

Tully-family history

Edited from Les Cameron 2006

JOHN & MARIA McAULEY

John and Maria McAuley their son William aged 11 and daughter Jane aged 5 from Blaxton, Ballymena Antrim Northern Ireland embarked from Liverpool on the "DUKE of ARGYLE"; on 7th November 1840 for Port Phillip Bay arriving 12th April 1841 with 272 passengers and general cargo, a trip of 156 days. This was a barque of 634 tons, built in Quebec.

On board were 44 families 17 single men 45 single women, due to the deaths of 5 adults and 40 others aged between 3 to 16 years, 179 passengers landed at Melbourne with 48 going on to Sydney. There is a separate report on the problems passengers suffered on this ship on the voyage to Melbourne named ARGYLE.

SPELLING

Please note the different spellings of McAuley as used in various documents McAuley, McCalagh, McAiey & Macauley and when Eliza Tully's birth was registered in Lilydale 1873 as Tuly, it indicates that the recorders relied on their interpretation of the speaker to complete the necessary papers this causes difficulty in research where this type of error occurs.

The McAuleys were listed on Ships Records as follows:

John McCalagh Protestant age 31 Labourer Fare £19/-/-

Maria McCalagh age 32 Servant £19/-/-

William age 11 Son £10/-/-

Jane age 5 Daughter £5/-/-

John's Parents were John McAuley and Mary Evans.

Maria's parents were William Marshall and Elizabeth Holmes.

RICHMOND and HAWTHORN

On arrival in Melbourne, they resided in Simpsons Rd, now Victoria St, Richmond. John worked as a Carrier until about 1847, but on purchasing two lots totalling 38.5 acres of Crown land in Barkers Rd, Hawthorn, the family moved to that property, probably crossing the Yarra by a punt, operating just north of Bridge Road, Richmond. John improved and subdivided this land which was all sold by 1853 making a handsome profit of over£ 2500/-/-John had purchased 4.5 acres of land in Wellington St Hawthorn on 5th April 1853 referred to as "Ballinderry" on the Marriage Certificate for Jane & Thomas Tully 1854.

John then followed the call to the Goldfields, as a carrier made good money; he then intended to return to Ireland, paid his fares, but missed the Boat. He then purchased a pair of horses and a Carriage working as a carrier.

DONCASTER

About 1857, John & Maria moved to Doncaster and built their home on Thomas Tully's land about where the western end of Goodson St is in 2004. Maria, who had been trained as a nurse, is recorded that she would often sit on their doorstep smoking a clay pipe.

During December 1877 whilst cooking their evening meal she was badly burned and taken into Melbourne Hospital where she died about 6 weeks later on 27th January 1878 aged 70 years. John McAULEY continued to reside in Doncaster but was admitted to Melbourne Benevolent Asylum, where he died on 20th October 1886.

John McAuley was listed in the following Victorian directories:

1847 Carter Richmond

1849/1851 Boroondara

1856/7 Hawthorn. House occupied by Thomas Tully of Abbotsford.

John McAuley owned seven properties in all:

A. RICHMOND 20th February 1842 Cost £9.

Block 60'x 153' situated in Victoria St. 225 feet from the corner of Church St. Richmond. This property was sold and repurchased by John McAuley, and finally sold to William McAuley on 14th April 1853 for £100/-

B. HAWTHORN 29th April 1847

John purchased 19 acres 1 rood situated South side of Barkers Rd. Hawthorn, between Glenferrie Rd and Power St sold by the Government pursuant of Proclamation of 23rd October 1847. Cost £40/8/-

C. HAWTHORN 30th March 1848

John purchased another block of 19 acres 1 rood adjoining the south boundary of then previous purchase of 19 acres 1 rood. Cost £ 41/7/-

These two lots, 38 acres were partly subdivided and sold as follows: 18th September 1851 1 acre to Thomas Johnston with frontage to Glenferrie Road, £20/-

2nd August 1852 another 5 acres 3 perches to Thomas Johnston for £115/- the adjoining 1 acre previously sold, frontage to both Glenferrie Road and Barkers Road.

23rd February 1853, The balance of the 2 Blocks, 32 acres 1 rood 14 perches was sold to David Meaney for £2500/-.

D. ABBOTSFORD 1st March 1853

A house block situated at corner of Victoria Crescent and Lithgow Streets Abbotsford was purchased by John for £271/10/-, sold to Thomas Tully on 5th March 1855 for £271/10/- sold to John Shegog on 13th July 1858 for £120/-

E. COLLINGWOOD 14.5.1853

John buys land at corner of Victoria and Regent Streets, Collingwood, now Ferguson St. size 100' by 24'6" for £700/- and sold on 17th December 1955 for £100/-

F. COLLINGWOOD 17th April 1854

John purchased land 90' by 118' at corner of Albert and Victoria Streets for £175/- then subdivided it into two lots, 33' by 118' and 57' by 118', and sold the smaller lot on 11th July 1857 to Daniel Meaney for £165/- and the balance on 16th June 1858 to the same person, Daniel Meaney, for £200/-

G. HAWTHORN 5th April 1853

John purchased land in Wellington Street, Hawthorn appears to be named "Ballinderry" situated 528 links East of Glenferrie Road on the South side. 2 lots, Lot A. of 3 acres a frontage of 836 links to Wellington Street depth 359 links and lot B adjoining the Southern boundary West end of the three acres This lot was 1.5 acres, size 418 by 359 links. 4th September 1854, 1.5 acres was sold to Paul De Castella for £50/- 19th September 1856, the 3 acre block was sold to Frances Abraham Little for £350/-

TWO CHILDREN

There were two entries of children made on Maria's death certificate:

WILLIAM born about 1830, married Rosanne Smiley 1850

Their family of 3 Children; -

Anne Jane born Heidelberg 1852

William John born Richmond 1854

Rose Anne born Moonee Ponds 1856

There no further Victorian records of this family, but one suggestion was that they moved to New Zealand.

