



Moxons Down Under

A Newsletter for Moxons living in Australia & New Zealand

October 2015

Editorial

Greetings.

Doesn't time fly? Here we are and it's nearly Christmas and before long it'll be 2016.

The most difficult thing about being the editor is coming up with ideas for the Editorial.

I'm pretty much over asking members for stories for this newsletter as so far I've received none.

So, I won't ask again, but I will be very pleasantly surprised if so many arrive for the next issue (around Easter) that I can't fit them all in.

Actually, I'll be quite chuffed if even one article arrives.

Having got that off my chest, let me say that we continue to find Moxons new to us, and new Moxons continue to be born.

In just the past few days, Margaret was sent a link to a Tammy Moxon who is a singer – a singer we'd never heard of.

Tammy is hoping to raise the money she needs to produce her first album.

Read the item on Page 5 and decide for yourself if you want to help her.

May you all have a joyous Christmas – if that's what you celebrate at the end of the year – and may your 2016 be the best you could ever hope for.



Regards for now.

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New Members

Only one new member to welcome in this edition:

- Helen McCarthy, Seaforth, NSW – MX27

So, how about each of you try to get at least one relative to join up?

You could make it a New Year resolution – probably easier to keep than that one about exercising more and eating less.

The Strange Tale of Alfred Wilson/Moxon

On the 13th of October 1907 an Alfred Wilson was married to a

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Rachel Carney in Wellington, NSW. His parents were named as Alexander Wilson and Ada Ann Wilson, nee Riddle. Alfred's birthplace was given as "West Coast" New Zealand.

Two years later (30 December 1909) the marriage certificate was amended by the Registrar General to show Alfred's name as Alfred John Moxon, his parents as Joshua Middleton Moxon and Louisa Mary Moxon, nee Wilkinson, and his place of birth as Bankstown near Liverpool, NSW. (See the image on Page 2.)

To understand how this might have occurred we need to go back to 1883.

In 1883, Joshua and Louisa were living with their seven children on their farm, Hailey Farm, in Bankstown. Louisa, who had had newborn twins die the year before, was pregnant with Ernest Edward Victor who was born on 31 August that year (un-

fortunately he drowned in a brick pit in Ultimo in 1892). By May 1883 the family had disintegrated.

It seems that Louisa left the farm before 6 March 1883, with Joshua placing advertisements in the Sydney Morning Herald on 6 and 7 March warning people not to trust or transact business with her.

A week later, Joshua had advertised that his son, Henry Percy, had absconded. Later a warrant was issued for his arrest for "deserting his apprenticeship".

Also in May, Joshua was sent to prison for three months for beating his 6 year old son, William, with a rope.

And then William and two of his brothers, Herbert, 11 and Arthur, 5, were admitted to the Randwick Asylum for Destitute Children with their admission stating "Father is in goal for assaulting one of the children. Mother's whereabouts are unknown. Children are totally neglected."

George, the eldest of the children at 17 years, had probably already left home or at least could look after himself, which left Edith, aged 9, and Alfred, aged 3, unaccounted for.

We have no idea what happened to Edith (maybe she was with her mother), but according to family folklore, Alfred was taken by the nanny, Ada Ann Riddle.

Ada Ann Riddle (who apparently married an Alexander Wilson) raised Alfred "Wilson" in New Zealand. Alfred returned to Australia, possibly with Ada, (we know not when) and subsequently married Rachel Carney in 1907.

Alfred was eventually identified in 1909 by his brother, Henry (known as Harry), as a Moxon and his records were later amended to reflect his true identity.

Harry bumped into Ada, is also a mystery. In 1909 Harry was Mayor of Wrightville, then a copper mining town of some 3000 people close to Cobar – some 350km from Wellington.

Ada Wilson lived in Wellington and it may be that Harry recognised her while visiting, and put two and two together. But why was Harry in Wellington or Stuart Town?

Just possibly the connection was with Harry's wife, Ellen

Date and place of marriage

* For Alfred Wilson in column 3 read - "Alfred John Moxon known as Alfred Wilson."

* For "West Coast, New Zealand" in column 4 read - "Banksia, near Liverpool, N.S.W."

12044

* For "26" in column 8 read - "24"

* For Alexander Wilson (deceased) Clara Ann Riddle (in column 9 read - "Joshua Middleton Moxon (deceased) Louisa Perry Wilkinson."

