

EPG GAZETTE

April, 2006 Vol 7 No 2



ENROLLED PENSIONER GUARDS

A special Interest Group of the

**WESTERN AUSTRALIAN
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY INC.**

Unit 6/48 May Street
Bayswater 6053

[www.wags.org.au/groups/
sigepg.html](http://www.wags.org.au/groups/sigepg.html)

Quarterly Newsletter
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CONVENOR'S REPORT:

In our January Newsletter, Ron Sutton, our Treasurer and Database Development Officer, set out our plans to make contact with all those people who at some time since the inception of the Group, had registered their name and interest in their Enrolled Pensioner Guard.

The response to the extra mail-out has been most gratifying with new applications for membership and continued wonderful support from our regular contributors. Donations added to Newsletter fees have been most acceptable. Corrected or additional information on returned forms have enabled a more up-to-date database to be compiled on 'our men', their previous military history, their families and remaining years in this State.

The list of EPG burials in East Perth Cemetery has also generated interest with additional burials being recorded.

THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT.

We have been advised that from July this year, the Western Australian Genealogical Society is not renewing the existing lease on Unit 1, May Street, Bayswater. Our Meetings were usually held in Unit 1.

It is planned to reorganise Units 4, 5 and 6 of the WAGS Library with Unit 4 to

revert to being available as a Meeting Room (as was the case for our Group's first meetings in 2000 and 2001.)

SATURDAY APRIL 22nd 1:00 p.m.

The Enrolled Pensioner Guard ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will go ahead as planned in **UNIT 1 W.A. Genealogical Society, 48 May Street, Bayswater.**

The Committee are looking for offers of extra assistance – we have a couple of retirements, more interesting work to be undertaken. **IT IS NOT AN ONEROUS TASK** – more a wonderful learning experience.

Committee Meetings are usually held every three months, more informal, usually on a Thursday, (We can usually manage to squeeze in lunch and a chat.) in between our quarterly General Meetings.

No Speaker has been engaged for the Annual General Meeting – we plan a day to show our members **the resources** your Group has put together over the last five years to assist members in their research.

Included are **Maps** of some of the areas originally planned for Pensioner Villages, some of which never eventuated, along with those that did house many of our Pensioner Guards and their families.

Land Grants and Allocations are listed under areas.

Ships and Voyages files are a wonderful source of information as are the donated **Profiles** of individual guards. Their stories may offer clues as to similar situations faced by 'your man'.

There are also references to Pensioner Guards, or their families, who may have at some time appeared in the **Paupers Records**.

This valuable research carried out at the State Library and Battye Library by our long time supporters offers references for members to check the original source at the relevant Library. Those early contributors to the resources now available include Phillippa Ward, Jeanette Lee, Sue Badderly (UK) and Daphne Byrne.

All the Resource Files are on the shelves in Unit 4 of the W.A. Genealogical Society, Bayswater.

SATURDAY JULY 15TH 1:00 p.m.

In July we plan a return visit to the Army Museum of Western Australia, Artillery Barracks, Burt Street Fremantle.

*The Manager, Captain Henry Filjolek has very willingly offered every assistance to the Group for the July Meeting to be held in the **Army Museum**.*

*The Museum **Operations Manager, Norm Wells** has made himself available to ensure our Meeting is a success and **Medals Curator, Graham Donley** will speak and demonstrate the medals which have some relevance to those British soldiers who became enrolled to act as Pensioner Guards for Western Australia. The Meeting will be **upstairs** in the University Regiment Meeting Room. Unfortunately, there is **NO ACCESS FOR THE DISABLED**.*

*More information will be offered in our July Newsletter or by contacting our Group. In the meantime, make a note in your Diary of the **April and July** dates.*

We look forward to your company in April and July and once again thank you all for support.

Jean McDonald

Convenor

9450 4304

Email : jeanmc2@bigpond.com

The Catalpa Exhibition

The **Catalpa Exhibition** to be held at Fremantle Prison in August 2006 has created wide interest, and the invitation for the Enrolled Pensioner Group to be involved in a small way has generated discussion about the involvement of the Pensioner Guards.