ELIZA aged 26 years born 1847 married William Archer 1874, two Children:

Robert James Archer born 1876 in Elmore

Louisa Archer born 1880 died 1881 at Bendigo.

ARGYLE OR DUKE OF ARGYLE

Melbourne records show that two ships named "Argyle" arrived in Melbourne in 1841 but a letter by a passenger Patrick Costello in the Ballarat Link regarding the 2nd arrival named it as "Duke of Argyle", rated at Lloyds as 634 tons, built at Quebec Canada.

Left Liverpool 7th November 1840 arrived in Port Phillip 12th April 1841. 156 days, with 310 emigrants, domestics and Irish farm hands. 44 Families 46 single females 17 single males, 70 children aged less than 15 years. More than half these children and 20 adults perished before

reaching Cape Town, suffering from Typhoid, Dysentery, Measles, Whooping Cough, and 176 passengers with serious diseases.

PATRICK COSTELLO LETTER

This letter describes details of the voyage, and his first year's employment at Smeaton, and comments on his return to Melbourne, which was published in the Ballarat Link, a good record of what passengers endured on that voyage.

This ship encountered rough conditions in the Bay of Biscay losing their jibbing sail, the cook was not able to light his fire for about 14 days as waves were washing over and extinguishing it. Cooking on the deck could only be carried out while the ship was in Port although cabin passengers were well supplied as their fire was protected from the waves. Some passengers had brought extra provisions with them or they would have been almost but not quite starved the Purser at last served out raw peas.

The lack of sympathy to their problems and other causes began to assume a serious aspect a mutiny threatened all hands were mustered and interviewed by the Master and the Doctor. An amicable understanding was reached however, the rough weather abated and the trouble ended.

Bad management caused most of the hardships we suffered. Potatoes had rotted having been put into wet casks, Beef and Biscuits were of poor quality, Pork was the only thing that was good.

A Goat was to provide fresh milk for the Cabin, but as children became ill the Doctor requested a supply of milk for them but when provisions to feed the Goat were finally used she was thrown overboard.

Weather improved, but before reaching Cape of Good Hope we were nearly wrecked at night, but discovered our danger in time.

We put in to the Cape of Good Hope for about 7 days. I remember these things: Sheep being put on board with long large bushy tails each tail would weigh from 10 to 12 pounds. There was an abundance of fish, eleven pound Salmon could be purchased at 4 pence each, Barracuda were plentiful - these were given to us for nothing.

The weather was very hot decking would almost blister your hand if touched. Wages were very good 6/- to 7/- a day for Labourers, Wine cost 6 pence a bottle.

Having purchased our supplies we set sail again but were almost becalmed our sails were only flapping at times travelling at 1 to 2 miles per hour. We caught several Albatrosses with a wing span of 14 feet, also caught a large shark 14 feet 3 inches long which took 4 men to haul it in, the tail was cut up and cleaned was very good eating, The front part was for the use of the Sailors.

With the use of the Trade Winds we moved splendidly, assisted a vessel in distress, She had lost a topmast in rough weather we supplied her with spars and other necessary goods. Continuing our course, we sighted another vessel on route to Calcutta.

About 7 days later another vessel kept hovering around for about 48 hours Captain considered her either a Pirate or a Slaver, he ordered all hands on deck every man and the crew about 100 men were armed with Cutlasses and guns to put on a good show the vessel then disappeared.

PORT PHILLIP BAY

We sighted Port Phillip Heads on 9th April 1841, we had been travelling at 10 knots per hour, but the Pilot did not arrive until next morning. We put the vessel about and lay to for the night and next morning again the vessel was steered through the Heads about one mile when the Pilot arrived in a small boat. After boarding, he took charge he was well qualified. We now had a strong North wind against us but with tacking and like manoeuvres the Pilot could not get the ship to her berth that night, finally reaching Williamstown at 11am on 11th April 1841 the voyage taking 5 months, 3 days.

WILLIAMSTOWN

At Williamstown, there were no houses only one Hotel. When we landed several men were engaged to work for £35 a year plus rations by Captain Hepburn at Smeaton which was about 100 miles out. It took 5 days walking to get there. We slept the first night alongside a huge rock; it was cold, no supper, no bedding, and no fires. Matches did not appear for about another 11 years. It was rather an experience for our first night in Australia, however next morning we came to a nearby homestead and were invited in for breakfast.

The Cook made a huge fire, mixed up about 12 lbs. of flour to make a Damper, which was cooked in the ashes of the fire and it came out splendidly baked.

Men's weekly rations then were - Peck of Wheat, 10 lbs. of meat, 2 lbs. of sugar, 1lb. of tea. Each hut had a steel Mill to grind the wheat into flour.

On reaching Smeaton we were informed there were 12 Government men (prisoners) employed there, they were called 'Lifers', we were housed and kept separately from them.

MELBOURNE 1842

After 1 year my contract at Smeaton with Captain Hepburn was completed I had my first look at Melbourne, the Streets were laid out; there were three butchers' shops, 2 Saddlers, Cabinetmakers, 8 Pubs and many other shops built of wattle and daub. A Courthouse a Market and only two Churches: - Church of England and Roman Catholic. There were no Trams or Buses only a solitary carriage and pair of horses however two cabs came from Sydney later.

There was no population south of the Yarra then, except for two Brick-makers.

The story on the "ARGYLE" was Rated at Lloyds as 308 tons, left the Thames on October 18th, then finally departing Plymouth on 11th November arriving at Port Phillip Bay on 1st March 1841 after a journey of 106 days.

The "ARGYLE" experienced similar rough weather in the Bay of Biscay, as experienced by the "Duke of Argyle", and picked up 13 crew members of the "Joachim" putting them ashore at St Jago, Porta Prayo on December 7th.

After about a week in Port, and purchasing fruit and vegetables, we moved on enjoying a rather fast voyage to Port Phillip Bay, which we entered and anchored within the Heads on February 27th. Next day 28th we were forced to lay to in a heavy gale, then became stranded on the Swan Spit at Queenscliff but were soon re-floated, weighing anchor on 1st March proceeding to Hobson's Bay arriving at 2 p.m.

