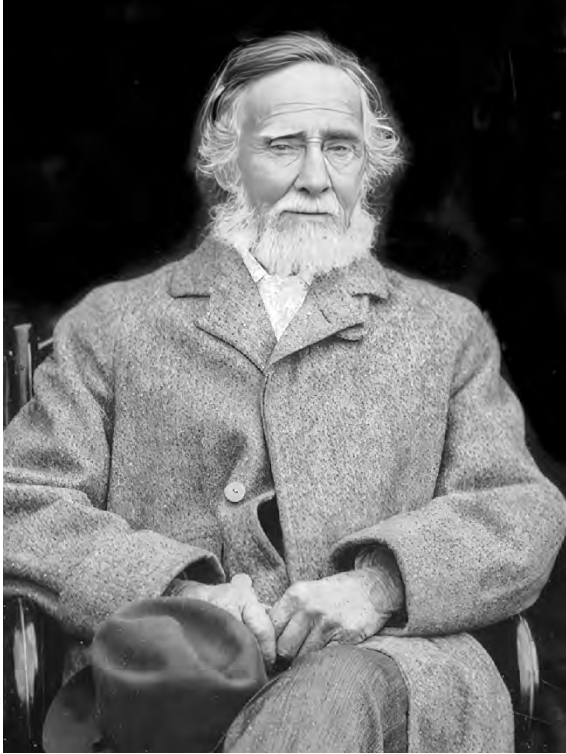


Henry William Crouch



Henry William Crouch 1903

Henry William Crouch born 9th September 1824
Fifth child of **Thomas Crouch** and **Sarah Pluckrose**
Henry married on the 3rd November 1846

Sarah Lewis born 1820 daughter of **Joseph Lewis**
at the Parish Church of St. Martin in the Fields
in the county of Middlesex.

Sarah died 4th October 1883

Henry married on 25th December 1883,
Harriet Amelia Tainton (nee Lowen)
born 16th November 1848

Henry was a Painter in England.

Henry and Sarah's children

- **Fanny** b.1847 died soon after arrival (4yrs)
- **Emma** b.1851 died as an infant (possibly emigrating on board ship)
- **Henry** b.1852 died as an infant (one month after arriving)
- **Henry** b.1854 [m 1876] **Marion Longmuir** b.1856
- **Percival** b.1857 died as an infant (1yr)
- **Percival** b.1859 [m 1889] **Salome Goodman Russell** b.1860

Henry and Harriet's children

- **Wilfred** b.1884 [m] **Hilda Niman** [m2] **Ethel Tainton**
- **Ethelbert** b.1886 [m] **Victoria Lillian Petty** b.1887
- **Cedric** b.1888 [m] **Ella Giles** [m2] **Frieda Bolton**
- **Evelyn** b.1890 [m 1917] **Cecil Davis** b.1896



Harriet Amelia Crouch 1903



Henry and Sarah Lewis left England bound for Australia on the convict sailing ship "Scindian", of 649 Tons with 273 passengers. They departed London on 15th July 1852, arriving in Melbourne on 16th October 1852. The fare costing £14/5/- under the Caroline Chisholm Colonial Settlement Scheme. The shipping list shows that they had arrived in Melbourne with Fanny aged 4, but no mention of their other two children. Emma's death date would indicate that she died on board the ship and was only a few weeks old before leaving. Both Henry and Fanny died shortly after arriving. (All three children born in England died in 1852)



Doncaster Church of Christ - Pioneers 1903 (Henry William & Harriet are seated left front)

Henry and Sarah moved to Doncaster from Richmond in 1862, and to get established Henry sought any kind of labouring work after arriving.

Around that time, he was also influential in establishing a congregation of the Church of Christ in Doncaster. It was August 1863, when an inaugural meeting was held at Porter's house in Whitten's lane. At this meeting, the Doncaster Church of Christ was formed with nine founding members. Gospel teachings were held in Grant's Chapel, a small chapel that had fallen into disuse,

built by the Baptists during the 1850s. It was re-erected in 1864 on land donated by Robert Williamson.

