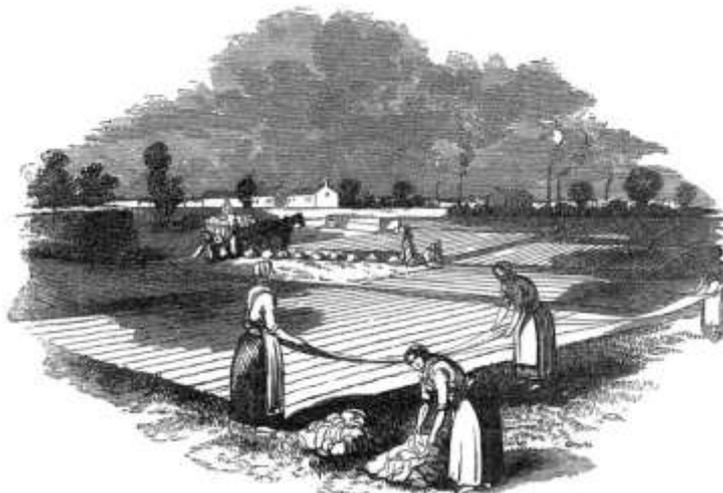




Ellen Simkin

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Date of Trial: | 23 March 1816 |
| Where Tried: | Lancaster Assizes |
| Crime: | Larceny in a Bleaching Ground to the value of 10 shillings |
| Sentence: | 7 Years |
| Est YOB: | 1781 |
| Stated Age on Arrival: | 37 |
| Native Place: | |
| Occupation: | Cotton Spinner |
| Alias/AKA: | Ellen Simkins/Simpkin/Sympson, Ellen Burn/Byrne(m) |
| Marital Status (UK): | |
| Children on Board: | |
| Surgeon's Remarks: | Quiet |
| Assigned NSW or VDL: | VDL |

In December 1815 one William Brindle was committed to the Lancaster Castle, charged with having stolen four pieces of calico from the bleaching grounds of James Reddish, Calico Printer, at Walton. He was joined by Ellen Simkin, charged with having received the said pieces, knowing them to have been stolen.¹



Bleaching- Ground²

The pair were brought before the Lancaster Assizes on 23 March 1816 to answer the charges. For having stolen the goods, William Brindle, was sentenced to transportation for life. Seemingly disproportionately, Ellen, in turn, received a sentence of seven years transportation and was returned to the Castle to ponder her future.³

On 19 May 1817 the Governor of the Gaol had written to the Secretary of State concerning the orders for transportation for the fifteen females then in custody. It must have been with some relief when he wrote in his Journal on 28 May that he had attended morning prayers, at which the prisoners were orderly, and that he had:

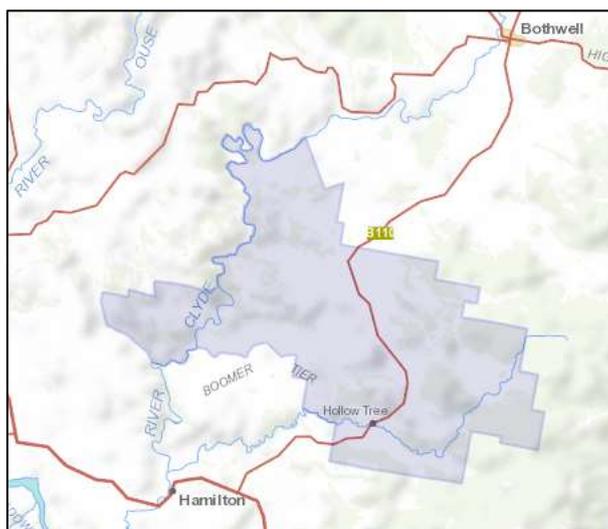
Removed to the Ship Friendship at Deptford the following female Transports per Isaac Jackson

Ruth Guest
Ellin Simkin
Ann Atkinson
Mary Sharp⁴

By late June all the 101 female convicts rounded up from around the country – from England, Wales and Scotland - had been taken aboard the *Friendship* which set sail on 3 July 1817.⁵ Ellen was one of the better behaved women, thankfully described by Surgeon Cosgreave as 'quiet'. After a protracted voyage, the *Friendship* reached Port Jackson on 14 January 1818 and from there Ellen Simkin was one of the fifty-three women who were

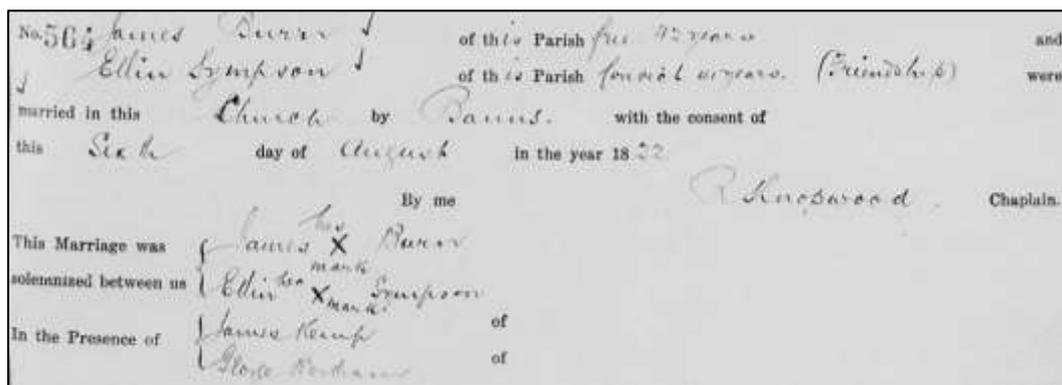
transferred to Van Diemen's Land on the *Duke of Wellington*, which arrived at Hobart Town on 20 February. On arrival she was aged 37 years old, unable to read or write, but a cotton spinner by trade. The records make no mention of any husband/partner and/or children she may have left behind.