The notes on the both ships are from various records indicating conditions encountered by our forebears in travelling to Australia, as well as their first view of Williamstown and notes on Melbourne one year later. (1842)

THOMAS TULLY

Northern Ireland research reveals that in about 1700, two Tully families resided in the Townland of Cargans near Tandragee Armagh Northern Ireland, and an adjacent Townland named Tullyhue. The Tithe allotment book dated 1st November 1828 indicates that there were two Tully families residing at Cargans, but in the 1864 Census none.

LAND

David Tully (1824-1894) had a small lot of 3 Acres 3 Roods 33 Perches, the annual valuation being 5 shillings and one halfpenny rent, and Thomas Tully a similar size lot with a valuation of 3 Shillings & 11 pence rent, which was based upon the potential cropping of the property.

NORTHERN IRELAND 1840 to 1850.

During the 1840s, conditions in Ireland were difficult; many were unemployed causing the British Parliament to investigate reports that people were surviving on butter, milk & potatoes. The potato crop failed in 1846 and the potato blight gradually spread all over Ireland, when healthy potato plants in good condition were two days later a terrible mess. These problems were followed by a Cholera Epidemic resulting in a loss of population in about 10 years of about 3,000,000 people, by death or migration.

Thomas Tully born in 1833 was the son of Thomas & Jane (Bold) required his Mothers permission in 1851 to migrate to Australia, as he was only aged 18 on his arrival in Melbourne.

With two friends William Pentland & John Whitten, Thomas travelled to Plymouth and they applied for assisted passages to Australia. William and John embarked on the "Cambodia" while

Thomas was on the "LADY ELGIN" his fare was £12/15/9 leaving Plymouth on 17th December 1851 & arriving Melbourne 29th March 1852 contracted to William Kirby of Fawsley, Merriang near Whittlesea at £3/7/8 per week plus rations, or £44/-/- for 3 months. Wages were high then as about a third of the Victorian population were on the Goldfields.

There were 296 other passengers on the "Lady Elgin", the main cargo being 800 barrels of flour plus 320 tons of coal. This was a Barque of 852 tons originally built in Quebec for the England-Canada route. It had been damaged but repairs had not been completed when it sailed for Australia due to the demand from Migrants for passages to enable them to join the Gold rush in Victoria.

Thomas then worked for John McAuley on properties in Hawthorn, 38 acres frontage to South side of Barkers Road, and 4.5 acres on Wellington Street.

MARRIAGE

On 6th April 1854 Thomas Tully married Jane McAuley born Blaxton, Ballymena Antrim Northern Ireland in the Manse of Scots Church Melbourne rites of Church of Scotland, both families were listed as Farmers residing at John McAuley's property "Balinderry" in Hawthorn, William Pentland as witness.

PROPERTIES

On 5th March 1855 Thomas purchased property at Victoria Crescent & Lithgow St Collingwood from John McAuley which was sold on 12th July 1858 for £120/-/-.

DONCASTER-BULLEEN

About 1857, Thomas Tully (Yeoman /Farmer) purchased Lot No 15 of 20 acres 1 Rood 1 perch for £168/-/- from the Carlton Estate section B at the corner of Williamson Rd & Doncaster Rd Title dated 30th April 1860.

It appears that Thomas was living and working in Bulleen probably from his purchase of the land, their home was a small timber slab hut with one door, no windows. Roads Board records show Thomas Tully and John McAuley as ratepayers and as contractors for road works, etc.

Lot 15 and Lot 16 are now, in 2006, part of Shoppingtown, and lot 59 (section A) between Whitten's Lane and Church Rd. Some transactions are not recorded on Titles, as Victorian State Regulations had not been finalised. On checking the original plan, section A shows a deep gully through the centre of lot Nos. 58 and 59, and reports indicate it was not possible to build a dam in that gully.

Later Lot 16 was listed as owned by Alfred Hummel and Lot 59 by Mr R Hood. John Whitten purchased lot 58 with frontages to Whitten's Lane and Church Road and William Pentland purchased 3 lots, No. 60 at S.W corner Church and Doncaster Rd and No. 61 at S. E corner of Whitten's Lane and Doncaster Rd adjoining lot 60, His third lot was lot No. 13, north of Doncaster Rd, opposite Whitten's Lane, where the City Offices and Sports grounds are located.

YERING

Thomas Tully and family moved to Yering about 1868, residing north of the Healesville Rd to the East of where "Coombe Cottage" is now on the property owned by Paul De Castella, who was growing grapes for wine production. William Pentland and family, and John Whitten also moved to Yering, and Doncaster's 1860 Postmaster and Baptist Minister, Thomas Walter Grant, moved to Lilydale.

John Whitten of Whitten's Lane Doncaster would leave his family on Sunday evening, walk to Yering, complete his week's work on Saturday, walk home to Doncaster, be occupied on his farm on Sunday and then in the evening set off to return to Yering.

Discussions regarding early tracks to the Goldfields reveal three properties, which could have been used as part of the road leading to Yering. Land between Ayr Street, Koonung Creek, Crouch property, West of Church Rd across Ruffey's Creek (Now part of Ruffey Lake Park) and another property near Stinton's Rd. These sites are all in a direct line with Yering, probably a shorter route than by our main roads we use today.

YERING SCHOOL

On arrival at Yering, there was no school, but 10 families representing 23 children applied to the Government for assistance to build a common school. Mr Pentland was on that committee. He had three children; Tom Tully had two boys Thomas and John (Maria aged 8 was with John & Maria McAuley) residing about one mile from the school. The petition was successful and the school opened on 15th March 1868 with Mr Ellis as Headmaster.

The site of that School was north of the Yering School in 2006.

A Lilydale History gives the following information:

Grape Growing began in the 1850s and expanded rapidly, by 1857, there were 100 acres under cultivation, 1866 the acreage was 300, and producing 30000 gallons of Wine.