Henry is recognised as the founder of the Doncaster Church of Christ, the iconic brick building built in 1889.

Henry William became one of the early pioneers growing fruit in the district. He grew vegetables as a source of income while establishing an orchard, "Alabama" on Williamson's road. His son Henry eventually owned this property and other orchards totalling 99 acres between Williamson's and Church roads.



Church of Christ Doncaster 1910 (with the wooden Chapel at the rear)

Page 65.

TAG PEOPLE

1846. Marriage solemnized at *the Parish Church* in the *Parish of St Martin in the Fields* in the County of *Middlesex*

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
129	3 November 1846.	Charles Ford	full age	Bachelor	Butlerman	Stain	Peter Ford	Labourer
		Sarah Derrett	full age	Spinster		Robert St.	William Derrett	Carrier

Married in the *Parish Church* according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by *Banns* by me, *Septimus F. Ramsey, Minister*

This Marriage was solemnized between us, *The Minister & C. Ford* in the Presence of us, *Sarah Derrett* *John Wright*

1846. Marriage solemnized at *the Parish Church* in the *Parish of St Martin in the Fields* in the County of *Middlesex*

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
130	3 November 1846.	Henry William Crouch	full age	Bachelor	Waiter	Smithfield	Thomas Crouch	Bookbinder
		Sarah Lewis	full age	Spinster		Farringdon St.	Joseph Lewis	Baker

Married in the *Parish Church* according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by *Banns* by me, *Septimus F. Ramsey, Minister*

This Marriage was solemnized between us, *H. W. Crouch* in the Presence of us, *Sarah Lewis* *John Wright*

Hardy Henry (Newspaper extract from unknown source)

"Statisticians claim that life expectancy is rising, and that last century's lifespans were shorter than now. They can't have counted in Doncaster. Our records are liberally laced with nonagenarians (between 90 and 100 years old). Take the story of Henry William Crouch . . .

He was born In Camberwell, London, in 1820 and "died with his boots on", still working in his orchard, in 1913, age 93.

Henry married Sarah Lewis when he was 26 and migrated to Australia six years later with the help of a fourteen pounds five shillings loan for the fare from the Family Colonisation Loan Society.

In their first home in the suburbs of Melbourne Town, their only daughter and two sons died. Henry, wanting healthier air and a living he could pass on to his two remaining sons, Henry and Percival (known as Pert), began walking the nine miles to Doncaster, looking for suitable land.

It was 1862 when he bought 30 acres in Strip Rd. (now Church Rd.), from Robert Campbell, steward of the Carlton Estate, for 337 pounds (\$674).

Like most of his fellow would-be orchardists, Henry Crouch had little, if any, experience with tilling and tending the land.

"Painter's cap"

He had been a waiter, a labourer, and a (house) painter. A relic of one of his cast-off trades, a white painter's cap, became Henry's local emblem.

He was always to be seen wearing it as he worked, whether clearing and planting his land or building his house from an old ship and wattle and daub.

Eight-year-old Henry jnr. had an important job helping his father with the building - holding the candle so his father could see as he worked on it by night after the usual gardening and orchard work was done.

The tired little boy would fall asleep, to be woken by his father asking him if could see. No, he muttered. "Well," asked his father, "how do you expect me to?"

And the candle would be put in his hand again. He grew to be a shire councillor for 10 years, and four times Shire President.

The next year, the Crouches moved to Doncaster central, as that was where some Baptists lived. With them, Henry snr. pioneered Doncaster Church of Christ, and the church became the focal point of their lives.

The family prospered, and 10 years later, over the following 10 years, they were able to buy land in Williamsons Rd. on which six generations lived and worked over the next 122 years.

In 1883. when he was 63, Sarah died and in only 2 1/2 months Henry William remarried, to Harriet Lowan Tainton, and had four more children.

