

Far Side of the World - VI



Henry Bowland & Mary Jane Lovell

Table of Contents

	Page:
Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire, England	405
Family Origins and a Double Wedding	406
Arrival and Tragic Beginnings in Melbourne	410
Sarah Tinkler's Letter - Life in Melbourne in 1854	411
Life in Maldon	414
New Recruits & Florence Bowland	417
Moving to West Shelbourne	418
Celtic Connections	419
Douglas Family Memorial Movilla, Nth Ireland	422
Remembering Our Pioneering Ancestors	423

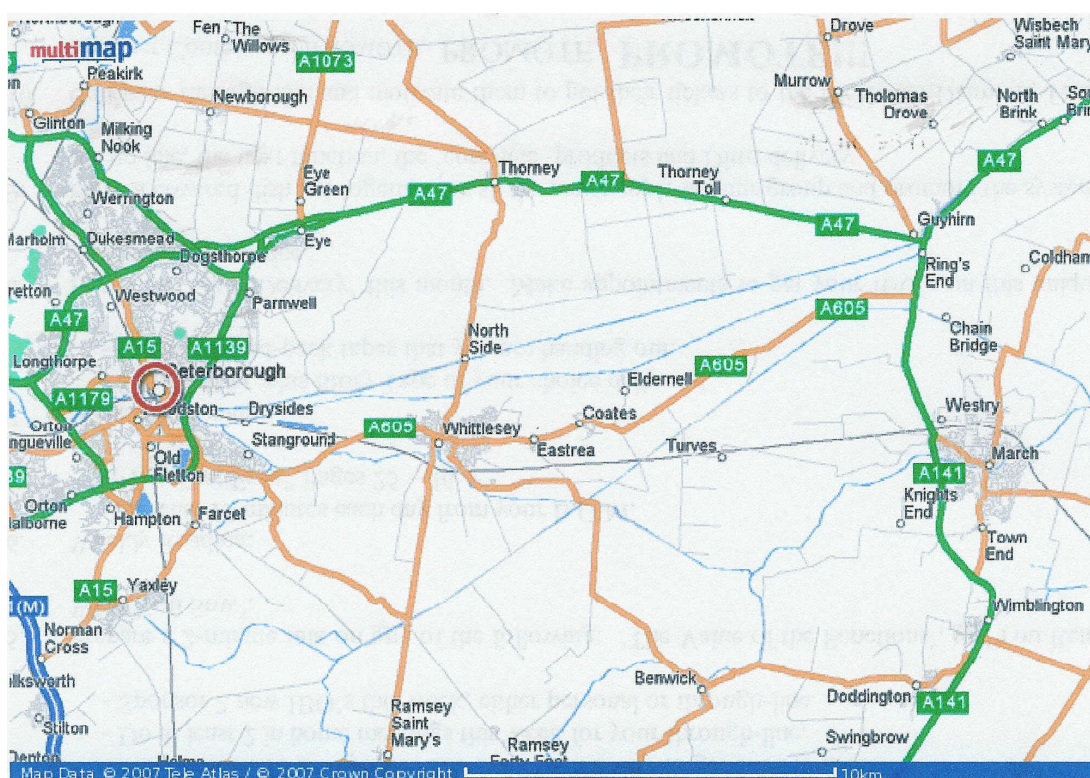
Henry Bowland & Mary Jane Lovell *Far Side of the World – VI*

Compiled from and including a historical piece by Bob & Norma (nee Bowland) Ebbot
with additional material added by Ian Chamberlain

The town of Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire, England

Situated directly north of London, about 140kms up the A1 motorway (double blue line in the bottom left-hand corner), Whittlesey appears in the Domesday Book as Witesie. But it is probable that the name derives from Whittle's Ea, where Ea is a Saxon term for an island. Indeed the land was once owned and presided over by a man named 'Whittle', so the name literally translates as 'Whittle's Island'.

Before the draining of the fens, Whittlesey was an island of dry ground surrounded by the marshy fens. Excavations of nearby Flag Fen indicate thriving local settlements as far back as 1000 BC. In more recent Roman times Whittlesey was linked to Peterborough 15kms to the west and March 18kms to the east by the Roman Fen Causeway, probably built in the 1st century AD, and Roman artefacts have been recovered at nearby Eldernell.



At one time Whittlesey is thought to have had its own abbey, but subsequently the town's two parishes of St Mary's and St Andrew's were controlled by the abbeys in Thorney and Ely respectively until the Dissolution of the Monasteries by Henry VIII (c.1540). St Mary's church dates back to the fifteenth century, but the majority of the building is later, and the church now boasts one of the largest buttressed spires in Cambridgeshire. St Andrew's is a mixture of perpendicular and decorated styles and has records back to 1635.

Family Origins and a Double Wedding

Henry Bowland was one of ten surviving children who lived with his parents Henry and Mary Ann (nee Whittome or Whitham) in Bassenhally Road, Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire, England. Their house was commonly known as the Round House because of the main section's octagonal shape. It also had wings on each side which appear to have been only single-story while the main section was two storied like the majority of English houses. The main roof was octagonal as well, and tapered to a point at the top. There were two double chimneys, one each side of the main house. Living in a class conscious society, rumour has it that Mary Ann Whitham married down and caused consternation when she married the family gardener. Husband, Henry was a 'Master Gardener', and their son Henry was listed in the 1851 census as a 'Gardener Jour' (gardener journeyman) and two of his sisters were 'Bonnet Makers'. The Round House no longer exists. After being sold by the family in 1949 it was destroyed by fire in the 1950's. It used to be located at Bassenhally Road on the outskirts of Whittlesey but now the town has grown to include the street within its boundaries. Interestingly, in late 2007 an English TV program called 'Grand Designs' shown on Australia's channel two featured the recent building of a 2 storied round house in the fen country near Whittlesey, with St. Mary's steeple observable in the distance.

HENRY² BOWLAND, (WILLIAM¹).

c. 11 February 1795, Castor, Northamptonshire; d. 31 October 1872 at Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire, Eng.
Married: 9 December 1817 St. Mary's Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire, Eng.,

MARY ANN WHITHAM (WHITTOME), daughter of **WILLIAM WHITTOME & ANN HOWARD,**

c. 25 June 1798, St. Mary's Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire, Eng. d. 4 June 1874 at Whitmore St. Whittlesey Cambridgeshire, Eng.

Children: of HENRY BOWLAND & MARY ANN WHITHAM, (WHITTOME) are:

- i. **MARIA BOWLING (BOWLAND),** c. 28 May 1818, St. Andrews Whittlesey, Cambs. Eng.
Married: JAMES ROBERTS, b.abt.1811, son of JAMES ROBERTS & HANNAH NAYLOR of Rawcliffe.
- ii. **WILLIAM BOWLING (BOWLAND),** c. 25 October 1820, St. Andrews Whittlesey, Cambs. Eng.
m. 15 March 1843, ANN HOWLETT, dau. of Wm. HOWLETT, labourer.
- iii. **ELIZABETH BOWLING (BOWLAND),** c. 4 June 1823, St. Mary's Whittlesey, Cambs. Eng.
- iv. **MARY ANN BOWLING (BOWLAND),** c. 5 February 1825, St. Mary's Whittlesey, Cambs. Eng.
m. 15 November 1847, JOSEPH JEARY, railway gate keeper, son of Wm. JEARY, farmer.
- v. **HENRY BOWLING (BOWLAND),** c. 4 March 1827, St. Mary's Whittlesey, Cambs. Eng.
d. 28 February 1828, St. Mary's Whittlesey, Cambs. Eng.
- vi. **HENRY BOWLING (BOWLAND),**
c. 11 Jan. 1829; St. Mary's Whittlesey, Cambs. Eng.
d. 10 November 1896 at West Shelbourne, Victoria, AUST. buried at Maldon Cemetery
Married: 5 July 1852 at St. Mary's C. of E. Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire, Eng. - in a double wedding with sister.
MARY JANE LOVELL, daughter of **JOHN LOVELL & ELIZABETH DEBOO.**
- vii. **MARTHA BOWLING (BOWLAND),**
c. 10 May 1831 St. Mary's Whittlesey, Cambs. Eng.
d. 23 March 1853 Richmond? Victoria AUST. (possibly in child-birth 13 days after arriving in Australia)
Married: 5 July 1852 at St. Mary's C. of E. Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire, Eng. - in a double wedding with brother.
WILLIAM ABRAHAM LOVELL, son of **JOHN LOVELL & ELIZABETH DEBOO.**
- viii. **EMMA BOWLING (BOWLAND),**
c. 8 June 1834, St. Andrews Whittlesey, Cambs. Eng.
Married: 1 July 1857, St. Mary's Church, Whittlesey, England
1-BENJAMIN THOMAS HOLDICH, son of **BENJAMIN HOLDICH,** carpenter.
2-AUGUST MALESKEHT,
- ix. **RACHAEL BOWLING (BOWLAND),** c. 12 June 1836, St. Andrews Whittlesey, Cambs. Eng.
- x. **(JOHN) CHARLES BOLAND (BOWLAND),** c. 15 July 1838, St. Andrews Whittlesey, Cambs. Eng.
Married: 27 February 1871, Congregational Chapel, Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire.
SARAH LATALL,
- xi. **ELIZA BOWLAND,** c. 20 September 1840, St. Andrews Whittlesey, Cambs. Eng.

Whittlesey is a small town only 15kms. (10 miles) to the east of the large city of Peterborough, in Cambridgeshire, England. It was originally on an island in a large area of marshes, or fens, known as Hereward Country. Over the last few centuries the fens have been extensively drained resulting in rich farming land, devoid of hills. If you have ever studied the map of England you will be aware that there is a large area in North Lancashire called the 'Forest of Bowland' which is a very popular walking spot of outstanding natural beauty covering 300 square miles (800sq.kms.). Other map references include the 'Trough of Bowland' and small townships called 'Bowland' and 'Bolton by Bowland'. We must not get too excited about the name appearing in this area of England as it appears to be only coincidental. According to the origin of surnames the name was first referred to as 'Boelanda' and later 'Bouland' or

'Bochlande', the 'land by the bow', probably meaning 'the land by a bend in the river' (Ribble). The name of the area is locally pronounced 'Bolland'.

