



## PARRAMATTA FEMALE FACTORY FRIENDS INC. NEWSLETTER – ISSUE NO: 27 May-June 2019



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 PFFF website: [parramattafemalefactoryfriends.com.au](http://parramattafemalefactoryfriends.com.au)  
 History: [parramattafemalefactories.wordpress.com](http://parramattafemalefactories.wordpress.com)  
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pffriends/>  
 Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/parramattafemalefactoryfriends/>  
 Petition: <https://www.change.org/p/parramatta-female-factory-federal-petition-for-world-heritage>



The Parramatta Female Factory - Augustus Earle 1826 – nla.pic-an 2818460 National Library of Australia (NLA)

**Patrons:** Meg Keneally & Thomas Michael Keneally AO  
**President:** Gay Hendriksen **Vice President:** Heidi Garmonsway  
**Treasurer/Public Officer:** Kerima-Gae Topp **General Secretary/Editor:** Ronda Gaffey  
**Committee:** **Membership Secretary:** Cate Whittaker **Minutes Secretary:** Kerry Martin  
 Pauline Garmonsway, Lynette Watkins, Frank Williams, Stephen Bryant.

**Next Meeting: Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2019 GUEST SPEAKER 1:00pm**  
**GENERAL MEETING at 2:00pm:**  
 Please note venue for this meeting is the Coach House Hambledon Cottage corner Gregory Place and Hassall Street, Harris Park.

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Factory Friends,

As the autumn- winter chill arrives the Friends' advocacy is heating up.



The committee has been busy representing the Friends with trade/information tables which are a great tool for promoting what we do as well as the petition. The Friends were represented at the May Day March with John and Clelia Koch and retired CFMEU members – the result 500 signatures! We are ever closer so please keep those petitions coming in.

The Friends recently participated in the National Trust Heritage Festival providing an information/advocacy table and tours of the Female Factory.

We are currently working on an advocacy suite of documents for use by committee and members when spreading the word. This will give you the most up to date tools to promote the cause.

With the recent election we took the opportunity to promote our vision for the site with the major party representatives. The vision of a museum is critical at a time when a range of registrations of interest are being considered.

We have also been in contact with the University of Sydney and will remain cognisant of their plans as they take form.

Preparation is beginning for the annual 'It's a Riot' so if you would like to be involved please email your interest or let us know at the June meeting.

You will be receiving information soon concerning our AGM in August. If you would like to be part of the committee then think of nominating. Remember that you can always be involved in our regular activities as an ordinary member. If you have a particular interest then advise us and get involved in our sub-committees as they arise or assist committee members in what they are doing, such as tour guiding. Together we are always stronger.

All the best

Gay Hendriksen

President

## NOTICEBOARD

- Next Meeting with Guest Speaker\* at **1pm** - General Meeting at **2pm -Friday June 21<sup>st</sup> 2019** followed by afternoon tea. Access by bus 909 or M92 from Parramatta station. Parking on site.
- Reminder: Membership **renewals due 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019** - pay by direct deposit **BSB:633 000 Account: 151 276 763** (please **record your name** for EFT so we know who payment is from) or cheque payable to Parramatta Female Factory Friends Inc. and forwarded to PFFF PO Box 1358, Parramatta 2124 or pay at next meeting.
- AGM - Friday **August 16<sup>th</sup> 2019** at 1:30 venue to be advised.

*\*Ronda Gaffey, PFFF history buff -Topic: Love's Labours & Loss; an historical perspective on love, expressions of love and esteem; from kings to convicts and a lot more.*

