



A.N.D.F.H.G. Inc. News Sheet

Issue 84 – Feb. 2017

ELECTED COMMITTEE 2016-2017

PRESIDENT	Peter Applebee
VICE PRESIDENT	Ivan Randall
SECRETARY	Suzanne Smith
TREASURER	Suzanne Smith

GENERAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

MINUTE SECRETARY	Tammy Martin
PUBLICITY	Jeff Cook
	Helen Stein
	Ian Cowley
	Margaret Flaiban

APPOINTMENTS

LIBRARIAN	Margaret Flaiban	FAMILY TREE MAKER CONVENER	Peter Applebee
DOCUMENT SCANNER	Sharon Norman	LEGACY USERS GROUP CONVENER	Shirley Bulley
		AUDITOR	Shirley Bulley

February Calendar

Thursday, 26 January
Closed for Australia Day Holiday

Thursday, 2 February
10:00am - 4.00pm
Mid-Week Research Open Day

Monday, 6 February
7:00pm - 9.00pm
Legacy Users Group Meeting

Thursday, 9 February
10:00am - 4.00pm
Mid-Week Research Open Day

Saturday, 11 February
1:00pm - 4.00pm
Committee Meeting - Research Day

Thursday, 16 February
10:00am - 4.00pm
Mid-Week Research Open Day

Saturday, 18 February
13:30pm - 4.00pm
Family Tree Maker User Group Meeting

Thursday, 23 February
10:00am - 4.00pm
Mid-Week Research Open Day

Saturday, 25 February
13:30pm - 4.00pm
Guided Tour of Old Adelaide Gaol.

From the Committee

A Happy New Year to all our Members from the Committee at ANDFHG and hope you all had a lovely Christmas, New Year and Australia Day.

We seem to be getting back to normality with some interesting times to look forward to, especially with a visit to the Old Adelaide Gaol on the 25th February (*please note that no one will be in attendance at Ann Street*). We have organized a visit and a guided tour of the Old Adelaide Gaol at Thebarton - so if you are interested in going and have not put your name on our list, please contact either by email info@andfhg.org.au - the mobile phone 0457 436 123 - or call in to Ann Street on Thursday or Saturday to register your interest. To see more details please look at our website www.andfhg.org.au under Calendar.

Our two User Groups - Legacy and Family Tree Maker will be going ahead as usual, hopefully with more questions for the Convenors. They always like a challenge! Both sub-groups have always been well attended so for the newer members of the group, if you are thinking of putting your ancestors and families into some kind of program, then this is possibly the way forward for you. One of our long-standing member and Family Tree Maker regular was Bill O'Neill who sadly passed away just before Christmas 2016 so our condolences have been sent to his family. He will be sadly missed.

As you can see from the newsletter, we have some interesting articles to read. We take it for granted that some of our food is in tins, but it wasn't always the case as shown in the article "*It's in the Can*". A big thank you to our member Heather Milhench for her contribution of this, as well as various other articles which will crop up from time to time. A lot of people can relate to the "*Good Adventure*" article regarding the emigration to Australia, so if you have anything interesting to share with other like-minded family history enthusiasts, then please contact us. We value any input from members.

Disclaimer

The Adelaide Northern Districts Family History Group Inc. does not accept any responsibility for the opinions or the accuracy of the information contained in this newsletter

Ships' Logs of the Honourable East India Company Service are Being Placed Online

In the early 19th century a voyage from England to India and the Far East took over a year to complete. These ships carried hundreds of crew and passengers and the logs list their names, rank, destinations, children are recorded. Many hundreds of the logs survive and are stored in the British Library in original bound volumes. Most of them have never been copied or transcribed. One free web site is now trying to change that. For the first time, a few of the ships' logs have been made available online.



The Records cover the government of India amounting to over 10 miles of shelves, plus 70,000 volumes of official publications and 105,000 manuscripts and maps. Day to day events are recorded such as cleaning, loading the ship, weather, floggings, recording of passing ships, sickness, disputes, and death.

Only a tiny percentage of the logs have been transferred to date.

