* and *Women Transported* books, bookmarks and *Herstory Matters* badges. We also took a few hundred brochures and Riot Day flyers. Gay Hendriksen came for the weekend and joined us at the table for a while.

Friday was Open Day for anyone. Several hundred people came and walked around the seventy tables that were showing all manner of things related to family history. There were several lectures for the masses held in a separate room – topics included *Getting Started With Your Family History*, *Basic Family Search*, *How to Use A Transcription Service*, *Resources from Camden Library* and *an Introduction To Trove*. These lectures were free and very well attended.

Saturday and Sunday were for those who had registered. Although several of the tables had been vacated, there was still plenty left to interest everyone. The lectures continued and were very well attended. These were held in the same room as the tables. Everything stopped while they were on so we also heard the lecture. They were all interesting and informative.

Several family history groups took our brochures and flyers – there is a Family History Fair in Adelaide later in the month and our information has also been taken to display there. Our petition was also well received and many blank forms were taken to be presented to other groups. Over the weekend we had nine pages of signatures filled in and success with the sale of books, bookmarks and badges.

Kerry made a nuisance of herself taking badges around, pestering people to buy one. I am not sure if they bought one to get rid of her or because they believed in our cause.

Next year's Conference is to be held at Orange and the 2018 Conference is still to find a home although Narooma has been suggested but not finalised. We are all looking forward to 2017.

Anne Mathews.



Kerry, Anne and Beth at the PFFF table.



NOTICEBOARD DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - 2016

MEETINGS for 2016 are Friday: 18th November, 16th December 2016 (afternoon tea)
THE PFFF SPECIAL EVENT, 'IT'S A RIOT' is only a week away – for bookings contact Anne on 96390140. **REGISTRATION IS FROM 9:30 – GUIDED TOURS 10AM AND 2PM – OFFICIAL OPENING 11:45 AND MEG KENEALLY'S TALK AT 12PM.**

The PFFF Committee look forward to seeing as many as possible of our members, friends and supporters at the Factory at Cumberland Hospital (at the Institute of Psychiatry for registration, trade tables and talk!).

STOP PRESS! "SPROUT" = GROW IDEAS! Urban Growth (the 'planning arm' of NSW Government) is holding a two day community consultation regarding the planned development of the historic/heritage buildings in the North Parramatta Precinct – enquiries: parramattanorth@urbangrowth.nsw.gov.au or contact 0419815087 – registration is required for the event. Dates are Thursday 10th November and Friday 11th November 2016. The Committee hope to see as many members there as possible!



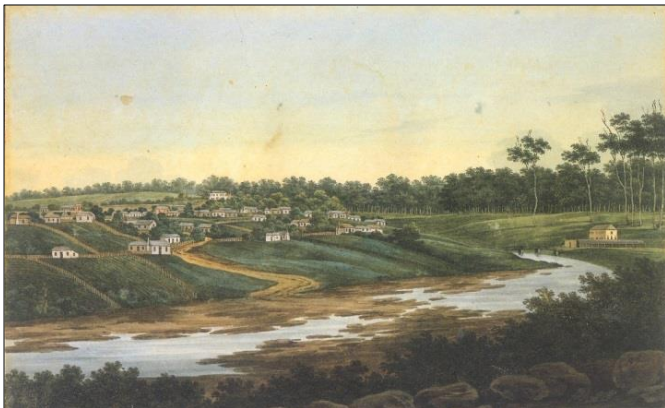
Meg & Tom Keneally, courtesy: SMSA

CUMBERLAND HOSPITAL - THE EARLY YEARS - DR TERRY SMITH

Dr Terry Smith is a well-known local historian and retired nurse practitioner with extensive knowledge of the history of mental health, treatment and care at the Cumberland Hospital/Parramatta Factory site. At the PFFF September General Meeting, Terry gave a very detailed and informative talk, "Cumberland Hospital – The Early Years". This is part of his presentation which covers the transition from convict factory to the early asylum years.