As Doncaster residents were experiencing problems for work, one Farmer bankrupt for £200/-, Yering was a good solution. Petty Bros. of Buxton area were Carriers, moving goods to the Goldfields in the Upper Yarra Districts, and they also worked on the construction of roads. One contract was to build a bridge in the Cumberland Valley near Marysville, it is still standing and in use today, the story being told that it had been designed for another site, the result was a much better structure than originally intended. Thomas Tully Junior died 1870 at Yering aged 11 years.

Tom Tully was recorded in the 1871 Lilydale Rate Book as leasing 100 acres land from Paul De Castella, 90 acres bush land and 10 acres cultivated. Council Valuation at £32/-, rates were £1/12/-. Thomas died 21st July 1872 so there is only one entry.

Both Tom and son Thomas were buried in Lilydale Cemetery - there is no headstone.

Jane remained in Yering until after the birth of daughter Eliza Jane in 1873 and then the family returned to their old home in Doncaster.

DONCASTER 1874

On 4th July 1874, Jane Tully made the following Statuary Declaration:

As widow of Thomas Tully late of Doncaster, farmer, deceased intestate, and Administratrix of the said Thomas Tully do solemnly state:

That I was married to my late husband the said Thomas Tully at the Melbourne Presbyterian Church on 6th April 1854 by Rev Irvine Hetherington. Minister 1854 to 1875 that, the said Thomas Tully has never been insolvent, that he never resided in

Flemington, nor did he ever carry on a business of Publican, and that the person with the same name who is an Insolvent is not my husband.

Before my marriage to Thomas Tully, I was well acquainted with him for about 3 years, from 1853 to the time of his decease he was a farmer by occupation and lived in Kew, Doncaster, and Yering and no were else.

MARRIAGE 1874

Jane Tully (nee McAuley) married David Tully aged 45 years at Fitzroy, and is recorded as a brother of Thomas senior (deceased 1872) with Jane Bold as his mother, Thomas Tully as his Father, he died 1893 aged 69 years.

A report in the 1916 Year Book states that in 1873, a Victorian law legalised a man's marriage to his deceased wife's sister, but there was no provision to validate the marriage of a woman to a deceased husband's brother.

Jane then sold the property to Alfred Hummel, arranged for her son John to work for William Henry Crouch for 6 years, and moved with her family of five children - Maria b.1861, David b .1865, William b.1868, Ellen b.1870, Eliza Jane b.1873- to Rochford a few miles from Lancefield where David had purchased 7 acres of Crown Land for £46/- and worked as a labourer.

Maria when 15 worked as a live in housemaid and David worked on an adjacent farm.

Jane died on 5th November 1876 aged 42 years, after visiting neighbours where she had two glasses of Gin and danced an Irish Gig. Post Mortem and an Inquest found her death was caused by the violence of David Tully Snr, on evidence given by David Tully Junior aged 10 years and others, and that he was guilty of manslaughter.

David Tully was sentenced in Melbourne to 3 months imprisonment for a common assault on his wife when drunk.

David returned to his home in Rochford, residing alone for 18 years, he died of a stroke in 1894 aged 60 years, leaving his land to nephew William.

After Jane's death, the 5 children returned to Doncaster to be with their Grandparents John & Maria McAuley whose home was a cottage situated about Tower & Goodson Streets Corner.

THE TULLY FAMILY

MARIA b 1861 cared for the family, when aged 16 went to Surrey Hills to train as a nurse as her Grandmother had done. She married Thomas Lockwood in 1883, whom she had met at Rochford he was employed at Burstons Malthouse, Melbourne, but they moved to Lancefield employed as a Grazier and Farmer. Maria opened a Private Hospital in 1921 to 1938; Some Church of Christ meetings were held in the Hospital.

Thomas died in 1945 and Maria in 1948.

JOHN married Rosina Cook 2nd October 1884 (separate story below)

DAVID b 1865

After returning to Doncaster, went back to Yering picking Grapes, where he met Esther Jane Smith of St Andrews. On returning to Doncaster they both worked for Mr & Mrs Tom Lawford, they were married in 1888, residing on their orchard Williamsons Rd Doncaster until 1932 when they both died. Six of their children were Orchardists in Doncaster district and one in Wantirna.

WILLIAM b 1868

Was not married, residing in Doncaster, Yering, Lancefield, Rochester and in later years at the Salvation Army Homes Box Hill, and he died at Sunbury in 1942.

ELLEN b 1870 Married John Edward Lockwood, initially lived at Lancefield but moved to

Tatura in 1907 where he was employed at the Butter Factory until his death in 1946 aged 77 years; he was the younger brother of Thomas Lockwood.

ELIZA JANE b 1873 (Liz)

Eliza Jane was born at Yering in 1873, after the death of her father, registered by Maria McAuley as Tuly or Tully. She married Albert Williams at Doncaster on 6th June 1906 then resided in Lancefield where Albert was a Garage Proprietor. Liz died in 1955 and Albert in 1961.

JOHN TULLY 1864 to 1941

Thomas & Jane Tully's family consisted of nine children, three died when very young. John born 1864 and David born 1865 were the only members of that family to reside in Doncaster most of their lives, both became successful Orchardists and raised their families with most of them following the fruit industry and residing in or around our Municipality. Maria married Thomas Lockwood, Ellen "Nellie" married Edward Lockwood, Eliza (Liz) married Albert Williams all of Lancefield and William was not married, he died at Sunbury 1941.

About 1868, the shortage of work caused Thomas Tully and other Doncaster residents to move to Yering, to work for Paul de Castella, residing near the road to Healesville (east of Coombe Cottage).

The children attended the new Yering State School, the result of a petition, which had been signed by his father, Thomas, and others.

John acknowledges being instructed by the teacher in the game of Cricket, he also thanks his father for teaching him from the Bible, and driving his horse & Dray about 3 miles to enable their children to attend a Sunday School organised by De Castella sisters at their home.