Ships' logs available online so far include the following ships' names and voyages:

Ship	Voyage	Contents	Dates
NORTHAMPTON	Voyage to Bombay and Bengal under Captain Barker	Log and Journal	12 Jul 1801 to 18 Apr 1803
HUDDART	Voyage to Bombay under Captain Thomas Gabriel Bayliff	Log and Journal	10 Mar 1806 to 6 Oct 1807
NORTHAMPTON	Voyage to Madras and Bengal under Captain Sanders	Log and Journal	4 Jul 1807 to 2 Feb 1809
LORD KEITH	Voyage to Calcutta under Captain Campbell	Log and Journal	29 Jan 1810 to 28 Oct 1811
JULIANA	Voyage to Batavia under Captain Rawes	Log , Journal and Ledger, Pay Book	12 Mar 1812 to 15 Sep 1813
WARREN HASTINGS	Voyage to China under Captain Rawes	Log and Journal	13 Mar 1815 to 11 Jul 1816
WARREN HASTINGS	Voyage to China under Captain Rawes	Log and Journal	25 Jan 1819 to 28 Jul 1820

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WARREN HASTINGS	Voyage to China under Captain Rawes	Log and Journal	24 Feb 1823 to 13 Jul 1824
WARREN HASTINGS	Voyage to China under Captain Rawes	Log and Journal	4 Mar 1825 to 25 Jul 1826
VANSITTART	Voyage to China under Captain Dalrymple	Log and Journal	15 Dec 1826 to 11 Jul 1828

Adding transcriptions to the web site is an ongoing effort with the plan to eventually transcribe every log entry. Transcription of the logs from the ship *Repulse* on its voyage to the far east in 1830 are now being made.

You can find these online transcriptions from the Honourable East India Company at <http://www.heicshipslogs.co.uk>.

Source: Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter

Arthur's Camelot – possible location is revealed

The frontispiece from one of the collection of rare Arthurian books held at Bangor University Library



The quest to find King Arthur's Camelot has puzzled and intrigued scholars and fans for a thousand years. Now, the search may finally be over.

A retired Bangor University [English Literature](#) Professor has revealed what he believes to be the location of Arthur's Camelot- and it turns out to be a small Roman fort at Slack, outside Huddersfield. (Updated 20.12.16).

In Roman times, the fort was called Camulodunum, which means "the fort of the god Camul". Over the years, well-recognised linguistic processes would have reduced Camulodunum to Camelot.

Though almost forgotten and insignificant today, and even though it was abandoned and dilapidated by the relevant time, about A.D. 500, Prof Field argues that this site at Slack would still have been considered a strategic stronghold.

At that time, the invading Anglo-Saxons had occupied much of the east and south coasts of Britain, but Celtic-speaking Britons held the north and the west coast. The natural gathering point for Britons who wanted to resist the Anglo-Saxons would have been Chester, and the point that they needed to hold, if they were not to lose the entire east coast, was York.

Slack is on the Roman road from Chester to York, but the location was no less strategic for that.

Professor Field is a world-renowned expert on [Arthurian literature](#), and says:

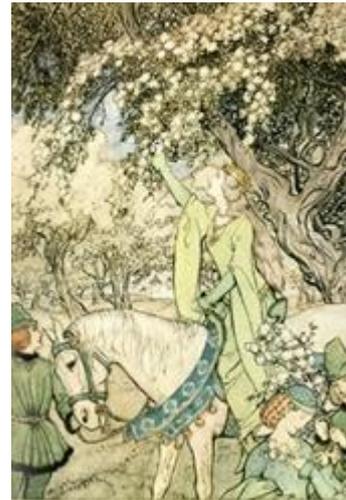
“If there was a real King Arthur, he will have lived around AD500, although the first mention of him in Camelot is in a French poem from the Champagne region of France from 1180.

“There is no mention of Camelot in the period between those dates, known as the Dark Ages, when the country was at war, and very little was recorded. In this gap, people passed on information, much got lost in transmission, and people may have made up facts or just messed up known information.”

The fascination with Arthurian legends has persisted throughout the centuries. This book illustration by Arthur Rackham is another from the University's collection.

“With the best information available, the best guesses that could be made, it's long been thought the location of Camelot could have been at sites like Caerleon, in South Wales, Winchester or Cadbury Castle.”

However, finding the true Camelot has remained tantalisingly out of reach. Fascinated by the topic, Professor Field, who came to Bangor University in 1964 and retired in 2004, has been researching the location of Camelot for the past 18 months.



Commenting on what he believes to be the only place in Britain that has a suitable name and is in the right area, Prof Field said: “I love doing this stuff, but it was quite by chance, I was looking at some maps, and suddenly all the ducks lined up. I believe I may have solved a 1400 year old mystery.”

Peter Field's revelation was made just as Wales is about to celebrate a *Year of Legends*. During 2017 events will be held at historic sites the length and breadth of Wales in celebration of its rich culture and heritage.

