

Women of York

Prior to the late 19th century, under English law, married women had limited rights to property. The system of "coverture" applied to married women, that is, at law, all the personal property of a married woman belonged to her husband except for her dowry, which was a sum usually given by her father and held to ensure she had enough means to live on. Freehold property she held in her name could only be sold with the consent of her husband. Leasehold property could even be sold by the husband without her consent.¹ In contrast, single and widowed women were considered in common law to be *femes sole*, and they had the right to own property in their own names. In Western Australia, all these restrictions were removed in 1892 by the Married Women's Property Act and from that time, there were no restrictions on married women.

Eliza Brown²

Any account of women of York of the 19th century has to start with Eliza Brown. Eliza was born in 1811. She was the daughter of William Bussey of Cuddesdon, South Oxfordshire, a "gentleman of considerable means".

When Eliza was 13, her mother was committed to an asylum for the insane after she had attempted to take the life of a friend. "She attempted this by leaving the room and returning with an axe".

In 1836, Eliza married Thomas Brown, who was a road surveyor. A son Kenneth was born on 19 August 1837 and Vernon was born in 1839. They decided to emigrate to Western Australia arriving in 1841.

Eliza's legacy is her letters to her father. These "form a valuable addition to early accounts of the Swan River Colony, describing it in its second decade of existence." The letters begin aboard ship in 1840 and cease in 1852.

The Browns purchased the farm Grass Dale from Revett Henry Bland.

A son Aubrey was born in 1841 at York

Quoting historian Geoffrey Bolton:

[They] lived in a thatched shed warmed in winter by the pan of coals. The hundred kilometres separating her from Perth to the Avon Valley seemed limitless to a woman nursing a small child. She was, she wrote....'without the common necessities of life'.

In September 1842, life may have become a little more comfortable as Thomas leased a farm house and other farm buildings from a neighbour Mr John Wall Hardey.[10]

In 1843, son Maitland was born.

There was a depression in Western Australia and they struggled financially. "Costs remained high, but the price of stock fell." They were hugely in debt to Eliza's father who had loaned them money or guaranteed loans. Thomas had to resort to cutting sandalwood to earn a living.

On 15 December 1844, their son, Vernon, drowned in the River Avon. Another son was born in 1845, and named Vernon, and Matilda was born on 25 November 1847.

Not long after they moved into their new home at Grass Dale in 1845, the home was struck by lightning:

¹ R E Megarry & H W R Wade: The Law of Real Property, 1959, Stevens & Sons Limited, London, p.943.

² References are in Wikipedia.

It happened on the 17th of May, the lightning entered through the solid wall of one of the front rooms then struck the wall above the fireplace, entered the chimney between the paper at the bottom and the tinning. Strange to say we had nothing spoilt worth mentioning though there were such visible marks of the lightning having been amongst every thing. Two of the children and myself received a severe electric shock, we screamed out at the same instant and felt something very powerful around us. Had it happened in the night we should have been crushed to death, that is Mr Brown , myself and the infant for more than a ton of bricks fell on our bed. I shudder to think of the desolate state the poor children would have been in had the storm not providentially happened in the day time. The iron rods on top of our bedstead were wrenched off by the lightning and scattered in all parts of the room, it also deeply indented a tin box underneath the bed in two places and perforated a small hole beneath which some flannel in the ox was scorched.

In May and June 1851, Eliza herself rode with her husband and others to Champion Bay, and was persuaded by the Governor to write her account of the journey, which was published in the *Inquirer*. Going on such a journey was such a shocking thing to do that she had to explain to her father why she joined the journey to Champion Bay:

The object of this is for me to see whether I could make up my mind to go and reside there with the family, and I look upon it as a wondrous privilege to be allowed a choice in the matter.

The Browns did not move to Champion Bay because in May 1851, the Governor appointed Thomas as a Member of the Western Australian Legislative Council and they moved to Perth and then he became a magistrate in Fremantle, but they retained Grass Dale.

Unfortunately, in 1876, their son Kenneth was charged with murder after shooting his second wife. The defence tried to show he was insane and to support this argument, Eliza gave evidence of the insanity of her mother. Kenneth's daughter became Edith Cowan.

Eliza died in 1896.

Mary Anne Fowler

Mary Cleary, also Maria Anna Cleary arrived from Ireland on 27 July 1850 on board the first bride ship *Sophia* which brought 43 single women to the Colony. She was an Irish "dairymaid". Just over a year later, she married William Fowler and became Mary Anne Fowler.³

In about 1852, William was appointed the "Commissariat Storekeeper" for the York Convict Establishment,⁴ a government position, for which he received a salary. His job was to provide supplies to convicts and others working for the Government. He did this from the Comptroller's store, which was located near the river at the end of South Street.

At the same time as being Commissariat storekeeper for the Government, in May 1854, he started trading in his own general store in Bland Street, York. There was a little controversy about this because of course there is no way of knowing whether he was taking goods from his Government Store and selling them in his private store. So he announced that the business would not be carried on by him but by another member of his family.⁵ This person, it turned out, was Mary Anne, his wife.

Mary Anne Fowler was not in the best position to be running a business because, around this time, on 29 August 1854, she gave birth to a son, whose birth was very loudly announced in two newspapers of the time.^{6 7} She was also looking after one year old, John, and two year old, Thomas.⁸

³ Rica Erickson: Dictionary of Western Australians, p.1108.

⁴ Rica Erickson: Dictionary of Western Australians, p.1108.

⁵ *Inquirer*, 14 June 1854, p.3.

⁶ *Perth Gazette and Independent Journal of Politics and News* 8 September 1854, p.2.

The wording of Mrs Fowler's 17 November 1854 advertisement was as follows:

"Groceries, preferred fruits, jams, pickles, cheese, Irish pork, Epsom salts, sago, arrowroot, oatmeal, patent groats, soap, tobacco pipes.

Drapery, millinery, hosiery, and haberdashery, pocket books and knives, letter paper, pens and ink, umbrellas, parasols, toys, blankets, rugs and sheets, ladies boots and shoes, men's ditto, children's do, ladies' brooches, tea trays, tea and sugar, canisters, gunpowder, shot, and percussion caps, cut glass, looking glasses, Eau de cologne and lavender water etc. Produce taken in exchange."⁹

However, perhaps due to public pressure, Mrs Fowler ceased trading in May 1855 and offered her "Grant and Store" for sale, advertised as being "in one of the best positions in York for trade".

Catherine Blair Hamer

Catherine Blair Hamer arrived in the Colony on 28 January 1854 per *Isabella Blythe*. She is described in the Dictionary of Western Australians as "Mrs" Hamer¹⁰, so perhaps she was a widow.

On 13 November 1856, she purchased the freehold title to the store owned by William Fowler.¹¹

Mrs Hamer advertised in a series of advertisements (note that she does not give away the fact that she is a woman):

"C HAMER begs respectfully to inform the inhabitants of York and the neighbourhood that she has purchased from Mr Fowler the premises lately occupied by him, where she has commenced a GENERAL STORE with every article for Consumption and use of the best quality. Assorted stock of ladies and gentlemen's clothing of the best and cheapest description, all kinds of fancy trimmings, hair nail and tooth brushes, tinware, crockery etc. C Hamer trusts by strict attention to business to merit a share of their support."¹²

It must have been difficult for anyone trying to compete with John Henry Monger Snr. As Janet Millett (who is discussed later) noted:

"...many of the settlers have so long been accustomed to look upon some one or other of the store-keepers as their factor and banker combined, sending him all their wool and produce of every description and drawing money from him when they require any advances, that they are completely in his power, and dare not go to any newly-established store for fear of his anger; thus much of the trade would be out of the new-comer's reach, however

⁷ Inquirer, 6 September 1854, p.2.

⁸ Rica Erickson: Dictionary of Western Australians, p.1108.

⁹ Perth Gazette and Independent Journal of Politics and News 17 November 1854, p.1.

¹⁰ Rica Erickson: Dictionary of Western Australians, p.1329.

¹¹ Landgate Deeds and Ordinances Volume VI 19/102.

¹² The first of these was dated 29 June 1856 and was published in Perth Gazette and Independent Journal of Politics and News 4 July 1856, p.2.

low might be his prices for stores supplied, however high the offers he might make for the purchase of colonial produce.¹³

As Mrs Hamer left York only two years before Janet Millett and her husband arrived, this reference is probably to her.