Young Henry was serving his fourth term as Shire President in 1913 when his father was backing a young horse with a load of fruit into the fruit house. The horse was startled by something and bolted.

The 89-year-old hung manfully to the reins and was carried along for eight metres before being thrown against a shed. But a wheel of the wagon ran over Henry, killing him."

Quoted from - Orchard of Memories (Olive Crouch-Napier 1996)

Names and Descriptions of Passengers continued.

Ports of Embarkation.	Name of Passengers.	Adults.			Children under 14 Years.			Infants under 12 Months.			Profession, Occupation, or Calling of Passenger.	State whether English, Irish, or Scotch.	Port at which Passengers have contracted to land.
		M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.			
London	Brought forward.....	44	6	20	1	2	3			2	Carpenter	English	London
	Huggs George	22		1									
	Widdowson Frank	44		1									
	Edwards George	20		1									
	Chase William	20		1									
	Ellen	25		1									
	Adams John	40		1									
	Edwards David	19		1									
	St. William	18		1									
	Aldry Frederick	24		1									
	Ellen	21		1									
	Crisp David	30		1									
	Sarah	34		1									
	Ella						1						
	William				6		1						
	Frederick				4		1						
	James				2		1						
	Isabella												
	Carr Henry	20		1							Blacksmith		
	Churches William	24		1							Carpenter		
	Ella	34		1									
	Charles				4		1						
	John				1		1						
	→ Crout Mary	22		1							Servant		
	Sarah	21		1									
	James				4		1						
	Alfred	30		1							Servant		

"Scindian" passenger list Melbourne 1852

Henry died in a tragic accident...

The Argus, Melbourne, Saturday 2 August 1913

Deaths

CROUCH. On the 31st July, accidentally killed at Alabama, Doncaster, Henry William, dearly beloved husband of Harriet Amelia Crouch, aged 89.

Octogenarian Killed

"Apparently, as a result of injuries received while trying to stop a bolting horse, Henry William Crouch, about 89 years of age, died at his residence, in Williamson's road, Doncaster, on Thursday afternoon.

During the morning, deceased took a load of fruit to the Government Cool Stores, returning home at about 4 o'clock in the afternoon. After removing a few cases from the cart, he proceeded to back the horse and conveyance into the fruit-house. The animal, however, took fright at something and bolted. Crouch endeavoured to bring the horse to a standstill by catching hold of the reins and one of the shafts. He was unable to do so and when, after covering about 25 yards, the horse attempted to pass between two buildings the deceased was crushed between the cart and one of the buildings. One of deceased's employees Thomas Handley removed him from the scene and Dr. B.R. Richards of Box Hill, was summoned, but before the latter's arrival Henry's life had expired.

When the body was examined, a bruise was found on the left wrist, another on the lower back, while there was a long gash on the right thigh. Deceased had excellent health during the past two years and had not been seen within that time by a doctor. "

A report of the incident has been forwarded to the coroner.

Extract from "Box Hill Report - Friday, August 8th, 1913".

"A fatal accident occurred at Doncaster on Thursday 31st July, the victim being an old identity in the person of Henry William Crouch, Father of the present President of the Shire. It seems that deceased was backing a young horse with a load of fruit into the fruit house when something startled the animal and it bolted. Mr. Crouch hung manfully to the reins and was carried along for about 25 yards when he was thrown against a shed. The animal then made off with the wheel passing over the deceased's groin. He was picked up in an unconscious condition and Dr. Richards sent for, but on arrival pronounced life extinct. The deceased was in his 90th year.

Constable Dent reported the matter to the Coroner and an enquiry was held by Mr. J. Ellingworth J. P. when a verdict of accidental death was recorded."