In 1870, Thomas Junior aged 11 died and in 1872, Thomas (his father) died aged 39 years both were buried in Lilydale Cemetery, there is no Headstone. After the birth of Eliza at Yering in 1873, Jane and her six children returned to their old home at Toll Road, (Williamson's Road) Doncaster about May 1873 where they resided till 1874. Jane sold her property to Alfred Hummel, re-married on 7th February 1874 to a David Tully born about 1824, an older brother of his father, her next move was to Rochford near Lancefield taking her 5 children with her after arranging with Henry William Crouch to care for John then aged about 10 for 6 years. John was to be paid 6 pence per week plus his keep.

John would have had only a few months at Doncaster State School and he experienced a sad 8 years, was an orphan when aged 12 years, and before he was aged 15 there had been four deaths. Brother Thomas in 1870 aged 11, his father Thomas in 1872-aged 39, mother Jane in 1876, Grandmother Maria McAuley in 1878, but his grand children were never aware of those sad years.

After 6 years with Mr Crouch, John was paid £ 10/- plus a bonus, then was employed on a bakers delivery cart for 9/- per week plus his keep. He also worked for 15/- per week on the orchards of John and Thomas "Tom" Petty with whom he enjoyed lifetime friendships that began about 1880 and continued through in Sports, Fruitgrowing, local interests, Fruit Associations, Coolstores and Church.

CHURCH OF CHRIST

John's parents and grandparents joined the Doncaster Church of Christ during 1864, about 2 years later Thomas his father was elected a Trustee of the Church.

In 1878, John aged 14 with 12 other young people travelled to Swanston St Melbourne Church and were baptised by Mr Hindle, afterwards they were taken to a Cafe for a meal, that day would have been a memorable occasion for those young people

SUNDAY SCHOOL 1881

Through Thomas "Tom" Petty's influence, John was made Superintendent with the help of Mrs Behrens and Mrs Wilson (Catherine Clay) commenced a Sunday school at the Church, holding that position until 1923 when he retired after many years of continuous service with

most being two schools each Sunday. There were also other meetings involving time during those 40 years such as Teachers meetings and meetings with the Minister.

Rosina also retired but her term of involvement is said to be about 5 years less. A report in the Australian Christian Watchman page 119 dated 1st Feb 1882 would have been his first report on the first six months of the Sunday school.

John Tully was presented with a beautiful writing desk from Parents and Friends of the Sunday school about 1890. There are records of presentations to John by his Bible Class of a Silver Watch in 1896. Later in 1906 at the celebration of the 43rd Church and 25th Sunday School Anniversary, he was surprised by being presented with a Waltham Gold Watch and Chain inscribed as follows: - "Presented to John Tully Founder and Superintendent for 25 years of the Doncaster Sunday School as a token of esteem".

During 1911, two classrooms were added to the 1864 weatherboard church building. About 1920 the need for extra accommodation for Sunday school was filled by the erection of a Kindergarten room, which remained in use until mid-1960s. Donations and John's Contribution enabled the building to be erected debt free.

Later, a plan was adopted and the new Church building commenced and built in 1956 and 1957. Additional alterations and the building of the Hall were completed several years later.

CHURCH OFFICER

A vacancy occurred in the Church Officers Board in October 1884. John was elected to that position, his age being 20 years nine months; he retained that position until his death in 1941. A term of almost 57 years, during which his service to the Church, Officers Board and filling functions such as President, Treasurer, Chairman of Committees, Building Committee as well as commitments of Speaker, Reader, Janitor, Lamp Lighter, Doorman, as well as Table preparation, and Trustee. He was capable of filling in as substitute for a speaker or other member at short notice, he also travelled to engagements at Churches at East Doncaster and Oakleigh.

RECITATION

He was also efficient at reciting the "Badge of Blue" without missing a line, as well as speaking on Bible Subjects or Temperance work without notes.

Another recitation was 'I think I Can, I Know I can, I Thought I Could, I Knew I Could.' His expression was excellent. John and Rosina were representatives of the Church at annual Conferences and he was honoured by being appointed for one year as President of the Victorian Churches of Christ.

CHURCH CONFERENCE PRESIDENT 1917/18

a report published in The Christian.

John Tully made an excellent President, conducting the business in an efficient manner, kindly firmly guiding the course of discussion. All present felt that the thanks of the Conference, given at the close of Saturdays Session, had been richly earned by Bro. Tully, who for his worth and works sake possesses the esteem and love of the Brethren, In his Presidential address Bro. Tully referred in a feeling manner to the war crisis, to the splendid Heroism and Sacrifice of our men, and the sorrowing homes in our land, expressing the hope that ere long war may cease, and the day of Brotherhood of man comes. The work of the year was reviewed and thanks returned to God and the Brethren for the success achieved.

The President, who had graciously welcomed all visitors, referred to help and sympathy of his Colleagues of the Executive Committee, and in particular to the invaluable services of Secretary Bro. Thomas Haggar.

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF RECHABITES

Doncaster I.O.R. Lodge No 129 commenced 1870. John became a member in 1881, and was always willing to fill the various offices of the Lodge. The main advantage was that it was a Benefit Society and there are many members residing in Doncaster who have had Rechabite cover for Medical and Doctors expenses for their families for years.

About 1900, he was delegate at annual Conferences attaining the position of Deputy Chief Ruler in 1906, and filling that position until he was elected District Chief Ruler in 1912 the highest office in Victoria.

The Rechabite monthly Journal for 1911 to 1912, page 38 has his photo as District Deputy Ruler for that year and on March 8th 1913 lists the Victorian District Officers for the year with John Tully as Victorian District Chief Ruler, also on pages 337, 338. 339, 340 his address is recorded.

In 1922, he was honoured by his election as a Victorian District Trustee finally resigning from that position in 1939.

About 1920 as Superintendent, he successfully commenced Doncaster Junior Rechabite Lodge No 487. Its members were pupils of Doncaster State School, meetings were held in the Church of Christ where he with assistance from Mrs M Moffat and Mrs A Crouch – in the later years they ran the Lodge until about 1939 about 500 members attended during these years.

About the same time, there was also a Junior Rechabite Lodge in East Doncaster.