There are two Anglican churches in Whittlesey, St Mary's called the high church because it has a steeple and St Andrews called the low church because it has a tower. Along the way the Bowland and Lovell families seem to have been connected with both churches with a preferential leaning towards St. Mary's. When the vicar entered the various family members names in the parish register it seems he may have been thinking more about his game of cricket, or bowls, than christening, for on more than one occasion he entered the name as 'Bowling'. However on marriage, death and census forms all family members used the name 'Bowland' exclusively.

On the 5 July, 1852 in the Parish Church of St Mary's, Whittlesey, after the traditional Banns had been read, Henry Bowland, aged 23, Bachelor, Gardener, from Bassenhally field and Mary Jane Lovell, aged 24, Spinster, Dressmaker, from Church Street were married. The witnesses were brother-in-law, Samuel Tinkler and Elizabeth Hammond (Elizabeth may have been Mary Jane's younger sister; her older sister Sarah was married to Samuel Tinkler, an Agricultural Labourer). The other happy couple were, William Abraham Lovell, aged 21, bachelor, labourer, from Church Street, and Martha Bowland, aged 21, Spinster, Bonnet Maker, from Bassenhally field. Witnesses signing the register at this marriage were William and Elizabeth Bowland. These would have been Henry's older brother and sister. William apparently lived at Old Tavern Street, Whittlesey and was also a gardener.

To complete the Bowland family picture, the father, Henry Bowland senior was born at Castor, Northamptonshire, a little town just west of Peterborough and about 10 miles (15kms) over the county border south from Whittlesey. The 1851 census shows him as the head of the house aged 55, wife Mary Ann aged 52,

3. Elizabeth aged 27, bonnet maker,
5. Henry who died an infant was not listed in the census,
6. Henry aged 22, Gardener Jour (gardener journeyman),
7. Martha aged 19, Bonnet Maker,
9. Rachael aged 14,
10. (John) Charles aged 12 scholar who went on to take over the house and gardening business, married Sarah Lathall in 1871 and had three sons,
11. Eliza aged 10, scholar.

From the same census we also know that their eldest daughter

1. Maria, who married James Roberts about 1840, lived in Goole, Yorkshire and had an eight year old daughter named Emma Maria.
2. William was married to Ann Howlett and with a growing family of five children was living at Old Tavern St., Whittlesey.
4. Mary Ann was married to police constable Joseph Jeary stationed at Sutton, Cambridgeshire and had a two year old daughter, Ann Elizabeth.
8. Emma aged 17, following in her eldest sister Maria's footsteps had gone off to Yorkshire to find work as a servant for the Stow family at Goole.

We can readily imagine the celebration when the whole family of Bowlands and Lovells gathered together at the wedding of four of their members. It would have been a particularly joyful occasion which would soon turn to sadness and maybe even a little fear and trepidation as later that year the two couples decided to emigrate to Australia. There is no doubt news of the discovery of gold in Australia spread like wild fire through every little town and village, and as times were tough in England the decision to emigrate would have been a very tempting option. We can only surmise on the possibilities of a friend migrating earlier who wrote back reporting on the scarcity of workers in Melbourne town owing to large numbers of men clearing out to try their luck on the goldfields. News such as this may have readily influenced each couple to seek sponsorship as gardeners in the employ of James Simpson Esq. of Richmond, a suburb of Melbourne, Australia. The following is a newspaper article written for the Melbourne

'Argus' some 80 years later illustrating the thinking, attitudes and conditions prevalent at the time of the Henry & Mary Jane Bowland and William & Martha Lovell's departure from England.

The English census of 1841 shows Elizabeth Lovel or Lovell as the head of the household in Church Street. Not much is known about her husband John, who according to the Cambridgeshire Family History Society – Burial Index died an early death in 1832, aged 39, leaving Elizabeth fending on her own to support a young family. Her occupation was dressmaking. In 1841 her family of ten included John, the eldest aged 20, who may have joined the army and been posted to China in July of 1841, with the 98th. Regiment of Foot to take part in the opium wars; there was also Sarah aged 15, (Mary) Jane aged 13, William aged 10, and Elizabeth aged between 11 and 12 apparently working as a servant for Stephen and Ann Gregory, a local butcher in Arnold Street (Lane). There were five other children including a possible set of twins who appear to have all died in their first year. By 1852 daughter Elizabeth must have married a Hammond, for Elizabeth Hammond's name appeared as a witness at Henry & Mary Jane's marriage and later turns up with family in Melbourne for Christmas 1853. There is also an Elizabeth Lovell who turns up in the 1850's Victorian goldfields records. Her sister Sarah, was certainly married to Samuel Tinkler and they were apparently living with her mother Elizabeth, although Sam is listed as the head of the house. Elizabeth's maiden name was Deboo and she would have claimed descent from a Huguenot family. The Huguenots were French Protestants who were persecuted in their native country and fled to England and other countries seeking religious freedom. Now, although the reasons were different the seeking was happening again with the children of another generation.

JOHN LOVELL,

Born: 1793 Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire, England;
Married: abt.1819, at Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire, England.

d. 1832 at Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire, Eng. – CFHS – Burial Index

ELIZABETH DEBOO,

Born: 1790, Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire, England;
Children: for JOHN LOVELL & ELIZABETH DEBOO are:

d., Sept. 1851, at Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire, England

i. **JANE D(EBOO?) LOVELL,**

c.1820, Whittlesey, St. Andrews; d. 3wks.

ii. **JOHN LOVELL,**

c.1821, Whittlesey, St. Mary's

iii. **WILLIAM A. LOVELL,**

c.1823, Whittlesey, St. Mary's; d. 3mths.

iv. **SARAH LOVALL,**

c.1824, Whittlesey, St. Mary's; d. 6mths.

v. **SARAH LOVELL,**

c.1825, Whittlesey, St. Andrews

Married-1: **SAMUEL TINKLER,**

b. abt.1824 Cambridgeshire, England; d. 1859, Melbourne. Reg. 2002

Son of WILLIAM TINKLER and MONS?

Married-2: **DAVID McNEILL,** in 1859

vi. **THOMAS LOVELL,** (twin?)

c.1827, Whittlesey, St. Andrews; d.2wks.

vii. **ELIZABETH LOVELL,** (twin?)

c.1827, Whittlesey, St. ; assume - d. an infant

viii. **MARY JANE LOVELL,**

c.1828, Whittlesey, St. Mary's; d. 14 June 1904 at Maldon, Victoria, AUST.

Married: 5 July 1852 at St. Mary's C. of E. Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire, Eng. - in a double wedding,

HENRY BOWLAND, Son of **HENRY BOWLAND & MARY ANN WHITTON.**

ix. **ELIZABETH LOVELL,**

c.1829, Whittlesey, St. Andrews;

Married: before 1852 and emigrated to Brisbane, Australia in 1853 aboard the Agricola.

JAMES HAMMOND, b. 1930 at Whittlesey Cambs.; d. Victoria, Australia

x. **WILLIAM ABRAHAM LOVELL,**

c.1831, Whittlesey, St. Mary's

d. abt. April/June 1901? Widower aged 70 at Tendring, Essex, England

Married-1: 5 July 1852 at St. Mary's C. of E. Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire, England - in a double wedding.

MARTHA BOWLAND,

d. March 1853 – No Issue

Married-2: 30 June 1857 at St. Mary's C. of E. Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire, five years after 1st. marriage...

CAROLINE HUGHES, daughter of SAMUEL HUGHES, farmer of Glass-moor.

After saying their goodbyes to family and friends The Bowlands and the Lovells made their way to Liverpool with all their meagre possessions and boarded the 407 ton sailing vessel "Thames" commanded by Captain Hedley. The ship sailed on the 3 November, 1852, together with about 218 other passengers on the long voyage to Australia on the far side of the world. The 'Thames' could have almost found her own way there, as she had already been to New Zealand twice, Wellington in 1849, and Auckland in 1851.

Left behind back in Whittlesey, Henry Bowland senior lived on another 20 years and died at the age of 78 on the 31 October, 1872 at Arnolds Lane, Whittlesey. His wife, Mary Ann died 19 months later at Whitmore Street on the 4 June, 1874, aged 76. Mary Ann's mother Ann Whittome (nee Howard (Read)) left a will before she died in 1845, and a typewritten copy of this is supplied on the next page through the kind favour of descendant, Jan Morrell of Goole, Yorkshire (descent through Henry's eldest sister Maria). In her will, that contains a mysterious

twist to it, Ann mentioned each of her six surviving daughters and included Charlotte, daughter of her eldest son William.

The Argus, Melbourne, 9 March 1932

Emigrant Ships of the 'Fifties – Some Floating Horrors by C.R.C. Pearce

When the eyes of the world were turned upon Australia by the discovery of gold in New South Wales and Victoria in the 'fifties and by the remarkable "finds" which followed one another in quick succession, a tremendous impetus was given to the shipping trade. Every old hulk which could float was manned, and many of these vessels which succeeded in laboriously crawling across the ocean were left to rot in Sydney Harbour and Hobson's Bay. New ships were built with feverish haste. A procession of steamships from the Sarah Sands to the Chusan and the Formosa, and then the Great Britain (3,500 tons), crossed the seas; and splendid clippers, graceful and speedy, adorned Australian ports. From Liverpool alone, during July, 1852, 68 vessels, with 26,000 passengers, were dispatched by the British Government to Australia. Ships were leaving London and Plymouth, Sunderland and Aberdeen, San Francisco and Cape Town also.

Crowds daily assembled at 309 Regent street, London, to undertake the great voyage and to visit the diggings in imagination. They gazed in wonderment at a moving panorama of the diggings painted by Mr. J. S. Prout, an artist, from sketches made by him in Australia. The seascapes were the work of Mr. T. S. Robins, and the animals were painted by Mr. C. Weignall. The spectators were supposed to begin the voyage at Plymouth, and to touch at Madeira, Rio de Janeiro, and the Cape of Good Hope. Many incidents of such a voyage were shown – flights of birds, flying fish, porpoises, and even the capture of a whale. The shifting scenes included Melbourne, the valley of the Yarra, the Goulburn, Geelong, an Australian road, the diggings at Mount Alexander, a kangaroo hunt on the Illawarra, Sydney, the Parramatta River, the Blue Mountains, and the diggings on Summerhill Creek.

