



ILMO®

(Investigating Local Members Origins)

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NEWSLETTER OF THE DEVONPORT

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The Secretary

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The story of a Scottish soldier Sgt. John Drummond

Watchmaker, soldier, farm worker and genealogist, John Drummond was born in Crieff in Perthshire, Scotland in 1791. From what we know of him John lead a most interesting life, having fought in 11 battles of the Napoleonic War including Waterloo, before emigrating to Australia in 1831.

John enlisted in the 71st Highland Regiment in 1807 and must have lied about his age as he claimed to have been 18 whereas he was in fact only 15. Why he lied will never be known, perhaps it was for the same reasons that many young boys did so in the First World War. But perhaps he was unhappy in his civilian vocation of watchmaker which was recorded at enlistment. However, since he was as young as he was, it's highly improbable he was a qualified watchmaker but more likely an apprentice. Apprenticeships at that time were mostly 7 years and it's unlikely he would have commenced one before the age of 11 or 12. Getting out of an apprenticeship at that time was not so easy either as it was a legally binding contract with severe penalties should the contract be broken. One way around this however, was that an apprentice not happy in his situation could enlist in the Army or Navy and he could be released without such penalty.



John would later be awarded the Military General Service Medal, (often referred to as the Peninsular Medal) for his part in the campaign which was fought across the Iberian Peninsula. His medal had 10 clasps on the ribbon detailing which battles he took part in. This was 34 years after the last battle and 47 years after the first that the medal commemorates, and the next of kin of the dead (unless the veteran had lodged a claim prior to his death) were not eligible to claim. Therefore the numbers issued were never going to be large. The medal was issued in 1848 to those 25,500 plus men who had made a valid claim. John Drummond must have claimed his medal from Australia by mail.

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Do you have something to say?

Listed below are the mechanisms which allow you to raise a matter or a concern with the Branch committee or with the State Executive.

- 1. Write a letter to the Branch Secretary*
 - 2. Write a letter to the State Secretary*
 - 3. Email either of the above (addresses are in your journal)*
 - 4. Approach any Committee member and ask them to raise your concern at the next Committee meeting.*
 - 5. Ask a General meeting to resolve that the Committee consider or reconsider a proposal or matter.*
 - 6. Write your suggestion in the Suggestion Book at the Branch Library*
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John Drummond contd.

Sgt. John Drummond was also awarded the Waterloo medal which was the first medal issued by the British Government to all soldiers



present during a campaign or battle. The Waterloo Medal was awarded to all who fought at the battles of Ligny, on the 16th June, 1815, Quatre Bras, 16th June, and of course Waterloo, on the 18th June. Military records indicate that John was a private in Captain Samuel Reed's company and he was promoted for his part in the battle.

Every soldier present at either of these battles was also credited with two extra years service, to count for all purposes.

It (the Waterloo Medal) is also the first *campaign* medal awarded to the next-of-kin of men killed in action.

The Waterloo Medal also has another distinction in that it was the first on which the recipient's name was impressed around the edge by machine.

It is also likely that Sergeant John Drummond received the Long Service & Good Conduct medal but evidence of this has been difficult to trace. His Statement of Service records his general conduct as being very good and it also noted the fact that he had been severely wounded in his right leg at the battle of Fuentes D'Onoro on the 3rd of May 1811 and was also wounded in the back, at the battle of Vittoria on the 21st of June 1813. Captain Samuel Reed his company commander, was also wounded in this

battle which took a heavy toll on the regiment. It lost Colonel, the Honourable Henry Cadogan, Captain Hall, Lieutenants Fox and Mackenzie, 6 sergeants, 1 bugler and 78 rank and file all being killed, with 280 officers and men being wounded. After remaining in France until the end of October 1818, the 71st embarked for England, and arrived at Dover on the 29th of that month. From 1818 to 1822 the regiment performed garrison duties at various places in England. During this time John Drummond married Jean Currie at Falkirk in Scotland on the 4th of March 1822, whilst on leave before his regiment left for Ireland.