Henry - Boroondara General Cemetery Kew, Boroondara City, Victoria, Australia

Plot BAPT A 0207 Memorial ID 208183649

Sarah - BAPT A 0207 (interned with Henry)

Harriet - unknown



dead
31/7/13

132315

This is the paper writing marked A referred to in the annexed affidavit of Harriet Amelia Crouch, sworn this seventh day of December 1913 before me

John W. Crouch
a Commissioner of the Supreme Court of Victoria for taking affidavits

This is the Last Will and Testament of me Henry Melram
Crouch of ^{Melbourn} ~~Blackburn~~ Road Doncaster in the colony of Victoria First Grade
I give devise and bequeath all my household furniture and personal effects
unto my wife Harriet Amelia Crouch for her own sole and separate use
absolutely. And as to all my real estate I direct that the income to accrue
therefrom shall be paid to my wife the said Harriet Amelia Crouch during
her natural life and after her death as to the twenty six acres three rods
and nineteen perches of land at Bullen County of Bourke I give devise
and bequeath the same unto my son Welford Crouch and his heirs absolutely
and as to the Crown allotments two two A and four A Section 11 Parish
Borupunkah to my daughter Evlyn Crouch and her heirs absolutely
And I hereby appoint my wife the said Harriet Crouch sole executrix
of this my will And lastly revoking all former wills and other
testamentary dispositions heretofore made by me I declare this to be my
last will and Testament In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand
this seventh day of July One thousand eight hundred and ninety nine

Signed and acknowledged by the said
Testator Henry Melram Crouch as and
for his last will and testament in the
presence of us both present at the same
time who at his request in his sight and
presence and in the sight and presence of
each other have hereunto subscribed our
names as witnesses

H. Crouch

A. Grant
Lo. M. M. M.

John Joseph Cleary
Clerk to Alexander Grant Son
Solicitors Melbourne
Private Address
Union Road Surrey Hills

"B"

This is the Inventory marked "B" referred
to in the annexed Affidavit of Harriet
Amelia Crouch Sworn this sixteenth day of
December 1913 Before me

John J. ...

A Commissioner of the Supreme Court of
the State of Victoria for taking
Affidavits.

In the Supreme Court)
of Victoria)

Probate Jurisdiction

In the Will of Henry William Crouch late of
Williamson's Road Doncaster in the State of
Victoria Fruitgrower deceased

INVENTORY.

Real Estate

All that piece of land containing 26 acres 3 roods 19
perches being part of Unwin's Special Survey of 5120 acres
Parish of Bulleen County of Bourke particularly described
in Certificate of Title Volume 1328 Folio 265457 of which
about 3 acres is unimproved and about 24 acres is under
orchard 15 acres of which is in full bearing
improvements, six roomed house, two rooms of which are
brick, four of weatherboard and palings, and kitchen
Stable, barn and fruit shed, all old. Not insured.
Four roomed weatherboard cottage.
Rated at £56 and £8 respectively

1280-0-0

Personal Estate

Live Stock	-- Horse	10-0-0
Farming Implements	- Plough, #3: Disc (20 years old) #2: Cultivator #3: Harrow, #2:	10-0-0
Carriages	-- Waggon (26 years old) £15- Buggy (24 years old) £4	19-0-0
Harness and Saddlery	- Waggon Harness	2-0-0
Furniture		30-0-0
Other personal effects clothing etc:-		1-0-0
Money in hand or house		1-0-0
Money in Bank- current		
	Savings Bank, and interest	48-16-0
Plant	- Spray Pump	1-0-0
Tools	-- Axe: two hammers: screw wrenches	10-0
Debts due to the estate		
	Mercival Crouch of Shepparton, Gardener - Money lent	20-0-0
Stock in shop or business		
	Apples in cool stores: 280 bushels @ 4/-	56-0-0

£1479-6-0

Church of Christ Doncaster



"Henry William Crouch is my maternal Great-Great-Grandfather. Henry and his wife Sarah Lewis left England bound for Australia on the convict sailing ship "Scindian", arriving in Melbourne on 16th October 1852.



Doncaster Church of Christ abt.1910

This iconic Church building is where I attended Sunday school as a child, along with many of my ancestors before me.

Henry is recognised as the founder of the Doncaster Church of Christ in 1863.