Unlike the Fowlers, Catherine Blair Hamer had to buy her stock. She did not last long. She got into debt and sold “all her right and interest in the house, premises, and business” John Henry Monger Snr. Monger was also given a power of attorney to receive all debts due to Mrs Hamer and discharge all claims against her. In other words, it appears that Monger did the gentlemanly thing and paid off all her debts. Mrs Hamer announced she intended to leave the colony.¹⁴ Monger’s son Joseph commenced to run her store in June 1858.¹⁵ The property was one of the properties in John Henry Monger Snr’s estate that was left to his son Joseph when Monger died in 1867.¹⁶

Mary Bowes

In 1898, the licensee of the Imperial Hotel was Laurence Phillip Bowes, who had formerly run a restaurant in Perth¹⁷ and then pub at Yalgoo. At the time the hotel was owned by Swan Brewery.¹⁸

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On 1 February 1898, at 6:30 in the morning, Laurence was walking around the outside of the hotel and discovered a guest, Charles Playter, lying on the ground in severe pain. The previous night, he had stepped out through the window to discover that there was no balcony. He fell some 18 feet or 6 metres to the ground, and suffered serious injuries and soon after died.²⁰

One year later, in February 1899, Laurence was staying at the Grand Hotel in Perth. It being a hot night, he went to the window to step out for cooler air. The window was in two parts and he opened both halves²¹ and stepped out, but there was no balcony and he fell to the ground.²² He was found by a policeman walking past at 3 am. He was unconscious, with “blood flowing from his nostrils”,²³ and he never regained consciousness. He died a few days later.^{24 25}

So Mary Bowes decided she would run the hotel and in May 1899, she applied for a Publican General Licence.²⁶

She was quite capable of running such an establishment. If it is the same Mrs Bowes, previously, she had been running the 35 bed Duke of York Coffee Palace in Murray Street, Perth, and then the Miners’ Rest, also in Murray Street Perth.²⁷ So the Imperial Hotel with only 13 bedrooms was perhaps easy. However for some reason, perhaps because it was so small it was unprofitable, she

¹³ Janet Millett, *An Australian Parsonage*, p. 393.

¹⁴ Perth Gazette and Independent Journal of Politics and News 20 November 1857, p.3; 11 December 1857, p.6.

¹⁵ Perth Gazette and Independent Journal of Politics and News 18 June 1858, p.1.

¹⁶ Landgate, Deeds and Ordinances VI/390/2453: Last will and testament of John Henry Monger 10 August 1867.

¹⁷ Daily News 21 February 1899, p.3.

¹⁸ Eastern Districts Chronicle 26 February 1898, p.2; 12 March 1898, p.3.

¹⁹ Licence extended in December: Eastern Districts Chronicle 10 December 1899, p.2. See advertisement in the Sun, 11 December 1899, p.2.

²⁰ Eastern Districts Chronicle 5 February 1898, p.3.

²¹ West Australian 20 February 1899, p.5.

²² WA Record 25 February 1899, p.11

²³ Albany Advertiser 21 February 1899, p.3.

²⁴ Evening Star 21 February 1899, p.3; Daily News 21 February 1899, p.2.

²⁵ This repeats what happened to Charles Playter in February 1898 at the Imperial Hotel itself.

²⁶ Eastern Districts Chronicle 13 May 1899, p.2.

²⁷ West Australian 31 January 1900, p.1.

did not want to run the hotel for very long. Within a year, she had transferred the licence and gone back to Perth to take back the running of the York Coffee Palace.²⁸

Elizabeth Ann Brayley

The licence for the hotel was transferred to another woman, Elizabeth Ann Brayley in March 1900.²⁹ She must have decided it was not commercial too because she handed the hotel over within two months. In May, with no comment in local newspapers, the hotel changed hands to a man, Pilkington Allen Commins.³⁰ Elizabeth Ann Brayley took over the Railway Hotel in Guildford,³¹ later moving to the Torbay Arms Hotel in Kalgoorlie.³²

Mary Craig

There is a saying in the Craig family: “the Craig men’s greatest ability has been to marry remarkable women”.³³

Samuel and Mary Craig also arrived in the Colony on the first bride ship *Sophia* on 27 July 1850.³⁴

The Colony’s first introduction to the Craig family was a letter to the “Independent Journal” dated 27 August 1850 complaining about the conduct of Mr Parr, Surgeon Superintendent on the ship *Sophia*. “He neglected the sick; did not allow the married women the comforts allowed by the Government, and turned them out of the hospital at too short a period after confinement, in order to use it for improper purposes. Then he took improper and disgusting liberties with the girl Fanny Chevassent³⁵ in the presence of several females on the deck.”³⁶

Samuel Craig took over the licence of Monger’s York Hotel in May 1852³⁷ and then began constructing the original part of the Castle Hotel (right hand side on Avon Tce) in 1853.³⁸

In November 1869, Mary Craig took over the running of the Castle Hotel and became its licensee, holding a Public General License.³⁹ Presumably Samuel was not well.

She must have been a very busy lady with lots of projects as between 1863 and 1887, she employed 80 ticket of leave men.⁴⁰

The royal coat of arms on the wall of the dining room of the Castle Hotel was revealed during 1989 renovations to the hotel when one of the walls was stripped of its old paint.⁴¹ The coat of arms was probably painted on the wall for a visit of the Governor. The most likely occasion for such a drawing was when Governor Weld visited York and stayed at the Castle Hotel on 21 October 1869, that is, at a time after Mary Craig was the licensee and had begun running the hotel.

²⁸ West Australian 31 January 1900, p.1.

²⁹ Eastern Districts Chronicle 3 March 1900, p.2; 10 March 1900, p.2.

³⁰ Eastern Districts Chronicle 26 May 1900, p.2; 8 December 1900, p.3; 22 December 1900, p.1.

³¹ Swan Express 7 June 1902, p.4.

³² Sun 23 August 1908, p.9.

³³ Dr John Boyd Craig: Heir Line, page 16.

³⁴ Perth Gazette and Independent Journal of Politics and News 30 August 1850, p.3.

³⁵ She married William Yates on 3 February 1851: Rica Erickson, Dictionary of Western Australians, p.3407.

³⁶ Perth Gazette and Independent Journal of Politics and News 30 August 1850, p.1.

³⁷ Inquirer 25 August 1852, p.2.

³⁸ A.M. Clack and Jenni McColl: York Sketchbook, p. 12.

³⁹ Perth Gazette and West Australian Times 8 November 1872, p.2.

⁴⁰ Rica Erickson: Dictionary of Western Australians, p.699.

⁴¹ A.M. Clack and Jenni McColl: York Sketchbook, p. 12.

Samuel Craig died at the Castle Hotel on 12 December 1869.⁴² The business of course continued under the reins of Mary Craig, who then owned the hotel and was thereafter referred to as the “hostess” of the hotel.⁴³

A month after Samuel’s death, Mary Craig was congratulated in the Perth Gazette when reporting a cricket match between York and Northam:

“on the face of the last wicket, all hands repaired to a splendid lunch provided by the Hostess of the Castle Hotel; it is only just to remark here that the spreads on all occasions had ample justice done to it.”⁴⁴

The same writer praised Mary Craig again three months later:

“The luncheon provided by the Hostess of the Castle Hotel was, as on every occasion, excellent and called forth three times three together with a vote of thanks from those who partook of it.”⁴⁵

And a report in relation to a meeting of the York Agricultural Society in 1871:

“all praise is due to Mrs Craig the hostess of the hotel for the very nicely got up dinner.”

In 1872, Mary Craig “publican and widow” applied for a wine, beer and spirits licence for the Castle Hotel which was at the time licensed as an inn or public house under a Public General License.^{46 47}

In 1874, Mary Craig found herself defending a jury decision (the majority of whom were Rechabites) of giving a customer so much alcohol that he died. The correspondent for the Inquirer came to her defence.⁴⁸

In April 1875, another newspaper tribute was paid to Mary Craig after a York v Northam cricket match:

“At six o’clock, however, the two elevens and their friends sat down to a most excellent dinner, which had been provided by Mrs Craig, the worthy and highly respected hostess of the Castle Hotel, and to which, it need hardly perhaps be said, that all present did the most ample justice.”⁴⁹

In 1875, Mary Craig purchased another property of significance in York, namely what we now call Settlers House. This is possibly where she lived.⁵⁰ The left hand side was rented to the Eastern Districts Chronicle newspaper.

[In April, 1878, Mary was prosecuted for selling alcohol to someone who was not staying at the hotel and also after 10 o’clock.⁵¹]

More praise for Mary in May 1878, another dinner for the Governor:

⁴² The Perth Gazette and West Australian Times, 17 December 1869, p.3.

⁴³ The Perth Gazette and West Australian Times 29 April 1870, p.3.

⁴⁴ Perth Gazette and West Australian Times 21 January 1870, p.3.

⁴⁵ Perth Gazette and West Australian Times 29 April 1870, p.3.