The escape of a number of Irish Fenian political convicts from Fremantle to America was a major incident in the 1870's.

We are aware of the sympathy, which existed between Irish members of the British Army for the plight of the Irish convicts, and no doubt further research will uncover the names of those Pensioners involved in that period of Western Australia's history.

In an article by Gerald P. Fitzgerald "The Last of the Western Australian Fenians" in the 1976 publication "Catalpa 1876" edited by Dr. John Watson, we read of the last days of the four Fenians who remained to serve out their time in Western Australia.

In 1904 a public appeal was launched through Australia to raise funds to care for those now old men. Thomas Duggan was one of the four, 82 years old and in distressed circumstances became an inmate in the Old Men's Refuge. James Keilley aged 76 lived in a tent on a block of land near Perth. (Keilley had been a soldier in the British Army 53rd Regiment of Foot.)

It was arranged for Duggan and Keilley to live in a cottage erected by sympathisers in North Perth. In 1905 it was reported that Thomas Duggan was seriously ill and was transferred to St. John of God Hospital in

Subiaco. In 1913 Thomas Duggan died in that hospital. James Keilley died at Sunset Hospital in 1918.

To quote from Fitzgerald's Addendum to his article:

"Some mystery has surrounded the circumstances of the provision of the "Fenian Cottage", as it may be called, also its exact locality. As advised earlier in these notes some difficulty was experienced in obtaining the cottage, owing to the Appeal not reaching its objective.

It now (1911) transpires that a member of the Appeal Committee, Michael O'Dea, Undertaker, came to the rescue by making available a cottage owned by him at 15 Waugh St., North Perth. During the years 1905-1917 James Keilley was for the most part sole occupant of the cottage and it was recorded in his name. On Keilley's transfer to the Sunset Homes for the Aged in 1918 and his death later that year (on 31/10/1918, the cottage reverted to its original owner, Michael O'Dea."

Michael O'Dea was the son of Martin O'Dea who came to Western Australia in 1865 on the "Vimiera" as an Enrolled Pensioner Guard born in Ireland and served in the 41st Regiment of the British Army.

Our Group would be interested in any stories of the involvement of Pensioner Guards in the Fenian "Catalpa" escape in 1876.

Jean McDonald

The Inquirer and Commercial News

Wednesday July 6, 1887

The Pensioners Lot

Sirs, - The thanks of the pensioners are due to Mr. D. Gray for his kind remarks respecting them in your issue of June the 29th. All the demonstrations that were given in honour of their beloved Queen while they were in the service they took

part in and were rewarded for their attendance in a becoming style. The last Queen's birthday was one of the tamest affairs I ever saw in all my journeyings – not a gun was fired in Fremantle, although there is a large muster of Volunteers at the port.

There is one thing the pensioners have done for the colony, their sons have swelled the ranks of the Volunteers, some of them, to their credit be it said, have attained to the rank of commissioned officers. It is to be hoped the public will reward them for their services in their declining years, at all events give them a right to a corner of Mount Eliza Depot – a privilege denied the pensioner unless he forfeits the pension he earned in the defence of his country and for guarding the life and property of the inhabitants of the colony for 36 years. No doubt, Mr editor, some of your readers may think it is the pensioner's own fault that he is not in better circumstances. Those who think so know nothing about their position nor how they were situated doing guard, with three and often only two nights in bed from year's end to year's end, for 3s 6d. a day and all barrack regulations to observe. Had the pensioners been turned adrift in the colony on their arrival the same as immigrants, no doubt many of them would be in far better positions to-day. Most of the pensioners that came to the colony had thirty years' good work in them, amongst them good farming men, ploughmen, grooms, coachmen, in fact many of them good, sober, honest men whose names have never appeared in print for anything unbecoming the character of a man and a soldier. Yours truly.