The arrival of treasure ships in British ports stirred the imagination of the people, and writers in the newspapers declared that their stores of gold surpassed the wealth which the stately galleons brought to Spain from South America in the days of Sir Francis Drake. "The ship Medway has arrived in the Thames from Melbourne, Port Phillip, with no less than 67,000 oz. gold dust, valued at £270,000," stated "The Times" on October 10, 1852. "Immediately on the vessel arriving at Limehouse she was surrounded by a complete fleet of small boats filled with crimps, lodging-house keepers, and others of the longshore fraternity, who made numerous ineffectual efforts to get on board to remove the seamen's effects under the impression, from the valuable nature of the ship's cargo, that the men must be equally well stored. In anticipation of such an attempt, however, police officers were on board, and all their endeavours were fruitless. The Medway brings one of the most valuable cargoes ever imported by a private vessel into the port of London. It amounts in the aggregate, with cargo and gold dust in the hands of passengers, to nearly £600,000. The Ganges arrived in the river on Tuesday from Sydney with a cargo of gold dust and wool valued at £100,000." A month later the Roxburgh Castle departed from Melbourne with 170,900 oz. gold. Early in the next year (1853) the escorts were bringing to Melbourne each week gold worth from £170,000 to £200,000.

The Death Roll.

It was no wonder then that thousands of people were eager to reach this land of gold. Few thought of the risk to health of crowding into ships on long voyages when there were few of the comforts and conveniences now provided for passengers on very short sea trips. Emigrants with high spirits, ready for song or jest, assembled on the decks and cheered the Government medical officers who gave them words of advice before the ships sailed. But even the doctors did not seem to realize the horrors to which they were dooming the unsuspecting voyagers, who saw visions of gold even in the dull grey skies of the grimy port in which they were bidding farewell to their native land, most of them for ever. Grim scenes of misery and disease and death were witnessed on some of these vessels before they reached Australia. Brief items of shipping news in "The Argus" in 1852 and 1853 tell tragic stories such as:- "The ship Theodore (1,063 tons) from Liverpool, brought 439 immigrants. Twenty-four children died from various diseases." "The ship Persian brought 619 immigrants. Thirty-four deaths from fever and dysentery occurred. There is still much sickness on board, and the vessel went into quarantine." "The Anne Mylene arrived at Portland with 276 immigrants. There were 20 deaths, chiefly of children."

"God in His mercy preserved myself, wife, and family (eight in number) during the whole voyage, so that we did not have one day's sickness," wrote one man. "On board there was illness of every description, especially small-pox." When this family arrived there was no available housing accommodation in Melbourne, and the father could not pay the exorbitant rents charged for shelter in "canvas town," so that husband, wife, and children had to sleep under a dray, to the wheels of which horses were tethered. The horses snorted and stamped all night, while a drunken driver shouted blasphemies and obscenities. The master of a schooner conveyed from New Zealand 23 persons in a compartment 12 ft. square and only 3 ½ ft. high. He was fined £25. As the passengers on one ship could not eat the "flavourless and undistinguishable stuff out of tins said to be pressed meat," they ate rice and salt, with a variation of rice and sugar. For many days the allowance of water was reduced to one pint a day for adults and half a pint a day for adults and half a pint for children. Throughout one voyage the passengers received only about half the quantity of food they were entitled to under the regulations.

William married Charlotte Sutterby and had 3 children - (1) Charlotte Sutterby Whittome, (2) Ann Whittome and (3) William Whittome. William's wife, Charlotte (Snr) died a very young twenty-five year old in March 1836 in Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire, and a young woman named Mary Darker became the live-in nursemaid for these children. William wanted to marry Mary but she was considered below the yeoman farmer status of his brothers. As a result, William, together with Mary Darker, Ann & William sailed on 26 December 1836 for America (a crossing which took between 35 and 40 days). William and Mary were married on the voyage across the Atlantic. They settled in the state of Missouri and continued on the family tradition of farming. Apparently no children were born from William's union with Mary Darker.

Dated: 10 May 1845

The Will of MRS ANN WHITTOME of Whittlesey, Widow

Whittome, Ann late of Whittlesey

Her Will December 12th

Bedford

Fol 4

????

Probate made out

This is the Last Will and Testament of me ANN WHITTOME of Whittlesey in the Isle of Ely in the County of Cambridge Widow as follows that is to say, I give and bequeath unto my Daughter MARTHA the wife of JOHN INGLE my mahogany table, small clock, and white counterpane also I give and bequeath unto my Daughter MARIA the wife of JOSEPH LOVEL six silver tea spoons and five silver table spoons all the rest residue and remainder of my household goods and furniture linen china and wearing apparel I give and bequeath unto my Daughter MARY ANN the wife of HENRY BOWLAND to and for her own use and benefit. I give and bequeath all my ready money and securities for money unto my brother JAMES READ his executors and administrators upon trust nevertheless that he do with all convenient speed after my decease pay there out my funeral and testamentary expenses and just debts and also the legacy a sum of ten pounds unto CHARLOTTE SUTTERBY WHITTOME the daughter of WILLIAM WHITTOME and divide and pay the surplus of the said monies (if any) unto and equally between and among my daughters the said MARY ANN BOWLAND, SARAH HUGHES, ELIZABETH SKELTON, the said MARTHA INGLE, ELIZA the wife of WILLIAM CAMPION, and the said MARIA LOVEL on such of them that shall be living at the time of my decease and I nominate and appoint my said brother JAMES READ sole executor and trustee of this my will and empower him to deduct retain to and reimburse himself all costs, charges and expenses incidental to the execution of the trusts hereby reposed in him I revoke all former wills and testaments by me made and declare this writing alone to be and contain my last. In witness whereof I have hereunto signed my name this 10th day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty five.

Signed by the said ANN WHITTOME the)

testator as and for her last will and)

testament in the presence of us who in)

her presence at her request and in the)

presence of each other have hereto)

subscribed our names as witnesses.)

CHARLES BOULTBEE LEYSON,

JNO. READ

ROBT. WHITTLEY

December 12th. 1845 JAMES READ of Whittlesey in the Isle of Ely, county of Cambridge, Farmer, the (?sole executor and trustee?) of the written will in due form of (? ?) The said JAMES READ also (? ?) that the goods (?) of the testator ANN WHITTOME do and amount in (?total?) to the sum of two hundred pounds (? ?)

Before me THOS BEDFORD (? ?)

Testator died 21 October 1845

to (? ?)



(NB: Ann's signature - JLK)

The end. – JLK

Family folk lore in America has a story that the eldest daughter, six year old Charlotte Sutterby Whittome, was drowned as the ship was leaving, or preparing to leave, the dock for America. However, sometime later Grandma Ann Whittome wrote to the family to tell them that Charlotte had been kidnapped and not drowned! She is actually mentioned in Grandma's will. While it makes for a colourful story, the truth turns out be quite different. Both the 1841 and 1851 census finds Charlotte living with her great aunt and uncle, Hannah & Daniel Lindon in the town of Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, about 20kms., northeast of Whittlesea. Both Hannah and Charlotte's grandmother's maiden names were Lilley. Hannah became a Lindon and the grandmother became a Sutterby. One of her children was Charlotte Sutterby who married William Whittam and sometime after Charlotte's early death in March 1836, their six year old

daughter Charlotte Sutterby Whittome went to live in Wisbech with her elderly great aunt Hannah, aged 50 in 1841. Uncle Daniel died in 1848 aged 70, and the 1851 census lists Hannah as a widow aged 60, and (niece) Charlotte aged 21, occupied as a milliner. Two years later at Knottingley, in November 1853 Charlotte married Thomas Ashworth a baker or baker's assistant, working with his baker father. Thomas and Charlotte's married bliss lasted less than a year for in the "Stamford Mercury" dated 15 September 1854 Charlotte's death in childbirth is reported, and her newborn son John Thomas Whittome Ashworth just 3 days later.

At Wisbech, on the 7th inst. Charlotte wife of Thomas Ashworth jun and eldest daughter of Mr Wm Whittome farmer late of Ramsey Fen, aged 24 – and on the 10th John Thomas Whittome infant son of the above.

Arrival and Tragedy in Melbourne

The birth of Melbourne happened in 1835, when a rebel squatter camp was established at the northern end of Port Phillip Bay, on the banks of the Yarra River. In a brazen act flouting British government policy and Crown Land laws, John Batman, an Australian born son of a convict family, made a private treaty with the local Aboriginal people. He then shipped his sheep across Bass Strait from Van Dieman's Land (Tasmania) to take advantage of the park-like, coastal plains of what was then labelled part of New South Wales. This seemingly small and isolated incident became an important historical fulcrum that turned Australia into the biggest land grab of the nineteenth century and the squatter camp beside the Yarra into a bustling city and reputedly the "most liveable city in the world". By 1837 the camp had become a settlement with town status exceeding 1000 people and was given the name of "Melbourne", after Viscount Melbourne, William Lamb, then the current British Prime Minister. Another name considered was "Batmania"! The next decade brought a frenetic period of expansion that saw the population balloon to more than 20,000 by 1850. This growth was centred around the pastoral industry and "sheep runs" in particular where Batman's original flock of 500 exploded to 1.5 million as more and more flocks of sheep were shipped to take advantage of this grass bonanza. The Port Phillip Bay district officially separated from New South Wales in 1850 to become the autonomous state of Victoria. This and the 1850's discovery of gold brought even more frenetic changes and growth. Where were the Aboriginal people in all this?—Simply overrun in the rush!

"1835" James Boyce

It was into this burgeoning city of the early 1850's, that branches of our ancestors, including Henry & Mary Jane Bowland from Whittlesey, Northamptonshire arrived in 1853. Reports of the long and arduous 18 week voyage the two young couples endured have not been found, but we know that they arrived safely in Melbourne on the 10 March, 1853 having spent Christmas at sea somewhere in the Atlantic Ocean. None of them were seafaring folk so I imagine they would have gratefully left the confines of the small ship and set foot on dry land once more, particularly more since Jane was in the last stages of her first pregnancy and in all probability Martha as well. On 21 March, just eleven days after arriving in Melbourne, Emma Bowland was born to Mary Jane and Henry, and two days later on the 23 March, Martha died in hospital. The death certificate does not show which hospital, or the cause of death, so we can only assume that Martha died in childbirth. Another tragedy followed quickly on the heels of the first when Emma died on the 12 April and was baptised dead at St. Stephens Church of England, Richmond. The three remaining adults who had left their family and friends full of excitement and hope for a bright future would have been devastated by this dismal start to their new lives. It is a tribute to their strength of character that they were able to pick themselves up and press on with their lives. Henry and William were contracted to start work at Richmond from the 30 March for 3 months with keep. Strangely Henry was to receive £75 (pounds) but William only £40 (pounds). Possibly William was classed as a minor when he signed on in England and hence the difference in wages.