In 1822 the regiment sailed from Liverpool for Dublin, where it arrived on the 3rd of May, and remained there till the beginning of October, when it was marched to the south of Ireland. Here it remained until May 1824, having its headquarters at Fermoy. During this time Sgt Drummond and his wife Jean had a son also named John on the 25th of August at Fermoy. They had a second son named William on the 6th of December 1825 at Falkirk in Scotland. The regiment during this time increased in strength and the front-line battalions were in North America as garrison troops in Canada. It's highly probable that by this time, Sgt Drummond was part of one of the four depot companies left behind by the regiment. John and Jean had two more children in Britain, another son called Peter who was born at Hull in England and a daughter called Janet who was born at Falkirk in Scotland where Jean's family lived.

John was discharged from the army aged "40" in May of 1828 (he was actually only 36) having completed 23 years and 74 days of service (his actual service plus 2 years credit for his part

in the battle of Waterloo). His discharge papers stated that he was “*hereby discharged in consequence of worn out constitution from length of service*”

His description from his discharge sheet has him as being 5’ 6” in height, brown-haired, blue-eyed and of fresh complexion. In his new civilian status, John and his family moved from England to Falkirk once again, but in 1831 they emigrated to Australia.

Shortly after arriving in Sydney, John Drummond found work at Inverary Park near Bungonia in the Southern Highlands of New South Wales. Inverary Park was the property of David Reid who was the son of Surgeon Lieutenant Dr. David Reid. During their time at Inverary Park, John & Jean had another 3 boys, they being David Reid Drummond, James and George McDuff Drummond. It appears the family remained in this area until sometime in the 1850’s when they moved to the Ovens River district in Victoria where Mr David Reid also had extensive properties at Wooragee.

After settling in this area, a number of John & Jean’s sons purchased land around Wooragee, Woolshed and Beechworth which had recently opened up to settlers due to the presence of gold.

Shortly before he died in 1865, John wrote his genealogy (5 A4 pages) covering a period of 120 years spanning the Jacobite War of the 1740’s through the Napoleonic War up to the Crimean period. The dates and place names he gave have been checked against other sources and his recall was remarkably accurate. In 1858 ex-Sgt John Drummond gave up his army pension for the widows and children of the Crimean War. He died at the Ovens Benevolent

Asylum (Beechworth Hospital) in 1865 aged 73 of heart disease. He is buried in the Presbyterian section of the Beechworth cemetery.

Sgt John Drummond was my partner Royce Jarvis’ great great grandfather.

Glenice Brauman

Some links of interest used in researching information for John Drummond.

www.regiments.org

Land Forces of Britain, The Empire & Commonwealth

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk

National Archives

View the guide to Military history and follow the links from there to the relevant documents.

www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk

Scotlands People

The official government source of genealogical records in Scotland.

www.genuki.org.uk

GenUKI

<http://www.btinternet.com/%7Ejam.es.mckay/dispatch.htm>

Scottish Military History Society

www.rootsweb.com

Rootsweb Mailing Lists

View the selection of “Military” related mailing lists. There is another separate one for the Napoleonic War.

To subscribe send a message to

Napoleonic-L-Request@rootsweb.com

Some books, magazines and CD-ROM related to Scots Ancestry in our Library:

Tracing your Scottish Ancestry by Kathleen Cory (1990)

Scottish family history a research and source guide. Vol 1 1986

In search of Scottish Ancestry / Gerald Hamilton-Edwards (1980)



Devonport Branch News

Meetings & Committee Reports

Branch Annual Elections

The A.G.M. of the Devonport Branch was held on April 27th and the new committee are all listed on page 2 of this newsletter. Please support them all and help us have a fantastic year of research, fun and friendship.

Stanley Bus trip

Thanks to the bus driver John and all who participated in the trip to Highfield House on April 1st.