Initially Ellen was assigned to a Mr. Capon.⁶ He was probably the Thomas Capon who had owned a shop in Phillip Street, Sydney, stocking mainly fabrics - linens, calicoes, cambric muslins, wearing apparel etc. – and who, with his family, left Sydney in late 1817, probably on the Duke of Wellington, and subsequently relocated to Hobart.⁷ In 1826 he was appointed Chief Constable of Van Diemen's Land.⁸ It was while in his service that Ellen committed her one and only recorded offence. On 20 November 1818 she was charged with 'neglect of duty and absconding from Mr. Capon's (her Masters) service'. Her sentence was one week in a solitary cell on bread and water.⁹ For the 1820 muster, and with a ticket-of-leave, Ellen was assigned to James Burne at Hobart.¹⁰ In 1823 she was mustered at Lower Clyde, in the district of Hamilton, wife of James Burn.¹¹



Lower Clyde District¹²

The marriage between Ellin Sympson [sic] and James Burn took place on 6 August 1822 and was registered at Hobart. The groom was 42 and the bride 41; he was 'free' and she was a convict. Neither could sign their name.¹³



We have so far two spellings of James' surname – Burn and Burne. He was also known as James Byrne and it was by that name that he had arrived at New South Wales on board the convict vessel *Anne* which reached its destination on 21 February 1801. The actual date has not yet been established, but he had been tried at Carlow, Ireland, in 1800 for housebreaking and sentenced to transportation for life.¹⁴ Under Captain James Stewart, the *Anne* had sailed from Cork, Ireland, on 26 June 1800 carrying both male and female convicts. It was an 'interesting' voyage as reported by Governor King, in correspondence to the Duke of Portland.

In a former part of this letter I mentioned the *Anne's* arrival with 127 Irish convict and 20 women. The master reports that before the ship's arrival at the Brazils, the convicts rose on the officers and ship's company and had nearly murdered the master and one of the mates. Fortunately the insurgents were overcome; when the officers



all agreed in opinion with the master, that it was necessary to execute the ring leader as an example, which was done, and another shot in the affray.¹⁵

Further, on 10 March 1801, Governor King remarked with some dismay that the *Anne* brought to the colony some of the most desperate and diabolical characters that could be selected throughout that Kingdom and he intended to send the ‘most troublesome’ to Norfolk Island.¹⁶ There is nothing to indicate that James was one of those destined (at this stage) for Norfolk Island.

James Burne was listed in the 1806 general muster as being in New South Wales and one of the convicts assigned to Mr. Thomas Hobby. Thomas Hobby, an officer in the NSW Corps, had arrived in 1799 on the *Buffalo*. By 1806 he had acquired considerable property by grant and purchase.¹⁷ When the 1811 muster was conducted James was at Norfolk Island.¹⁸ On 19 June 1813 he was granted a Conditional pardon, which was made ‘Absolute’ on 31 January 1814. The latter record provides some descriptive information. James was a labourer, 5’6” tall, with a dark complexion, dark brown hair, and hazel eyes.¹⁹ It was also in 1814 that, with the abandonment of the settlement at Norfolk Island, James was one of those removed from Norfolk Island on the *Kangaroo* for relocation in Van Diemen’s Land, an exercise which, according to *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, was completed ‘without any unpleasant accident taking place’.²⁰ Now under the name James Burns, he was included in the 1819 Land and Stock Muster. He had been granted 60 acres in the Hobart Town district of which 7 was planted with wheat and 1½ with potatoes, with the balance of 51½ being pasture. He also had 4 cattle and 6 bushels of grain in hand. Neither he nor his government servant (possibly Ellen Simkin?) were on rations.²¹ He was also included, as James Burne, in the 1822 Hobart Town muster of men. The entry confirms his arrival details and status as a free man. The ‘-’ in the last column indicates that he was not supporting any children.²²

| | | | | | | | |
|-------------|----------|-----|------|------|--------|------|---|
| BURNE James | Abs/Pard | Ann | 1801 | Life | Carlow | 1800 | - |
|-------------|----------|-----|------|------|--------|------|---|

Given the multiple iterations of James’ surname (and other men of the same name/s) it is difficult to follow his and Ellen’s life after their marriage and to establish whether they spent their lives in Van Diemens Land, or whether they left the island and, if so, when and whence. However, if they did stay, a check on the Tasmanian Names Index within a reasonable time frame does not reveal any other couple with the forenames of James and Ellen. The following newspaper items, if indeed they provide ‘glimpses’ of the couple, confirm that they did make Van Diemens Land their home, and more specifically, the district known as Hollow Tree.



Hollow Tree Environs
(Photographs, Mike Fretwell, March 2018)

The Hobart Town Courier of 26 January 1828 reported that a James Byrne, a settler at Hollow-tree bottom, Lower Clyde, had been convicted of selling spirits without a license and fined the full penalty of £20, and the spirits which had been seized in his sly-grog shop were destroyed.²³ Life beyond the settled areas was challenging, not made any easier by the constant fear of attack by the Aborigines. As noted in the introduction of a July 1830 *Colonial Times* report on the most recent 'troubles' –

The attacks and depredations of the Aborigines on the white people of this Colony, and on stock-huts, remote only a few miles from the townships and Military stations, assume a regular and alarming consistency, and evince on the part of the blacks a cunning superiority of tactic which would not disgrace even some of the greatest military characters.²⁴

Indeed, in an earlier report on 'fresh instances of outrage by some of the aboriginal tribes' it was mentioned that a soldier had been speared by the natives in the neighbourhood of Mrs. Burns' farm in the same district [Lower Clyde].²⁵ The following newspaper notice of October 1831, almost certainly referring to 'our' couple, confirms that they made Van Diemens Land their home.²⁶