Sarah Tinkler's – Australian Emigrant's Letter

Transcribed by Janet Kilburn

SOURCE: Cambridge Independent Press Page 7 of 8 - Saturday 03 June 1854 – British Newspaper Archives.

Sir - I enclose a copy of a letter from the wife of one of a very respectable party of agricultural labourers that emigrated from this place to Australia about eighteen months since; and as they were all well-known and highly respected in this neighbourhood, and the letter containing much of interest, you will greatly oblige their relatives and friends by inserting it.

Yours respectfully, Peregrine Rands, Postmaster.
Whittlesey, Cambs. May 24, 1854

"Collingwood, Melbourne, Feb. 14, 1854

My Dear Father¹, Mother², Brothers, and Sisters. - It is with pleasure I now sit down to write a few lines in answer to your kind and welcome letter, which we received on the 27th of December. I should have wrote sooner to you, but waited see if we went to the Diggings; but we are not going until about April, for they are not doing much good there at this time for there is no water to wash the gold, nor yet to drink, only what they have to pay very dear for; but when there has been plenty of rain, which there is in the winter, the gold fields are likely to be very prosperous. There was a nugget found last week that weighed 52lbs. 1oz.

"My dear friends, we were very glad to hear that father³ had been in work all winter. We thought about you at Christmas, for it is our summer now, and we had very warm weather about Christmas, and plenty to eat and drink, and plenty of firing when we needed it; but we thought perhaps you needed some of those comforts which we had to spare, for our cup is full and runneth over, while I fear yours is not full. Our Christmas dinner was roast beef and plum pudding. We wished you had been to dinner with us. My brother William⁴ dined with us, and my sister Elizabeth⁵ and her husband⁶, who arrived here from Moreton's Bay the 5th of December. So, I am happy to say, we are all together once more.

My dear friends, we left the Bush on the 25th of last September, and went to housekeeping. My brother William left the same time, or the week after, and went to a village called Heidlebergh, about eight miles from Melbourne and he is there now. He is taking £2 per week and board and lodging found him. My sister Jane⁷ and her husband⁸ are at the same place as they went to when they first came into the colony. When the first six months was up they engaged for another six at £2 per week and everything found them. She is cook and he gardener, so their wages is not so good as William's but wages are better now than when Henry let himself. My sister Elizabeth and her husband are living with us: he is a stonemason's labourer and has 16s per day, which is £4 16s per week and now I must tell you what became of my own husband⁹ - when we left the Bush he engaged as a bricklayer's labourer from then until Christmas; he had 18s per day and from Christmas up to this time; and at this time he has £1 per day and is now taking his £6 per week. I dare say you will be almost ready to think it untrue; for I know it will seem a great price to you but I can assure you it is quite true, for it would benefit me none to tell you an untruth; but I believe that to be the highest wages labourers are getting. There are different prices; from 14s to 20s per day is the average. Carpenters get from 25s to 30s per day: bricklayers and stonemasons from 35s to 37s per day. Provisions are rather dear, but they vary very much;

¹ Father in Law – Thomas Tinkler, as own father (John Lovell) is deceased

² Mother in Law – Ann Tinkler, as own mother (Elizabeth Deboo) is deceased

³ Thomas Tinkler

⁴ William Abraham Lovell married Martha Bowland, in Whittlesey; she died in Australia in March 1853, shortly after their arrival. William was widowed less than 1 year when this letter was written. He would later return to Whittlesey, remarry; returning to Australia with his new wife. They would have a son before returning permanently to England where he died in 1903 in Clacton on Sea, Essex.

⁵ Elizabeth Lovell (born 1829, Whittlesey, Cambs – died Australia?)

⁶ James Hammond (born 1830, Whittlesey, Cambs – died Australia?)

⁷ Mary Jane Lovell (born 1828, Whittlesey, Cambs – died 1904 Maldon, Australia)

⁸ Henry Bowland (born 1829 Whittlesey, Cambs - died 1896 Maldon, Australia)

⁹ Samuel Tinkler (born 1825, Whittlesey, Cambs – died Australia?)

sometimes they are much dearer than at others: bread is at this time 1s 6d the 4lb loaf; flour is 5s per stone, but if you take a large quantity it is cheaper; beef and mutton 6d per lb. I do not know how the pork is, for there is very little to be seen; bacon 1s 6d per lb, but it is not cured here; hams are the same price as bacon; potatoes 6d per lb; butter is very dear; salt butter 2s 6d per lb and fresh 4s per lb; shop currants 2s and raisins 10d per lb : all kinds of fruit are what you would call dear but we cannot expect to have high wages and everything else cheap; the cheapest apples you can get at this time are 9d per lb. I bought two pears the other day for which I gave 6d each. I gave 3s for 2lbs of plums to make a pudding so with the crust and sugar it was a dear pudding in your mind; but we are used to the price of things. A glass of ale is 6d but if we fetch a pot it is 1s. The English ale is 1s 6d a pot. All kind of clothing is much cheaper than it was when we first came here. I think men's clothes are as cheap as they are in England. Boots and shoes I think are cheaper; for a man can get a good pair of strong shoes for ten or twelve shillings, and when we first came here he would have to pay 30s for the same kind of shoes. I gave 17s for a pair of Cashmere boots last winter and now I can get a pair like them for 7s or 8s but they are not made here, for they make them in England and pay their carriage out here and then sell them cheaper than when they are made here; because labour is the dearest thing there is here, excepting house rent and that is very high. When we first left the Bush we paid 30s per week rent and only had two rooms and that was cheap because out of Melbourne we could pay it then save some beside every week but thought we should like to save a little more so we are now living in a tent and we are now paying 12s per week. It would seem strange to you but there are plenty of tents here, and better people than us live in a worse place than we do, for mine is a nice snug little place. We have an American stove in it, and that cost us £5 so I can assure you we are happy and comfortable. If we want anything it is a great blessing to say we have the means to get it, and we can always keep a bottle or two of wine, or anything that we like, in the house to use when we require it: for a bottle of port wine we give 2s 6d and it is cheaper and better than beer.

And now my dear friends, I have told you the price of provision- and what our coming in is, and I wish you had the same, for we can live first rate on - say £3 per week; and then I have three more to put in one corner till called for.

My dear friends, I will now tell you a little about the country. This is our summer, and very warm it is sometimes, but so changeable - in the middle of the day very hot mornings and evenings very cold. There is a deal of wind here; but what we call the hot winds are the worst, but they do not come very often. When the winds are strong you cannot see anything for dust; for there is no rain in summer of any account for months. The winter is all rain; there is no frost to hurt anything. If there is ice as thick as a penny piece they think it very sharp indeed. Water is very scarce at this time about the Bush and the Diggings, but Melbourne is supplied with water from the Yarra River. It is 5s per load in town, but we pay 8s per load in Collingwood, as they have further to bring it; a half load lasts us about ten days. Our firing is wood, which for a good horse load we pay £2 and that lasts us about three months. Melbourne is a very large place, and a thriving one for business. The streets a mile and a half in length. There are some very fine buildings and plenty of shops of all descriptions. There are a great many churches and chapels of all kinds and I am happy to say Sunday is kept here with the same regularity as in England. The public houses are open from one o'clock till three, and then closed for the day. Collingwood is a large place; it joins Melbourne but is more pleasant to live in than Melbourne; it is more like London than any other place I know.

And now my dear friends, I have told you all can about the colony; if any you think well to come we shall be very happy to see you; for you will be better off than we were when we got here; for we shall be here ready to receive you, but I must say it is a great undertaking with a family of small children. If it was not for that one thing, I should say come by all means.

My dear friends please to tell Mrs Bowland that William received her letter from Mr. Bishop on the 8th of February for they did not find us before my sister's husband met with George Trueman in the street. Mr. Bishop is living close to us, but not in any business at present. George Trueman has got a situation at the Swan Hotel, Collingwood, close us. He is taking £2 per week, with board and lodgings, and washing found him. He was here last Sunday and says he is quite happy and likes his place. He is coming again next Sunday if nothing happens. You will please let his father and mother know this, with my kind respects to

them. He will write home the first opportunity. I wished him do so. Henry Bowland, Jane, and William, desire their kind love to their father¹⁰, mother¹¹, brothers¹², and sisters¹³. They are quite well; hope they are the same, but they will write soon. We have found George Tims that we had a letter for. Living in Collingwood, and has a wife and six children. They are doing very well, and so may any one that is steady and keep out of bad company. If they do that, and have their health, they will not take any harm. Please give our kind respects to Mr. and Mrs. Bowland and family, and tell them they need not fear that we shall take any harm at the Diggings, for we shall all go together: it is more comfortable for the men to have their wives with them, and we can get all that is required fit us for the purpose. And all a man has to do to keep his own counsel and keep from drink, and then nobody will harm him. I have seen several persons that has been living there some time, and they tell me they would rather live the Diggings than at Melbourne. Brother and Sister Hammond desire their kind love to their father. Was sorry to hear of his situation last winter, but hope by this time he is better situated. My brothers and sisters all send their kind respects to all inquiring friends. Samuel joins with in sending our kind love to father, mother, brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews, and all friends; and if Thomas should like to come to this colony, send us word, and we will assist him, for they will not emigrate him out free. We mention him in particular because we think it easier for him, having no children, than it would be for any of you; but at the same time we would assist any you that think well to come, but not wish any one to come out against their inclination. Samuel says mother is thinking her £20 a long time before she gets it, but she is not to despair - only wait a little longer, for they think there is better times coming this year than there ever has been yet.
SAMUEL & SARAH TINKLER¹⁴

¹⁰ Henry Bowland (my 3rd gg father)

¹¹ Mary Ann Whittome (my 3rd gg mother)

¹² William and Charles Bowland

¹³ Maria, Elizabeth, Mary Ann, Emma, Rachel and Eliza (Emma would join them with her husband in 1857)

¹⁴ Sarah Lovell (born 1825 Whittlesey – died Australia?)