Old Fogie

Fremantle, June 29

Did Your Man Earn a Campaign Medal? (Part 1)

Knowing the Regiment that "your man" served in only serves as a precursor for more research. The majority of soldiers of the British line of Regiments managed to serve in one or two hostile campaigns that earned them a medal or two. Some were unfortunate (or lucky if you take the other view) to be stuck with a regiment that was rotating through garrison duties. The following list of medals, campaigns and regiments may assist you in pursuing more research.

The Military General Service Medal 1793-1814

The striking of this medal is unusual as it was sanctioned by Queen Victoria in 1847 and issued in 1848 for services in the Napoleonic Wars 1801-14 and campaigns backdating to 1793. The first clasp was issued for Egypt 1801 and another 28 clasps were issued covering a variety of campaigns. Most clasps were issued for services during the 2nd Peninsular War of 1811-14. One soldier was awarded fifteen clasps for various campaigns during his Army career. The time lapse between the actual entitlement and the issue in 1848 meant that only a small number of survivors from each regiment lived to receive the medal. There are too many campaigns, clasps and regiments to outline the details in this article however; only a small number of our men, if any, would have qualified for this medal. In assessing any entitlement you would have to work back and do your sums on birth dates as many of our men were born during this period.

The Waterloo Medal 1815

Though styled the Waterloo Medal, it was awarded to soldiers who had taken part in one or more of the battles in Belgium of Ligny 16th June 1815, Quatra Bras, 16th June 1815 and Waterloo 18th June 1815. It was also the first campaign medal to be issued to the next of kin of soldiers killed in action. It was also the first medal to have the recipients name impressed around the edge by machine. Approximately (not

conclusive) 16 Cavalry units, 3 Guards units, 26 Regiments of Foot and 5 Artillery units took part in these battles. Some of the units had previously served in the 1811-14 Peninsular Campaigns therefore those soldiers would have qualified for both the General Service Medal and the Waterloo Medal. Given the time frame you would also have to work back through birth dates to assess any entitlement for your man.

There was a period of relative peace after the Battle of Waterloo and most regiments were garrisoned with soldiers doing mundane duties in various parts of the world. There were however; skirmishes from time to time that resulted in the award of campaign medals.

India General Service Medals 1796-1826

There were various medals struck for general service in India during the period 1796-1826. The medals had variants which were issued to different regiments. The first India Medal was awarded to soldiers of the 84th Regiment of Foot. The India Medal with the Royal Tiger was awarded during 1807-1838 to the 14th, 65th and 67th Regiments of Foot.

The Hindoostan Medal was awarded to soldiers of the 8th Kings Royal Irish Hussars for service 1802-1822. The Hindoostan Medal with Royal Tiger was awarded in 1825 to the 17th Regiment of Foot for service 1804-1823. The Hindoostan Medal with Elephant was awarded to the 24th Light Dragoons for service 1803-1819.

3rd Mahratta War 1817-1819.

The Kirkee Medal was awarded in 1823 to the Kirkee Bty, Royal Regiment of Artillery. The Nagpore Medal 1817 was awarded in 1823 to the 1st and 17th Regiments of Foot. The Maheidpoor Medal 1817 was awarded in 1823 to the 2nd Light Dragoons and 1st Regiment of Foot.

Jat War

For the battle of Bhurtpore, a clasp was issued to a campaign medal but I was

unable to find out what medal. The clasp was issued to 11th Hussars (Prince Albert's Own), 16th The Queens Lancers, 14th and 59th Regiments of Foot.

1st Anglo Burmese War.

The Arracan Medal 1825 was awarded in 1826 to the 54th Regiment of Foot. The Ava Medal was awarded in 1826 to the 1st, 13th 38th, 41st, 44th, 45th, 47th, 54th, 87th and the 89th Regiments of Foot.

Arabia 1819-1821

The Arabia medal was awarded to soldiers of the 47th and the 65th Regiments of Foot. An additional Beni Boo Ali Medal was issued to the 65th Regiment of Foot.