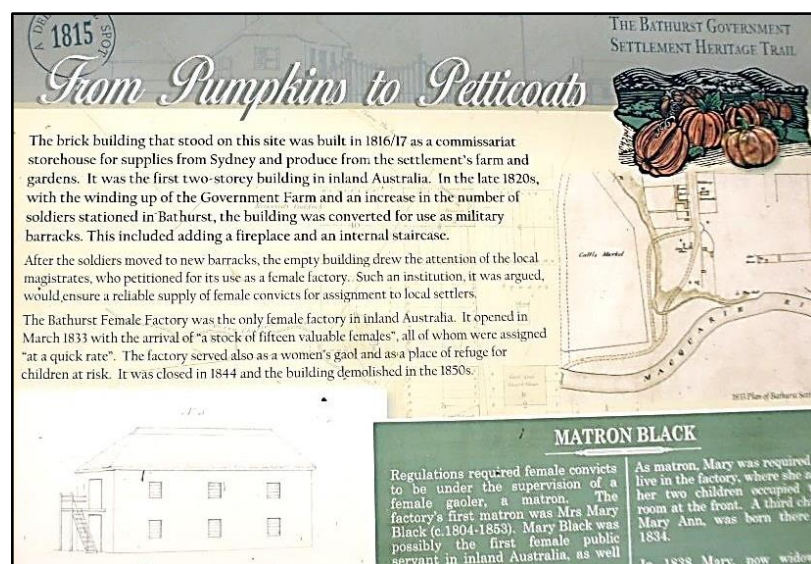


## HISTORY CORNER - AN INLAND FEMALE FACTORY AT BATHURST 1833-1844

Bathurst is one of the lesser known of the 13 female factories. Shortly after the founding of the settlement, a Commissariat storehouse, c1816-1817, was built principally to store supplies from Sydney and produce from the surrounding farms and gardens.

Later, with an increase in the number of soldiers stationed at Bathurst, the storehouse was converted to a military barracks.

Following the military move to new barracks and petitioning from local magistrates, the building was re-purposed as a female factory serving as a gaol, a place of refuge for children at risk and, a female assignment depot.



(1)

*The Factory opened in 1833. The Sydney Monitor reported the event thus:*

*We are extremely happy to learn that a Female factory on a small scale has been opened at Bathurst. A Mrs Black is the matron.*

*The lady opened shop in the early part of the week with a stock of 15 valuable females who went off at a quick rate.* (2)

The Commissariat store was the first 2 storey building in inland NSW and the Bathurst Factory was the only female factory in inland mainland Australia. Matron Mary Black was the first female civil servant in inland Australia.

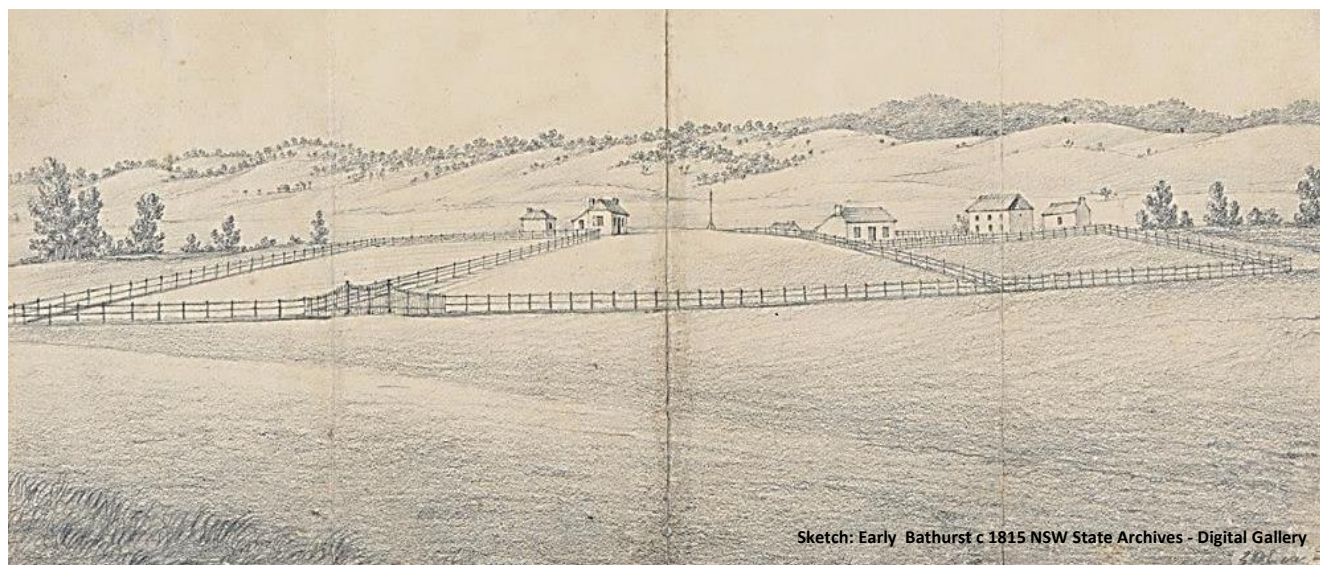
The Factory building was demolished in the 1850's. Today there is a Commemorative Plaque on the corner of Charlotte and William Street.