With few exceptions, the care of the mentally ill in the earliest days of the Colony of New South Wales was not an issue that occupied the minds of those in authority at least not until specific circumstances demanded their attention. Prior to 1811 the mentally ill who were largely from the convict class, had been exposed to the brutality of the convict system with little consideration being given for their illness. In the early days of the colony it can be presumed that many lunatic convicts died as a result of harsh conditions where if you did not work, you did not eat and they were undoubtedly exploited by other convicts. Indeed Joseph Smith a convict who arrived in 1789 and assigned to the Government Farm noted that more than 800 men had died there from flogging (1).....Recidivism was severely punished and as mental illness is usually accompanied by aberrant behaviour, one can only wonder how many mentally ill convicts were killed under these conditions. Later, as conditions in the colony improved, the mentally ill were confined in gaols with the criminal and recidivist convicts where their lot was probably little better than before.

Over time, the principal place of confinement for lunatics was the Parramatta Town Gaol. The earliest appointment of a person to specifically care for the mentally ill in New South Wales was a warder at the gaol, Patrick Cullen who was given charge of the lunatics in April 1811(2). Later in the same year, he was to accompany lunatics to Australia's first Lunatic Asylum established by Governor Lachlan Macquarie at the Castle Hill Government Farm.



The Old Parramatta Gaol (2 storey building – far right): SLNSW



The Castle Hill Government Farm c 1806: SLNSW

The Parramatta Town Gaol was also the principal place of confinement for the unassigned convict women.....and so the small gaol that once occupied the site of Prince Alfred Park (now Square) spawned both the construction of the institution known as the female factory and was also the place that saw the genesis of mental health care in Parramatta; later giving the buildings of the female factory a reason to exist!

The female factory opened in 1821 with the original intention to provide accommodation and employment for unassigned convict women. The factory was Australia's first "maternity" hospital with free and convict midwives in attendance. It was for many years the only place to obtain a wet-nurse and many abandoned babies were saved as a result of this service.

An important piece of history of nursing in NSW is associated with the factory. The *Sisters of Charity*, who arrived in the colony from Dublin in 1838, were trained nurses and worked at the factory for the next nine years teaching, consoling and providing care to the women "lying in" as well as providing general nursing services. In the group was *Sister Mary Baptist de Lacy* who went on to establish St Vincent's at Darlinghurst.

The transportation of convicts to New South Wales ceased in 1839 and over the next few years the number of convict women accommodated at the factory declined. Until the mid-1840s, as the factory's effective role as a women's

(1) Smith J. 1845 a Voluntary Letter from an Old Settler – in True Patriots All 1952 Ingleton G.C. Ed, Sydney, Angus & Robertson

(2) Colonial Secretary's Papers. Reel 6002; 4/3490D, p.159

prison devolved, increasingly convict women who were invalid with chronic illness or disease, or infirm with age as well as those found to be lunatic, were admitted for care and shelter.

In the absence of official statements there were rumours circulating about how the end of penal system would come about. The press reported that the government intended to close all of the colony's penal establishments by the end of March 1848 with the exception of the female factory where invalid and lunatic convicts would be placed under the charge of Dr Patrick Hill. This rumour was confirmed by the Sydney Morning Herald (1st February 1848) when it declared *"The beginning of the end in the abolition of the Factory Establishment"* and the article went on to report the Government had given orders that *"Several confines (or persons free by servitude), being within six months of the completion of their respective sentences, were discharged as were a large number of the actual (from home sentences) prisoners – being allowed tickets-of-leave. The lunatics and invalids are still kept within the Factory."* (3)

From March 1848, the female factory was gazetted as the *Asylum for Lunatic and Invalid Convicts*.....Edward Stratham, the last storekeeper of the factory was appointed to superintend the invalid side of the asylum and Dr Hill was appointed to oversee the medical needs of the inmates of both the invalid and lunatic divisions.