1st Afghan War Medals

The practice of issuing clasps for major campaigns was not adopted for the Afghanistan Campaign of 1839-1842. One medal was issued for Jellalabad in 1839, one for Ghuznee and another four medals were issued, one each for Candahar 1842, Candahar Ghuznee Cabul 1842, Ghuznee Cabul 1842 and Cabul 1842. The Afghanistan campaign was a monumental disaster and units were trying to help each other extricate themselves from oblivion. It ended when the British took out vengeful attacks on the Afghans in Cabul. The Ghuznee Medal 1839 was issued to soldiers of the 4th Kings Own Hussars, 16th Queens Lancers and the 2nd, 13th and 17th Regiments of Foot. The Jellalabad Medal was only issued to soldiers of the 13th Regiment of Foot for the defence of Jellalabad from the 12th November 1841 to 16th April 1842 and one medal was issued to Dr Bryon the only survivor to make it to Jellalabad from the annihilation of the 44th at Gandamak during the earlier retreat from Cabul. The Candahar Medal 1842 was issued to soldiers of the 40th and 41st Regiments of Foot for services to Candahar in May 1842. The Candahar Ghuznee Cabul Medal 1842 and the Ghuznee Cabul Medal 1842 to the 40th and 41st Regiments of Foot. As the 40th and 41st were divided as part of two columns that left Candahar on 10th August 1842, the soldiers could only be awarded one of either the Candahar Ghuznee Cabul

Medal or the Ghuznee Cabul Medal. The Cabul Medal 1842 was awarded to the 9th, 13th and 31st Regiment of Foot.

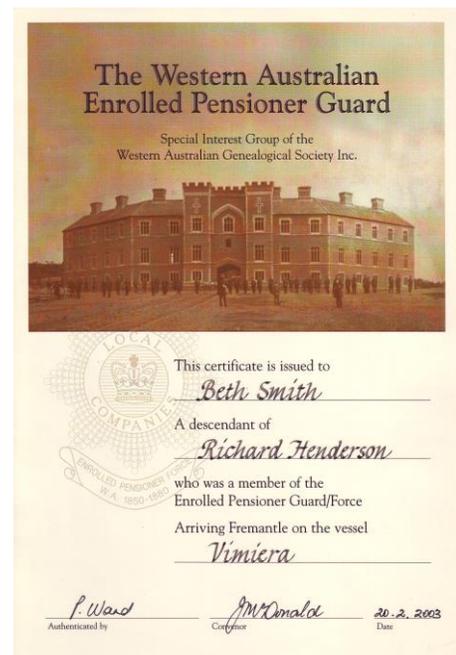
The South Africa Medal 1834-1853

The medals for the 6th,7th and 8th Kaffir Wars were identical but they had a different date bar. No clasps were issued. **6th Kaffir War 1834-35.** Awarded to 27th, 72nd and 75th Regiments of Foot. **7th Kaffir War 1846-47.** Awarded to the 7th (The Princess Royal's) Dragoon Guards, 6th, 27th, 45th, 73rd, 90th, 91st Regiments of Foot and the Rifle Brigade. **8th Kaffir War 1851-3.** Awarded to the 12th Royal Lancers (Prince of Wales), 2nd, 6th, 12th, 43rd, 45th, 60th, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 91st Regiments of Foot and the Rifle Brigade.

Part 2 will be published in the July issue. Ron Sutton

CERTIFICATES

An ideal family record.



A Lineage Form must be submitted. Certificates are \$5 each collected at a General Meeting or \$10.00 inc. postage & handling

Buttons Found In Greenough

Stan Gratte, Historian and active member of the Walkaway Museum, Geraldton was recently commissioned by the Greenough Shire to historically investigate a Spring, which was to be incorporated into a picnic site. This was **Bootenal Spring** on the front Greenough Flat, directly in front of about fifty **Pensioner Guard land allocations** and on which many Pensioner Guards built their cottages. The spring had been of great interest to Stan for many years and in the 1970's **Arnold Armstrong, a descendant of Pensioner Guard James Adlam**, mentioned to Stan that about 1932 he had demolished several "gaol buildings" at the Bootenal Spring, the stone to be used in road building.

Stan had also seen possible foundations in the same vicinity in past years, but that particular area is very subject to flooding. (Note - floods again in January 2006.) Each flood removes further evidence.