Reference is made early in the letter to Sarah's sister Elizabeth and husband arriving from Moreton Bay (Brisbane QLD.) and being with them for Christmas (1853). Towards the end of the letter mention is made of 'Brother & Sister Hammond' and this has to be another reference to Elizabeth and her husband James Hammond. Elizabeth Hammond was a witness at her sister Mary Jane's marriage to Henry Bowland in 1852. Elizabeth's husband James may have died soon after this letter was penned and she revert to her maiden name, for there is an 1850's reference to Elizabeth Lovell in the records of the Victorian Gold fields.

The English Census of 1851 reveals Sarah's mother Elizabeth Lovell aged 61 living with Sarah and her husband, Samuel Tinkler listed as 'Head' at the Lovell family home, Church Street, Whittlesey. Elizabeth died later that year. Sarah was an older sister of Mary Jane Lovell who married Henry Boland in a double wedding where Sarah's youngest brother William Lovell also married Henry's sister Martha Boland on the 5 July 1852. Less than two years later, all eight—the Tinklers, Bolands Lovells & Hammonds—were living in Melbourne, Australia apart from Martha who died, probably in child-birth just days after her arrival in the colony. Sam's mother Ann Tinkler, who from the closing comments of the letter, appears to have loaned Sam & Sarah £20 probably for their passage to Victoria, was still waiting for repayment back in Whittlesey.

Later in 1857 another member of the family, Emma Boland and her newly married husband Benjamin Holdich arrived in Melbourne together on the same ship as widower William Lovell returning from a visit to Whittlesey with his new bride Carolyn Hughes.

Maldon - Life on the Gold Fields

In commencing this part of the story, some insights into life on the gold fields are included. The crowd around the Licence Commissioner's tent at the beginning of each month was so great, that it was a difficult matter to procure the all important licence. Consequently the inspectors rarely began their rounds before the tenth of the month, when a non-licensed digger would have the pleasure of accompanying a crowd of similar offenders to the Commissioners, sometimes four or five miles from his working-place, pay a fine of about £3 (pounds), and then take out a licence. Fines generally varied according to the date at which the delinquency was discovered. After the twentieth of the month, the fine inflicted was generally from £5 to £10 (pounds) and payment for a licence as well, which was rather expensive for a few days' permission to dig. A licence, although granted on the thirtieth of one month, would expire and be unavailable for the next. The inspectors were generally strong-built, rough-looking agents who were dressed much like the diggers, and were only recognised because they carried a gun in lieu of a pick or shovel. Delinquents unable to pay the fine, had the pleasure of working it out on the roads.

(Face side of the licence)

VICTORIA GOLD LICENCE.
No. 18??, Sept. 3, 1856.

The Bearer, H____ B_____, having paid to me the Sum of One Pound, Ten Shillings, on account of the Territorial Revenue, I hereby Licence him to dig, search for, and remove Gold on and from any such Crown Land within the _____ District, as I shall assign to him for that purpose during the month of September, 1856, not within half-a-mile of any Head station.

This Licence is not transferable, and to be produced whenever demanded by me or any other person acting under the Authority of the Government, and to be returned when another Licence is issued.

(SIGNED) B. BAXTER, Commissioner.

(The reverse side of the Licence contained the following rules)

REGULATIONS TO BE OBSERVED BY THE PERSONS DIGGING FOR GOLD, OR OTHERWISE EMPLOYED AT THE GOLD FIELDS.

1. Every Licensed Person must always have his Licence with him, ready to be produced whenever demanded by a Commissioner, or Person acting under his instructions, otherwise he is liable to be proceeded against as an Unlicensed person.
2. Every Person digging for Gold, or occupying Land, without a Licence, is liable by Law to be fined, for the first offence, not exceeding 5 pounds; for a second offence, not exceeding 15 pounds; and for a subsequent offence, not exceeding 30 pounds.
3. Digging for Gold is not allowed within Ten feet of any Public Road, nor are the Roads to be undermined.
4. Tents or buildings are not to be erected within Twenty feet of each other, or within Twenty feet of any Creek.
5. It is enjoined that all Persons at the Gold Fields maintain and assist in maintaining a due and proper observance of Sundays.

The gold mining licence tax itself, (for which thirty shillings, or half an ounce of gold, was the required payment each month) was in the following form:

Another insight into this unique world of the gold fields is that not only the diggers made money on the Gold Fields. Carters, carpenters, storemen, wheelwrights, butchers, shoemakers, etc., in the long run usually made their fortunes quicker than the diggers themselves, and certainly with far less hard work or risk of life. They may always have profited by one or two pounds a day selling rations, whereas they could have dug for weeks looking for gold and got nothing. Living was generally no more expensive than in Melbourne: meat was generally from 4d. to 6d. a pound, flour about 1s.-6d a pound, (this was the most expensive article in house-keeping there,) butter was rarely used, as it was seldom less than 4s. a pound, and only the successful diggers could indulge in such niceties as cheese, pickles, ham, sardines, pickled salmon, or spirits. All of these things, though easily procured if you had gold to throw away, were expensive, the last-named article (usually diluted with water or something less innocuous) was only to be obtained for 30s. a bottle.

The stores, distinguished by a flag, were numerous and well stocked. They were large tents, generally square or oblong, and everything required by a digger could be obtained for money, from sugar-candy to potted anchovies; from East India pickles to Bass's pale ale; from ankle jack boots to a pair of stays; from a baby's cap to a cradle; and every apparatus for mining, from a pick to a needle. But the confusion--the din--the medley--what a scene for a shop walker or opportunities for a shop-lifter! One could find such things as a pair of herrings dripping into a bag of sugar, or a box of raisins; there a gay-looking bundle of ribbons beneath two tumblers, and a half-finished bottle of ale. Cheese and butter, bread and yellow soap, pork and currants, saddles and frocks, wide-awakes and blue serge shirts, green veils and shovels, baby linen and tallow candles, were all heaped indiscriminately together; added to which, there were children bawling, men swearing, store-keeper sulky, and last, but certainly not least, women's tongues going nineteen to the dozen.

Most of the store-keepers were purchasers of gold either for cash or in exchange for goods, and many the tricks from which unsuspecting diggers suffered. One great and outrageous trick was to weigh the parcels separately, or divide the whole, on the excuse that the weight would be too much for the scales; and then, on adding up the grains and pennyweights, the sellers often lost at least half an ounce. There was also the old method of false beams--one in favour of the purchaser--and here, unless the seller weighed in both pans, he lost considerably. Another mode of cheating was to have glass pans resting on a piece of green baize; under this baize, and beneath the pan which held the weights, was a wet sponge, which caused that pan to adhere to the baize, and consequently it required more gold to make it level; this, coupled with the false reckoning, was ruinous to the digger. In town, the Jews had a system of robbing a great deal from sellers. Before they purchased the gold-dust (in these instances it had to be DUST), it was thrown into a zinc pan with slightly raised sides, which were well rubbed over with grease. Under the plea of a careful examination, the purchaser shook and rubbed the dust, and a considerable quantity adhered to the sides. Another common practice was for examiners of gold-dust to cultivate long finger-nails, and, in drawing their fingers about it, gather some up.

A new style of lodging and boarding house was in great vogue. It was a tent fitted up with stringy bark couches, ranging down each side the tent, leaving a narrow passage up the middle. The lodgers are supplied with mutton, damper, and tea, three times a day, for the charge of 5s. a meal, and 5s. for the bed; per week, a casual guest paid double, and as 18 inches was on average considered ample width to sleep in, a tent 24 feet long brought in a good return for the owner.

Sly grog selling was the bane of the diggings. Many--perhaps nine-tenths--of the diggers were honest industrious men, desirous of getting a little there as a stepping-stone to independence elsewhere. But the other tenth were composed of outcasts and transports--the refuse of Van Diemen's Land--men of the most depraved and abandoned characters, who sought and gained the lowest abyss of crime, and who earlier would have expiated their crimes on a scaffold. They generally worked or robbed for a space, and when well stocked with gold, retired to Melbourne for a month or so, living in drunkenness and debauchery. If, however, their holiday was spent at the diggings, the sly grog-shop was the last scene of their boisterous career. Spirit selling was strictly prohibited; and although the Government licensed

respectable public-houses on the ROAD, it was resolutely refused on the DIGGINGS. The result was the opposite of that which it was intended to produce. There was more drinking and rioting at the diggings than elsewhere, the privacy and risk gave the obtaining of it an excitement which the diggers enjoyed as much as the spirit itself. Wherever grog was sold on the sly, it sooner or later became the scene of a riot, or perhaps murder. Intemperance was succeeded by quarrelling and fighting, the neighbouring tents reported to the police, and the offenders were lodged in the lock-up; whilst the grog-tent, spirits, wine, etc., were seized and taken to the Commissioners. Some of the stores, however, managed to evade the law rather cleverly--as spirits were not SOLD, "my friend" paid a shilling more for his fig of tobacco, and his wife an extra sixpence for her suet; and they smiled at the store-man, who in return smiled knowingly at them, and then glasses were brought out, and a bottle produced.

It was no joke to get ill at the diggings; doctors made you pay for it. Their fees were--for a consultation, at their own tent, ten shillings; for a visit out, from one to ten pounds, according to time and distance. Many were regular quacks, and these seem to flourish best. The principal illnesses were weakness of sight, from the hot winds and sandy soil, and dysentery, which was often caused by the badly-cooked food, bad water, poor sanitation and poor nourishment from want of vegetables.

The interior of the canvas habitation (it often could hardly be termed a tent) of the digger was desolate enough; a box or a block of wood formed a table, and this was the only furniture, and many dispensed with even that. The bedding, which was laid on the ground, was rolled up to also serve as a seat. Tin plates and pannikins, the same as were used for camping, composed the breakfast, dinner, and tea service. The meals usually consisted of a monotonous cycle of the same dishes--mutton, damper, and tea.