⁴⁶ Perth Gazette and West Australian Times 8 November 1872, p.2.

⁴⁷ This licence application may not have been granted, see the 1878 prosecution below.

⁴⁸ Inquirer and Commercial News 30 September 1874, p.1.

⁴⁹ Western Australian Times, 30 April 1875, p.6.

⁵⁰ As she died at her residence on Avon Terrace.

⁵¹ Eastern Districts Chronicle 20 April 1878, p.2.

“Ample justice having been done to the viands, which were first class, and got up with good taste as is the usual wont of the hostess [at the Castle Hotel].”⁵²

In 1879, perhaps at the instigation of her son Frank, she announced that she had imported a “SODA WATER MACHINE”, the announcement including a picture of the machine.⁵³

Mary’s next venture was to be a new hotel in Cossack in the North West that would be run by her son, Frank. This was to be a wooden building prefabricated in Perth by Smith & Co of London House.⁵⁴ Unfortunately, no sooner was the new hotel in place when it was blown away by a cyclone.⁵⁵ Mary and Frank commissioned Smith & Co to build a new hotel.

The West Australian reported that

“the entire hotel [of 176 sq m with a frontage of 22 metres with a 3 metre verandah] was erected, finished off, approved by the proprietor and paid for, within nine days after the order was received, and, on the 13th inst, the building, complete in all its parts, numbered and marked for the purpose of facilitating the work of erection at Cossack, was conveyed to Fremantle ready for shipment.... twenty-eight workmen [were] employed, simultaneously, on the building.”⁵⁶

And more praise in October 1884, this time a dinner of the York Agricultural Society on the occasion of the York Fair:

“About 34 sat down to the dinner, which was got up in first-rate style by the popular hostess of the ‘Castle Hotel’.”⁵⁷

In December 1884, Mary retired and leased the hotel to her son, Frank. The West Australian said:

“For many years past, the business of the Castle Hotel has been carried on by Mrs Craig, the proprietor, who has succeeded in gaining for the inn a character as a house of entertainment second to none in these parts. Personally, I may say, Mrs Craig is universally esteemed, and she will retire into private life with the kindest regards and best wishes of all who know her for her future comfort and happiness”.⁵⁸

Mary by this time was 72,⁵⁹ though she continued to be present, as she was the subject of a toast at a dinner.^{60 61 62 63}

When the Council was looking for land to build a town hall on, Mary offered two properties opposite the castle Hotel in Avon Terrace for 200 pounds and 250 pounds.⁶⁴

⁵² Eastern Districts Chronicle, 18 May 1878, p.2.

⁵³ Eastern Districts Chronicle 65 September 1879, p.4.

⁵⁴ West Australian 25 April 1882, p.3.

⁵⁵ Eastern Districts Chronicle 31 March 1882, p.3.

⁵⁶ West Australian 25 April 1882, p.3; 17 June 1882, p.1.

⁵⁷ Eastern Districts Chronicle, 27 October 1884, p.3.

⁵⁸ West Australian 2 December 1884, p.3.

⁵⁹ Rica Erickson: Dictionary of Western Australians, p.699; Mary was born in 1814, her maiden name being Morton.

⁶⁰ Eastern Districts Chronicle, 5 January 1885, p.3; 27 February 1886, p.3.

⁶¹ Eastern Districts Chronicle, 8 December 1888, p.7.

⁶² Eastern Districts Chronicle, 20 December 1890, p.1.

⁶³ Eastern Districts Chronicle, 23 April 1892, p.4 (Frank Craig is described as a “publican”).

Mary Craig died on 4 April 1891 “at her residence, Avon Terrace”.⁶⁵ The Castle Hotel and 11 or more other properties were put up for sale on 16 April 1892.⁶⁶ The advertisement contains a full list of these properties.

May Craig

Emily (or Emilia) May Craig was born in 1865⁶⁷. She was the daughter of Stephen Trigg, a builder, undertaker and carpenter.⁶⁸

She went to Perth Government Girl’s School where she performed well.^{69 70}

James (Thompson) Craig and May were married on 13 August 1885.⁷¹ They were to have eight children, with their first child being born on 3 March 1886.⁷²

Unfortunately their first child, Morton, was scalded to death when only little.

“A very sad accident occurred at Beverley last night. Mr James Craig’s eldest son about four years of age, shortly after tea had been prepared, in catching hold of the table-cloth, pulled the tea-pot on him the contents of which ran down the poor little fellow’s back, scalding him to a painful extent. So severely was the unfortunate child scalded that in cutting away his wearing apparel a quantity of flesh was removed. Dr McWilliams was immediately telegraphed for, who left York for Beverley with the greatest possible speed.”⁷³

James and May ran the Settlers Arms Hotel in Beverley from 1885 to December 1890⁷⁴.

James and May lost another infant, Irene Ethel, on 10 December 1891 from bronchitis.⁷⁵

William Craig handed over the running of the Castle Hotel to James and May in 1896.

May was described as “the very popular hostess” by the Daily News in June 1896.⁷⁶

One of their children was climbing a tree in July 1897 and fell, coming into contact with a small stake. The leg was severely lacerated near the knee.⁷⁷

James accidentally drowned in a shipwreck in 1902⁷⁸ and after this time, the Castle Hotel was run by May.⁷⁹ May first applied for a licence for the hotel on 5 November 1902.^{80 81 82}

⁶⁴ Eastern Districts Chronicle, 22 May 1886, p.3.

⁶⁵ WA Record, 9 April 1891, p.8.

⁶⁶ West Australian 16 April 1892, p.8.

⁶⁷ Ancestry.com

⁶⁸ Rica Erickson: Dictionary of Western Australians, p.3104.

⁶⁹ Western Australian Times 9 May 1879, p.2; 23 December 1879, p.2.

⁷⁰ She attended the Jubilee procession in June 1879: Western Australian 6 June 1879, p.5.

⁷¹ Rica Erickson, Dictionary of Western Australians, p.698.

⁷² Daily News 15 March 1886, p.4.

⁷³ Eastern Districts Chronicle 14 September 1889, p.4.

⁷⁴ Eastern Districts Chronicle 3 January 1891, p.5.

⁷⁵ Eastern Districts Chronicle 12 December 1891, p.6.

⁷⁶ Daily News 19 June 1896, p.2.

⁷⁷ Eastern Districts Chronicle 17 July 1897, p.4; Northam Advertiser 24 July 1897, p.3.

⁷⁸ Northam Advertiser 10 September 1902, p.3.

⁷⁹ Dr John Boyd Craig: Heir Line, page 16.

⁸⁰ Eastern Districts Chronicle, 8 November 1902, p.2.

May wasted no time as owner of the hotel. She commissioned the construction of the corner addition, which was built in 1905 and is considered one of the finest Federation Filigree style buildings in Australia. The architect was William G Wolf, an American architect who designed this after completing His Majesty's Theatre. May left her name in the building for us all to see, M CRAIG.

In March 1905, she leased the Castle Hotel to Thomas Charles Evans for 10 years, but in 1915 she once again took control.⁸³

She transferred control of the hotel to her son Basil Morton Craig in April 1920⁸⁴ but did not rest, she "engaged in farming pursuits at the Williams".⁸⁵

May died on 7 January 1924⁸⁶ and left her estate to Basil.^{87 88}

Charlotte Pyke

Charlotte Pyke was born In London in 1863 as Charlotte Jones. She married the brother of Joseph Henry Pyke, Albert Edward Pyke⁸⁹. They came to York, presumably because Joseph Pyke was here and doing well.

The Pyke family were Methodists and active in the Independent Order of Rechabites, a movement to promote abstinence from alcoholic beverages.⁹⁰

In about 1897, Charlotte and her husband Albert E Pyke started running a "Temperance Hotel" in South Street, in what building is not certain.⁹¹ The hotel was in Albert's name.

This is ironic because Albert Edward Pyke loved alcohol so much he was at the time on a list of persons who could not enter hotels.⁹² In May 1897, Albert was convicted of "excessive use of alcoholic liquors, thereby endangering himself" and he was again placed on a banned list.⁹³

In April 1899, Albert and Charlotte moved their business of the Temperance Hotel to the Settlers building and occupied the accommodation section on the right hand side.⁹⁴ There is a photograph of this Temperance Hotel.^{95 96}

Notwithstanding his intemperance, the business of the Temperance Hotel continued to be in Albert's name^{97 98} until 1903. From that time, the Temperance Hotel is listed under the name Mrs C Pyke, and thereafter continued to be.⁹⁹

⁸¹ Emily May Craig was granted letters of administration of the estate of James Craig (worth 150 pounds) in 1903: Daily News, 21 May 1903, p.1.

⁸² Western Mail 30 May 1903, p.13.