Stan was determined to prove just what buildings existed in that area, and records from Government sources had not yielded any information.

Armed with a Metal Detector and a good mate, Stan decided to do his own investigations. **EUREKA! BRASS BUTTONS!**

Comparison with the buttons worn by our Pensioner Guards and the replica reproduced as the **BADGE, the Logo of the Enrolled Pensioner Guard Group**, convinced Stan he had unearthed evidence of the existence of cottages occupied by the Pensioner Guards. The reverse of the buttons was inscribed with the maker's name - "Firman & Sons".

Stan and his mate also found a few hand made nails and a little glass, he was of the opinion about four small, limestone building with bush timber and rush thatch

roofs, with one small window in one building had been on the site.

Following on these investigations, a fellow local historian, Gary Martin, located a letter from Surveyor Phelps, in the Surveyors file at State Records Office dated 16th September 1867, which included the comment - "already occupied by several buildings of the **depot party** stationed at the Greenough Flats. As we have found in research for "our men" where there was a depot for convicts, there were in most cases, Pensioner Guards.

Thank you Stan Gratte for your persistence

Convenor's note: I have personally been told by military enthusiasts and members who have been involved in researching 'their man' and where they lived, there have been instances of buttons, badges and various items unearthed during demolition of the old EPG cottages

Be alert next time you are in your garden!

INQUIRER AND COMMERCIAL NEWS Wednesday 7 July 1880. Page 3b

Deaths among the Old Veterans:

The ranks of the old veterans - heroes of the Indian Mutiny and Crimean campaign - are fast being thinned. During the past week no less than four have been called from among us. They are **Patrick Fahey**, late 71s' Highlanders; **Evan Hughes**, an Artilleryman; **Joseph Barker** and **Edward Stanton**. The latter died somewhat suddenly in the street just after receiving his pension on the 1st instant.

**Thanks to Sue Baddeley who sent
us this gem:**

A Quiet Little Town

Perth the Capital of Western Australia is situated on the northern bank of the Swan River in Latitude 31° 57' South and 115° 54' East .

It is a quiet little town spread out in straggling allotments to the waters edge intermingled with gardens and shrubberies and half rural in its aspect.

The main street St George's Terrace is a broad thoroughfare a mile and a half long extending from the bridge across the Swan to the Barracks. On either side the road is lined with trees houses and garden fences, the buildings being mostly situated a short way back from the roadside in the shelter of their gardens. The main street is intersected at right angles by several others most of which are macadamised, but the outlying ones and the foot paths retain their native state of loose sand, the all pervading element of Western Australia productive of extensive glare and dust in the summer and dissolving into slush in the rainy season. There are no shady walks about the town, nor any refuge from the painful glare of the streets or the heat of the sand (could be land)

Government House, a large handsome brick building is situated on the South side of the main street and midway between the bridge and the Barracks, and stands in the midst of its grounds commanding a fine view of Perth Water but half hidden from the road by the garden shrubberies - next to it are the Public Offices confined to a low white building with wings attached. Adjoining is the public garden which is merely a small patch of grass with a few young trees useless for the purpose of affording shelter or shade.

There are several churches built mostly of brick, a mechanics Institute and a Town

Hall, the later a capacious brick building commenced during Governor Hampton's time, but not yet finished, it is expected to be opened in May or June next.

Perth is not a thriving town, not is there

much business to be done. Its situation precludes it from becoming a centre of commerce as the navigation of the river is necessarily confined to a few barges and boats of light draught. The town has no resources of its own and the neighbouring land although suitable for orchards and the growing of most of the English vegetables and particularly well adapted for the vine which it produces in luxurious abundance is yet far too poor to be turned unto farming purposes.

The population which in 1861 numbered 3000 remains much the same, a result that has arisen from diminished immigration , the circumstance of many of the inhabitants from time to time having left for the more flourishing colonies.