HEIGHTS CRICKET CLUB and FEDERAL PARK

This Cricket Club formed 1881, after using private property for their matches for about 20 years, applied to the Education Department to use part of Doncaster School property, with adjoining land the Club had purchased as a Sports Oval, known as Federal Park. John Tully signed that application.

In 1920, the Heights Club transferred the Title to the Council.

While celebrating Doncaster Heights Cricket Club 50 year's anniversary, John was asked the reason for still being an active member, his reply: - "Credit should be given to his TOTAL ABSTINANCE from liquor". There are many people, who will still appreciate John Tully's guidance and example on Temperance.

ORCHARDS

During 1883, John negotiated with Thomas "Tom" Petty who assisted him to purchase his first property, which was a 20-acre Orchard, with a frontage to Wilsons Rd costing £900/- on a deposit of £20/- with favourable terms of 7% interest payable annually with 10 years to pay the balance off. John had £25/- left. In 1884, he built his first home at a cost of £430/- The first year's income was £120/- but the next year was a disaster - a severe frost destroyed his fruit crop as well as his horse, his friends assisted him by providing him with another horse.

In 1888, John was able to lease and work some orchards but there are no details. We believe that he leased and resided on the 31 acre property owned by Edwin Wilson, which had frontages to both Elgar and Whitten's Lane, there was no Tram or Tram Road then.

The Land Boom was creating a demand for residential lots, a Rail link with Melbourne was surveyed, subdivision of orchards to house lots was 'occurring these were referred to as the 'Peg and Sell' period. There were very few regulations or conditions required to subdivide land compared to the requirements, which are needed today.

About 1890, John purchased his second Orchard. A property of about 9 acres that had been subdivided to house lots, then known as Lawfords. It is thought he paid £200 per acre, it consisted of lots Nos 1, 23, 65 to 74 and 76 to 93 (no lot 75), It was planted with Cherry trees, that John soon paid off the property with sales of fruit grown on it. The Subdivision plan was sealed 27th June 1890, the location being Whitten's Lane, Cockaigne St, Pleasant Ave, Queens Ave, with 3 lots on Doncaster Rd.

The Tully house and sheds were built at the corner of Queens Avenue & Whitten's Lane about 1890 on lots 68 & 69. The family residing there until about 1916, most of the house is still there (2004) but was renovated in 1993/4. This is the oldest residence existing on Doncaster Hill.

During the 1890s, John purchased an Orchard in Croydon from Mr S Smith it was approximately, where Luther College stands in 2004; his manager was Samuel Beavis who later purchased the property.

My mother, told of the family driving the wagon to Croydon to spend days-picking cherries, it would have been a rather long day travelling with horse and wagon from Doncaster and return.

She also remembered spending many hours removing the Root Borer (or Elephant) from young pear trees the payment being three pence a Jam tin, the borers that were then boiled on the stove. - Les Cameron

COUNCIL RECORDS

Records show that the following Doncaster properties were owned or leased to John Tully up to 1902.

1883 - Purchased from "Tom" Petty - 20 acres

1884 to 1889 - House & 20 acres

1890 to 1896 - 8.5acres ex-Lawford 30acres Elgar Road 20acres Wilsons Rd leased to Charles Sykes.

1897-1902 8.5acres 20acres 24.5acres Whitten's Lane /tram Road.

The 1941 rate book reveals the following properties in the names of John and Rosina Tully.

Lawford Estate lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 65, 66, 67 lots 76 to 93 total area of 9 acres 1 rood, lot 8 Tower St, Lot 12 Doncaster Rd.

Rather interesting that Wilsons Road 20 acre was originally owned by Thomas Petty to John Tully 1883 and to Albert Tully 1911 to Gilbert Tully 1939 and was sold for Subdivision for housing about 1970.

Thomas Petty was an uncle of Hilda Petty who married Albert Tully, Gilbert was son of Albert & Hilda shows how land in this District was often passed from generation to generation, some even without a change of surnames.

It is not a complete list all properties owned by John and Rosina over the years but each of their daughters received a house from their wills.

COUNCILLOR of DONCASTER Shire 1890 to 1922

The first election for the new Shire Councillors was on 22nd August 1890. The returning officer being "Tom" Petty results of voting was that John Tully and August Zerbe each obtained 283 votes and were elected for 3 years but on completing 1 year, John retired from Council and was sent a letter of appreciation.

Possibility the reason for retirement was that the Elgar Road property of "Edwin" Wilson he was leasing was split by the new Tramline and the forming of Tram Road from the Koonung Creek to Doncaster Road. This Tram development was rather contentious at this time. However, in October 1891 he was appointed Valuer of the Shire for Fee of £15 presenting his first valuation on 27th November 1891. He was again was Shire-valuer in 1896 for £15 and in 1904 for £14.

Up to 1922, John Tully served as Councillor for the following periods:-

1890-1 for 1 year, 1896 for two months and 1904 until 1922

Shire President for 3 terms -1909-10, 1914-15, 1919-1920.

John was appointed Justice of the Peace in about 1914 and regularly accepted a place on the bench of Box Hill Court to assist proceedings there, retaining that position until his death.

Whilst Shire President in 1920, he was privileged to host a visit from the Australian Governor General Sir. Ronald & Lady Helen Munro-Ferguson, and distinguished guests.

On 18th February 1920, the Governor-General of Australia Sir Ronald Munro Ferguson and his wife Lady Helen visited Doncaster to meet orchardists, view and hear about the fruit-growing activities in Doncaster.