### References:

(1) Photograph of Commemorative Plaque, *The Bathurst Government Settlement Trail* - Bathurst Council, "From Pumpkins to Petticoats": ABR Collection.

(2) *The Sydney Monitor* (NSW 1828 -1838) Wednesday 20, March 1833 page 2.

Research notes - Kerima-Gae Topp



Sketch: Early Bathurst c 1815 NSW State Archives - Digital Gallery

## MOVING ON FROM PARRAMATTA TO BATHURST

A number of convict women were moved from **Parramatta Factory to Bathurst** principally to meet an unmet need for assigned servants in the area; other reasons were misbehaviour or simply because of overcrowding at Parramatta.

Ann Evans and Mary Williams profiled here, followed an earlier group who by all accounts had been assigned “at a quick rate” in March 1833 soon after the Bathurst Factory was established.

**Ann Evans** was born in Chester, England.

- She was convicted at Lancaster, Liverpool Quarter Sessions on 4<sup>th</sup> July 1831 for *stealing a handkerchief* - her sentence was seven years transportation. She had a previous conviction of 15 months.
- Ann embarked the ship *Pyramus* which departed Cork, Ireland on 10<sup>th</sup> November 1831. The ship carried 151 female prisoners - however 2 were re-landed and there were 2 deaths on the voyage which took 116 days. *Pyramus* arrived in NSW on 5<sup>th</sup> March 1832. <sup>(1)</sup>
- In the ship’s muster roll, Ann is described as: *aged 14; no education; protestant; single; a nurse girl; 4ft 10 1/2 inches; fair complexion; brown hair; hazel, small eyes; nose cocked, small scar on centre of forehead, scar on left thumb; T S on upper left arm; large mole on left shoulder.*

Records show Ann Evans (*per Pyramus*) was in the Parramatta Female Factory and she appears on a list of **15 women to be sent for assignment to Bathurst**. There is a note for “Mr Murray ...to get the Van in good order, and to report when it will be ready”. The list is dated 30<sup>th</sup> July 1833 which was a year after young Ann’s arrival. <sup>(2)</sup>

**Mary Williams** was born about 1795 in Flintshire, North West Wales:

- She was convicted for pickpocketing between 19<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> January 1829 in Manchester, England and was sentenced to 14 years transportation.
- Mary was one of a number of women being brought to London from the English counties - they were chained together on top of a stage coach which overturned in the night. It was reported that one woman **Mary Williams** received a deep gash in her leg when the irons ploughed into it. <sup>(3)</sup>
- Mary embarked the ship **Sovereign** at the Downs on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 1829. After a voyage of 102 days, the ship arrived in NSW on 3<sup>rd</sup> August 1829. The ages of the convict women aboard ranged from 15 years to 57 years.
- On the muster roll, **Mary** is described as: *age 34; protestant; single; a housemaid, cook and laundress; 5ft 3 inches; ruddy, pock pitted complexion; dark brown hair and eyes; a hairy mole on lower part of left cheek; assigned to the Factory.*
- At least 15 of the women were accompanied by their children. Forty women were sent to the Parramatta Factory.
- **Mary Williams** later appears on a list of prisoners to be sent to **Bathurst, July 1833**. She later appears on a Muster List of Convicts in NSW for 1837, aged 40, **in the Factory at Bathurst**.

It is interesting to note the ages of Ann and Mary. Mary had been in the system on and off since her arrival in late 1829. Ann would have been 16 when she was sent to Bathurst. On the list that follows, it is also interesting to note the death of a woman, Elizabeth Murphy, en route to Bathurst. One wonders what the circumstances of her death were.