The Census has been ordered to take place at the end of March 1870. The distance to the Port at Fremantle is 12 1/2 miles. The road leaves Perth at the western extremity of the town and for three miles it runs bordering along the edge of the river, the road then leaves the riverside and runs through bush and over hilly ground. The country is very barren and presents everywhere a sandy and dreary aspect, very few habitations are met with or traces of cultivation seen. In one or two places parties of Convicts are passed on the road, either sitting in groups breaking stones or mending the road. Close to Fremantle is a large substantial wooden bridge built by Convicts. It has a steep incline at either end so as to allow sufficient height in the middle for the navigation of the river. Although the bridge is not a handsome building it has never the less proved a very good boon to the inhabitants of the colony who before it was erected had obliged to ferry across the river much to their inconvenience.

For a topographical of Perth and its environs as well as remarks on the nature

of the climate I must refer to the previous reports as I have only been a few months at the station and cannot write on these points from any of my own experience or knowledge

Signed
W Tapsley Staff Surgeon Major
February 1870

PERTH GAZETTE

THE INDEPENDENT JOURNAL SECTION
26.8.1853

The voyage of the "Robert Small" has been a most disastrous one, arising we understand principally from the nature of the ballast said to consist of swampy earth but more probably of Thames "silth".

After leaving Cork the ship met with very heavy weather and got leaky, the ballast choked the pumps and she put into Rio to refit in which great assistance was afforded by Her Majesty's ship "Sharpshooter" lying there.

It is also said that the ship caught fire, which was extinguished by the united exertions of the crew and convicts, the latter being reported by the Surgeon / Superintendent as having throughout the voyage behaved exceedingly well. and mainly contributed their assistance in bringing the vessel into port.

Dr Harvey reports the guard as being mutinous and that there was nothing to prevent the convicts taking possession of the ship if they had been so inclined.

Owing to the fermentation of the ballast there has been much sickness, and we regret to say, no less than eleven deaths, comprising three of the guards and eight convicts.

A Court of Inquiry is directed to be held to report upon the state of the ship and also the occurrences of the voyage.

Capt. Walker we believe knows nothing of what the ballast consisted of having only joined the ship eight days previous to her sailing. This gentleman is well known in the Merchant Service as a most able and competent officer of long standing and experience and had the honour some years since of conveying Capt. Fitzgerald to the Gambia when he went there to assume the Governorship of that colony.

PERTH GAZETTE

2.9.1853

The Independent Journal section

N.B. Correction:

The whole guard behaved in the most admirable and soldier like manner during the whole voyage. (Not "mutinous" as stated).

Wear a copy of the badge your ancestor wore.

EPG BADGES



\$10.00 from an EPG General Meeting or \$12.00 inc. postage & handling.

The Queens Jubilee Celebrations

The surviving members of the late Enrolled Pensioner Force were invited to a banquet during the Queen's Jubilee Week. The names of the Enrolled Pensioner Force that were still living in 1897 are in File No 3 of the Enrolled Pensioner Guards Resource File at Western Australian Genealogy Society at May St, Bayswater.

The number surviving in 1897 was sixty-four. The Banquet was held in St. Georges Hall on Thursday 25th June 1897 at 12.30pm. It was proposed that the Pensioners would receive free railway fare to attend the banquet.

What do think of this menu?

Soup

Chicken Broth

Entrees

Veal & Ham Pie

Joints

Roast Sirloin of Beef & Yorkshire pudding

Haunch Mutton and

Ox Tongue and Ham

Corned Beef & suet dumplings

Poultry

Roast Turkey and Ham

Roast Chicken & Bread Sauce

Boiled Chicken & Parsley Sauce.

Vegetables

Baked & Boiled Potatoes

Cauliflower and Cabbage

Sweets

Jubilee Plum Pudding & Brandy Sauce

Victoria Sandwich

Compote of Apricots

Miscellaneous Pastry

With a guarantee of fifty with one bottle of English Ale @ 6/9 per head

Signed W & P. Robbins.

Extract from "Community Gazette" 21-27 June 2005

Honour for the Guards

Cockburn has remembered its past by honouring some of its earliest settlers.