* For "UnKnown" in column 10 read - "Builder". Mr and Mrs Wilson were the foster-parents.

Alfred John Moxon hereby referred to, Stuart Town, N.S.W.

M. Riddle
Dep. Registrar
Sydney, 30th December, 1909.

NEW SOUTH WALES
BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES REGISTRATION ACT 1995
MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE
REGISTRATION NUMBER 1907/012044

Names and surnames of parties	Usual occupation	Usual place of residence
1st partner: Alfred Wilson	Builder	West Coast, New Zealand
2nd partner: Rachel Carney	Domestic duties	Stuart Town, N.S.W.

The Registrar of the State, was present in writing the Marriage Act.

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Category	Birthplace	Age	Father's name, mother's name and maiden surname	Father's occupation
Bachelor	West Coast New Zealand	26	Alexander Wilson (deceased) Clara Ann Riddle	Unknown
Spouse	Banksia, New South Wales	18	Henry Carney Margaret Ashmall	Domestic duties

This Marriage was solemnized between us
Alfred Wilson
Rachel Carney

By us
Harry Brown
Obtaining Marriage

In the presence of us
Harry Carney
Robert Moxon

Witnessed and Registered by me, the Registrar
C. Perry
Registrar

Before accepting copies, either amended or original. The original has a coloured background.

REGISTRY OF BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES
1. I hereby certify that this is a true copy of particulars recorded in a Register in the State of New South Wales, in the Commonwealth of Australia.
SYDNEY 17 Dec 2019
C. Perry
Registrar

How he was recognised is unclear. Family folklore has it that Harry recognised him because of a missing toe – reportedly bitten off by a rat – but Alfred's son, Cecil who still lives in Orange, NSW, has stated that "Dad had all his toes". So, that piece of folklore is clearly wrong.

Just how Harry and Alfred bumped into each other, or

(Egan), who was born on a farm near Cudal, which is not far from Wellington. Ellen's father, William Egan, and her grandfather, Patrick Egan, were jailed in 1868 for three years for providing a false alibi for William's brother, John Egan, who, with his cousin, Patrick Ryan, was convicted and jailed for seven years (and

eventually exiled) for bush-ranging.

The false alibi was that William and Patrick were at a friend's farm on the day of the robbery. And the friend? John Carney. Could it be that Rachel was related to John, and that Harry and Ellen had met Rachel and Alfred while visiting her relatives in the Wellington area (Ellen's Feeney and Callaghan relatives still lived in the district)?

Probably we will never know.

What we do know is that Alfred Moxon became a successful local identity in Stuart Town (between Wellington and Orange) where he was a storekeeper, garage owner, and builder, among other occupations. Alfred and Rachel had two children: Alfred Alexander and Margaret.



Margaret and Alfred Jnr

Sadly, Rachel died in 1915, aged just 25, and Alfred married again, this time to

Emma Bye in Burke on 28 August 1917. Cecil, referred to above, was the son of Alfred and Emma, as were Ellen, Eadie, and Henry (who, like his uncle, was known as Harry).

Alfred lived until 1966 and is buried in the Stuart Town cemetery.



Eadie, Cecil and Harry



Alfred John Moxon c1960s

The town's park, Moxon Park, is named after Alfred, and is located on the site of several cottages which were known as Moxon's Cottages.



In 2012, a number of descendants of Alfred gathered in Moxon Park for a picnic. They were joined by the author, a grandson of Henry Percy Moxon who had identified Alfred as a Moxon, not a Wilson.



A strange tale indeed. Isn't it good that Alfred overcame all those setbacks and succeeded in having a fulfilling life and leaving such wonderful descendants?

John Bruce Moxon
October 2015

Co-ordinator's Report

Margaret Tucker Moxon, our Co-ordinator of Moxons Down Under reports the following financial situation:

Income 2014-15 was \$825.00 membership fees including some late payments

Expenditure 2014-1015 was \$280.18, mostly website expenses \$184.45 and postage/stationery \$95.73

Membership of Down Under (Australia and New Zealand) as at 11 November 2015 is 32 including two life members.

The Moxhams of Parramatta

This is a very brief item about the Moxhams of Parramatta and nearby localities, and it is written in the hope of sparking some further information about this family. And some stories of their exploits would be good, too.

In 1823, Henry Moxham (1792-1870) and his wife Mary Ann (1800-1893) had a child, Robert Henry Moxham, in County Longford, Ireland.