Fundraising ideas were discussed at the Committee meeting and one of these was resuming the trade tables at our monthly meetings. This form of fund raising has not been in operation for a considerable time. Any one attending these meetings if they could bring along an item suitable for a trade table then it would be much appreciated.

Publications & Projects

Committee

Work is completed on St George's Church of England cemetery at New Ground and we are happy to announce the CD-ROM has been published. It is available from our Branch Library for \$15.00 plus p&p.

Work is now concentrated on Railton and Deloraine. As always we are looking for anyone who would like to volunteer some time to help with digital photography, indexing and html input. Helen Anderson (Chairperson of the group) would love to hear from you.

New Events

Sausage sizzles at the Kmart Complex in Devonport will be held on: 8th July, 9th September and 7th October.



Latrobe Winter Choc Fest

The Library will open on both the **Saturday and Sunday 8th & 9th July.**

Activities will be centered around the chocolate theme.

May 25th - On line research night at Devonport Online Access Centre.

July 1st *NEW DATE***** - Bus trip to Penguin Historical Society with a mystery stop. Cost approx. \$5.00 per head. Bookings are essential. Apologies for change of date but it was due to circumstances beyond our control.

July 27th - Meeting and catered meal. This will be a two course mid year Christmas dinner at Westella Ulverstone. The cost of this will be \$20.00 per head.

National Family History Week

July 30th – August 6th 2006

In conjunction with the 'Save the Census' campaign AFFHO have initiated a National Family History Week in Australia 30 July to 6 August 2006. The census will be taken Tuesday 8 August 2006.

We can play our part in "Saving the Census" Question number 60 on the census form is very important. Please say YES to save this census for our descendants.

For more information, and to see what events have been planned so far, click on this link.

<http://www.familyhistoryweek.org.au/about.htm>

Our Library will be open on Tuesday and Friday of that week as normal and will also have a special opening on Saturday 5th August to enable us to celebrate National Family History Week. If you would like to help out during the week or have any ideas to contribute, please let a member of the committee know.

Library News

Open on Tuesday and Friday 11.00am to 3.00pm and SECOND Saturday of each month 11.00am – 3.00pm. Come in and see how the Library is growing!



New items in the Library

Births, marriages and deaths on the web : Part 1 Southern England, The Marches and Wales by Stuart Raymond. 2nd ed.

Dating 20th Century Photographs by Robert Pols, published in Lancashire in 2005.

The Brave old pioneers ; a history of the Hodgetts family in Australia by Richard Hodgetts . Pub in Launceston 2004

Family History for beginners and beyond / Heraldry and Genealogy Society of Canberra 13th ed 2004

Genealogical Research directory National & International 2006

BOOKS FOR LOAN!

Yes, you can now borrow from a small, but growing, loan collection including both books and journals.



Library working bee

Our working bee in March was a great success and saw many hands lifting, carrying and sweeping. The end result was a much more efficient library layout. Come in and see for yourself.

The Library working bee's will commence on Wednesday 7th June. These working Bee's have been in recess for sometime now and the Library co-ordinator would like to restart them. They will take place on the 1st Wednesday of each month and consist of sorting, indexing photocopying and other duties associated with the smooth running of the Library. They do not include any outside work!

The cost of photocopying has been increased to 30c for an A4 size page 60c for a double-sided A4 page and to 60c for a computer print out.

RAFFLE The prize is 10 units for use with 1837online (Online index of bdm's in England & Wales). Tickets are available at the Branch Library for 50c a ticket or three for a dollar. This raffle will enhance our finances a little bit.

Members are reminded that all donations to the Library are Tax deductible. A member can if they wish donate for the purchase of a specific research item. Details of these items are available from the Branch Library Co-ordinator

More about our Library!!

When we had to move from Day's Building in Devonport to the Old Police House at Latrobe, no-one could envisage just how it would work out and what effect it would have on the membership and the members themselves.