## To – Bathurst Female Factory

NAME	SHIP	YEAR OF ENTRY TO FACTORY	REMARKS
Barry, Margaret	Surry	1833	
Bedford, Margaret	Hooghley	1833	
Breeze, Mary Ann	Mary	1843	
Callaghan, Atty	Whitby	1843	
Cross, Sarah	Lucy Davidson	26.07.1833	
Evans, Ann	Pyramus	1833	
Fay, Margaret	Edward	26.07.1833	
Flood, Catherine	Forth	26.07.1833	
Laffen, Catherine	Forth	1833	
Murphy, Bridget	Margaret (2)	1843	Money paid for Transport
Murphy, Elizabeth	Roslyn Castle	1834	Died on way to Bathurst
Ross, Elizabeth	Pyramus	1833	
Ryan, Bridget	Hooghley	26.07.1833	
Smith, Ellen	Roslyn Castle	1834	Escaped on the way
White, Mary	Buffalo	1844	
Williams, Mary	Sovereign	26.07.1833	
Williams, Mary Ann	Southworth or Kains	26.07.1833	
Wilson, Hannah	Pyramus	26.07.1833	

### References:

(1) Free Settler or Felon? Pyramus, by Jenni Willetts; [https://www.jenwilletts.com/pyramus\\_1832.htm](https://www.jenwilletts.com/pyramus_1832.htm)

(2) *ibid*

(3) Free Settler or Felon? Sovereign, by Jenni Willetts; [https://www.jenwilletts.com/ship\\_sovereign\\_1829.htm](https://www.jenwilletts.com/ship_sovereign_1829.htm)

Our Girls - unpublished work by Beth Matthews and Anne Mathews sourced from original material, State Archives and Records New South Wales  
Interim List of Bathurst Assignees - Anne Mathews

## OUT AND ABOUT - SHOWCASING PARRAMATTA

On Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April, the City of Parramatta (COP) held its inaugural Product and Experience showcase, a mini trade show that provided a range of invited tourism industry visitors.

This free, 2 hour event was held at Rydges at Rosehill and gave key industry members a unique opportunity to speak directly with over 20 exhibitors including our Parramatta Heritage Partners and others representing many of the city's attractions, experiences and events. <sup>(1)</sup>



Thank you to Frank Williams and Lyn Watkins for attending the day, "manning" the Parramatta Female Factory Friends table <sup>(2)</sup> and for their valuable work in promotion and advocacy.

<sup>(1)</sup> Thank you to Keith Baker COP for *Showcase and Experience* information

## THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL TRUST HERITAGE FESTIVAL - AT NORTH PARRAMATTA SATURDAY 18 MAY



PFFF were invited by Urban Growth NSW to participate in their Open Day at the Parramatta North site and despite lots of challenges such as the Federal election and track work, the day was worthwhile and it was great to have a number of members, descendants and supporters dropping by.

Pauline, Cate and Anne were kept busy with sales, gathering petitions and answering questions and Steve led 2 tours with great success during the day. Frank was also on hand early morning assisting with the *bump in* and later with the *bump out*! Many thanks for such a terrific team effort



## DESCENDANTS' CORNER - SUSAN JAMES 1816 – 1903 (PART 2)

from Gary J Carter - maternal 4 x great grandson

### Susan James

Back in England her parents were still alive in 1841, living in Newcourt, Cripplegate with seven of their children. John James was still working as a tailor, and stated that he was not born in Middlesex, but by 1851 John was dead, and his wife was living with four of her children in 39 Bridgewater Gardens Cripplegate, doing needlework while two sons were working as tailors and one as a warehouseman. There is irony in this address, as this is the same address given by the Constable who testified against Susan James back in 1829. I have not been able to locate Susan's mother after this date.



We don't know what happened to Susan's first marriage, but on 11/3/1842 Susan married the ex-convict Thomas Muldoon in Michelago, Thomas Shanahan and Ellen Russell witnessing the ceremony. Thomas Shanahan also an Irish ex-convict had been granted the licence to the Union Inn at Keefe's Plains at Michelago in 1838, adjoining the land of Thomas Muldoon. Ellen Russell was the daughter of the Russell family who had arrived from Ireland in 1839. In the 1841 census the Russell and the Muldoon families were the only two families listed as residing at Michelago.