The Lecture marked the official launch of the Stephen Colclough Centre for the History and Culture of the Book at Bangor University. For further details of the work of the Centre, please visit <http://colclough.bangor.ac.uk/>

See also <https://www.bangor.ac.uk/news/university/-arthur-the-king-that-never-left-us-22410>

Update: There were two places called Slack in Yorkshire, about ten miles apart. Professor Field used a gazetteer that had only one Slack, the one near Hebden Bridge. The Roman fort Professor Field was talking about lies near or under the M62 and a golf course near Huddersfield. The rest of his hypotheses remains extant.

Publication date: 15 December 2016

- See more at: <https://www.bangor.ac.uk/news/latest/arthur-s-camelot-possible-location-is-revealed-30104#sthash.5G3m0XTK.dpuf>

Source: Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter

IT'S IN THE CAN!



It is debateable whether Napoleon Bonaparte actually said that an 'army marches on its stomach', but the idea of preserving food in a tin can occurred around the time of the Napoleonic wars and is closely linked to the need to feed soldiers and sailors, when they are far away from



their country's food source. For hundreds of years seaman had survived on salted meat and hardtack biscuits, which resulted in over half of the British seamen dying from malnutrition whilst serving in the Seven Years War during the 1750's. So the issue of ensuring edible food supplies, when they were at war, became vital to a nation's supremacy.

In 1795 the French offered a reward to anyone who could find a new way of preserving food. The winner of the 12,000 francs prize was a Parisian named Nicholas Appert. He devised a method of effectively sterilising food, by sealing it in glass jars which were then placed in boiling water - and this was decades before Louis Pasteur proved that heat kills bacteria. Nicholas Appert published his discovery in 1810 and a few months later Peter Durand, a British merchant, was granted a patent, by King George III, to use tinned cans to preserve food. Tin was already used to coat steel and iron, especially in the manufacture of household utensils, but Durand's patent was the first documented for the use of tin as a container for sterilised food.

Durand employed skilled tinsmiths who made the cans entirely by hand using shears and a soldering iron. The bottom of the cylindrical can was soldered in place and then a small hole was left in the top lid to allow air to escape when the food inside was boiled. A drop of lead solder was used to close the hole whilst the can was still hot – and sometimes a globule of solder would fall into the food! The patent was passed to Bryan Donkin, for £1,000, in 1812 and he set up a factory the next year in South London, where his workforce of craftsmen could each only manage to produce sixty cans per day.

When full these cans weighed up to 20 lbs and the oldest surviving can is displayed in the London Science Museum. It is 5.5 inches high by 7 inches wide and was taken by Sir William Parry on his expedition to explore the Northwest Passage. When filled with veal it weighed 7lbs! Parry abandoned the HMS Fury in 1825 and this can was left behind in the Arctic.

It was discovered four years later by Captain Sir John Ross, who took it home and used it for years as a door stop in his house! In 1958 – 135 years after it had been made – the can was opened by scientists who found that the veal inside had a 'pronounced bitter taste'. This finding, which was attributed to the presence of fatty acids and dissolved tin and iron, resulted in the use of lacquered linings in tin cans.



How the original tin cans were made



Source: Science Museum

Leaking lead from tin cans has been blamed for the deaths of the entire 129 crew members of Sir John Franklin's Arctic expedition in 1847 - although there is also a theory that the lead poisoning [found in bodies recovered from that expedition] could have been due to lead leaking from ship's internal pipe system.

An array of canned food was widely acclaimed when it was displayed at the Great Exhibition in 1851 and it seemed that this would herald the change from military necessity to household use. However this was all put into jeopardy the following year when meat inspectors proceeded to open 306 cans of meat, which were to be used by the Navy. The contents of 264 cans were deemed unfit for human consumption and were thrown into the sea, with the remaining 42 given to the poor.

According to an account in the Illustrated London News the inspectors were expecting to find preserved beef but instead were confronted with putrid meat, which included rotting offal and organs from diseased animals. The meat supplier, Stephan Goldner, had won the Admiralty contract in 1845 by employing cheap labour in his canning factory, in what is now Romania. Goldner was banned from ever supplying the Navy again and it was revealed that he had also supplied the canned food for Sir John Franklin's ill-fated expedition. This was a set-back for the canned food industry as people now believed that tinned meat, apart from being rather tasteless, also caused food poisoning.

However sealing techniques were improved and in the 1850's condensed milk was the first mass produced product sold in shops. Mechanisation of can-making began in the 1860's and the first automatic can-making machinery was used in Britain twenty years later. Tinned 'bully beef' was introduced as an emergency Army ration in the Boer War [1899-1902], with Bovril as the main supplier, and tinned products remained the main source of military field rations up until the Falklands War in 1982.