As the Latrobe location was the only place available at a rental that this Branch could afford, then there was no other choice. The Latrobe Council bent over backwards to encourage us to become part of their community and they are still providing valuable support. The down side of the move was that it created extra travelling for some of our members, particularly those who live on the extreme western side of the area that this Branch covers. We realise it is made more difficult now with the increase in transport costs to travel to Latrobe, but we do encourage everyone to come and visit and continue your research. Another small problem we encountered with the move was the equipment and furniture we had in Devonport had to be positioned in new ways in a different room layout. However recently things have changed and we now have added warmth in the way of extra heaters, and improved and more functional research rooms. A new computer has been installed so that all the latest CD-ROM can be viewed. There are now four computers available, placed on a specially designed work area. A computer station has been built to accommodate these.

A new display case has been purchased and sits just inside the front door. This holds the collection of sale items. Agreement has been reached with Hobart, Launceston and Burnie Branches to stock their publications for



sale, as well as our own. Please come in and browse the selection, if what you require is not in stock we can order it for you. By purchasing these items from the Devonport Branch you are adding financial support to your branch. A good deal of new research material has been purchased this year and it might surprise some members just what we have on hand.

Indexing and checking of various projects is still ongoing. The Latrobe Funeral Directors records have just been made available to us for indexing. This project may take some time due to the process involved in sorting and copying them, however the end result will be well worth the efforts as the records are very comprehensive. Some members have already volunteered to do certain tasks relating to these ongoing projects and are underway. Indexing can be a rewarding past-time and is of immense value to the Society. We survive financially due to the sales of our publications and without the valuable help of our indexers, these publications would not be completed. If you would like to know more about what is involved, please call in at our Library or contact Glenice Brauman or Helen Anderson.



We are proud of the way the Library has developed since our move and would like to now welcome record numbers of visitors.

John Dare (President)



**Devonport & Launceston
Microfiche Roster**
20/5/06 – 18/8/06 Set 1
GRO BDM Index 1943-1946

State Microfiche Roster
20/5/06-18/8/06 Set 3 **GRO births,
deaths, marriages 1898-1922**

Membership dues

All renewals were due on **31st March**. Please remember that **if you have not renewed** you will miss out on receiving Tas. Ancestry & the Branch newsletter. Membership renewal forms are available at the Branch Library at Latrobe. If you have renewed or joined the Society since the 1st January 2006 then you are financial until March 2007.

Remember we are online – use this to advertise our Society to any interested people and use it yourself to keep abreast of the activities we have planned and publications we are producing. www.tfhsdev.com
Do you have a personal web page? If you are a member and have a family history related web site, we can place a link to it from our branch web site.

And from the Editors...

Next Spotlight on.....

will be old letters! Anyone who has a favourite and thinks other members would like to read them, please email it to news@tfhsdev.com and we will try and publish it. Due to limited space we may need to shorten some or keep them for another issue. We would love to hear from anyone with short articles, snippets, book reviews, websites, diaries or any interesting information related to this topic.

Please email us or leave any printed copies at the Library. Can you think of any topics to feature in ILMO during 2007?

Would you like to receive this newsletter electronically??

If so, please let us know your email address so we can then ensure you receive ILMO electronically in the future. By changing your preference to receiving this via email, you will save the branch spending money on printing and postage and.... As a bonus you will find it much easier to access the websites by simply clicking on the hyperlinks.



Email us news@tfhsdev.com and we will add you to our mailing list.

Late Breaking NEWS



Coming Soon.....

Our Branch will shortly have for sale the new Tasmanian Federation Index CD-ROM which includes births to 1919 and marriages and deaths to 1930. The cost is \$231.00 (unfortunately there is no member discount available on this item) **but please note that all purchases of this through the branch will return \$42.00 to our funds.**

If you would like to reserve a copy, please contact the secretary on 6424 4005, email secretary@tfhsdev.com or mail to PO Box 587 Devonport.