In some tents the soft influence of the fairer sex was pleasingly apparent. The tins were as bright as silver, there were sheets as well as blankets on the beds, and perhaps a clean counterpane, with the addition of a dry sack or piece of carpet on the ground. Perhaps there was even a pet cockatoo or parrot, chained to a perch, making enough noise to keep the "missus" from feeling lonely when the good man was away at his work. Sometimes a wife was at first rather a nuisance; women got scared and frightened, then cross, and commenced a "blow up" with their husbands; but all their railing generally ended in their quietly settling down to this rough and primitive style of living, if not without a murmur, at least to all appearance with the determination to grin and bear it. And although uncouth in their manners, and rough in their address, diggers seldom wilfully injured a woman; in fact, even a regular criminal, in his way, played the gallant with as much zest as the fashionable city-slicker --at any rate, with more sincerity of heart.

Sunday was kept at the diggings in a very orderly manner; and among the actual diggers themselves, the day of rest was a day for socialising. It was not unusual to have an established clergyman holding forth near the Commissioners' tent and almost within hearing a soap-box orator expounded the origin of evil, while a "mill" (a fight with fisticuffs), a 'two-up' school, or a dog fight filled up the background.

Night at the diggings was a characteristic time: murder here--murder there--revolvers cracking--blunderbusses bombing--rifles going off--balls whistling--one man groaning with a broken leg--another shouting because he couldn't find the way to his hole, and a third letting everyone know he had tumbled into one--this man swearing--another praying--a party of drunks chanting various ditties to different time and tune, or rather minus both. Here one man grumbled because he had brought his wife with him, another wept because he has left his behind, or sold her for an ounce of gold or a bottle of rum. Donnybrook Fair was not to be compared to an evening on the gold fields.

Gold was not discovered at Maldon until the end of 1853 and it is recorded that over 20,000 miners descended on the area within a month. We know that Henry Bowland and William Lovell were sponsored as gardeners for three months so that would have taken them up to the end of June of 1853. We can only speculate on whether they stayed on in Melbourne or made their way to one of the earlier gold strikes to try their luck and then moved on to

Maldon. The first record of Henry being at Maldon is shown on the 1856-7 Electoral Roll for the Assembly seat of Maldon when his address is Long Gully, not to be confused with Long Gully, Eaglehawk. Meanwhile William Lovell made his way back to England where nearly 5 years after his ill-fated marriage to Martha, William returned to Whittlesey to marry a second wife, Carolyn Hughes, who like Martha was connected to the Whittome family, on the 30 June 1857 in the same church. He was shown as a widower of full age, his occupation was given as Gold Merchant, and address as Bassenhally Field.

New Recruits and Florence Bowland

The Crimean War (1853-1856) had just finished and any one surviving, considered themselves fortunate if they made it home alive. Out of a total British force of some 97,000 more than 22,000 died. Disease was the big killer, only about ten percent died from war wounds. We can only assume that Benjamin Holdich, because of his skills, was probably attached to a mounted regiment. In any case Benjamin was one of the lucky ones and after being discharged from the army, the 25 year old blacksmith now living at Paradise Lane, married Emma Bowland on 1 July 1857, in St. Mary's Church; the day following William and Caroline's nuptials on the 30 June! The witnesses to this marriage were Emma's younger siblings Charles and Rachel Bowland. This marriage was significant in that the newly weds, following in the footsteps of an elder brother, also emigrated to Australia to join Henry and Jane at Maldon. Just four & a half months after their wedding they boarded the 'Guy Mannering' at Liverpool, in November and sailed to Melbourne. Here they joined Emma's brother Henry Bowland and Mary (Lovell) at Maldon about 80 to 90 miles (130 - 150Kms) inland from Melbourne. They lived in this pioneering country town for the remainder of their lives. Six girls were born to them, Martha (died 8 months.), Alice, Laura, Emily (died 2 days), Ada, & lastly Evelyn or Eveline, less than a year before Benjamin died aged just 37 in 1868. Emma remarried a German immigrant, Auguste Maleskeht in 1869 and had three more children, Augustus (died 12 yrs), Frederick (Fritz), & Maud. Auguste died in 1909 and Emma lived on until 81 years of age in 1914. Both are buried at Maldon in the Holditch grave (No. 25 in Section 28). Some time ago Bob & Norma Ebbott made contact with Bettie Spowart, a descendant of Emma and Benjamin. She had done a lot of research on the Bowland family and lived at Mincha near Pyramid Hill until she passed away in 1992.

William and Caroline Lovell, also sailed again to Australia, at or about the same time as Benjamin & Emma. They joined up for a short time with Henry & Mary Bowland at Maldon, Victoria, where William and Caroline's son, Ambrose William Lovell was born and christened 26 May 1863. William, Carolyn & Ambrose returned permanently to England sometime after 1867, and the 1871 English Census shows them residing at 218 Longley Street, Bermondsey, London, and William working as a 'Hay & Straw' clerk. Census records for 1901 show William living as a 70 year old widower in Southwark. He apparently died sometime between April and June that same year in Tendring, Essex, England. A point of interest is the house built and owned by William Lovell in Templeton Street. It is mentioned in the Maldon's Historic Town Walk and is still standing having been built about 1860. William advertised it for sale in January 1867 before returning to England with his family.

Returning our focus to Australia, we find that on the 2 August, 1858 Charles Henry, the second child of Henry and Jane was born in Maldon but he died 18 months later on the 10 February, 1860. He was the first one buried in the Bowland grave at Maldon. Soon after the birth of Charles there would have been great celebrations because of the arrival of Emma and Benjamin Holdich at Maldon. I have to assume that the Holdich's first child was born on the ship or before they left England because there is no record of the birth in Victoria but the Maldon Cemetery Register shows that Martha J. was buried on the 28 January 1859, aged 8 months. The grave was purchased by Henry. Having lost the first two of their children Henry and Jane would have wondered if they were destined to never have a child which would survive past infancy but on the 8 June, 1860 Florence was born and thankfully she survived. By this time the parents were attendees at the Wesleyan Church in Fountain Street. The original Hall was built in 1855. The Wesleyan Baptismal Register shows the various baptisms of the Bowland, Holdich, families as well as Maleskeht (the name of Emma's second husband)

and one child of William and Caroline Lovell which entry was for Ambrose William born on the 26 February, 1863, and baptised on the 26 May.

Florence must have been a wonderful help to her parents and probably also to the Holdich family as they would have visited each other regularly. She most likely attended school in Maldon as the first school seems to have been established in 1860 behind the school cottage in High Street. By the time Henry purchased his farm at West Shelbourne in 1875 Florence would have left school and would have been working full time at home. Most likely she would have also worked around the neighbourhood when the opportunity arose. This was for a period of 20 years and she was married at the age of 34 on the 13 March, 1895 as a spinster to a widower with three children, John Rawe who was a miner at Sparrowhawk, Bendigo. Florence's occupation was shown as Assistant and Housekeeping. They were married at West Shelbourne according to the rites of the Primitive Methodist Church. There were three children from this marriage, Percy Bowland Rawe born on the 28 May, 1897, and died on the 29 December, 1897. Doris May born on the 5 April, 1898. And Aubrey Arthur born on the 28 October, 1900, and died on the 3 December, 1900. All were born at Long Gully, Eaglehawk. John Rawe died in West Australia on the 11 May, 1902 aged 41. In the Postal Directories Mrs F. Rawe is shown in 1906 as a confectioner, Mt. Korong Road, Long Gully, in 1911 and 1917 as a Fruiterer, 362 Bond Street, Long Gully. At some stage she went to live with her daughter Doris in Ballarat where she died on the 18 November, 1924, aged 64. Florence is buried in the New Ballarat Cemetery. The headstone has only the name "Rawe" on it. Doris married Archibald John Harmsworth, a returned soldier from the Great War (1914-1918) on the 8 July, 1922 at Northcote and their marriage produced three children. Valda Maie, born on the 8 May, 1923; Russell John, born on the 11 July, 1924; and Florence June, born on the 29 June, 1925. All three were born at Ballarat. Russell died at Rosebud on the 22 September, 1979 leaving a wife but no family. Val married Thomas Frank Carver at Croydon on the 4 March, 1950 and they had two children: Peter Russell, born in 1950 and Louise Anne born in 1954. Val passed away in March 1996, aged 72. Florence June Harmsworth lives in Rosebud and Frank lives at McCrae. Frank and Val's son Peter Russell Carver lives at Nanneella and works at Echuca.

The next addition to Henry and Jane's family arrived on the 5 April, 1862. He was named Henry Arthur and he was baptised on the 4 May. Nothing much is known of Henry Arthur but his death certificate states he died in Bendigo Hospital on the 13 January, 1896, normal residence was West Shelbourne so he must have been living at home. His surname is spelt incorrectly as "Boland". He was 34 years old and died of Epilepsy and Dysentery. He was buried at Bendigo Cemetery on the 14 January. He was unmarried. Another son arrived on the 12 April 1866 and they named him Alfred. He was baptised at the Wesleyan Church on then 3 June. Tragically Alfred died on the 10 February, 1867 aged 10 months. The cause of death was Gastro-enteritis and Teething. Alfred was buried in the Maldon Cemetery on 11 February. The next baby arriving on the 3 April, 1868 was a boy and he was also named Alfred. He was baptised on the 26th. June of that same year in the Wesleyan Church.

Moving to West Shelbourne

Web advertising in 2008 states that...

"The lovingly preserved goldfields town of Maldon has the distinction of being the 'First Notable Town in Victoria' and, in 1966, the first town in the state to be classified by the National Trust. The Maldon streets are literally full of operative historic buildings." – Maldon makes the most of its mining history today, featuring many of the mining sites in it's list of 'places to visit'. These mines have colourful and expressive names such as, The Beehive, Carman's Tunnel, North British, The Red White & Blue, South German, the Tarrangower Tunnelling Company Mine and even an Excavator and Gold Dredge. Many of the town's old buildings stand as proud testament to the commitment by many of the pioneers to build for the future.

Henry and Mary Jane appear to have had three addresses while living in Maldon, the first at Long Gully in the north part of the present town, then at Swipers Reef and lastly at German

Reef. The last two Reefs are situated on the south side of town, down Phoenix Street, and are quite close to together. William & Caroline Lovell had their home on Templeton Street that is now part of the town's historic walk.