WILLIAM the FOURTH, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, and so forth
In the administration of James Burns, late of the Hollow Tree, Van Diemen's Land, Farmer, deceased, to the next of Kin of the said James Burns, and to all the Christian people,
GREETING,
YOU and each of you, are hereby cited and warned, that you be and appear in our Supreme Court of Van Diemen's Land, on Monday the seventeenth day of October next, at the Court House of Hobart Town, at ten of the clock of the forenoon, and that you and each of you then and there take upon you, or one of you, or for ever renounce the administration of the Goods and Chattels, Rights, Credits and Effects of the said James Burns, deceased, intestate as hath been represented to us.
Witness, the Honourable John Lewes Pedder, Esquire, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Van Diemen's Land this thirtieth day of September, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and thirty one.
J. L. PEDDER. C. J.
George Cartwright Proctor for Mrs. Ellen Burns, the widow of the said James Burns, deceased.

Letters of Administration were granted to Ellen Burns on 22 October 1831, upon her giving the usual Bond, for which the following is a copy.

Know all Men by these Presents

That We Ellen Burns of the Hollow Tree in the island of Van Diemen's Land the Widow and Relict of James Burns late of the Hollow Tree aforesaid, deceased, William Crowther of Hobart Town aforesaid Surgeon, and Robert Makepeace of Hobart Town Van Diemen's Land Licensed Victualler, are held and firmly bound to Our Sovereign Lord the King his Heirs and Successors in the Sum of One thousand Pounds of lawful money of Great Britain to be paid to our Sovereign Lord the King or his Heirs and Successors for which payment well and truly to be made. We bind ourselves and each of us by himself our and each of our heirs Executors and Administrators firmly by these Presents. Sealed with our Seals. Dated the Twenty second day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty one.

The Condition of this Obligation is such That if the above bounden Ellen Burns the Widow and Relict of the said James Burns deceased and Administratrix of the Goods Chattels and effects of the said James Burns, deceased, do make or cause to be made a true and perfect Inventory of all and singular the Goods credits and effects of

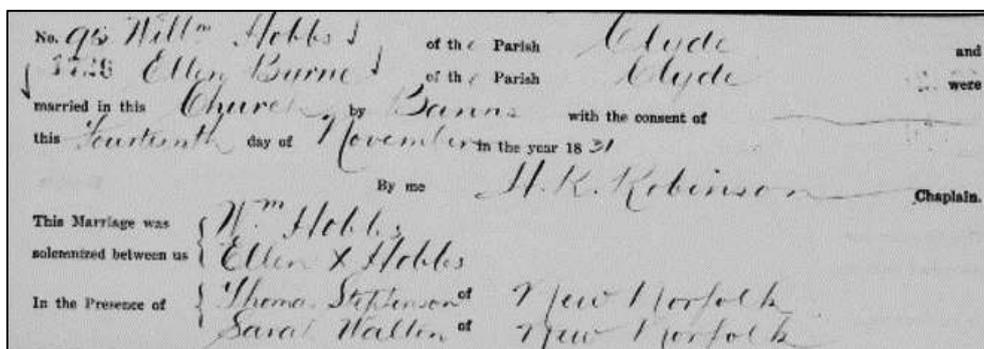


the said James Burns deceased which have or shall come to the hand possession or knowledge of the said Ellen Burns or to the hands or possession of any other person or persons for her and the same being so made to exhibit unto the same Supreme Court of Van Diemen's Land on or before the twenty second day of April one thousand eight hundred and thirty two and the same Goods Chattels Credits and effects and all other the Goods Chattels credits and effects of the said James Burns deceased at the time of his death or which at any time afterwards shall come to the hands or possession of the said Ellen Burns or to the hands or possession of any other person or persons for her shall well and truly administer according to the Law. And further shall make or cause to be made a true and perfect account of her said Administration on or before the twenty second day of October one thousand eight hundred and thirty two and afterwards from time to time as she shall be required and all the rest and residue of the said Goods Chattels Credits and effects which shall be found from time to time remaining upon the said Administration accounts the same being first examined and allowed of by the said Supreme Court of Van Diemen's Land shall and do pay and dispose of in a due course of Administration or in such manner as the said Court shall direct. Then and in such case this obligation shall be void otherwise to be and remain in full force and virtue.

Sealed and Delivered in the presence of the same having been read over and explained to the said Ellen Burns.²⁷

The document was signed and sealed by Ellen Burns (her mark), William Crowther, and Robert Makepeace. The document makes no reference to the actual date and place of James Burns' death. This would have occurred after January 1828 if he was the James Byrne who was convicted in that month of selling spirits without a license. Similarly, if he was the James Burns who, along with three others was charged with sheep stealing, and whose cases were all discharged, James' death would have occurred after May 1829 trial.²⁸ Regardless, it is more than likely that he died in 1831 and possibly on 16 June.²⁹

A November 1831 marriage registered at New Norfolk reveals that the now, and recently, widowed Ellen Burns married again, and that her second husband was William Hobbs. The ceremony, conducted by H.K. Robinson, took place on 14 November. Both parties were of the parish of Clyde and, while the groom signed his name, the bride made her mark. No information as to occupations or ages was recorded.³⁰



Of note are the following notices, dated 28 December 1831 and 15 March 1832 that appeared in the newspapers under the name of William Hobbs of Hollow Tree.