A Mosaic recognising the Enrolled Pensioner Guards has been built on the shores of Lake Coogee.

It was the brainchild of the Enrolled Pensioner Guard Special Interest Group and it received a cultural grant from the City of Cockburn to build the mosaic. Cedric Mitchell is a proud descendant; his two great-grandfathers were Pensioner Guards, one of whom arrived on the first convict ship to come to WA, the *Scindian*.

"My family is woven into the fabric of Cockburn, and this mosaic can now tell the story to future generations," said Mr. Mitchell.

The Pensioner Guards were veterans of the British Army, who had served in a variety of locations such as Afghanistan, India and China. They were pensioned off and volunteered to act as guards on the convict ships with the reward being the promise of a better life in a new country. In 1850 they were supplied with a plot of land and a small two-roomed house - the remaining ruins of one of the cottages are visible on the opposite side of Lake Coogee to the mosaic. "I hope that the heritage of our city continues to be recognised and respected so that we can learn from our past and continue the journey into the future," Cockburn Mayor Stephen Lee said.

MEMORIES

During my visit to Loughborough, Leicestershire in July last year, I managed to connect the extended families relating to "my man" Samuel Sutton. I did not expect however; corresponding with my visit to find this little gem published in the Loughborough Echo on Friday 22nd July 2005.

Ron Sutton.

MEMORIES

My friend and I delivered milk
For this milkman years ago,
A very pleasant man was he,
A kinder man you couldn't
wish to know.

He always wore a thick moustache,
A dark grey trilby too,
On his back he wore a long white coat,
And a leather gaiter over each shoe.

Mr Sutton drove a red and black cart
Pulled by a horse named Jim,
We often fed Jim with a carrot or two
And stroked his nose which seem to please
him.

Each evening Mr Sutton would collect us,
We'd work from five for an hour,
On Saturdays we worked from nine til one,
And hurry home if there was a shower.

My friend and I use to jump on the cart,
And sit on a box, made especially for us,
Then down to the Mill Farm we went
Where the churns were filled without fuss.

We both filled our billie cans up to the brim,
Then off to each house we did go,
Where on each step a little jug stood,
Into which we emptied the milk real slow.

On Saturdays half way round we would
stop,
When Mrs Sutton gave us mugs of hot tea,
Biscuits and cakes she baked for us too,
They were delicious, we all did agree.

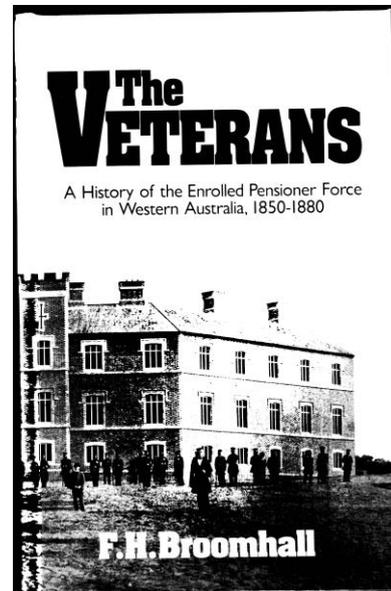
When we finished our round at the
weekend,
Mr Sutton gave us our wages,
Seven and sixpence, I think, if I remember,
Since then it seems like ages and ages.

Then happily we went home to our mothers,
Our money clenched tight in our hands,
Very proud that we worked hard to earn it,
And allowed to spend it as planned.

Copyright: Mrs Joan Anscombe, Shepshed,
Loughborough, Leicestershire, UK. Reproduced
Courtesy Loughborough Echo.

EPG Reference

The standard reference on the Enrolled Pensioner Guard is available from the EPG Special Interest Group



This book by F. H. Broomhall is a must for all who are interested in the history of the Enrolled Pensioner Force in Western Australian between 1850 –1880.

Price \$45.00 plus postage.