Initially the asylum had small numbers of lunatic and invalid women but began to admit male convicts from Cockatoo Island diagnosed as suffering from chronic physical illness..... Small numbers of male lunatic convicts transferred from Liverpool Convict Hospital after March 1848, but female patients out-numbered males until 1852. Increasingly, the old factory was used as a receptacle for lunatics possibly because as a former prison, it had the means to provide secure accommodation for the mentally ill.

On December 28th 1849, the institution was officially gazetted as the *Lunatic Asylum Parramatta* at which time it became a public Asylum.....Edwin Stratham's wife *Elizabeth* was appointed as the first Matron – almost two years after she had held the same position in the female factory before its closure.



3rd class Penitentiary 1836 - 1885

photo: courtesy Terry Smith

For all appearances of being a prison, the standard of care was often given public praise in the press. The following remarks of the medical board of visitors were quoted in the *Maitland Mercury* in May 1852:

'the number of two hundred and thirty five individuals passed one by one....Their clean and healthy appearance called forth general approbation, and certainly did much credit to their humane and kind-hearted superintendents Mr and Mrs Statthem [sic].' (4)

In February 1852, Dr Hill was appointed as the Lunatic Asylum's Surgeon Superintendent followed shortly by Dr Richard Greenup (23rd March 1852). His period as Surgeon Superintendent (later changed to Medical Superintendent) was characterised by his apparent kindness and concern for patient's welfare. Perhaps one of the greatest legacies of Dr Greenup's administration was the acquisition of land adjacent to the asylum for future expansion. In 1857 he acquired, through a grant, a large parcel of land on the opposite side of the river when the Governor's domain was being carved up and sold. This land is now occupied by the new Cumberland, the Children's Hospital and Westmead Hospitals. He also convinced the government to purchase the 36 acre property known as the *Vineyard*, owned by John Blaxland between the asylum and the gaol in 1866, which allowed the construction of a new large division for female patients.

(3) Parramatta. Sydney Morning Herald, 1 February 1848, p2

(4) Invalid and Lunatic Establishment, Parramatta. The Maitland Mercury and Hunter River Advertiser 1 May 1852, p. 4

One of Greenup's successors, Dr Frederic Norton Manning worked tirelessly to improve mental health care in NSW and his influence continued well into the 20th century. Under his administration, the old Female Factory Main Barracks was demolished (1883) and replaced by Male Ward 1 in 1884 (now the Institute of Psychiatry).

The penitentiary erected by Governor Gipps in 1836 was demolished in 1885. This occurred after the Colonial Secretary *Sir Henry Parkes* visited the asylum after questioning whether or not the demolition was in the government's best interests. Dr Manning locked Sir Henry in one of the cells for just a few minutes and upon his release, he declared that the building should go! Over the next few years many of the walls surrounding the asylum were removed and the place landscaped with tree and gardens with the site being declared as one of *"the showcases of Parramatta....and the surroundings of the old factory a joy to the eye."* (5)



Parramatta Female Factory Main Barracks (1818-1883),
Photo - courtesy SAG



Governor Gipps Penitentiary (1836-1885) with the Factory Barracks
in the distance, photo - courtesy SAG



Male Ward 1 1884 - now the Institute of Psychiatry



The Parramatta Asylum Gate Entrance – photo: SLNSW



The Matron's Quarters c1818 – Male Ward 1 in the background,
Photo - courtesy Terry Smith



Criminal Ward 1856 - demolished in 1963, photo - courtesy Terry Smith

(5) Wharton, J. C., the Jubilee History of Parramatta: Cumberland Argus. 1911 pp. 128-129

HISTORY CORNER - " RIOT AT THE FEMALE FACTORY "

Excerpt from the Sydney Gazette and NSW Advertiser, Wednesday 31st October 1827 page 2: Source NLA TROVE

RIOT AT THE FEMALE FACTORY.