It is hereby given, to all persons who may have any claims on the estate of the late Mr. James Byrnes, situated at Hollow tree, in the district of Bothwell, that they are required to attend Mr. Bastian's, New Norfolk, on the 10th of April, 1832, to certify their claims.³¹

WHEREAS the undersigned has for some time past, been paying several small accounts, on account of the late Mr. James Byrne, and has every reason to believe that some of them are unjust debts. Now the undersigned strictly puts such gentlemen on their guard, as there some of them particularly marked, and such persons pretending to have such claims without sufficient proof, with be prosecuted with the utmost rigour of the law.³²

The final step in finalising James Burns' estate was recorded in a list of persons, who had died intestate and for whose estates Letter of Administration had been granted, published in January 1833.

37. Burns, James, of the Hollow-tree; admx, Burns, Ellen, of the Hollow-tree, widow of intestate, October 22,

1832.³³

At the time of his marriage William held the position of division constable.³⁴ Two weeks after the marriage, the *Launceston Advertiser* reported that 'William Hobbs, at the Hollow Tree, on the farm of Jacobina Burn, P.D. Bothwell' was appointed as a pound-keeper. This was in fact incorrect – it should have read 'on the farm of Ellen Burns.³⁵ This position was made redundant in January 1832, by proclamation, 'the pound (or place lately used as a pound) ... lately kept by William Hobbs, within the district of Bothwell' having ceased to be.³⁶ Having been relieved of his duties William turned to other employment and in September 1832 he was granted a license to operate the "Barley Mow" at Hollow Tree, the amenities of which he advertised in November 1833.³⁷

To the Public.
WILLIAM HOBBS begs leave to return his sincere thanks to his Friends and the Public, for the very liberal support he has received during his residence at the Hollow Tree, and more especially since he has been in the public line. He begs to assure them that he will do his utmost to merit the same in future, and with that idea, he has laid in the following stock of choice wines and spirits, brandy, rum, and gin, excellent Madeira, and Cape wines, Taylor's brown stout, and Dunbar pale ale, of superior flavour. Always a good supply of Negro-head and Brazil tobacco and cigars on hand.
 W. H. also begs leave to acquaint the public, that he intends very shortly to put up some good post and rail paddocks for the accommodation of travellers arriving with stock.
Barley Mow, Hollow Tree, [1453
Nov. 6, 1833.

William retired from the Inn in October 1834. He thanked all those numerous friends who had favoured him with their support, but assured them that his brother Henry Hobbs, who was to take over the "Barley Mow", would 'spare no exertions' to render patrons every accommodation.³⁸ William then started a new venture, entering into a partnership with James Evett Chapman.³⁹ Chapman had recently been granted a license as 'Auctioneer and Vendue master for the county of Buckinghamshire' but no such qualification has been cited for partner Hobbs.⁴⁰

Notice.
MESSRS. Chapman and Hobbs having commenced business as Auctioneers and General Commission Agents, beg most respectfully to solicit a portion of Public patronage, especially in the undermentioned and neighbouring districts. From Messrs. C. and H's. general knowledge of business, they feel confident of giving that satisfaction so highly to be desired, and can assure those who may honor them with their commands, that it will be their sole study to merit a continuance of their favors.
 * * Communications addressed to Bothwell, will have immediate attention.
CHAPMAN & HOBBS.
Bothwell, July 1, 1834. [3151

This business arrangement did not survive a year with the partnership being dissolved at the end of March 1835, and with all debts due and from the firm to be liquidated by William Hobbs.⁴¹ Three months later, Messrs Ward and Hobbs having obtained the requisite licenses, were advertising their services as auctioneers under the banner of Ward and Hobbs.⁴² The last time the firm advertised was in September 1835, and in October the following notice bore testament to another failed partnership.⁴³

NOTICE.

I Do hereby give notice, that the partnership lately subsisting between myself and William Hobbs, carrying on business as licensed victuallers, under the firm of **WARD & HOBBS**, at the New Hotel, Bothwell, is dissolved; that I have purchased the share and interest of the said William Hobbs, in all the effects and property of the said firm; that the said business will in future be carried on by me on my separate account, and that all debts due to and from the said firm will be received and paid by me.

WM. WARD.

Witness
JOSEPH ALLPORT.
JOHN ROBERTS.
 Bothwell, Oct. 13.

With no reference to such niceties as a parting of the ways 'by mutual agreement' William Hobbs had been bought out and this is the last record found to date for this man. It would seem that William subsequently abandoned Ellen, and probably his brother Henry left with him, to a place or places unknown. Did Ellen regret his departure? I have found nothing to indicate that she tried to find him – no notice in the papers seeking information about his whereabouts.

It was as Mrs. Hobbs that Ellen was called upon as a witness at an inquest held at the house of James Byrnes, Hollow Tree, on 13 December 1852, to investigate the circumstances of the death on 11 December of a young boy by the name of Hugh Morgan.⁴⁴

Ellen Hobbs being sworn stated that I knew the deceased Hugh Morgan well, he had been living with us for the last six years. On Saturday morning last when he got up at 6 o'clock he looked very unwell – complained very much of his head, in which he said he had a violent pain. He afterwards layed [sic] his head down on the pig trough outside of the house. I got him in and put him to bed; after an hour I brought him down and layed him on the sofa in the next room. He was then quite insensible and kept moaning with his hand on his head. He lay like this on the sofa until near 4 o'clock, without speaking and died without a struggle about 4 o'clock ... We sent for Dr. Marland after he was taken ill, but he was absent from home. The deceased took nothing from the time he got up until he died – he was about 12 years and a half. *Ellen (her X mark) Hobbs*

The verdict was that Hugh Morgan 'died from concussion of the brain produced from some accidental cause unknown, and died of the visitation of God in a natural way and not otherwise'.⁴⁵

It might seem strange that the family with whom young Hugh was living had no idea of how and when he had received a blow to the head. The fact that the doctor was not available to attend to him highlights the lack of medical services that we today would take for granted. But perhaps the most significant aspect of this sorry tale is that Hugh Morgan was one of the numerous children born to Eliza Watts and John Morgan before they finally married in 1850, and Eliza was a daughter of Hester Wright, another of the *Friendship* women.⁴⁶ According to the informant, E.F. Bromley, Chief Constable at Hamilton, Hugh Morgan was a 14 year old labourer when died.⁴⁷ If this is correct, he would have be sent to live with Ellen when he was about 8 years old.