James Brown had died the October before in Sydney aged 39 [1841]. The news of James Brown's death must have reached Susan, even though she was living right on the legal 'Limits of Location', in a very out of the way place. Thomas and Susan already had two children, Ellen born c 1839 and Bridget born 1841. Thomas Muldoon had moved to the Michelago district and squatted on land in 1836, applying to lease two square miles of land. When or how Susan came to the district is not known.

By 1851 Thomas and Susan had six children and she was again pregnant when Thomas died in May, their son John being born in July. Over the years Thomas Muldoon had several times petitioned to lease the land they were living on and had at one time paid £16 deposit. Susan now took up the challenge and applied to buy the 30 acres on which their home stood, asking that the money already paid be used as a deposit on the price of one pound per acre. Susan described herself as a 'poor widow with nine children', failing to mention that her eldest daughter had married the year before, and not mentioning her eldest son. In this letter she lists her children including Ellen Muldoon, whose actual birth date we have not been able to find.

The authorities replied that if she applied, the land would be put up for auction and she would have to bid against anyone else who wanted to buy the land. Susan must have given up as we next find her in Queanbeyan, marrying John Hudson on 23/11/1852. This John Hudson was an ex-convict who had come on the same ship [Canada] as her first husband James Brown. Did Susan know him from before or was this just a coincidence?

Susan was now trying to reinvent herself, probably to disguise her convict past, and stated at her marriage that she was a widow from Ireland with 10 children, her parents being John Haley, tailor and Ann Eagan. We know that it is our Susan James because of the various people who witness baptisms and weddings over the next few years, the most convincing being the sponsors, John and Ellen [nee Muldoon] McDermott to the first child of the Hudson marriage, Rosetta born 1854. John Hudson had been a witness at Ellen's marriage in 1853. Rosetta died soon after birth and a second child, Alice, was born in 1859.

John Hudson died in 1861 leaving Susan a widow for the third time, this time with an additional child. Susan remarried a fourth time in 1864 to Lewis Horniblew in Queanbeyan. She repeats the story of being a widow from Ireland with ten children living and two dead. The number of children correspond to what we know, three to her first husband James Brown, two surviving, seven to Thomas Muldoon and two to John Hudson, only one surviving. Lewis Horniblew was a childless widower working as a labourer and living in Mowatt Street, while Susan was described as a 'housekeeper'.

Susan and Lewis were remembered by Miss Edith May Walker [1885-1975]:

*'I remember Lew Horniblew and his wife. Old Horniblew was the town crier, and he used to go up the street ringing a bell and advertising all the things that were happening. We used to visit the Horniblews*

*where they lived up near the Gabriels in Mowatt Street, in a house set back a bit with plenty of ground to it, like a lot of old places. They were quaint people. Old Lew was stooped and he had a little beard: she used to smoke a clay pipe'.* (Cross 1985, 'Bygone Queanbeyan' page 275).

An examination of the court records for Queanbeyan shows Susan Hudson was found 'Drunk in Trinculo Place on 9/4/1857, fined 11/-'. Lewis Horniblew was also found drunk and disorderly on a couple of occasions in 1857 and 1858, and he also was fined. Lewis Horniblew came to Australia in 1836 on the 'Lady Kennaway', the same ship that Thomas Hobbs the convict arrived on. I wonder if they knew one another?

Louis Horniblew died 16/4/1898 at Queanbeyan, aged 84. He had been born in Sussex, his parents being Anthony Horniblew and Nancy Abbott. He had been in Australia for 62 years.

Susan died 22/12/1903 in the Newington Asylum in Sydney, the information being given by the matron. Her parents were given as John James, occupation tailor and Anna Harris and it was stated that Susan was born in London and had been in the colony for 74 years, corresponding with the information we had found and with her arrival in 1827. Her age was given as 95 years meaning she was born in 1808 but this does not correspond with the trial or the convict indents. If she was really this age then her last daughter Alice Elizabeth Hudson [born 1859] would have been born when Susan was aged 51, whereas if Susan was born 1814-16 then she was aged c 87-89 when she died and would have been 43-45 when her last child was born – a much more likely situation.