We briefly noticed in our last, as the circumstance was hastily communicated to us on Saturday evening, the fact of a riot having taken place on the morning of the same day, at the Factory in Parramatta. Since then, we have been made acquainted with further particulars. A short time previous to the resignation of the late Matron (Mrs. Raine), which took place on Friday evening last, it was found necessary to make some of the confines in their proportion of tea and sugar, &c; in consequence of which a general spirit of discontent was excited, and a determination to have revenge on the retiring Matron, was loudly proclaimed. Mrs. Raine, however, who had intimation of the gathering storm, took measures accordingly; and, on Friday evening, was rescued by a party of constables, who were previously instructed, from the fury of a number of women, by whom she was assailed, in one of the rooms, a short time previous to her departure. On the following morning (Saturday), about 7 o'clock, the new Matron, Mrs. Gordon, being then in charge, the allowance of bread and sugar being stopped in consequence of the conduct of the previous day, a considerable number of the women broke out of the Factory; but, persuaded by Mrs. Gordon and the constables, they returned in again, threatening at the same time, that, if the usual allowance of bread and sugar was not immediately forthcoming, they would tear down all before them. Some little delay ensued, and, in about half an hour afterwards, a numerous party again assailed the gates, with pick-axes, axes, iron crowes, &c. &c. the united force of which, wielded as they were by a determined and furious mob, soon left a clear stage, and the inmates of the Factory were quickly poured forth, thick as bees from a hive, over Parramatta and the adjoining neighbourhood. About one hundred came into the town, exclusive of numbers that took different routes. Constables were seen running in all directions. A Captain, a Lieutenant, two sergeants, and about forty rank and file, were in immediate requisition by the Magistrates, and were seen flying in all directions with fixed bayonets, for the double purpose of securing the fugitives, and staying the mutiny; and so violent were the Amazonian

banditti, that nothing less was expected but that the soldiers would be obliged to commence firing on them. After a little time, however, numbers of those who had broke loose were secured, and conducted back to the old quarters under a military escort, shouting as they went along, and carrying with them their aprons loaded with bread and meat, for which, after the manner of a conquering army, they had laid the inhabitants of Parramatta and its vicinity under contribution. On their arrival at the Factory, Major LOCKYER, the Superintendent of Police, at Parramatta, directed the ring-leaders to be selected and confined in the cells, but so determined were the rioters, that, though opposed by a military force, they succeeded in rescuing their companions, declaring, that if one suffered, all should suffer. About forty, we understand, who took to the bush, towards Toongabie, have not yet been retaken. A military guard is now stationed at the gates of the Factory, and Parramatta is again quiet.

Since writing the above, we have been informed, that the number of the missing, has, by the exertions of the pursuers, been reduced to nineteen.

The Sydney Gazette & NSW Advertiser reported the Factory Riot of Saturday 27th October, a few days later.

Gay Hendriksen notes 'opinions expressed were polarised around perceptions of the women and their circumstances at the factory. One description outlines the women as degenerate and in need of punishment yet stated that the factory was in excellent order. A second highlighted inhumane treatment and unfairness and described the factory as a place where corruption was rife. These adversarial views were in the Sydney Gazette.'⁽¹⁾

(1) Conviction The 1827 Fight for Rights at Parramatta Female Factory by Gay Hendriksen



Parramatta Town in the early 1800s

IT'S A RIOT OR IS IT? - GAY HENDRIKSEN

A significant historical event occurred at the Parramatta Female Factory in 1827 which has been described either as a riot or the earliest identified workers' action in Australia. It was the first of five similar actions occurring between 1821 and 1848. The action described by authorities as a riot had its origins in the life in the factory over the previous 12 months and was a culmination of distress over working and living conditions.

ORIGINS OF THE ACTION

In 1824 Matron Raine (Fulloon) started work at the female factory. While her time as matron included her attempts at ensuring the orderly running of the factory, it was marred by corruption and inappropriate activities by her family.

In February 1826 a convict woman, Mary Ann Hamilton, died of starvation at the factory. At this time the women were getting about half of the men's rations. Following this a Grand Jury visited the factory and found the rations unsatisfactory – 253 women and their children had no access to water supply, the bread was inferior and they were short of clothing and food.