⁸³ Eastern Districts Chronicle, 26 February 1915, p.4.

⁸⁴ Eastern Districts Chronicle 23 April 1920, p.2.

⁸⁵ Daily News 8 January 1924, p.7.

⁸⁶ West Australian 9 January 1924, p.1.

⁸⁷ Sunday Times, 11 May 1924, p.8.

⁸⁸ Sunday Times 11 May 1924, p.8.

⁸⁹ Born 1855 in Berkshire, England: ancestry.com.

⁹⁰ York Cemetery, Historic Walk Trail, York Society, 2006, p.11.

⁹¹ Postal Directory for 1897, listing under the name AE Pyke, .

⁹² Eastern Districts Chronicle 22 February 1896, p.4.

⁹³ Eastern Districts Chronicle 13 May 1897, p.3.

⁹⁴ Eastern Districts Chronicle, 29 April, 1899, p.1.

⁹⁵ The Temperance Hotel first appears in the Postal Directory for 1899.

⁹⁶ The postal directory for 1898 shows the listing as Albert E Pyke, Temperance Hotel.

Charlotte moved the Temperance Hotel to 152 Avon Terrace in 1909.^{100 101}

What happened to Albert Edward. The family cast him out. He became a vagabond wandering the streets of Perth and Fremantle.

An example of many court cases was in 1913. He was charged in Fremantle with being a rogue and vagabond, and with having no visible means of support. The constable bringing the charges said he found Pyke in an unoccupied house. He knew Pyke, who never did any work, and made a business of begging from all and sundry. This was Pyke's twelfth appearance. He had a peculiar method of begging. He obtained an addressed envelope and asked people to give him a stamp so that he might post it. He had a respectable family at York, who declined to have anything to do with him. Pyke, who was well able to work, and would not do so. He was sentenced to three months imprisonment.

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Can it get worse than this? Yes it can. In 1920 the newspaper reported:

"No words can express the lowness of the man," said Constable Pyke, giving evidence at the City Police Court to-day against Albert Pyke; an individual of disreputable appearance, who was charged with having begged alms in Barrack-street. Constable Ross said that at about 4.30 p.m. yesterday he saw the accused stop several persons in Barrack-street and, saying he had had no food for four days, ask them for money. [One] witness took his name and, after cautioning him, turned into Murray-street, still keeping Pyke in view. The latter went up to three men standing on the corner and, asserting that he had had nothing to eat all that day, asked for money. One of the men approached offered to take Pyke to a fish shop and purchase him a meal, but this the accused declined stating he would rather have the money. [Another] witness said that on October 20th at about 5.30 p.m., Pyke stopped several men and asked them for money. Constable Pyke said he had received almost daily complaints regarding the accused's conduct. "He has been like this for the last 14 years," said the constable, "and is always hanging now. No words can express the lowness of the accused. He is absolutely the worst pest and the worst loafer in the town. He is filthy with vermin."¹⁰³

Albert Edward Pyke died in September 1920.¹⁰⁴

Charlotte kept running the Temperance Hotel (from 1915) under the name Medina House until at least June 1921. She died in September 1939.¹⁰⁵

Jeannie Thielemann

Jeannie Brown-Harley was born in Scotland on 17 July 1869.^{106 107 108} She arrived in New South Wales with her mother Isabella and step-father Richard Scott in 1879, when she was

⁹⁷ 1899 Postal Directory p.294; 1900 Postal Directory p.274..

⁹⁸ 1901 Postal Directory, p.278; 1902 Postal Directory p.290.

⁹⁹ 1903 Postal Directory, p.312 and following years.

¹⁰⁰ Presumably to accommodate the requirements of Charlotte, Alfred Dinsdale (of Maylands) advertised for tenders for the "erection and completion of balcony and other sundry works" at his property (now 152 Avon Terrace), which he had recently purchased from his bankrupt brother, and former Mayor of York, William Dinsdale Jnr: *The Eastern Districts Chronicle*, 6 February 1909, p.2.

¹⁰¹ *The Eastern Districts Chronicle*, 22 May 1909, p. 2.

¹⁰² *The West Australian* 17 March 1920, p.8.

¹⁰³ REFERENCE

¹⁰⁴ *West Australian* 11 September 1920, p.1.

¹⁰⁵ *West Australian* 15 September 1939, p.1.

10.¹⁰⁹ They moved to South Australia and it is likely that Jeannie met Henry in Kupunda.¹¹⁰
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Henry Thielemann¹¹² was born in Wolfhagen, near Hesse, Germany^{113 114} and was the son of a baker.^{115 116} He appears to have first come to South Australia in about 1879^{117 118}, and was described as a “bread and biscuit maker”.¹¹⁹

Henry arrived came to Western Australia in September 1886¹²⁰ and was shortly after¹²¹ running a bakery from a building where the Motor Museum now stands,¹²² which was owned by the estate of John Hardey.¹²³ At the time, Henry was regarded as “industrious and capable”.¹²⁴

Jeannie apparently followed Henry and they married in York in March 1887.¹²⁵ At the time, he was 35¹²⁶ and she was 18. There is a photograph of the two of them, most likely taken around the time of their marriage.

In February 1888, Henry advertised for a licence to run a boarding house “in the shop or rooms that I now occupy, situated at Avon Terrace, York, next to the Police Station.”¹²⁷ In

¹⁰⁶ She was the eldest daughter of Francis Harley of Glasgow, Scotland: Eastern Districts Chronicle 12 March 1887, p.2.

¹⁰⁷ Eastern Districts Chronicle 12 March 1887, p.2.

¹⁰⁸ She was also called Jane. The Scottish census for 1871 shows her as the daughter of Frances and Isabella Harley. According to Heather Harvey, some time between 1871 and 1879, her mother married Richard Scott.

¹⁰⁹ Immigration Deposit Journals 1853-1900, Deposit Journal 1879.

¹¹⁰ Henry was employed as a clerk for someone called Thomas in Kapunda in 1886: Kapunda Herald 15 June 1886, p.3.

¹¹¹ He may have first gone to Sydney before coming to Western Australia: Daily Telegraph 7 July 1886, p.4.

¹¹² His full name was Charles Henry, but he called himself Henry (or also Heinrich).

¹¹³ He was the second son of Christian Thielemann: Eastern Districts Chronicle 12 March 1887, p.2.

¹¹⁴ In 1886, his family was trying to find him and said he was born in “Altona” in 1852 and last wrote from Kapunda. Altona is in Hamburg, Germany which is nowhere near Wolfhagen. Australische Zeitung 24 March 1886, p.2.

¹¹⁵ Rica Erickson: Dictionary of Western Australians, p.3033.

¹¹⁶ The Bicentennial Dictionary of Western Australians says his date of birth was 3 January 1862(?) and he learnt his trade in London.

¹¹⁷ There was mail waiting for him in March 1879: Australische Zeitung 4 March 1879, p.4.

¹¹⁸ Heather Harvey says that his name appeared in a crew list on the ship *Jacobine* at the Port of Sydney in 1876 with his occupation listed as cook and his age as 22. Other records show his year of birth being closer to 1862.

¹¹⁹ In at least two lists: Heather Harvey.

¹²⁰ He arrived in Albany on 26 September 1886: Crew and Passenger lists.

¹²¹ Eastern Districts Chronicle 27 October 1911, p.2.

¹²² Eastern Districts Chronicle, 4 February 1893, p.4.

¹²³ The deed of assignment of sale was registered in 1865: Landgate Deeds Index VI/302/1872 dated 24 April 1865. However, Hardey was noted as the proprietor earlier than that, in May 1864 in an advertisement offering the property for sale: West Australian Times, 12 May 1864, p.2. The property was described as “substantially built cottage, oven and premises”..Hardey died in May 1874 but the property continued to be owned by his estate.

¹²⁴ Eastern Districts Chronicle, 3 November 1911, p.2.

¹²⁵ Eastern Districts Chronicle 5 March 1887 p.2; 12 March 1887, p.2.

¹²⁶ Assuming he was born in 1852, so he was possibly younger.

¹²⁷ West Australian, 10 February 1888, p.2.

March 1888, he was advertising for boarders.¹²⁸ Presumably Jeannie was running the boarding house.

Their first two children, Isabella Henrietta and Charles Henry, were born in 1888 and 1891.
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From February 1889, Henry was earning extra money as pound keeper for the Council.^{130 131}

On 30 January 1893, a fire broke out at Thielemann's bakery at about 1:30 am. Its origin was some sparks escaping from the furnace in the bakehouse, and setting alight a sack suspended on a wall.