The story of her father being John Haley has been repeated on the certificates of some of her children. I suppose by the time the children were being married and when Susan married Lewis Horniblew, official registration had been introduced and a certificate of marriage would have been issued, with the fabricated story of Susan being Irish and the names of her supposed parents being given each time.

**Auburn.**  
**A NONOGENARIAM.**—Last week at Newington, there died an old inmate named Susan Horneyblew, whose career, little of which, however, is known, has been a varied one. She was a Londoner, although she had resided 74 years in New South Wales, coming out when she was only 21 years of age. She had been married four times, three times at Queanbeyan, and the last time in Sydney. All of these partners had pre-deceased her, and the last few years of her life have been spent under the parental care of the State of New South Wales.

(1)

**Susan Horneyblew**  
Born London 25 Feb 1816 to  
**John James & Ann Hannah Harris**  
Arrived Australia 1829 on ship 'Lucy Davidson'  
Married  
[1] James Brown 1831 Sydney  
[2] Thomas Muldoon 1842 Michelago  
[3] John Hudson 1852 Queanbeyan  
[4] Lewis Horneyblew 1864 Queanbeyan  
Mother of 12 children  
Died Sydney 22 Dec 1903

(2)

A memorial plaque has been erected at Rookwood to commemorate Susan James and her four husbands. Susan was buried in a pauper's grave with another person and the exact site of her grave has not been located. The Cemetery Authorities have allowed a plaque to be erected beneath a tree in the general area of her burial in Section P Grave no 374, Catholic section, Rookwood. It is not known where her first two husbands were buried, but the last two are both buried in unmarked graves in the Queanbeyan cemetery. It is possible that her second husband Thomas Muldoon was buried on their block of land at Burra, NSW.

#### References:

Information sourced from an Ancestry site and other research by GJ Carter and MM Parkes

1. The Cumberland Argus and Fruit-grower's Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 2 January 1904
2. Photograph: Susan James memorial plaque at Rookwood.

Thank you Gary for sharing such an amazing and detailed family history. Ed.



## A SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

**Forgotten** is an exciting new play using convict case studies and based on the 1827 Parramatta Female Factory Prison Rebellion and the illegal incarceration of convict, Jane New (Jane was at the factory a year later but for dramatic effect is put there at the time of the rebellion).

It is to be performed at the Riverside Theatre Parramatta: Tuesday 23 July 7pm; Wednesday 24 July 11pm and 7pm; Friday 26 July, 7pm; Saturday 27 July 2.15pm, 7pm. Tickets will be available on the Riverside website by mid June and will sell out quickly. (Members can contact Cate: [catewhit@tpg.com.au](mailto:catewhit@tpg.com.au) for further details).

This is a unique production combining actors, drama educators, undergraduate drama educators, alumni and present drama students from Catholic Systemic Schools of the Parramatta Diocese.

The play is produced and directed by the Catholic Drama Education Team, *Captivate*. It will be used as a forum for educational development in Drama, English and History in schools with a Question and Answer Session after the Wednesday matinee performance.

We hope the publicity around this play will further our cause for World Heritage Listing and put these courageous women in our history books.

*Forgotten* is written by Cate Whittaker.



Recently PFFF's Heidi Garmonsway and Frank Williams, members and community members attended a special media event at the Parramatta Female Factory at which the Hon Julie Owens MP, Federal Member for Parramatta pledged her support for World Heritage listing. For many years Julie has been a staunch advocate and has given PFFF great support in all our endeavours. Interim Leader of the Opposition (State), Penny Sharpe MLC also attended along with Brian Powyer (National Trust President).

Photography: courtesy Julie Owens' office & Beth Matthews

**UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE PETITION UPDATE!** In the last few weeks there has been a surge in the number of signatures collected. A special thank you to Cate Whittaker who has managed over 500 - thanks also to Kerima-Gae, Parramatta & District Historical Society Hambledon Cottage guides, and PFFF members. On Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May we collected another 190 - so 9000 must be well in our sights! A thousand to go!