Robert migrated to Australia in 1836 and in 1852 married Martha Dick in Parramatta.

Robert was the owner of The Coach Inn in Parramatta, as well as operating a quarry at Northmead.

Robert and Martha established what some might call a dynasty.

Two of his sons, Thomas and William carried on the business of quarrying sandstone.

But Thomas was much more.

Thomas Robert "Tom" Moxham (1 April 1860 – 11 January 1916) was an Australian politician.

He was born in Parramatta to storekeeper Robert Henry Moxham and Martha Dick. He attended the local All Saints denominational school before joining his brother William in a quarrying business. He also had interests in horse trading, orchards and property. In 1883 he married Mary Agnes Somers at Newcastle; they had five children. He was an alderman on Parramatta Council from 1886 to 1901, serving as mayor from 1897. In 1901 he was elected to the New South Wales Legislative Assembly as the member for Parramatta, representing the Liberal Party. He was party whip from 1913 until his death at Parramatta in 1916.

From Wikipedia.

Your editor, John Moxon, spent his teenage years in Pennant Hills often being mistaken for John Moxham, also believed to be of this family, who lived in the next suburb, Beecroft.

Thomas had another brother, Robert. His 1934 funeral notice lists many Moxhams and shows the status the family enjoyed in the Parramatta district.

More stories of this Moxham family would be great.

John Bruce Moxon
October 2015

A Moxham Family in the First World War

In February 1916, three members of a Moxham family from a settlement called Macrossan on the Burdekin River in Queensland travelled to Charters Towns to enlist in the Australian Army. They were William James Moxham aged 44 (Regimental No 5616) and his two sons William George Moxham aged 26 (Regimental No 5620) and David Thomas Moxham aged 23 (Regimental No 5617).

All were fair complexion with blue eyes and brown hair and they were Presbyterian. The father William had been born in Sydney c 1872, although maybe earlier still, since he married Janet Gibson in Queensland in 1890. It is quite unclear who his

MR R. MOXHAM

The death has occurred of Mr Robert Moxham, of Northmead, at the age of 72. Mr Moxham was born at Parramatta. He was a grazier in the Coonamble district, and owned Midgee Station. Later, he returned to Parramatta and acquired property in the business centre of the town. One of his brothers, the late Mr T. R. Moxham, represented Parramatta in the State Parliament for many years. Mr Moxham is survived by Mrs Moxham and five sons.

The funeral took place at the Church of England Cemetery, Castle Hill, where Archdeacon S. M. Johnstone, of St John's Church of England, Parramatta, officiated. The chief mourners were:- Mrs Sarah Moxham (widow), Messrs Percy, Christopher, Hilton, Robert and William Moxham (sons), Mesdames P. C. and R. Moxham (daughters-in-law), Mr and Mrs N. Moxham (nephew and niece), Miss L. Moxham (cousin), Mrs Davis (sister-in-law, Messrs Stanley Moxham and C. Davis (nephews), and Miss Lily Davis (niece).

Parramatta Municipal Council was represented by the Mayor (Alderman H. Olsen), Aldermen Noller and Cameron and the town clerk (Mr S. Davies); Baulkham Hills Shire Council was represented by Councillor L. H. W. Meek; Parramatta Bowling Club by Messrs C. C. Rawlinson, R. Trevillian, W. F. Kay, J. Pearson, M. Turnbull, M. Sleeman, H. O.

parents were. He does not appear to be from the well-known family of Moxhams who lived in Parramatta.

These three Moxhams had very different outcomes from the war. William snr only made it as far as the training camp. He was declared medically unfit with a hernia and discharged. However, both sons were serving in France within 12 months.

Sadly, William George Moxham was wounded in action on 4th May 1917 and died in hospital two weeks later. He is buried in the Noreuil Australian Cemetery near Bapaume, France. He was in the 25th Battalion.

His brother David Thomas Moxham also joined the 25th Battalion and served in France until he was wounded in action on 3rd November 1917. He had a gunshot wound to the arm and neck. He was hospitalised and sent to England where he recuperated in Weymouth for three months until April 1918. He was then sent back to Australia to be discharged, and lived in Queensland until 1939.

Margaret Tucker Moxon
October 2015

Tammy Moxon

Tammy Moxon is a singer/songwriter who hails from Townsville, Qld.