On the 18 February, 1875 Henry purchased a 164 acre farm from Hugh McCartin for the sum of £738 (pounds - approximately \$1,500.00). Henry paid for the farm with money he had on fixed deposit at the Bank of New South Wales amounting to £580 (pounds). £42 (pounds) plus the interest to be retained by Henry. The balance of £200 (pounds) owing to be secured by a mortgage to be repaid in five years at an interest rate of 7%. The vendor was required to scarify and harrow the seed about to be sown by the purchaser about the end of April or beginning of May. Another clause required Hugh McCartin at his own cost to remove the purchasers house fence and furniture now standing at German Reef Maldon and cart the same to the farm. There is no building on the farm now but there is evidence of a cellar where we understand they used to store the wine they made from the vineyard. Alfred Bowland was a pupil at Maldon State School (No 1254). He started when he was 5 years and 2 months old in August 1873 and left in May 1875. He would have continued his education at West Shelbourne although I'm not sure when that school was established. Alfred's family attended this school walking a considerable distance across the paddocks to the south of their farm. The school is still standing in 1998, although in a poor condition.

On the 29 October, 1889 at Bowden Street, Castlemaine, Alfred married Mary Ann Hazlett by the Baptist Minister. Alfred's age was 21 and Mary Ann's 20. She had the written consent of her mother Eliza Hazlett. We don't know where the young couple set up house but as Alfred appears to have been working on the farm with his father, older brother Henry Arthur and Florence wasn't married yet. So we have to assume the family home would have been extended to accommodate the newlyweds. Alfred and Mary Ann's family began with the birth of Elsie Jane on the 10 August, 1890, followed by Charles Henry on the 8 April, 1892, Alfred Joseph John in 1893, David Samuel Ambrose on the 18 February, 1895, Harry William in 1897, Alfred Laurence on the 15 May, 1899 and Florence Eliza May on the 3 April 1901. The first five were born at Lockwood where Mary Ann's mother Eliza Hazlett was living and functioning as a midwife. Henry Bowland died, on the 10 November, 1896 aged 67, at West Shelbourne, a long way from Whittlesey. The cause was congestion of the liver and lungs and he was buried at Maldon, the Church of England Minister officiating. His wife, Mary Jane Bowland (nee Lovell) lived on for another seven and a half years before passing away at Shelbourne on the 14 June, 1904 of influenza and heart disease and was buried at Maldon by the Methodist Minister. She was 76 years.

Mary Ann would have suffered a terrible blow when Alfred died at the early age of 34 of Pulmonary Tuberculosis Acute Nephritis and Cancer leaving her with a young family to rear. Florence was only 20 months old at the time of his death. Alfred was buried at Maldon in the family grave. The service was conducted by the Methodist Minister. Both Alfred Joseph John and Harry William died as infants predeceasing their father and are buried at Maldon.

Celtic Connections

Mary Michael was christened in the Ullapool church on the shores Loch Broom, Scotland on 28 February 1850. Mary's parents, William and Ann Michael migrated to Australia in 1852 aboard the sailing ship 'Wanata'. The ship's tonnage was 1,442 and carried 820 passengers. Departing from Liverpool on the 10 June the voyage to Melbourne took 99 days, arriving off Gellibrand Point, Williamstown on 17 September. The health officer visited the ship and immediately put the vessel in quarantine because of 'fever'. Mary lost a younger sister, one of 33 children and 6 adult deaths, during the voyage. The quarantine was lifted on 4 October and the 'Wanata' anchored in preparation for disembarking.

Her father William was a shepherd whose first work in Australia was shepherding near Ballarat for Captain Hepburn in whose employ he rose to overseer. He next went to Laanecoorie as a station manager for Mr Cay. Later he acquired part of Murphy's waterholes and started farming on his own account besides continuing to oversee the principle portion of Mr Cay's buying and

selling for another five years. Eventually he returned to Laancoorie, not far from Woodstock, and over a period of time by adding to his original 49 acres came to hold 1000 acres, developing it for cropping and dairying as well as carrying sheep.

WILLIAM² (WILLY) MICHAEL, (JOHN¹, brother of JAMES)

Bapt. 1828, Creigh; Sutherland, Scotland.

d. 7 March 1896, Laanecoorie, Victoria, Aust. Buried: Newbridge.

Married: his cousin 26 January 1849 at the Kirk in Ullapool on Loch Broom

ANNIE GRACE (NANY) MICHAEL, daughter of **JAMES McMICHAEL**, shepherd & **ANN McLENNAN**,

Born: 1826, Ross Shire, Scotland.

d. 26 March 1890 Laanecoorie, Victoria; Buried: Newbridge.

Children: of WILLIAM & ANNIE MICHAEL are:

- | | | | |
|------|--|--|-------------------------------------|
| i. | MARY MICHAEL , | b. 1850, Inverpolly, Scotland; | m. JAMES DOUGLAS , 12 issue. |
| ii. | JANET MICHAEL , | b. 1851/2; Died: 31 Aug. 1852, at sea. | |
| iii. | JESSIE MICHAEL , | b. 26 Nov. 1852; Died: 1 Dec. 1852. 2mths after arrival. | |
| iv. | JOHN JAMES MICHAEL , | b. 1854; d. 1861. | |
| v. | ROBERT CAY (BOB) MICHAEL , | b. 1859, Victoria, Australia; d. 1938; | m. ANNIE BROWN , 7 issue. |
| vi. | ALEXANDER ROSS (ALEX) MICHAEL , | b. 1860, Victoria, Australia; d. 1938; | m. FANNY BROWN , 7 issue. |
| vii. | ANNIE JESSIE MICHAEL , | b. 1863, Victoria, Australia; d. 1928. | |

In Australia one could say that shepherds were the earliest stockmen. They had swung into being as naturally as the first sheep began to grow into flocks. Probably the early settlers believed you could not keep sheep without shepherds, and they would certainly be necessary in the days before fences stretched across the country-side. But the crook of these shepherds was a muzzle-loading gun; these were not the old-world shepherds who coddled their sheep and gathered them into some protective enclosure each night, for these "blocks" or "selections" of enormous proportions, were part of a great, unknown continent of wild bush, frighteningly different to the centuries-old; pocket-handkerchief farms of their former experience. This shepherd's job was to feed his flock on green grass handy to water, to keep them clear of bog and dangers, to guard the lambs against eaglehawks, crows, and dingoes, and the whole flock and himself, too, against wild blacks, bushfires, flood or thirst, against straying and strange new diseases and all the hazards, gradually becoming known, of this great new land. For all that, the shepherd knew every sheep in his flock, and was responsible for each precious one, both by day and night. As the settlers spread out so the flocks rapidly increased; the shepherds had larger and larger flocks to tend until eventually the flocks grew into the Australian "mobs" together with the evolution of the Australian stockman. And the day of the shepherd was over. When the early settlers came the Australian stockman was not yet born – but had to evolve, as the settlers themselves had to evolve gradually into overlanders, then pastoralists, and with labour and fortitude battle a lifetime learning to exist in this strange land. Their sons, the real Australian stockmen, had to be born into the land and environment of their inheritance, for it was the Australian continent that made the Australian.

Almost without exception, the shepherd was, or soon became, a sombre, taciturn, secretive type. their grizzled, weather-tanned old faces, their inquiring eyes measuring you up, their casual, effortless movements, their secretive ways, were all part of their type. Loneliness and environment made them so, even if they were not born that way, and often some fear or unhappy circumstance had driven a man to seek isolation as far as possible from his fellow men. The shepherd's life offered this, especially in the drier, undeveloped areas where the scattered stations had to be of great acreage to support their stock. From the homestead, rations were taken by packhorse to the shepherd generally once a month, perhaps even once in three months. Then he was left with the uniquely exclusive company of the bush again.

At the age of 21 James Crawford Douglas left Ireland in the wake of the ferry that took him to Liverpool, and sailed to Australia in 1864 with an older brother John, aboard the first iron clad steamship 'Great Britain' from Liverpool to Port Phillip, Melbourne in 90 days. Another younger brother, Alexander remained behind at 59 Ballyhay, Newtonards, (Donaghadee Rural, County Down), Northern Ireland to carry on farming the family property, marry Essie Pollock also born in County Down, and have ten children. In the 1911 Irish Census they are listed as Alexander (60), Essie (58), Jane (24), Aggie (22), Alexander (20) Essie (18), and Maggie (16).

JAMES³ CRAWFORD DOUGLAS, (JAMES², JOHN¹).

Born: December 1842 at Newtonards, County Down, Ireland;

d. 28 June 1902 at 'View Hill' Woodstock West, Victoria, Aust.

Married: 25 February 1868 at 'Alpha Cottage' Dunolly, Victoria. The Presbyterian minister, was Henry H. Finlay.

MARY MICHAEL, daughter of **WILLIAM MICHAEL & ANNIE MICHAEL**.

Born: 6 December 1849 at Inverpolly, Sutherland, Scotland; d. 2 August 1921. Buried at Newbridge Cemetery, Victoria, Aust.

Children: of JAMES DOUGLAS & MARY MICHAEL (All born at 'View Hill', Woodstock West, Victoria, AUST.) are:

i.	JAMES ALEXANDER (ALEX) DOUGLAS,	b.1867 – d.1938;	s. MARY ANN ROSE FRASER;	5 issue
ii.	ELIZABETH (LIZZIE) DOUGLAS,	b.1870 – d.1943;	spinster	
iii.	MARGARET DOUGLAS,	b.1872 – d.1956;	s. WILLIAM BROWN;	6 issue
iv.	WILLIAM (WILL) DOUGLAS,	b.1874 – d.1938;	s. MARY ELIZABETH HAWKSLEY;	7 issue
v.	ANNIE (NAN) DOUGLAS,	b.1876 – d.1949;	spinster	
vi.	JOHN DOUGLAS,	b.1877 – d.1923;	s. ELIZA JANE NICHOLS;	4 issue
vii.	ALICE DOUGLAS,	b.1879 – d.1956;	spinster	
viii.	THOMAS (TOM) DOUGLAS,	b.1882 – d.1956;	s. ELSIE BOWLAND;	4 issue
ix.	ROBERT (BOB) DOUGLAS,	b.1884 – d.1954;	s. CHARLOTTE GOULDEN;	2 daughters
x.	JANE DOUGLAS,	b.1886 – d.1974;	spinster	
xi.	EDWARD (TED) DOUGLAS,	b.1888 – d.1966;	s. MARGARET WILSON;	4 issue
xii.	MARY GRACE (GRACE) DOUGLAS,	b.1890 – d.1970;	spinster	

Originally conceived as a paddle steamer, the constructors of the 'Great Britain' quickly saw the advantages that the new technology of screw propulsion could give the vessel, and converted her and her engines to power a sixteen foot iron propeller. At the time of her launch in 1843 she was by far the largest ship in the world, over 100 feet longer than her rivals, and the first screw propelled, ocean-going, wrought iron ship. She was designed initially for the Trans-Atlantic luxury passenger trade, and could carry 252 first and second class passengers and 130 crew.