“The whole of the Government offices and police buildings at one time were in great danger, but fortunately the wind lulled and those in attendance made the most of the opportunity and quickly subdued the flames. The damage done to the building is but very slight”¹³²

A few months later, perhaps to hide the fire damage, Thielemann made some additions to his premises and added a verandah over the footpath.¹³³

Perhaps to show off his new verandah, Thielemann was photographed with his children and with what looks like Jeannie sitting behind them in the near background. Judging by the age of the children, the photograph is most likely taken around 1894 when Henry was 42 and Jeannie 25.¹³⁴

Their building shows advertises Bread and also Cakes Made to Order (and something else difficult to read). It also has the sign “Boarding House”, indicating Jeannie was probably very much part of these businesses. The business was called: H Thielemann Baker & Grocer.

Another three children, Lou James, Sophie and Elsie were born in 1893, and 1895 and 1897.
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In 1896, the mining boom busted and York ceased to be a bustling town. Thielemann's business went into decline and he started drinking wine and “his whole nature changed”. This also coincided with relations between Britain and Germany deteriorating. From 1898 onwards, Germany began to create a battle fleet to compete with the Royal Navy and a shipbuilding arms race with Britain began. Britain entered the 20th century regarding Germany as its most serious potential aggressor.¹³⁶

¹²⁸ Eastern Districts Chronicle 10 March 1888, p.8.

¹²⁹ Rica Erickson: Dictionary of Western Australians, p.3033.

¹³⁰ Western Mail 16 February 1889, p.18; Eastern Districts Chronicle 15 June 1889, p.5.

¹³¹ He also unsuccessfully tendered for the right to farm the Commonage and issue cattle and timber licences: Eastern Districts Chronicle 11 January 1890, p.5.

¹³² Eastern Districts Chronicle, 4 February 1893, p.2.

¹³³ Eastern Districts Chronicle, 6 May 1893, p.5.

¹³⁴ In 1894, Henry bought Duckham's brickyard for 220 pounds: Eastern Districts Chronicle 14 April 1884, later leasing it out: Heather Harvey.

¹³⁵ Rica Erickson: Dictionary of Western Australians, p.3033.

¹³⁶ Website: The naval race between Britain and Germany before the First World War.

This led to several incidents in 1901 where he slandered a man called Quigley¹³⁷ who sued Thielemann for 2,000 pounds for slander. He also slandered another man called Barr who sued him for 2,500 pounds for slander.¹³⁸

So in 1901, to protect his assets, he signed a document assigning his business and all his other property to Jeannie.¹³⁹

Their last child, Muriel was born in 1901.¹⁴⁰

Unfortunately, Thielemann was attacked for being German. Peter Plate,¹⁴¹ a fellow German, who was an assistant in Thielemann's shop had problems with his neighbour Charles Cunningham. Plate kicked Cunningham who was swearing at him, calling him a "bloody German". Cunningham also assaulted Thielemann. He was fined.¹⁴² In another incident, Cunningham damaged Thielemann's fence.¹⁴³

Thielemann started carrying a gun around. In 1905, Thielemann was charged with carrying firearms without a licence and cautioned by the Magistrate to stop carrying a gun around.¹⁴⁴

In December 1905, Henry Thielemann was proceeding by horse towards Mackie Siding on the Eastern Railway when he "met with a painful accident".

"The horse he was riding, it is supposed fell, Mr Thielemann sustained severe injuries to his head and body. He was picked up in an unconscious state and conveyed to his residence in York, where he at present lies under medical treatment. Slow progress is being made towards recovery."¹⁴⁵

Henry could not work for two years.¹⁴⁶ His mental condition gradually became worse and he suffered from "illusions and hallucinations".¹⁴⁷

From 1907, the bakery business was carried on solely by Jeannie "on her own account".¹⁴⁸

In 1907 the council ordered that both buildings in which the bakery business was being operated be removed "owing to their dilapidated condition".¹⁴⁹ Jeannie had to move.¹⁵⁰

¹³⁷ Heather Harvey suggests this was likely to be Charles Quigley who had taken over Monger's Steam Flour Mill in 1897 until his retirement from business in December 1903. She could not find any reports of Henry being summoned for slander by any person.

¹³⁸ Eastern Districts Chronicle 27 October 1911, p.2.

¹³⁹ West Australian 26 October 1911, p.9.

¹⁴⁰ Rica Erickson: Dictionary of Western Australians, p.3033.

¹⁴¹ There is no reference to him in the Bicentennial Dictionary of Western Australians.

¹⁴² Eastern Districts Chronicle, 8 March 1902, p.2.

¹⁴³ Eastern Districts Chronicle, 15 March 1902, p.3.

¹⁴⁴ Eastern Districts Chronicle, 21 October 1905, p.2.

¹⁴⁵ Eastern Districts Chronicle, 23 December 1905, p.2.

¹⁴⁶ Eastern Districts Chronicle, 3 November 1911, p.2.

¹⁴⁷ Daily News 25 October 1911, p.6

¹⁴⁸ Eastern Districts Chronicle 27 October 1911, p.2.

¹⁴⁹ Eastern Districts Chronicle, 20 April 1907, p.3; 11 May 1907, p.3; 8 June 1907, p.4; 21 September 1907, p.3.

¹⁵⁰ The old building was demolished in December 1907: Eastern Districts Chronicle 7 December 1907, p.2.

Jeannie submitted plans for a new building on land she owned across the road. Jeannie occupied the shop on the right hand side with her oven at the rear.¹⁵¹ You can see her oven in a shop in the room now used by the hairdresser. The shop on the left was occupied by Mr A Ellis, a hairdresser and tobacconist.¹⁵²

Jeannie did not live upstairs but in a house in Monger Street.¹⁵³

In November 1908, Jeannie Thielemann learnt the shocking news that her mother, who lived in Midland, had been murdered by her husband, Jeannie's step-father, Richard Scott. He had been displaying eccentric behaviour for some time. On Friday the 13th of November 1908, Scott and Jeannie's mother started arguing. The daughter, 15, went to a neighbour's for assistance. Scott attacked Jeannie's mother with a razor in the bedroom. The two of them struggled from there into the street, where Mrs Scott received a gash in the throat and fell to the ground, and died. Scott, distressed, cut his own throat, and the two of them were found in the street with their throats cut, Scott was still alive but could not speak. Jeannie's mother was dead.¹⁵⁴

The last time the bakery was advertised in Henry's name (H Thielemann) was on 4 September 1909.¹⁵⁵ In 1909, Henry was declared to be of unsound mind and was ordered to be confined in Claremont Lunatic Asylum.

Jeannie commenced advertising as "J Thielemann, York Bakery", in November 1909.¹⁵⁶ She expanded the goods she sold to include "Xmas Groceries, Fruits, Cakes, Confectionary, etc, etc"¹⁵⁷ and described herself as "Grocer, Baker and Confectioner".¹⁵⁸

On 4 January 1911, Henry was discharged from the asylum but made no attempt to go back to Jeannie.¹⁵⁹ Instead, he lived in Waroona¹⁶⁰ and asked for money that Jeannie had collected on his behalf to be paid to him, but she refused to pay. He alleged that while he was at the asylum, Jeannie had not visited him once.

Henry then commenced legal proceedings in the Supreme Court to recover the bakery and other property and the money Jeannie had collected on his behalf. Of course, Jeannie produced the 1901 deed of assignment under which he had assigned all his property to her to evade creditors.^{161 162}

¹⁵¹ This can be concluded from the 1923 photograph of the successor business, Lansell & Hayden.

¹⁵² Eastern Districts Chronicle, 23 May 1908, p.2; 6 June 1908, p.4; 4 September 1909, p.1.

¹⁵³ Eastern Districts Chronicle, 2 May 1908, p.2.

¹⁵⁴ Daily News, 14 November 1908, p.5; Kalgoorlie Miner 14 November 1908, p.5; Coolgardie Miner 14 November 1908, p.3. Eastern Districts Chronicle 14 November 1908, p.2.

¹⁵⁵ Eastern Districts Chronicle, 4 September, 1909, p.1.

¹⁵⁶ Eastern Districts Chronicle, 16 October 1909, p.1; 6 November 1909, p.1.

¹⁵⁷ Eastern Districts Chronicle, 8 January 1910, p.4.

¹⁵⁸ Eastern Districts Chronicle, 18 March 1910. P.4.

¹⁵⁹ Eastern Districts Chronicle, 3 November 1911, p.2.

¹⁶⁰ West Australian 26 October 1911, p.9.

¹⁶¹ Daily News 25 October 1911, p.6; West Australian 26 October 1911, p.9; Daily News 26 October 1911, p.6; Eastern Districts Chronicle 27 October 1911, p.2; West Australian 3 November 1911, p.4; Eastern Districts Chronicle 3 November 1911, p.2; Eastern Districts Chronicle 10 November 1911, p.3.