Her career began at the tender age of five when she sang on stage with her father.

Since then she has performed at many musical festivals and in many competitions, often with success.

At the Charters Towers festival in 2014 Tammy took out the Overall Championship.

Tammy has sung with the very well-known "Bushwackers" at Tamworth. (Your editor actually heard them at Macquarie Uni in 1989).

Tammy was invited to attend the Tamworth Academy of Country Music earlier this year.

And don't think Tammy's just a pretty face and a great singer – she also has a degree in audio engineering.

Tammy is now working full time as a musician.

But she also puts aside some time to help others – each week she performs at Tammy's Disco at the House with No Steps for people with disabilities.

And she is planning to record her first album. But producing an album costs real money and Tammy has gone to Pozible – a "cloud funding" site where people can contribute to Tammy's cause.



You can visit Tammy's website here:

<http://www.tammymoxon.com/>

And on that page is a link to Pozible where you can donate:

Robert Moxon, convict

Robert Moxon, a butcher by trade, was baptised at St Mary's, Nottingham on 4 April, 1803, the son of John and Phebe Mugson. In every other record, his parents were named Moxon. A John Moxon had married Phoebe Teel in South Lynn, Norfolk in 1794, the only recorded marriage of a John Moxon and a Phoebe. A son John was born to the couple in 1796 and a daughter Elizabeth in 1805. Sadly Elizabeth died the same year.

In 1818, his older brother John was convicted of larceny and sentenced to seven years transportation. He arrived in Port Jackson on the Lord Sidmouth in March 1819 and was assigned to Captain Piper, a naval officer after whom the now affluent Sydney suburb of Point Piper is named.

Captain Piper's home:
"Henrietta Villa"



John appears to have been highly regarded by his master, who found him "an honest, sober, industrious character, having faithfully served his master" (note 1),

and recommended for a ticket of leave in 1823. Being a seaman, he became a ferryman on Sydney harbour and married a daughter of the well-known ferryman William Blue. (See Moxons Down Under Newsletter - May 2013)

The year after John's conviction in 1818, younger brother Robert came to the attention of the law in Nottingham. After a sentence of 12 months in October 1819, followed by an acquittal for a second offence, he was again convicted on 11th January 1821 of stealing from a shop (where he worked maybe?) and sentenced to seven years transportation. He was sent to the convict hulk *Justitia* moored at Greenwich and on 26th March 1821 sailed for Port Jackson on the *Ad-amant*.

His behaviour suggests he might have been looking for a sentence of transportation after a positive experience by his brother, but then again maybe he just couldn't help himself.

Robert was noted in the 1822 muster as also working for Captain Piper, but maybe the latter was disappointed in his work and character.

By 1825, Robert was re-assigned to a landholder at Bathurst, a Mr Hawkins. The very same year, he used his brother John's Certificate of Freedom, and absconded. Quickly caught, he was subjected to 50 lashes, and returned to his

master at Bathurst. Imagine his scars: by the fourth lash of a leather cat o' nine tails, his skin would be broken, and by 50 lashes, his backbone would have been exposed. The punishments were inflicted by other convicts, sometimes the convict's fellow workers, in order to break loyalties.

Robert would have been expected to go back to work immediately, and his back may not have been washed until the following day. (note 2)

This event did not seem to have extended his sentence, because by 28th January 1828, he too had gained his certificate of freedom. However Robert seemed not to be able to avoid temptation. In 1830 he was tried for stealing beef and acquitted, but in 1833, he was gaoled for larceny.

It is assumed that John Moxon died before 1834 because Susannah Moxon married George Lavender in 1834. No death record can be found.

Robert too, fades into oblivion. Nothing further is heard of him in either Australia or England.

Notes:

- 1 Ancestry.co.uk New South Wales Colonial Secretary's papers, 1788-1856. Downloaded 20/11/15
- 2 <http://www.convictcreations.com/history/punishments.html>. Downloaded 18/11/15

Margaret Moxon
20 Nov 2015

Access to The Moxon Society's Ancestry trees

If any member Down Under would like to view their tree on Ancestry (private tree) please email Margaret at webmaster@moxonsociety.org and she will arrange viewing rights.

Moxons Down Under Newsletter is produced for the benefit of the members of the Moxon Society who live in Australia and New Zealand.

Contributions are very welcome. Your editor is very happy to assist with the writing of items.

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