In 1827 there was corruption within the factory over rations and factory cloth and the matron's son had liaisons with the women. These provided fuel for unrest amongst the convict women. In March, Superintendent Dr Henry Douglass was accosted by a number of women, one of whom wrestled him to the ground. Unrest continued which was reflected in some of the punishments through the year.

In September, Matron Raine could no longer cope with the situation at the female factory and tendered her resignation to take effect on Friday 25th October.

THE MOMENT ARRIVES

In the week starting 21st October there was unrest in the factory when a number of women refused to work. Matron Raine responded in these last few days of office in reducing rations, cutting out the tea. The result was the following day the women in 3rd class rioted and took over the yard, expelling a constable.

On her last day in office, Friday 25th October, Matron Raine advised constables she expected unrest. She was then assaulted by some of the women but rescued by the constables.

On Saturday 26th Ann Gordon began as Matron and at 7 am stopped the allowance of bread and sugar altogether. The women threatened to tear down the factory if the rations were not reinstated immediately. They were not reinstated and the riot ensued.

The factory women broke down the gates and ran through Parramatta attacking bakers' shops. They were described in newspapers of the time, not as ordinary women but as "*Viragos*" and "*Amazonian banditti*" who had swarmed out of the factory like "*bees from a hive*".



Third class sleeping quarters – origin of the workers' action: Augustus Earle 1826/nla.pic-an2818460

The Government response was that the magistrates enlist the police and military to find and arrest the women and quell the "riot." The constables were reported as in all directions with bayonets; also a captain, a lieutenant and about 40 rank and file. Expectation was that the military would use their weapons if necessary.

The women escaped into the town and the surrounding bush. Many were captured and escorted back to the factory where Major Lockyer, superintendent of police at Parramatta, directed the ringleaders to be selected and confined in the cells. The rioters banded together and declared if one suffered they should all suffer.

RETRIBUTION AND REWARD

Some days later there were still about a hundred women missing. The final two women were not apprehended until December 1827. After the action, ringleaders were transferred to Newcastle. Although retribution by punishment was administered, the women were successful in their action. The corrupting influence was removed, the women once again received their rations and the working and living conditions were restored to the regulated subsistence defined by the Colonial Government.

Sources:

Herstory – Lives of the Parramatta Female Factory Women PFFF Publication

Conviction The 1827 Fight for Rights at Parramatta Female Factory, by Gay Hendriksen

Women Transported, Life in Australia's Convict Female Factories by Gay Hendriksen, Carol Liston and Trudy Cowley

“OUR GIRLS” – PROFILES BY BETH MATTHEWS AND ANNE MATHEWS

The following three profiles are for women who were in the factory at the time of the October 1827 Riot and who were punished for their action on the 22nd October 1827 ⁽¹⁾. It is interesting to note the number of women who have been identified as having their rations of tea stopped for either “neglect” of work or “disobeying of work” in the week leading up to the riot on Saturday 27th October 1827.

Julian (Julia/Judith) Burke was born about 1800 in Clonmel, Ireland and convicted in Tralee on 3rd August 1815 and transported for 7 years – her offence was *stealing*.

Julia left Ireland on the second journey of the ship *Brothers* which departed Cork Harbour on 3rd October 1826. The ship carried 161 female prisoners – there were 3 deaths on the voyage which took 122 days, arriving in NSW on 2nd February 1827.

On the muster roll, Julian is recorded as *Julian or Judith Burke age 27, no education, catholic, married with one child on board with her, a house servant. She was 5 foot 2 ½ inches, ruddy, dark and freckled complexion, brown hair and hazel eyes- a raised mole on left cheek – to be assigned to the factory.*

The records from the *Colonial Secretary's Papers* show Judith Burke per *Brothers*:-

1827, 7th October - *quarrelling in bedroom, punished*

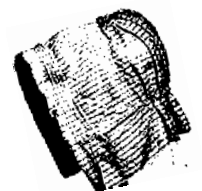
1827, 22nd October - *disobeying of work, ration of tea stopped*

The Sydney Gaol Entrance Books show:

1828, 19th February in 1st class in factory, *unfit for service*

Julian received her *Ticket of Leave* on 26th July 1831 however this was surrendered and cancelled.