Henry claimed he signed the deed when he was insane but this was not accepted. His barrister then argued that a clause in the deed should be set aside or construed against Henry because it was so unreasonable to him. Justice McMillan said: "Give me an authority which empowers me to set aside a clause making over all the furniture a man may become possessed of during his lifetime. Do you say that this is so unreasonable that the man must be protected against himself?"

Justice McMillan found that Jeannie should pay her minor amounts of money that she had collected on his behalf and she had to return two cows, a brickmaking mill, a piano, a silver matchbox, a cart and some rings, but that Jeannie was the owner of the bakery and all the other property. No costs order was made.

The case, said Justice McMillan "might be of some use if only to bring home to the minds of those people who adopt such methods of meeting their liabilities [that is, assigning all their property to their wives], that such a course might turn out to be disadvantageous to them if they subsequently happened to fall out with their wives."¹⁶³

Jeannie owned other property and subdivided a property abutting Osnaburg, Eleventh and Bland roads in 1913.¹⁶⁴

Jeannie continued to trade as "Mrs Thielemann"¹⁶⁵ until 1916, when she went into partnership with Frank Ashbolt¹⁶⁶ and the business was renamed Thielemann & Co,¹⁶⁷ but this partnership was dissolved on 3 May 1918, with Jeannie to discharge the liabilities.^{168 169}

Jeannie continued to trade on her own. The Avon Gazette noted in an article "Christmas at the Shops" in December 1919:

"Messrs Thielemann and Co cater more for the ladies, and here will be found a fine display of dainty confectionary that will tempt even a confirmed dyspeptic. Here will also be found all those special lines of currants, sultanas, raisins, spices etc, so necessary for a good Christmas pudding."

The last year the business appeared in the Post Office directory was 1922.¹⁷⁰

In 1921, Jeannie's business was insolvent¹⁷¹ but she avoided bankruptcy by selling the business to Lansell & Hayden.¹⁷² There is a photograph of this store taken in 1923.

Jeannie Thielemann moved to Perth¹⁷³ and died on 21 June 1939^{174 175} at the age of 70.

¹⁶² Heather Harvey says that at the time, Henry was on the 1912 electoral roll of Waroona, his occupation being listed as baker.

¹⁶³ Eastern Districts Chronicle, 3 November 1911, p.2.

¹⁶⁴ Eastern Districts Chronicle 24 January 1913, p.4.

¹⁶⁵ Eastern Districts Chronicle, 17 November 1911, p.1.

¹⁶⁶ Eastern Districts Chronicle 10 May 1918, p.2.

¹⁶⁷ Post Office directory for 1916 p. 279.

¹⁶⁸ Eastern Districts Chronicle 10 May 1918, p.2.

¹⁶⁹ Avon Gazette and York Times 11 May 1918.

¹⁷⁰ Post Office directory for 1922, p.593; Post Office directory for 1923, p.618.

¹⁷¹ West Australian 2 June 1921.

¹⁷² Eastern Districts Chronicle 4 November 1921; 25 November 1921.

Henry moved to New Zealand in 1914, where he may have been interned, being German. He became naturalised as a New Zealander and died there in 1942¹⁷⁶ at the age of 90.

Their son Charles Henry Thielemann served in the AIF in the first world war.

Adeline Hannah Windsor

Adeline Hannah Salisbury was the daughter of Tasmanian engineer and successful foundry owner Ishmael Ernest Eldon Salisbury and his Irish-born wife Bridget Kate, née Neville. They had fourteen children.

In 1876 her father, who had been making mining machinery at Castlemaine, moved his family to Launceston, Tasmania, where he established Salisbury's Foundry & Engineering Works. Early success was secured by the firm's manufacture of H. W. F. Kayser's patent tin-dressing machine for the Mount Bischoff Tin Mining Co.

Her father died intestate in 1883. Her mother had already died so it appears that this meant that Adeline became an heiress, even though she had to share her wealth with 13 other children.

Her brother was engineer William Robert Peel Salisbury who remembered as 'a wizard with figures'. He became managing director of the Salisbury Foundry Co. Pty Ltd in Tasmania. Apart from its extensive manufacture of industrial machinery, the foundry constructed the second lane span of King's Bridge across Cataract Gorge (1904) and the Tamar swing-bridge across the gorge and in Hobart the railway viaduct across Risdon Road.¹⁷⁷

Adeline married John Charles Windsor who was a bank manager for the Union Bank. They came to Western Australia and for a while John was Manager the Union Bank in Bunbury. He was transferred to York in November 1899.¹⁷⁸

Within a few weeks of arrival in York, the Windsors lost a child:

“DEATH – The manager of the Union Bank (Mr JC Windsor) lost an infant and only child, aged 8 months, on Wednesday last. The child contracted in the first place the prevailing epidemic – whooping cough, and subsequently bronchitis set in.”¹⁷⁹

The first time Adeline is mentioned in the press, it is for giving 5 shillings to the Indian Famine Relief Fund. John is frequently mentioned for his cricket and athletic prowess. Adeline for golf.¹⁸⁰ Adeline became treasurer of the Anglican Church's Girls Friendly Society.¹⁸¹

¹⁷³ In 1922, Jeannie and her daughter Elsie and son Charles Henry were enrolled on the 1922 electoral roll, Fremantle / Balcatta at 387 Fitzgerald St, along with her future sons in law, George Preacher and Reuben Collins.

¹⁷⁴ West Australian 20 June 1942, p.1.

¹⁷⁵ Her properties were auctioned on 17 October 1939: York Leader and Quairading and Danging Herald 13 October 1939, p.2.

¹⁷⁶ Registration 1942/28907. See Ancestry.com family tree of Christine Lewis.

¹⁷⁷ All of the above information comes from Anne G Smith' article in in the Australian Dictionary of Biography, Volume 11 , 1988 regarding her brother William Robert Peel Salisbury.

¹⁷⁸ Eastern Districts Chronicle 4 November 1899, p.2.

¹⁷⁹ Eastern Districts Chronicle 20 January 1900, p.2.

¹⁸⁰ Eastern Districts Chronicle 13 May 1905, p.3.

At the York Agricultural Show, she won a prize for the best hand bouquet of garden flowers.¹⁸²

Under John Charles Windsor's direction, the Union Bank moved from Penola House to new premises being the former vet's premises at 148 Avon Terrace.

Adeline purchased Central Buildings (and constructed the 1907 section) and a machinery store in Howick Street. Though it was her husband who made a submission to the Council about the state of the footpath in front of "his shops".¹⁸³

Adeline then bought the Motor Museum property from the executors of Hardey's estate on 18 January 1908 for £733 five shillings.¹⁸⁴

In October 1907, architect Ernest Edward Giles invited tenders for the erection of "semi-detached shops" in York "for JC Windsor Esq" (no mention of Adeline). In October 1907, John Windsor was given permission by the Council to pull down the machinery shed near the Castle Hotel and "re-erect it at the rear of new premises which he intends to build".¹⁸⁵ This appears to be Central Buildings. Later that month, the tender of Davey and Trew was accepted for the erection of shops "for Mr JC Windsor", the contract price being 513 pounds.

In December 1907, it was reported that tenders were invited "for a terrace of buildings to be erected on the find block recently occupied by Mr Thielmann, and subsequently purchased by Mrs Windsor".¹⁸⁶ John sought a rate reduction for Town Lot 101 in March 1908, being the property owned by Adeline.¹⁸⁷

In August 1908, the tender of J W Rebonds was accepted by the Windsors for the erection of offices and shops on the site.¹⁸⁸ Plans were approved by the council on 19 August 1908¹⁸⁹ and the buildings were constructed by the end of November 1908 as tenants started advertising that they had moved their businesses to "Windsor's Buildings".¹⁹⁰ The property was brought under the Transfer of Land Act in February 1909.¹⁹¹

Adeline also owned a power station and stable in Howick Street.¹⁹²

The Windsors moved back to Victoria but the Motor Museum property stayed in the Windsor family until the 1960s.¹⁹³

Richard and Mary Gallop

¹⁸¹ Eastern Districts Chronicle 11 August 19009, p.2.

¹⁸² Eastern Districts Chronicle 1 November 1902, p.2.

¹⁸³ Eastern Districts Chronicle 5 August 1905.

¹⁸⁴ Eastern Districts Chronicle, 14 March 1908, p.3. The capital value was actually £1,500 but the council allowed this to be reduced this to £1,200.

¹⁸⁵ Eastern Districts Chronicle 5 October 1907, p.4.

¹⁸⁶ Eastern Districts Chronicle 21 December 1907, p.2.