A Hamilton death registration records the passing of Ellen Byrne, farmer's wife, who died on 14 May 1863 age 76 (suggesting an estimated YOB of 1787).⁴⁸

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----|------------------------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|------------------|---|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 266 | 1863 May 14 th | Ellen Byrne | Female 76 yrs | James's Wife | Frederick George | Walter Langston Undertaker, Hamilton | 1863 May 28 th | John Leach Sep. Kynsham |
|-----|------------------------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|------------------|---|------------------------------|----------------------------|

The Australian Cemetery Index confirms the death of Ellen Byrne (and her son James) and their burials at St. Stephen's Roman Catholic Church. Note, Ellen was buried under the surname Byrne, not Hobbs.⁴⁹

BYRNE, Ellen D: 14 May 1863 – 70 or 76 yrs. – Also 1 other

BYRNE, James D: May 1875, 56 yrs. – See: BYRNE, Ellen



Byrne grave and Ellen's gravestone, St. Stephens, Hamilton⁵⁰

An online family tree suggests that Ellen was a native of Baswich, Staffordshire, and noting her stated age of 37 on arrival in 1818, there is a Baswich 31 December 1780 baptism record for an Ellen Simkin, daughter of Edward and Ellen Simkin.⁵¹ Her parents may have been Edward Simkin and Ellen Felthouse, who were married on 28 December 1776 at Tixall, three miles or so west of Baswich.⁵² And this Ellen may have had at least two siblings baptised at Baswich – Edward in 1784 and John in 1788.⁵³ But it should be noted that an Ellen Simkin, aged 56, was buried at Baswich in 1837.⁵⁴

The same family tree cites Rathdrum, Co. Wicklow, as James Byrne's birthplace and suggests a birth/baptism

year of 1787. Ages are notoriously unreliable 'facts', and nothing has been found in the 'convict' documentation to indicate Ellen's first husband's year of birth (or where he was born). However he stated that he was 42 when he married Ellen in 1822, which would give an estimated birth year of 1780. The tree also cites an 1811 Convict Muster to confirm ship of arrival, trial date/place and sentence, and residence at that time.⁵⁵ The cited entry is, in fact, for 'the other' James Byrne, who had been tried in October 1800 at Wicklow and sentenced to 7 years' transportation. At the time of this muster, 'our' James was on Norfolk Island.

| | | | |
|--------------------|------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| <i>James Byrne</i> | <i>Ann</i> | <i>Oct. 1800 Wicklow</i> | <i>7 1/2</i> |
|--------------------|------------|--------------------------|--------------|

The Sons

It has been noted that for the 1822 Hobart muster, no children were registered against James Burne's entry. However, Ellen and James did have one son by then – James junior, born in Hobart in 1819. He was followed by another son, John, born at Hollow Tree, in 1824.⁵⁶ Both boys were raised at Hollow Tree, living and working with their mother on the family farm.

In April 1846 mother and sons were referred to in a newspaper report headed up 'DETECTION OF CATTLE STEALERS'.

On Friday morning last Mr. Chief District Constable Lascelles, accompanied by Mr. Thomson, of Emu Bottom, Mr. Cook, of Tor Hill, and Mr. W.H. Wells, of Hamilton, apprehended, and conveyed to Hamilton, eight free persons, who have long been known under the cognomen of the "Hollow Tree Mob," upon a charge of cattle-stealing. It appears that two hawkers, in connexion with a family named Byne [sic], (a mother and two sons,) a man named Littleballs [sic], and a man called "Jack, the Ostler," and another [??] the "Old Horse," have been carrying on a system of plunder, from the neighbouring flocks and herds, for several years past; but, through the vigilance of Mr. Lascelles, they are now placed in custody, and are under examination; the carcass of a cow (strange to say, identified by Mr. Lascelles as his own property) having been found with the head, bearing the ear marks, &c., in their possession. We are told the case is very clear. Too much credit cannot be awarded to Mr. Lascelles, and the neighbours who assisted him, for their ingenious detecting, and bringing to justice, a horde of thieves.⁵⁷

Five of the 'Mob' were brought to trial which was held Hobart Town Supreme Court on Saturday 6 June.

John Jackson was charged with stealing, on 8th of April, a cow, of the value of £7, the property of Miss Frances Lascelles, of Bothwell; and *John Burn, Thomas Button, John Hutton, and James Townsend*, with feloniously receiving the same. They were all found Guilty, and sentenced – Jackson to seven years' transportation, and the others to 14 years. Burn was defended by Mr. Macdowell.⁵⁸

So, in the end, the charges against Ellen and James were dropped, but John, despite the family having engaged a lawyer, was dispatched to the Convict Probation Station at Fingal in the north-east of Tasmania, where the inmates were put to hard labour - building roads and bridges and developing the land.