Australian Governor General Sir. Rohan and Lady Helen Munro-Ferguson
with distinguished guests during a Vice Regal tour of Doncaster - 18th February 1920
Afternoon tea at Cr. John Tully's house. (next to the Church of Christ)

back: Reg Simmons, R.J.Thomas?, Fred Thiele, Richard Clay, Rosamond Webb, Dorothy Webb, Nellie Stewart, Cr. Henry J Clay,
Nell Cameron, "Tom" Petty, W.H. Everard (MLA), Henry Petty, William Webb
front: Marjorie Webb, Elsie Edgoose, Phyllis Webb, Lily Petty, Alma Thiele, Rose Clay, John Tully, Les Cameron (with John)
Elsie May, Lady Munro-Ferguson, Sir. Rohan Munro-Ferguson, Eliza Petty, Belle Petty, John Petty

SPORT- CRICKET, TENNIS and FEDERAL PARK

John was always interested in Sport. He remembered his father playing cricket in 1881 and arranged a meeting at which the Doncaster Heights Cricket Club was formed. It played regularly up until about 1955 for the first 19 years on private properties until about 1900, the Club was responsible in purchasing and constructing the Federal Park oval, which would be about where the Doncaster State School oval is in 2004.

John was on the original negotiating committee and signed the application plan, serving it later as Secretary and Trustee. The Park Trustees handed the title over to Council in 1920 with only £40/- owing; about 1955 Council transferred the property to the Education Department. The Council advised later that land titles were never amended.

John was an active member of the Club for over 50 years was presented with a Gold Fountain pen for his record of 50 years Club membership and that he had proved himself as a bowler, batsman, fields-man, wicket keeper and a safe catch.

On several occasions, Club members enjoyed entertaining the crews of ships on the Australia to England route for a Cricket match on the Council St oval. John knew many of the ships officers, mainly from his interest in the export Fruit trade, and his involvement with Exporting of Apples and Pears.

He was also a keen Tennis Player and participated in both sports until Doctors orders prohibited his participation.

FRUITGROWERS ASSOCIATIONS

Doncaster Fruit growers Association was formed in 1892 at a public meeting called for that purpose. Cr. R G Cameron read a prepared paper. Mr A F Thiele was elected President and Mr Charles Sykes Secretary.

During 1893, The Victorian Fruit growers Amalgamated Association was formed representing district associations from all over Victoria.

John Tully accepted nomination as Delegate to annual Conferences. Doncaster had six representatives when John was elected Victorian President for the 15th Conference in 1911, held in the Athenaeum Hall Doncaster. There were about 100 Delegates attended. This was a very well organised Society there are many references to it in the Fruit World a monthly magazine, which commenced circulation about 1900.

For many Fruit Seasons before 1913, experiments were made annually to ascertain the best method to use in the Export of Fresh Apples, Pears, Plums, Cherries, etc. to overseas markets, some were unsuccessful, and others were successful.

In 1913, the Association of which John Tully was Secretary decided to send a representative to U.K. and Europe to report on all phases of the Export Fruit Markets. From about 57 applications received John Tully was selected, he with his wife Rosina and 4 others embarked on the "Argyleshire" on February 17th 1914 for U.K. a trip of about 6 months duration.

COOL STORES ASSOCIATION

From the Fruitgrowers Association, there developed in about 1918, The Orchardists and Fruit Cool Stores Association. John Tully was a foundation member of this Group, which is still meeting in 2000. Many of its current members are relatives or have a connection to the Doncaster pioneers. During 1962 for example, when its Executive was elected five of them were descendants of members of the 1892 Doncaster Fruitgrowers Association.

GOVERNMENT COOLSTORE

The first venture into the Fruit Cold storage industry is a story of perseverance, trial and error, etc. Refrigeration had just been invented in Geelong, Australia and the first Doncaster Coolstore began operations in March 1905. The building was enlarged in 1908 and again in 1912 its capacity then being 20,000 cases.

Edwin Lawford had converted a shed to cool room, added refrigeration machinery thus owning the first private cool store holding about 1200 cases fruit,

WEST DONCASTER COOL STORES Pty Ltd

Edwin Lawford, was one of the Directors elected May 1911 at the formation of the West Doncaster Cool Store, (a Co-Operative Company), the others were John Petty and John Tully. It was the first Cool Store for fruit built in the Southern Hemisphere, its aims were to provide extra storage space and endeavour to eliminate regulations and conditions then in force at the Government Cool Store. Both John Tully and John Petty were Directors for almost 30 years, without missing many meetings. The books have a good record of the attempts to minimise expenditure of the Co-Op up to its closure in 1966.

MOTOR CARS

John is reported to have owned seven cars, which were 5 – "T" Model Fords all tourers, one Armstrong Siddeley, and his last purchase was a 1930 Ford V 8 Sedan which he used on the day of his death on 9th May 1941 when he had driven to Box Hill for a haircut.

TRAIN ACCIDENT 2nd December 1882

John Tully is reportedly involved in the head on collision of two trains near Burnley Station. The rail line to Box Hill had been opened the previous day and he was apparently returning home from Melbourne when the accident occurred there appears to be no record of his involvement in this accident.

HOLIDAYS

John owned a house at Healesville situated on the highest point of Fernshaw Road facing East with a fine view of Mount Riddell. It was a double story building, accommodating two small families, it was used by their children and grandchildren and there is no record of its disposal.

I [Les Cameron] remember travelling to Healesville in a horse drawn vehicle visiting Badger Creek, Fernshaw Weir, and the Maroondah Dam, which was then under construction. An overhead cable conveyor system was in use to carry supplies to the Dam site from the Railway Station.

On several occasions, grandchildren accompanied our Grandparents on their holidays to Sorrento, Healesville, Carrum, Edithvale and Frankston. There is a report of a holiday to Phillip Island before the San Remo Bridge was built. John & Rosina with their son Roy and his family

were to travel to Cowes on the Stony Point Car Ferry. It ended in a disaster when the front wheels of the car pushed the Ferry from the jetty, which had not been secured. The car and its occupants were submerged.

HOUSES

His first house was on the Wilsons Rd orchard during 1884 the second being built about 1890 on Whitten's Lane most of this building is still standing in 2006. About 1916, he purchased the home of William J May on the land adjacent to the Church of Christ.

During 1924, their next home was built on the site (opposite Clay St.) of the third Tower. It was a solid brick house fitted with an internal toilet and a septic tank. A hot water system used the heat from the firebox of a wood burning kitchen stove, all very special facilities then.