Perhaps one of the best known tinned products is baked beans, which originated in America and was first sold by the famous London high class retailer Fortnum & Mason in 1901.



Whilst Peter Durand and other tin can producers gave a lot of thought as to how to seal food in cans unfortunately they gave rather less thought to one important point – how to get it out again! Instructions for opening the early cans read ... 'cut around the top edge with a chisel and hammer' and Fortnum and Mason's 1849 catalogue included instructions on how to cut cans with a knife.

The first can opener was designed in 1858 when thinner steel cans came into use. This was known as the 'bayonet and sickle' opener which left extremely rough edges.

Several similar designs followed but the opener which is still in use today was invented by William Lynman in 1870. His design



had a single wheel which opened the can as it rolled around the edge. This was later refined by adding serrated edges to the wheel and the electric version was produced in 1931.



In 1866 J.Osterhoudt designed a can combined with a key opener and these were later used for sardine and coffee storage.

Canned beverages sales surged when Alcoa introduced the 'easy open end' aluminium can in 1963 and the ring pull can began production in 1989.

A small plaque on a house wall marks the site where Donkin built his tin can factory and is the only evidence of the industry, which began there 200 years ago This low-key commemoration reflects how mundane the tin can has become to us. It's a far cry from the days when its creation occupied the thoughts of British and French inventors in their quest to fill the stomachs of hungry sailors with edible food.



References:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/magazine-21689069>

<http://www.ideafinder.com/history/inventions/canopener.htm>

<http://www.benjamit.com/library/can/historyc.htm>

Heather Milhench © Sep 2013

DID YOU KNOW THAT ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY

4 Aug 1914.

Britain declared war on Germany after the Germans had violated the Treaty of London by invading Belgium, and so began 'the war to end all wars'. The United States declared their neutrality.

4 Aug 2014.

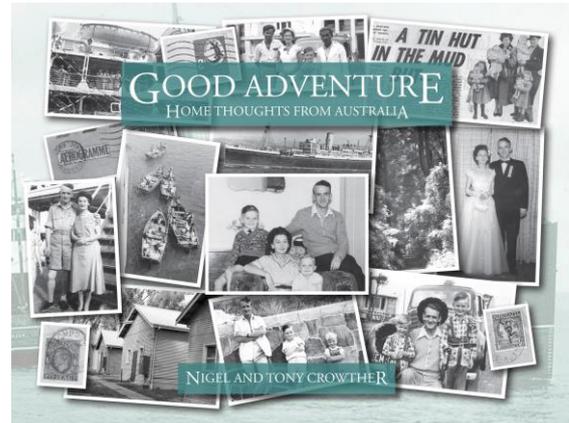
People in the UK were encouraged to turn off their lights between 10pm and 11pm, leaving only a single light or candle for a symbolic act of reflection and hope in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of World War 1. On the eve of Britain officially entering the war, Sir Edward Grey, the Foreign Secretary, uttered the words "The lamps are going out all over Europe, we shall not see them lit again in our lifetime."

Good Adventure

'Good Adventure' is a book which tells the story of one particular young family in the north of England shortly after World War II. Like many others, these parents and two young sons set off from their homeland and sailed round the world to Australia on the 'Assisted Passage' emigration scheme.

Forty years on, the two sons from that family made what was to them the most amazing discovery when an uncle produced from a chest of drawers in his Manchester flat a bundle of old air-mail letters.

These were all the correspondence the mother had sent back to her family. She wrote every other day, then weekly, then periodically, but always she wrote as she spoke - plainly, honestly and vividly. Reading these letters brings back such memories, but of a different life, experienced by a family in a different age.



We decided to transcribe these letters and together with the many photographs sent back home, Nigel's narrative brings anecdote and historical background to tie the story together beautifully.

'Down Under' lay a land reputed to be full of opportunities which lured many from depressed, post-war Europe. Many of these families, particularly British people, stayed in their new land and became today's Australians or the parents or grandparents of them. They realised their hopes and ambitions there, making a successful new life.

Others returned home after what they felt had been a bad experience, even a disaster, when things had not worked out as their dreams had imagined. Yet others sailed home for family reasons in which they followed their hearts rather than their heads.

'Good Adventure' tells the story of how Ernest and Lilian Crowther, with their two sons Nigel and Tony, came into the latter category. Their time in Australia was, throughout their lives, to be the 'Good Adventure' which they had hoped, although it was to be a temporary chapter, brought to a close by family circumstances which they could not have envisaged.

In the story of Australian migration, their story could be that of countless other families from that period.

The website will give details: <http://www.goodadventure.co.uk>.



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