Very shortly after the trial son James married. On 26 July 1846 the marriage between 26 year old James and 16 year old Ann Littlehales (related to the 'Littleballs' referred to above) took place at St. Peters, Hamilton. Both were able to sign their names and the ceremony was witnessed by James and Ellen McCarty.⁵⁹

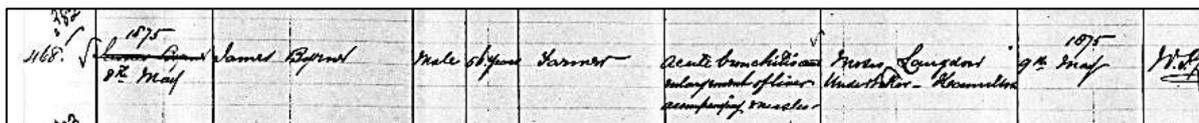
| 1846 MARRIAGES in the District of <i>Hobart</i> | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|--|-----------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------|--|--|
| Number | When married, and where. | Name and Surnames. | Age. | Rank. | Signature and Description of Parties. | Name of Clergyman, Officiating Minister, or Deputy Registrar. | When registered. | Signature of Deputy Registrar or Officiating Minister. | |
| 70 | <i>St. Peter's Hamilton</i> | <i>James Byrne and Ann Littlehales</i> | <i>26</i> | <i>Yeoman</i> | <i>James Byrne</i> | <i>George Wright</i> | <i>26 July 1846</i> | <i>George Wright</i> | |
| | <i>St. Peter's Hamilton</i> | <i>Ann Littlehales</i> | <i>16</i> | <i>Spinster</i> | <i>Ann Littlehales</i> | | | | |

Married in the *South District* according to the Rites and Ceremonies of *the Roman Catholic Church* by *James Byrne* and *Ann Littlehales* in the Presence of *James & Ellen McCarty*

Ann, a daughter of Edward Littlehales and Eleanor Owen, had been born in Hobart on 3 March 1831. Her childhood was somewhat turbulent, with both parents recording offences on their convict records until around 1840 after which they apparently settled down in the Hamilton area.⁶⁰ Between 1847 and 1872 James and Ann produced eleven children, of whom it is known ten survived to adulthood.⁶¹

James (1847-1903); John (1849-?); William (1852-1907); Edward (1854-1915);
 Ellen (1857-1916); Frederick Hugh (1859-1944); Ann (1861-1937); Thomas (1864-1915);
 Walter (1867-1940); George (1869-1941), Mary (Minnie) Ann Elizabeth (1872-1946)

James died at the age of 56 on 8 May 1875 at Longwood, Hollow Tree. Interestingly, the death notice carried the notation 'Melbourne papers please copy.'⁶²



As noted above, he too was buried in the cemetery situated on the desolate, hilly stretch of scrubland behind St. Stephens Catholic Church, Hamilton.



St Stephen's Cemetery, Hamilton
 (Photograph, Mike Fretwell, March 2018)

His widow was left with the responsibility of their large family and also, as James had not left a will, of administering his estate, the value of which she believed did not exceed more than £250.⁶³ Ann, widowed in her mid-40s, did not remarry and outlived James by just over forty-one years, her passing noted in the *Daily Post*.

BYRNE – On August 25, 1916, at her daughter's (Mrs. H. Poke) residence, Charles-street, Moonah, Ann relict of the late James Byrne, of Longwood, Hamilton-on-Clyde, in the 87th year of her age. R.I.P. Funeral will move for Cornelian Bay Cemetery at 3.45 tomorrow (Sunday) afternoon.⁶⁴

By 1856 John Byrne was back home, and with his brother James was included in a list of people entitled by freehold to be placed on the Electoral Rolls – James of Longwood farm, Hollow Tree and John of Hollow Tree farm.⁶⁵

In fact, John had received his ticket of leave in 1852 and returned home accompanied by a new wife.⁶⁶ The woman he married was Elizabeth Lambert, who hailed from the Surrey market town of Epsom, but who had been tried at the Sussex Assizes at Lewes on 30 July 1849 and found guilty of stealing 'from the person of Jacob Caffyn at Horsham, a £5 Bank of England note, two sovereigns, a half sovereign, five shillings and fourpence' which she then passed onto a Samuel Moon.⁶⁷ She was sentenced to seven years transportation and arrived at Van Diemens

Land on 25 July 1850 on the *Baretto Junior* having left her family behind at Brighton. She was a 23 year old single woman, a servant by calling, able to read and write. Elizabeth was quite short at 4' 11". She had a sallow complexion, medium features, brown hair and hazel eyes, with no distinguishing marks. Under the Probation System (introduced in 1843-44) she was sent to the Fingal district to undertake six months' probation, after which she would have been issued with a probation pass and hired out. It was while she was at Fingal that she met her future husband. She was granted a ticket of leave in 1853 and her certificate of freedom was issued at Hamilton in October 1856. In March 1852 permission was granted for James and Elizabeth to marry, and they did so on 5 April 1852 at Fingal. While both were actually still convicts, their rank was stated as Servant.⁶⁸

| Number. | When married, and where. | Name and Surname. | Age. | Rank. | Signature and Description of Parties. | Name of Clergyman, Officiating Minister, or Deputy Registrar. | When registered. | Signature of Deputy Registrar or Officiating Minister. |
|---------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------|--------------------|---|---|----------------------------|--|
| 4 | April 5 th 1852 Fingal | John Byrne Elizabeth Lambert | 22 23 | Servant Servant | John Byrne Bachelor Elizabeth Lambert Spinster | Samuel Brown | April 5 th 1852 | Samuel Brown |

Married in the Chapel at Fingal according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Church of England & Ireland by Banns by Rev. J. Brown
 This Marriage was solemnized between us John Byrne & Elizabeth Lambert
 In the Presence of W. Valant & S. Staliant Samuel Brown Minister.

Elizabeth died on Christmas Day 1871 at the age of just 39 of heart disease.⁶⁹ News of her death was announced in *The Mercury* of 6 January. Again we find a reference to Melbourne papers.

BYRNE – On 25th December, at the Hollow Tree, near Hamilton, Elizabeth, the beloved wife of John Byrne, aged 39 years. Melbourne papers please copy.⁷⁰

Very soon after, on 12 March 1872, John Byrne also died. He was a relatively young man, aged 48, and the cause of death was given as consumption.⁷¹ *The Mercury* published his death notice.