One of the anchors for the Tower was still buried in his front garden it consisted of a 3-foot long log with a chain around it to which one of the many cables supporting the tower was attached. He also had a section of the Tower's stairs, which was built of very solid timber as a viewing platform in his back yard.

JUBES

John was very popular with children he always carried a small bag of 'Jubes' in his pocket in the 1930s, while walking from his home to and from the West Doncaster Cool Stores checking on Fruit, Fruit packers, keeping appointments, or attending regular Coolstore meetings.

BOX HILL HOSPITAL

John Tully representing Doncaster, J E Payne of Box Hill, and Mr Patterson of Box Hill were members of a Committee formed in 1930s to raise funds for the building of a Hospital. Functions were held in Doncaster and a Popular Girl Competition raised funds. The Hospital opened about 1955.

His second son John James Tully (who was also a Shire Councillor) was on the Hospital Board, and Grandson Lawrence J Tully a Board member for many years after the death of his father.

HONOURS

- 1911, John Tully achieved the honour of representing the Victorian Fruitgrowers Association as President.
- 1913, Chief Ruler of Victoria of the Independent Order of Rechabites.
- 1914, selected to travel to England and Europe as representative of The Central Victorian Fruit Growers Assn.; there is a daily record of his visit to England.
- 1918, President of the Victorian Churches of Christ.
- from 1922 to 1939, John was elected as a Victorian Trustee of I.O.R.

Family Notes.

The family records from 1876 are difficult to ascertain, but it appears that Maria aged 15 then assisted to care for her sisters and brothers, with help from Doncaster Church of Christ members. Maria is recorded as managing boarding houses in Lancefield was married in 1882, and then Eliza was named as managing a Boarding house.

FAMILY - unverified

Searches from Tandragee and several Churches reveal the following TULLY names, but not sure of relationship:

DEATHS:

DINAH born about 1755 died 13-3-1831

ELLEN born about 1790 died 2-1-1835 aged 44 years and

DAVID died 7-7-1842 aged 60 years

BIRTHS:

Father DAVID Tullyhue

ANN 1787

MARY 10-1-1787

DAVID 23-6-1793

Father DAVID Cargans

SARAH 7-2-1789

LUCEINDA 30-4-1820 married William Whitten 28-10-1840

No close relation to Doncaster Whitten Family

Father JOHN Cargans

JOHN 14-7-1789

Father THOMAS married Jane BOLD (Thomas a Weaver Cargans)

JOHN 1820

DAVID 1823 married Jane McAuley (Tully) 1874 at Fitzroy died 1892 age 69

ELEANOR 19-10-1828

THOMAS b 10-2-1833 married Jane McAuley 1852 Melbourne Father not recorded

MARGARET 3-2-1814

SUSANNA married Samuel Boyce about 1834 (father could be David?),

family of 4 children

Mary Jane 12-12-1835

David 16-2-1838

Samuel 23-9-1840

Samuel 29th Mach 1842.

MELBOURNE 19th August 1850.

WILLIAM TULLY arrived on "Reliance" aged 35 years born 1815 Armagh.

William Tully married Esther Davis St James Melbourne 1852, witness Elizabeth Smiley daughter Mary Ann born 1853 at Boroondara, appears to have returned to Ireland as this family in 1864 Census Tandragee with another daughter (Aixandra) born Tandragee, James Tully born Tandragee 28.6.1868 and David Tully born 13.10.1870.

TANDRAGEE is the main town near Cargans.

SMILEY or SMILIE

This family resided near Cargans, in 1850, William McAuley married Rosanne McAuley and in 1860, a John McAuley married Christina Smillie, could there be a relationship.

SPECIAL NOTES: In researching the TULLY family, we have now information on other Tully's in Australia, but cannot find relations. These notes are to assist future research, but may not be of use.

LANCEFIELD William Tully's parents were John Tully (Organist) & Maria Little of London.

A verbal comment made years ago was that a published photo of the Organist reveals similar features to our family, another report states he was an Organ Repairer. William's Death Certificate shows 40 years in Australia, but we have not found his shipping records. William Tully married Catherine Halfpenny, family of 4 boys, John b 1846, William b 1848, Daniel b 1852, David b 1854, (Northern Ireland 1820 records a Catherine Halfpenny aged 60 years). Catherine died 1877; William married Louisa Jones in 1878.

William died in 1884 aged 67 years (born 1817).

In discussions with Thomas & Jane Tully's descendants who had resided in the Lancefield area, William Shanahan, Peggy Hall, and Rene Stammers, and Maureen Meyer from the Lancefield Tully's, there does not appear to be any relationship, except similar Christian names.

Lancefield Tully's believe that the Smiley families are relatives; their names appear on several Marriage Certificates William McAuley. (Brother of Jane Tully) married Rosanne Smiley in 1850, a witness was Lillie Smiley, we cannot trace this family, they could have moved to New Zealand. (Married as Macauley).

ENGLAND - SCOTLAND

In mid 1750s a TULLY family was at Langleford near Wooler Northumberland & England/ Scotland border, not far from Jedburgh, births and deaths were difficult to follow. England only recognised the Church of England but if the Presbyterian Church was preferred, it was necessary to move a few miles to Jedburgh. Their family was John & Waiter b 1793 married Jane Curry, both died in Scotland.

There was also David born 1798 married Beatrice Robson. David died in Scotland, Beatrice and family then migrated to Woodend Victoria, William born? was still in the Border area about 1862.

Isabella born 1808.

The Highland Clearances of 1813 to 1819 allowed the Tully's from Northumberland, and the Robsons from Roxburgh to move to Sutherland Scotland with the Cheviot Sheep. TASMANIA In Launceston a George Tully born 1806 married Elizabeth Kinnon, he died

13-10-1848, their only child Sloane was born 12-8-1838 and moved to Victoria later. VICTORIA A birth registration on 16-12-1862 at Sandhurst for a John Tully, son of Thomas Tully & Mary Roland who were married at Adelaide, both were born in County Clare Ireland, also named their children William, Thomas, & John.