¹⁸⁷ Eastern Districts Chronicle 14 March 1908, p.3.

¹⁸⁸ Eastern Districts Chronicle, 12 October, 1907, p.2.

¹⁸⁹ Eastern Districts Chronicle, 22 August 1908, p.3.

¹⁹⁰ Eastern Districts Chronicle 28 November 1908, p.2; 5 December 1908, p.3; 12 December 1908, p.2; 9 January 1909, p.2; 16 January 1909, p.2; 23 January 1909, p.2; 23 January 1909, p.414 January 1909, p.2; 6 February 1909, p.2; 6 February 1909, p.2, p.4; 13 February 1909, p.2; 13 February 1909, p.2; 1 May 1909, p.2.

¹⁹¹ Eastern Districts Chronicle 13 February 1909, p.2.

¹⁹² Eastern Districts Chronicle 10 June 1910, p.2.

¹⁹³ Certificate of Title 438/195.

Mary Gallop was born in Western Australia in November 1840. She was the daughter of a farmers and viticulturalists Robert and Susan Waters.¹⁹⁴ When she was 12, her parents became publicans, running the “Wheatsheaf Inn” in Toodyay.¹⁹⁵ ¹⁹⁶ Though young, Mary no doubt assisted in running the hotel, and probably also learnt how to make wine.

In 1865, she married Richard Gallop,¹⁹⁷ the son of one of the first settlers to Western Australia¹⁹⁸ and also a viticulturalist, market gardener and fruit grower.¹⁹⁹ Both were Catholic.²⁰⁰ Richard Gallop’s father and brother had established “Dalkeith Gardens” and also farmed at “Orange Grove” in Brisbane Street, East Perth.

In 1866 and 1867, Richard Gallop leased the Albion Hotel in York from Archibald Edgar.²⁰¹ ²⁰² Mary is recorded as employing ticket of leave wood-cutter in 1866.²⁰³

Then in 1868, Richard purchased Mile Pool Farm from York’s resident Magistrate, Walkinshaw Cowan. Before Cowan, this farm was the Gerald Mission for aborigines and is the land north of Cowan Street. The Gallops expanded the house into one of the “showpieces” of York.²⁰⁴ The Gallops employed 20 ticket-of-leave men around this time.²⁰⁵

Richard was an advocate of education and for money for Catholic schools, even writing a letter to the paper urging this.²⁰⁶

Ill health forced Richard to stop farming at Mile Pool.²⁰⁷ In 1883, Richard offered to let Mile Pool, advertising that it had 100 acres of cultivation and 100 acres of paddock.²⁰⁸

In March 1888, the Mile Pool property was sold to Mr William T Craig for 1,650 pounds cash and Richard and Mary opened a grocery store. The location of his first store is not known.

In 1889, and liquor shop in Avon Tce “at the corner of River Street and Avon Terrace”²⁰⁹, ²¹⁰ ²¹¹ and opposite Monger’s Flourmill (which no longer exists).²¹² The property had a vineyard running behind it, running to the river.²¹³ References to the shop usually referred to it as Mrs Gallop’s shop.

¹⁹⁴ Rica Erickson: Bicentennial Dictionary of Western Australians, pp 1145.

¹⁹⁵ Perth Gazette and Independent Journal of Politics and News 14 May 1852, p.6.

¹⁹⁶ This was the same name as an earlier hotel in St George’s Tce, Perth: Inquirer 6 November 1844, p.1.

¹⁹⁷ Born 1843.

¹⁹⁸ Inquirer and Commercial News 4 June 1879, p.1.

¹⁹⁹ Western Mail 24 June 1898, p.33.

²⁰⁰ Rica Erickson: Bicentennial Dictionary of Western Australians, pp 1145 and 3219.

²⁰¹ Perth Gazette and West Australian Times 12 April, 1867, p.1.

²⁰² Letter from Hal Nicholson (State Archives) to Doris Martin 28 May 2003.

²⁰³ Rica Erickson: Bicentennial Dictionary of Western Australians, pp 1145 and 3219.

²⁰⁴ York Cemetery, Historic Walk Trail, York Society, 2006, p.8.

²⁰⁵ In 1868, Richard Gallop purchased York Suburban Lots 288, containing 96 acres for 1 pound per acre.

²⁰⁶ Herald 13 August 1870, p.3.

²⁰⁷ Letter from Hal Nicholson (State Archives) to Doris Martin 28 May 2003.

²⁰⁸ Eastern Districts Chronicle 30 March 1883, p.1.

²⁰⁹ Eastern Districts Chronicle 2 December 1899, p.1.

²¹⁰ The house may have been called “Byrong Cottage”, being the name of the place where Richard died in 1899.

²¹¹ No 208: Heritage Documentary Evidence.

²¹² They were trading before April 1889 as they were granted permission to erect a verandah over the footpath in front of the store: Eastern Districts Chronicle 13 April 1899, p.4.

²¹³ Heritage Documentary Evidence.

Richard obtained a Colonial Wine Licence²¹⁴ and Mrs Gallop grew the grapes, made wine and then sold her own wine from the same premises.²¹⁵

The licence was in the name of Richard Gallop as he took a transfer of a licence to sell liquor and commenced operating in Avon Terrace as a liquor store in January 1889.²¹⁶

They advertised as a “Cheap Grocery Store” opposite Monger’s flour mill.²¹⁷

May continued the business.

In 1890, the Eastern Districts Chronicle reported that Mary suffered “a rather painful accident”:²¹⁸
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“It appears that whilst engaged in endeavoring to pull a cork out of an empty bottle, the bottle burst, and the broken glass inflicted some very severe injuries to one of Mrs Gallop’s hands. Blood flowed profusely from the wound at the time, but we are pleased to state that the injured lady is progressing favourably, and from the appearance of the wounds, there is every likelihood of a speedy recovery.”

In 1896, Mrs Gallop opened a “Branch Grocery Store” in Pyke’s buildings, opposite the Post Office, in York.²²⁰

Richard died in October 1899. Richard and Mary had no children.

Mary Gallop applied for a Colonial Wine Licence for the sale of colonial wines at her house or premises at York at the corner of River Street and Avon Terrace²²¹ on 15 November 1899.²²² She was granted this licence in December 1898 and kept extending it each year.^{223 224}

In September 1907, she advertised her grocery business and dwelling house for sale,²²⁵ though it was not sold and she continued in business until 2017.^{226 227 228}

Mary Gallop died in 1926.²²⁹

²¹⁴ This was shown as being renewed in 1889 indicating it was granted at least in 1888: Eastern Districts Chronicle 7 December 1889, p.7.

²¹⁵ Heritage Documentary Evidence.

²¹⁶ WA Record, 10 January 1889, p.8.

²¹⁷ Eastern Districts Chronicle 9 February 1889, p.3.

²¹⁸ Eastern Districts Chronicle 1 February 1890, p.5.

²¹⁹ There is another reference to a letter box being installed in front of the store: Eastern Districts Chronicle 3 May 1890, p.4.

²²⁰ Eastern Districts Chronicle 11 July 1896, p.7.

²²¹ “on portion York Building Lot 39”: See Eastern Districts Chronicle 20 February 1909, p.2..

²²² Eastern Districts Chronicle 2 December 1899, p.1.

²²³ Eastern Districts Chronicle 10 December 1898, p.2.

²²⁴ Extended in 1900: Inquirer and Commercial News 14 December 1900, p.3; and in 1904: Eastern Districts Chronicle 10 December 1904, p.3; and in 1905: Eastern Districts Chronicle 16 December 1905, p.3; and in 1907: Eastern Districts Chronicle 7 December 1907, p.3.

²²⁵ Eastern Districts Chronicle 28 September 1907, p.3.

²²⁶ Eastern Districts Chronicle 20 February 1909, p.2.

²²⁷ Eastern Districts Chronicle 4 December 1909, p.3; 9 December 1910, p.3; 6 December 1912, p.2; 5 December 1913, p.5; 4 December 1914, p.4; 19 November 1915, p.2; 3 December 1915, p.3; 8 December 1916, p.3.

²²⁸ The York Rate books show her as having a shop until 1916. Then George Boyle bought the property and rented it out, with no mention of it being a shop.

²²⁹ York Cemetery, Historic Walk Trail, York Society, 2006, p.8.

Janet Millett

The most famous 19TH century writer about York must be Janet Millett.

Janet Millett was born Janet Webster in Sutton Coldfield, Birmingham on 17 July 1821. She was the fourth of nine children of Joseph Webster and Maria Mary Payne.