OBITUARY

MR. W. TURNER

There died at Fremantle on Wednesday, the 6th, one of the veterans of the Indian Mutiny and Persian campaign in the person of Mr. William Turner, late of the 78th regiment of Highlanders. The deceased soldier was 83 years of age. He joined the 28th Regiment of Foot at London on August 28, 1843, being then 18 years old. He subsequently transferred to the 78th Highlanders, and served under Sir James Outram in the Persian campaign of 1856-57, being present at Kooshab and Mohammerah. Returning to India he accompanied the force under Havelock, which fought its way from Allahabad to Lucknow. He was besieged in Lucknow from September 25 to November 25, and received a bullet wound in the neck during the hostilities. He was discharged from the army in 1862, and four years later he came out to Western Australia as a guard in the convict ship Belgravia. He served with the civil guard until its disbandment, and subsequently filled the position of sexton of the old Fremantle cemetery until it was closed. In his declining years the deceased resided with his sons in Harbour-road, South Fremantle. The funeral took place during last week, the remains being interred in the Church of England portion of the Fremantle cemetery. Among those who assembled at the graveside were his three sons, Arthur, William, and Dave Turner, Mrs W. Turner, Mr. F. Nelson, Mr. P. Jose, Mrs. Attee, Mrs. Mann, Mrs. Deers, Miss L. Morriss, Arthur Morris, and Captain F. L. Cassell, retired list Army Service Corps, late 16th Queen's Lancers. Numerous wreaths and floral tributes were placed on the grave.

WIDOW'S PAYMENT

SROWA Cons 488/30, page 270, item 1016

March 12, 1852

Comptroller General

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th inst. reporting the accidental death by drowning of ticket of leave holder William Sydenham, and in reply to inform you that His Excellency authorises the payment of fourteen shillings due from J. Herbert of Perth to the deceased being made to Mrs. Chambell widow of a pensioner who lost his life in endeavouring to save Sydenham.

Colonial Secretary

Shipping Trivia

The Mermaid took 43 days sailing from port to port collecting prisoners and sheltering from storms. This is the longest period any ship took before actually setting sail for the Swan River Colony. The overall average was 21¼ days.

Sailing from England to the Swan River Colony took -

- Average 13 weeks
- Maximum 20 weeks
- Minimum 9 weeks.

Disembarkation at the Swan River Colony took:

- Average 7 days
- Maximum 33 days (Pyrenees 2nd voyage)
- Minimum 0 days

2006 GENERAL MEETINGS

April, AGM 1.00pm Saturday 22
July 1.00pm Saturday 15
October 8:45 am Saturday 14

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

22nd APRIL 2006
1.00pm

**Unit 1 Western Australian Genealogy
Society.**

Unit 4/48 May Street
Bayswater 6053

Please consider nominating for the committee – being on the committee is a great way to learn.

Also

Come and find out what **resource files** have been collected over the past five years, they include:

- Maps
- Land Grants and Allocation
- Ships and Voyages
- Profiles of individual guards.
- Paupers Records

GENERAL MEETING 15TH JULY

*Will be held at the Army Museum of Western
Australia, Artillery Barracks, Burt Street
Fremantle.*

*Sorry **no** access for the disabled as the meeting
will be held upstairs.*

*Our speaker will be **Medals Curator, Graham
Donley.***

NOMINATIONS FOR COMMITTEE 2006/2007

Nominations are called for members willing to serve on the Committee. (All committee members must be members of both WAGS and the Enrolled Pensioner Guard Special Interest Group). If the number of persons nominated for each position does not exceed the number of vacancies, those persons shall be duly elected. If there are insufficient nominations, or; nominations exceed the number of vacancies, elections will be conducted at the Annual General Meeting to be held on the 16th April 2005

Library Tour

In National Family History Week 30th July to 5th August 2006 we have the opportunity to run a library tour concentrating on the E.P.G. resource files. Please let Ian Barnes at ian-epg@arach.net.au know if you would be interested.

News Flash ⚡

Our October Meeting will be a Field Trip! We will be visiting various EPG relevant sites on our coach trip to York for lunch. Cost will be \$35.00 per person including morning tea. (Bring your own lunch).

Places will be strictly limited so be prepared to get in early!

Further details next newsletter.