BYRNE – On Tuesday, March 12th 1872, at the Hollow Tree, near Hamilton, John Byrne, farmer, aged 48 years.⁷²

John Byrne, farmer of Hollow Tree near Hamilton in Tasmania, had drawn up his will shortly before his death.

I hereby bequeath the whole of my property and effects of whatsoever they may consist to my son John Francis Byrne. I further will that the said property shall not be mortgaged or sold or in any other ways pass out of the possession of the said John Francis Byrne as long as he shall live and shall or(?) continued in the possession of the direct heirs of the said John Francis Byrne. In default of the said John Francis Byrne dying without heirs the said property will go into the possession of my brother James Byrne or his direct heir. In the event of my decease taking place before the said John Francis Byrne shall have become of age the said property shall be taken possession of by the Executors to be by them leased to the greatest advantage as the said Executors may decide and that the money thus obtained shall be devoted to the education and support of the said John Francis Byrne until the time when the said John Francis Byrne shall have become of age when he will take possession of the said property. I do hereby appoint that Cecil J. Parsons of Bloomfield Hamilton in Tasmania and Charles Hallett of Glen Quoin Hamilton in Tasmania to be the Executors to see that the provisions of this Will are well and faithfully carried out.⁷³

The only child of John and Elizabeth was John Francis Byrne who was born on 20 August 1859, and whose birth was registered at Hamilton.⁷⁴

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|------|------|------|------------|----------------------------------|---|------|--------|-------------|
| 439 | 1859 | John | Male | John Byrne | Elizabeth Byrne formerly Lambert | John Byrne the father's first name Hamilton | 1859 | Aug 20 | W. M. H. H. |
|-----|------|------|------|------------|----------------------------------|---|------|--------|-------------|

With the death of his father he was orphaned at the age of eleven, and thus the estate would have been managed by the executors until he reached his majority in 1880. Presumably he was taken care of by his uncle and aunt, or by one of the families of the close-knit Hollow-tree community. It was into one of these families that John Francis Byrne married, by licence at the Catholic Church, Hamilton, on 9 February 1880.⁷⁵

| 18 MARRIAGES in the District of <i>Hamilton</i> | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|----------|--------------------------------|--|---|------------------|--|
| No. | When solemnized, and where. | Name and Surname. | Age. | Rank. | Signature and Description of Parties. | Name of Clergyman, Officiating Minister, or Deputy Registrar. | When registered. | Signature of Deputy Registrar or Officiating Minister. |
| 185 | February 9 1880 L.A.C. Church Hamilton | John Francis Byrne (and) Ellen Best | 21 18 | Farmer Farmer's daughter | John Francis Byrne Bachelor Ellen Best daughter Spinster | W. D. Williams | Feb - 9 1880 | W. D. Williams |

Married in the *R.C. Church Hamilton* according to the Rites and Ceremonies of *R.C. Church* by License by me
 This Marriage was solemnized between us *John Francis Byrne* { In the presence of *Michael Best* *W. D. Williams*
Ellen Best of us *John Best* Minister.

The groom's stated age was given as 21, although it would be another six months until John would celebrate his 'coming of age'. The bride, 18 year old Ellen (baptised Helen), was a daughter of Joseph Best and his wife Helen (née McCarthy) who, incidentally, had witnessed the 1850 marriage between Eliza Watts and John Morgan, the parents of the unfortunate Hugh Morgan referred to earlier.⁷⁶ The year before, John's cousin Ellen Byrne had married John Joseph Best, another of the children of Joseph and Helen Best.⁷⁷

Ellen was only 33 when she died from 'Exhaustion from Epileptic fits'. The informant was her husband, John Francis Byrne of Hollow Tree, labourer.⁷⁸

| | | | | | |
|--------------|--------------------|----|-------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| 24 June 1895 | John Francis Byrne | 39 | Widow of Labourer | Exhaustion from Epileptic fits | John Francis Byrne of Hollow Tree Labourer husband of the deceased |
|--------------|--------------------|----|-------------------|--------------------------------|--|

John Francis Byrne married for a second time on 24 January 1903. The Certificate of Marriage shows that he was then a labourer, residing at Ouse, was a 39 year old widower, and had three living children from his previous marriage. The bride, Sarah Ann May Jenkins was a 21 year old spinster, born at River Dee to William Jenkins and his wife Mary Stock, but at the time of the wedding she was living in Hobart.⁷⁹ It was a few months later that notification of the happy event appeared in the newspapers.⁸⁰

BYRNE—JENKINS. — On January 24, 1903, by Rev. Isaac H. Palfreyman, John Francis Byrne, son of John and Elizabeth Byrne, of Hamilton, to Sarah Ann May Jenkins, daughter of William and Mary Jenkins, of River Dee. At the residence of the officiating minister. By license.

At least four children were born to John and Sarah between 1904 and 1913, the youngest, Cecil, dying within a month of his birth.⁸¹ It seems that all was not well between John and Sarah. In 1913 he placed a notice in the *Daily Post* warning that any person scandalising his wife Sarah Byrne would be prosecuted.⁸² Certainly by 1919 the electoral rolls show them as living apart – John north of Launceston at Swan Bay Creek, Lilydale, working as a farm labourer and Sarah 'domestic duties' at Bushy Park, New Norfolk, about 33 miles north-west of Hobart and famous for hop-growing.⁸³

It was on 24 May 1945 that the following notice appeared in the Launceston newspaper the *Examiner*.⁸⁴

MAN FOUND DEAD
 John Francis Byrne (86), bachelor, was found dead yesterday afternoon at his home, Bracknell. He lived alone. As far as can be ascertained, he was last seen alive on Sunday afternoon. It is not known if he had any relatives living.