1834, 10th April Julian received a *Certificate of Freedom*.



Ann Nugent was born about 1807 in Limerick and was convicted in Dublin 7th July 1825 on *stealing watch* for which she was sentenced to transportation for seven years – had 2 previous convictions.

Ann embarked the ship *Lady Rowena* which departed Cork on 19th January 1826. The ship carried 100 female prisoners and after a voyage of 118 days, arrived in NSW on 17th May 1826.

The *Lady Rowena* muster roll shows Ann Nugent as *age 19, reads & writes, protestant, married, a servant. She was 4 foot 11 and ¾ inches, fair ruddy complexion, brown hair and hazel eyes, scar on left cheek – to be assigned to Robert Campbell Sen. Sydney.* From the *Colonial Secretary's Papers*, the following relate to some of Ann's time in the female factory:-

1826 2nd class, *returned from Mr Rapsey, Sydney*

1827 22nd October 1st class, *neglect of work tea ration stopped*
 1827 23rd October 24 hours, *refused to attend RC prayers*
 1828 20th January 24 hours, *insolent to monitress*
 1828 2nd March 2nd class, *disturbance in the dining room*
 1828 6th May 2nd class, 20 hours *disobedience*
 1828 3rd class 1st September, *one month absent from service*

Ann's record of unrest continued until 1830 when there is an entry that shows she had been returned to 1st class having been 'given up by her master'.

Anne Blake was born about 1807 in Galway and convicted in Cork on 30th July 1826 – her offence was robbery for which she was sentenced to transportation for 7 years.

Anne was also on the ship *Brothers*. The muster roll describes Anne as aged 19, *no education, catholic, single, a country servant born Galway. She was 4 foot 10 inches, ruddy, fair and freckled complexion, light brown to sandy hair, light hazel eyes. To be assigned to the Factory.*

The Colonial Secretary's Correspondence shows Anne Blake (*Brothers*) 1827 22nd October, in 1st class *disobeying of work and ration of tea stopped.*

1828 June, *granted permission to marry William Johnson 28 per Isabella, Rev Cartwright, Liverpool.* The marriage was registered in 1828 in St Luke's Liverpool.

Sources: 'Our Girls – Unpublished Work' by Beth Matthews & Anne Mathews; SRNSW
 (1) *Conviction The 1827 Fight for Rights at the Parramatta Female Factory*, Gay Hendriksen
 Photo: The Greenway - designed St Luke's Church at Liverpool NSW.
 Note the Thwaites & Reed clock in the church tower which came to the Colony as a gift from George IV in 1822 - the Parramatta Female Factory clock also arrived at this time.



THE FEMALE CONVICT SHIP - LADY ROWENA

While there were numerous ships associated with the women in the factory in October 1827, the ship *Lady Rowena* is one which is particularly interesting. *Lady Rowena* was the only female convict ship to leave Britain in 1826. It was also the first ship to arrive after Alexander Macleay had become the Colonial Secretary succeeding Frederick Goulburn.

Of the 100 women embarked, 53 were single and a small number had brought children with them. This included *Mary Daly* who appears in the factory records for *October 23rd 1827 for being insolent to Matron.* The youngest convict was *Susan Nesbitt* aged 16 and one of the oldest women to be transported, was *Catherine Finn*, 80 years old – her offence was 'passing *bad money*'. Sadly Catherine died at the Factory in November 1826. It is most likely she had come to be with her son who had been transported per *Sir Godfrey Webster* in January 1825. Perhaps the most intriguing transportee was *Mary Farrell* (or *Clynch*) thought to have been the wife of notorious *Jacob's Irish Brigade Bushranger Gang member*, Patrick Clynch per *Isabella* 1823.

Ronda Gaffey

Source: *Free Settlers or Felon?* www.jenniwilletts.com/convict_ship_brothers 1826