My mother insisted that I attend

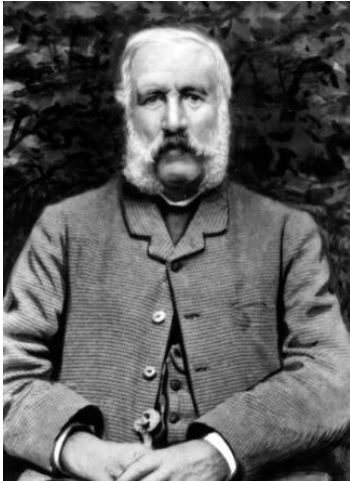
Sunday school, and although I received many first prizes for attendance, I hated going! It was a family tradition, as my grandmother was a devoted disciple around the turn of the 20th century. I have spent many hours waiting after church while Mum chatted to her friends before we went home for the mandatory Sunday roast". - Lynton

Henry came from Melbourne to Doncaster in 1862, purchasing 36 acres of land on Church Road. Shortly after his arrival and as a member of the Carlton church in Melbourne, he met with several Baptists living there. After making their acquaintance, Henry set about re-establishing gospel teachings in Grant's Chapel a small chapel that had fallen into disuse, built by the Baptists during the 1850s. The Baptist movement had collapsed when Doncaster's Postmaster and Baptist Minister, Thomas Walter Grant, moved to Lilydale in 1860.

There was much discussion at the time about establishing a Church of Christ in the area.

On 30th August 1863, a meeting and gospel service was held in the home of Thomas Porter (snr) in Whitten's Lane. At this meeting, the Doncaster Church of Christ was formed with nine founding members. Henry William Crouch was elected as secretary, with Robert Taylor as treasurer.

Individuals	Name on Original List	Last Name	First	Joining Date	Joining Year	How Received
1	Crouch, Henry William	Crouch	Henry William	30/8/1863	1863	Carlton
1	Lawford, Jane	Lawford	Jane	30/8/1863	1863	Baptist church
1	Lawford, Sarah	Lawford	Sarah	30/8/1863	1863	Baptist church
1	Norris, John Rigby	Norris	John	30/8/1863	1863	Melbourne
1	Norris, Mary Anne, Mrs JR	Norris	Mary Anne	30/8/1863	1863	Melbourne
1	Porter, Thomas snr	Porter	Thomas	30/8/1863	1863	Baptist church
1	Porter, Elizabeth	Porter	Elizabeth	30/8/1863	1863	Baptist church
1	Read, James	Read	James	30/8/1863	1863	Baptist church
1	Taylor, Robert	Taylor	Robert	30/8/1863	1863	Baptist church
9						



Robert Williamson 1823-1894
Church member 1864

With the Church formally established, C. G. Lawson conducted the first gospel service in "Grant's Chapel", located on the site of the Shire hall. Meanwhile, scripture lessons continued under a large peppermint tree at Lauer's corner. (Doncaster & Elgar Roads)

During 1864 and completed in August, a new small Chapel 22'x18' was built on a portion of Lot.44 a block of land measuring 88'x50' donated by Robert Williamson. Four years later in 1868, the chapel was extended to 30'x26' accommodating 100 people. In 1886, extra land was purchased adding 10'x130' on the east side and another 50' across the rear.



The township of Doncaster in 1880 viewed from the Doncaster Tower looking eastward.

Upper left is Schramm's cottage, Doncaster school (later the E. S. & A. Bank), centre rear is the Post Office, the rectangular building on the right is the Church of Christ and John Petty's house behind the church, *"Grant's Chapel" once stood in the left foreground!*

This wooden building had been enlarged over the years and in 1888, it was repositioned on the site to allow for the construction of a new brick chapel in 1889. The new iconic chapel was built in the same style as the Doncaster state school across the road, built in 1886 and later the Shire hall in 1892.

While the new chapel was being built, services were held in the State School (at a rental of 5/- per week) until the new chapel was opened with special services on the 8th and 10th October, 1889.