After their arrival in Victoria, James and John worked as farm labourers before eventually selecting their own properties. James secured land in north west Victoria at a place west of Bendigo called Woodstock. Here James met and married Mary Michael of Laanecoorie in 1858 and together the couple raised a family of twelve children, six sons and six daughters, and established the farm and homestead that became known as 'View Hill'. James farmed here for the next 38 years before an early death at age 59. Five of the daughters remained spinsters, four living in Melbourne and one in Bendigo. Of the other seven family members, James Alexander married Mary Ann Fraser and had 5 children, Margaret married William Brown and had six children, William married Mary Elizabeth Hawksley and had seven children, John married Eliza Jane Nichols and had four children, Robert married Charlotte Goulden and had two daughters who together compiled a Douglas Family Tree for a reunion in 1981, and Edward married Margaret Wilson and had four children.

As the eighth family member and fourth son of James & Mary Douglas, Thomas Michael married Elsie Jane, the eldest daughter of Alfred & Mary Ann Bowland (nee Hazlett). The wedding took place at Shelbourne on the 12 March, 1913 and they farmed at Woodstock West where they raised 2 boys and 2 girls. Stanley Thomas married Ruth Akehurst and had two sons, Philip Stanley and Rodney Lester. Kenneth Alexander married Irene Beatrice Jean Hood and had eight children. Elsie Mary Florence married Eric Thomas Wilson, and had three children, Ian Thomas Wesley, Lauris Yvonne Tersia, and Eric Graeme Douglas. Muriel Joyce married Kevin John Conner and had two children, Sharon Ruth and Mark Andrew. An interesting article was printed in the Tarrangower Times & Maldon Advertiser dated the 31 December, 1902 regarding an unfortunate accident at Woodstock when Tom Douglas then aged 21 had his right arm torn off near the shoulder when his clothing caught in the drive shaft of a traction engine during threshing operations. When the Douglas's retired to Kangaroo Flat they had a poultry farm and continued their involvement with the Pentecostal Church which the whole family readily embraced. In 1998 the only surviving member of this family was Stan, now aged 84 and living with his wife Ruth, in a retirement home in the southern Brisbane suburb of Graceville. Stan died on the 21 January, 2006 at Brisbane. Tom Douglas died at Kangaroo Flat on the 17 August, in 1956 and Elsie Jane at Brisbane on the 5 June, 1975.

The eldest son of Alfred and Mary Ann was Charles Henry who married Lottie Kelly on the 29 March, 1916 at Bendigo and after living at Shelbourne they moved to Gunbower for 22 years, and then 20 years at Calivil and retired to Eaglehawk. Charlie Bowland was very well known in trotting circles as a successful trainer and owner/driver. They celebrated 60 years of marriage at the Botanical Gardens at Epsom in 1976 when relatives and friends from all over Victoria attended the celebrations. By a coincidence both died in the same year. Lottie died

on the 12 January 1978, aged 81. and Charlie on the 4 June aged 86. They had a family comprising Frederick Charles born on the 22 April, 1917 at Bendigo. John Alfred born on the 31 May 1919 at Turrumbarry and Thelma Mary born on the 19 January, 1924 at Bendigo, Only Thelma (Mrs Lea) survives and she lives with husband Bill in Bendigo. Fred's widow Mrs Anne Bowland lives in Bendigo and Jack's widow Mrs Lorna Bowland lives in Leitchville.

Ambrose (Con) Bowland married Pearl McKenzie on the 22 April, 1939. Norma was the flower girl. They had no family, living at Tatalia and retiring to Moama. Con died on the 5 March, 1961 aged 66 and Pearl died in a retirement home at Kerang on the 22 April, 1996 aged 96. Both Con and Pearl are buried at Echuca Cemetery.

Laurie was the youngest son and he was only three when his father died. When he reached the age of 12 he obtained permission to leave school so that he could help his widowed mother on the farm at West Shelbourne. He married Thomasina Catherine (Rene) Jasper on the 17 April, 1924 at Elmore. Laurie and Con worked in partnership cutting chaff around the district and then settled in Echuca where they ran a produce store and supplied chaff to bullock teams in the Barmah forest. Later 9 years were spent farming at Tatalia on the N.S.W. side of the Murray River. In 1947 Ambrose and his wife retired to Moama and Laurie, Rene and the family moved to Grahamvale near Shepparton on to an orchard property and subsequently retired to the 'town. Laurie died at the age of 70 on the 1 May, 1970 and Rene died aged 80 at Geelong on the 17 November, 1982 while visiting Betty. Both are buried in the Shepparton Cemetery. They had a family of five: - Ray, Norma (Mrs Bob Ebbott), Tom (deceased), Joan (Mrs Gus King) and Betty (Mrs Lyndsay Morris).

The youngest of Alfred and Mary Ann's family, Florence Eliza May (Floss) married Alfred Ireland and gave birth to a daughter Elizabeth Mary in 1936. The baby died soon after birth and Floss also died later on the 26 August, 1936. Both are buried in the Bendigo Cemetery with Mary Ann, who died on the 9 October, 1943.

Mary Ann was born at Fryerstown and her family later lived at Myrtle Creek. After her marriage she lived at West Shelbourne. After leaving the farm she lived at Elmore in a house situated in the main street with her mother Eliza until her mother's death on the 7 October, 1928. Eliza is buried at Elmore. Mary Ann then moved to Lily Street, Bendigo where Floss lived with her until her marriage.

DOUGLAS FAMILY GRAVESITE MOVILLA CEMETERY

**OLD MOVILLA ROAD, NEWTOWNARDS,
COUNTY DOWN, NORTHERN IRELAND**

**OLD SECTION 3. NEAR 13TH CENTURY MOVILLA ABBEY
RUIN LOCATED IN CEMETERY. GRAVESITE IS SITUATED
SLIGHTLY TO RIGHT, BEFORE LEFT SIDE WALL OF ABBEY.**

DOUGLAS GRAVESTONE INSCRIPTION:

Erected by JAMES DOUGLAS of Ballyhay, (father of James Crawford)

In memory of his father JOHN DOUGLAS who departed this life	21 st April 1834 aged 60 years.
Also his mother MARGARET DOUGLAS, who departed this life	17 th March 1846 aged 71 years.
Also the above named JAMES DOUGLAS who departed this life	3 rd October 1882 aged 76 years.
In loving memory of ESSIE DOUGLAS died	20 th March 1923
Also her husband ALEXANDER DOUGLAS died	17 th April 1927
Also their son ANDREW P. DOUGLAS died	5 th March 1899
Also their daughter LIZZIE ANN died	24 th June 1909
Also their daughter AGNES died	16 th September 1911
Also their daughter MAGGIE died	10 th October 1912
Also their daughter JANE died	14 th March 1929
Also their son ALEXANDER died	15 th March 1947
Also his daughter ESSIE CARSON died	11 th April 1963

ESSIE CARSON became the last DOUGLAS owner and inhabitant of the old family home at Ballyhay when her father ALEXANDER (SANDY) died in 1947. It is thought that the property was sold after her death in 1963, and the home was later demolished because of its dilapidated state.

Gravesite details supplied by Tania Pyland (nee Tomorad) a descendant of the family James and his brother John left behind.

Remembering Our Pioneering Ancestors

There is a large grave site in the Maldon cemetery purchased by the original Henry where seven of the early Bowland family are interred. Norma and Bob Ebbott visited the grave several times but were disappointed that there was no headstone or marker on it. Stones had been put in place on some of the nearby graves in recent years with details of family ancestors buried there, and Bob and Norma believed it was time something permanent was erected to acknowledge to anyone visiting the cemetery that the descendants of Henry and Mary Jane were proud of the part they had played in the development of this fine country of Australia, and of the heritage they passed on to future generations.

Early in 1997 Bob & Norma sought out the Maldon monumental mason and discussed possible markers for the grave with him. He suggested a raised concrete block with a plaque inscribed with raised copper lettering similar to lawn cemeteries. He also suggested covering the site with black plastic and stones appropriate to the area spread over the top. The inscription on this plaque is as follows...

- BOWLAND -

In loving memory of our pioneering ancestors
Henry died 10 November 1896, aged 67
Mary Jane died 15 June 1904, aged 76
Charles Henry died 11 February 1860 aged 18 months
Alfred died 11 February 1867 aged 10 months
Alfred died 19 December 1902 aged 34
Alfred Joseph John died 12 April 1894 aged 4 months
Henry William died 30 May 1898 aged 1
Dedicated by their descendants
9 May, 1998

There was not sufficient time to have the work completed in time for the 10th, March, 1998, the 145th. anniversary of their arrival in Australia, but a reunion at the gravesite was held two months later on Saturday, 9th May. The picnic reunion in Maldon included everyone down to babes in arms and was a great family occasion. Afterwards everyone proceeded to the Maldon cemetery on Nuggetty Road, for the unveiling and dedication of the plaque.

Two other memorials can be found if you are ever travelling country roads in Victoria. Along the Murray Valley Highway in Victoria keep an eye out for 'Bowland Road' as you approach Leitchville travelling west. The sign points south and it is on this road that Jack and Lorna Bowland were running a dairy farm which is now owned by their son Max and Andrea. There is also a 'Bowland Close' at Congupna running east off North Verney Road which is to the north of the Goulburn Valley Highway. It was subdivided by Ray and Betty Bowland from their original dairy farm just to the east. The farm is now run by their son Alan together with his wife Barbara.



A picture of the actual Bowland plaque honouring our pioneering ancestors.