The Websters were a Presbyterian family who had operated a blade mill in Perry Barr, Birmingham, from the 1740s and soon afterwards developed a wire drawing business at Perry Mills. The business flourished from 1842 under the stewardship of Baron Dickinson Webster, Janet's older brother. In 1859 Baron amalgamated the business with that of James Horsfall, the inventor of patent steel wire. The Websters specialised in exporting piano wire to Continental Europe and Horsfalls specialised in high-tensile wire used in the manufacturing of needles and other items. Baron was successful in the production of the Atlantic cable which was laid by the ship Great Eastern owned by Isambard Kingdom Brunel in 1866, and became a man of prominence.

In 1853, Janet, aged 32, married the Rev. Edward Millett, aged 29.

The couple's decision to go to Western Australia was due to Edward's ill health for he suffered from a condition called *tic douloureux*. This was a terribly painful neurological disorder which caused convulsive face-twitching for which he took morphine to relieve the pain. It was hoped the warmer climate would go some way to improve Edward's health.

So in 1863, Edward accepted the position as Colonial Chaplain of the Holy Trinity Church in York, a church we will shortly visit.

Janet and Edward left England on board the ship Tartar on 26 August 1863 and arrived in Fremantle 110 days later, on 13 December 1863. On the same ship was the wife and family of convict William Dinsdale.

Edward's health did not improve and he resigned as Colonial Chaplain in July 1868 to return to England.

Janet and Edward left for England on 11 January 1869. So the Milletts were essentially in York from the beginning of 1864 to the beginning of 1869, that is five years.

In January 1872, Janet Millett published *An Australian Parsonage* which is an account of her experiences in Western Australia, particularly in York. The work is a series of vignettes of their life, as well as being a commentary on Western Australian affairs of the day. The work also discusses aboriginal matters, plants, animals, birds, geology, explorations and many other topics of interest.

The work is a fabulous legacy and important contribution of cultural and historical importance to those researching the early history of Western Australia. The book is also entertaining and fun to read.

Wealthy as she was, she did not own any buildings in Western Australia, being the wife of the Anglican Minister, however her husband's Church and their residence, the "Parsonage" are just over the river. Part of the Parsonage is from the time she and her husband were there. I will recite from her book one incident which occurred on the river's edge, the story of Mooley the cow:

"Considerable excitement was caused us upon a more than ordinarily hot Christmas Eve, by our cow managing to tumble down the side of a steep bank into the river, where, in about 30 feet of water and only her head above the surface, she was surveyed with perplexity by our own household, and by some sympathizing neighbours. The depth of water into which she had fallen no doubt saved her from breaking her legs, but as it was impossible for her to be got up again into the field by the same road by which she had descended, owing to the

perpendicular nature of the bank, we were at a loss what to do. The height from the water was more than twenty feet, and though one of our kind friends tried to cut a sort of staircase for her, up which he thought she might manage to climb, she attempted the ascent in vain; she could neither clamber up herself nor could we drag her up by ropes, so she remained swimming about in the pool, which was nearly half a mile in length. At last a native made a ball of his few clothes, tied them on his head, and with a rope in his hand, swam out after poor "Mooley," who seemed rather to enjoy her bath. When once the rope was round her horns she was soon towed to a landing-place on the opposite side, where she was met by a woman sent a mile round for that purpose, and driven home.

Annie Maud Doncon

Annie Maud Doncon was the fourth daughter of James Wansbrough and married Henry Edward Doncon who owned the farm "Arnold Park". I will now quote from the Cyclopedia of Western Australia (1913) as what is said is most interesting: [Doncon] was "cut off at the age of thirty-six from the effects of a stroke of lightning, from which he never recovered, complications set in, which caused his death on June 9, 1910.....Upon the death of her husband, [Annie Maud] bravely faced the position [of having to run the farm], and has since carried on with very satisfactory results what is generally considered to be the work of a man. So admirably does Mrs Doncon manage the affairs of the estate that it is generally conceded that "Arnold Park" holds second place to no other farm of its acreage in the district; whilst at the same time she discharges with equal efficiency the duties of house mother and looks after the interests of her children in every possible way".²³⁰

Enid Bennett²³¹

Enid Bennett was born in York in 1893 and spent her first three years in York. Her father ran the York Grammar School at 14 Clifford St, but then went to Guildford and began Guildford Grammar School.

Around the age of 17, in 1920, she attended Lionel Logue's acting and elocution classes in Perth, and after receiving encouragement from a visiting actress in 1910, she joined a touring company. By 1912, Bennett had joined the Fred Niblo-Josephine Cohan touring company, performing comedies around Australia and understudying for Josephine Cohan herself, for which she received consistently positive reviews. Josephine Cohan was from the famous Cohan Broadway family, her brother being George M Cohan, the King of Broadway. George M Cohan wrote 50 Broadway musicals and 300 songs including "Over There" and "Give my Regards to Broadway" and was also a film producer. Josephine and Fred Niblo were married.

In the early part of 1915, theatre agents J. C. Williamson's decided to make short films of some of their popular plays, to forestall the release of imported American filmed versions. They used Niblo as director, and members of his troupe appeared in *Get-Rich-Quick Wallingford* and *Officer 666*. Enid Bennett appeared in both. Enid Bennett left for the United States in June 1915, travelling with Niblo and Cohan.

Her first appearance in the U.S. was in Henry Arthur Jones' play *Cock o' the Walk* at George M. Cohan's Theatre on Broadway in late 1915. Roles of increasing importance in films followed soon after. One of her most important early films was *The Little Brother* in 1917, where she appeared

²³⁰ Cyclopedia of Western Australia, JS Battye editor, 1913, Volume 2, p.500.

²³¹ Source of all information: Wikipedia.

opposite William Garwood. This brought her to the attention of studios, in particular Thomas H. Ince, who signed her up with the Triangle Film Corporation.

In 1916, Josephine Cohan died and in 1918, her husband Fred Niblo married Enid Bennett. He was 19 years her senior.

From 1918 to 1921, she starred in 23 films, becoming well established as an actress and attracting great publicity and consistently positive reviews. In 1922, she starred in three films, one of which became her most famous role, the female lead of Maid Marian in Robin Hood with Douglas Fairbanks. Interviewed in the 1960s by Kevin Brownlow, Bennett said, "I had a wonderful time playing Maid Marian. Of course, the part was not too demanding, I just walked through it in a queenly manner. [Fairbanks] was wonderful, inspiring."

She made a transition to sound, appearing in two 1931 Jackie Cooper-Robert Coogan films: *Skippy* (which was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Picture) and its sequel *Sooky*.

Later at the end of the decade she appeared in a few minor roles, the last being the Marx Brothers 1941 film *The Big Store*. She retired in 1933.

Marjorie Bennett²³²

Marjorie Bennett was three years younger than Enid, having been born in York in 1896, so she was still a baby when the family moved to Guildford in 1897.

Marjorie began acting in films in 1917 and later made the transition to talking pictures with bit roles in *Monsieur Verdoux* (1947), *Abbott and Costello Meet the Killer*, *Boris Karloff* (1949), and *Washington Story* (1952).

In 1952, Marjorie appeared as Charlie Chaplin's landlady in the film *Limelight*^[3] and later had guest roles on *The Great Gildersleeve*, *Four Star Playhouse*, *Sergeant Preston of the Yukon*, *I Love Lucy*, *Schlitz Playhouse of Stars*, and *December Bride*. Between 1958 and 1961, she appeared as Amanda Comstock in three episodes of ABC's *The Real McCoys*, starring Walter Brennan. From 1959 to 1961, she was cast ten times as Blossom Kenney on CBS' *The Many Loves of Dobie Gillis*, starring Dwayne Hickman.

During the 1970s, Marjorie Bennett had television roles on *Mission: Impossible*, *Adam-12*, *CHiPs*, *Night Gallery*, *McMillan & Wife*, and *Phyllis*. She had a role opposite Richard Widmark in the 1973 television film *Brock's Last Case*. In the 1973 film *Charley Varrick*, starring Walter Matthau, Bennett portrayed Mrs. Taft, an elderly gardener living in a trailer park who is convinced that every man she meets wants to seduce her. Bennett also appeared in several television commercials in the 1970s. She made her last on-screen appearance in 1980 on ABC's *Barney Miller* series.

In later life, sister Marjorie Bennett explained that, somewhat against her will, she had been encouraged by the family to join Enid Bennett to keep her company in the U.S.

Enid and Marjorie's step-sister Catherine (1901–1978) also became a Hollywood film actress.

By the mid-1920s, their mother Nellie, all sisters, and their surviving brother were living in the U.S.

In 1934, their brother Alexander married actress Frances Lee. The wedding was attended by some of Hollywood's biggest names, including Gloria Swanson and Greta Garbo.

²³² Source of all information: Wikipedia.

Rob Garton Smith
President
The York Society (Inc)
September 2022