Thankfully, as revealed in the next day's edition of the *Examiner*, some relatives had been identified, but there was no reference to a wife.⁸⁵

BYRNE.—On May 21, 1945, at his residence, Bracknell, suddenly, John Francis Byrne, loved father of Victor, Albert, Lily (Mrs. Rhodes) and James. Aged 86 years. R.I.P. Private interment Westbury Cemetery this day (Friday) at 4.30 o'clock. — Armitage & Armitage, A.F.D.A., St. John St.

As announced, and confirmed by “Find a Grave”, John Francis Byrne was buried at the Westbury General Cemetery.⁸⁶



View of Westbury Cemetery⁸⁷

He had made out his will on 15 August 1939 by which he devised and bequeathed all his worldly goods to Alice Olga Mary Haywood of Bracknell, who was also the sole Executrix. It was not until 19 January 1948 that administration was granted.⁸⁸

During her lifetime, Ellen, the matriarch of the Byrne family, saw both her sons married – James in 1846 to Ann Littlehales and John in 1852 to Elizabeth Lambert. Between them, and before she died in 1863, these sons presented her with eight grandchildren, and a further four arrived after Ellen’s death. In turn, between them these grandchildren went on to have at least thirty-five children of their own. Ellen Simkin, ‘quiet’ during her voyage on board the *Friendship*, and virtually ‘silent’ as far as records are concerned after her arrival, proved to be one of the pioneers of the Hollow Tree community. Widowed at a young age, and then apparently deserted by her second husband, Ellen continued living and working with her two sons on the land that her first husband James had been granted. The extensive Byrne clan bears testament to her lasting legacy.

Postscript

The Byrne family seems to have operated from two farms – John and his mother were principally responsible for the Hollow Tree farm, the property that Ellen ensured would be legally passed on to John, her older son James being ineligible to inherit land as he was illegitimate. However, James operated “Longwood”, a separate Hollow Tree property.

By his will (see above), John Byrne, when bequeathing his holding to his only heir John Francis Byrne, had stipulated that the property was not to be sold or mortgaged but was to be retained within the family. But was it this John, intending to leave the district, on whose behalf a clearing sale was to be held on 3 June 1899, as listed under the Sales by Auction in *The Mercury* of 24 May 1899 and for which an inventory was published the following week?⁸⁹

SATURDAY, June 3.

Clearing Sale –Horses, Implements, Furniture, etc., at “Longwood,” Hollow Tree.

ROBERTS & COMPANY LIMITED,

Instructed by Mr. John Byrne, leaving the district, will sell as above, **SATURDAY, June 3,** at 12 o'clock sharp—without reserve,

FOUR FIRST-CLASS DRAUGHT HORSES, from 3 to 8 years old; guaranteed staunch, and very tractable

1 Half-bred hack and harness horse, 5yrs., staunch, and very nimble and reliable; as a lorry horse, or for quick work, not to be surpassed

30 Mixed sheep

2 Well-grown steers

7 Pigs.

30 Prime crossbreds, Strathmore

50 Crossbred lambs, Hollow Tree

IMPLEMENTS.

One four-horse waggon, 2 drays, horse works, chaffcutter, disc harrows, Hornsby binder, roller, winnower, single and double-furrow ploughs, water cart, blacksmith's tools, cart, leading, and plough harness; and

100 bushels oats, rye, peas, potatoes, turnips, stack of straw; also

All the household furniture and sundry effects, too numerous to here particularise.

Luncheon provided.

Sale 12 o'clock sharp.

A subsequent notice in *The Mercury* indicates that Edward Byrne, son of James, was still at Longwood in 1904. He was one of a group who had nominated Sydney Richard Gunn Allwright for the position of Councillor for the Rural Municipality of Hamilton.⁹⁰

ALLWRIGHT, SYDNEY RICHARD GUNN, of Rathmore, Hollow Tree, in the Rural Municipality of Hamilton, Pastoralist—Nominated by William Dickenson, of Woodlands, Pelham; Edward Byrne, of Longwood, Hollow Tree; and Morgan, Edward Hume, Hills, Eden; Hills, Robert, and Bush, Christopher, all of Hamilton;

It was at Longwood that Edward Byrne died in February 1915, possibly the last of the Byrne family to live and work on the property.

BYRNE – On February 20, 1915, at his late residence, Longwood, Hollow Tree, Edward Byrne, fourth son of the late James Byrne. Funeral arrives at St. Stephen's Cemetery at 3 p.m., Tuesday, 23rd.⁹¹

So many of the Byrne rites of passage took place at St. Stephen's Catholic Church at Hamilton, including the following event – the marriage between Thomas Byrne and Elizabeth Catherine Jenkins on 7 January 1890. The

copy of the register entry has been 'chopped off' but, notwithstanding the handwriting, is legible. I have included it here, together with a *Mercury* notice of the marriage because they contain a few points of interest.⁹²

| | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------------------|----|
| 22947: 7 th January 1890 | Thomas Byrne, 25 years | Land Steward | Thomas Byrne (Bachelor) | Zemethy Munphy | Zemethy 7 th January 1890 | Zemethy Munphy Callaghan | 48 |
| | Elizabeth Jenkins 23 years | Housemaid | Elizabeth Jenkins (Spinster) | Callaghan | | | |

This Marriage was solemnized according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Catholic Church by license by me
(In the presence of) Walter O'Byrne
Amy Walsh, Minister
Zemethy Munphy Callaghan

O'BYRNE—JENKINS.—On Tuesday, January 7, 1890, at a special nuptial Mass, at Saint Stephens' Church, Hamilton-on-Clyde, Tasmania, by the Rev. Father O'Callaghan, of New Norfolk, Thomas, sixth son of the late James O'Byrne, "Longwood," Hollow Tree, and formerly of County Wicklow, Ireland, to Elizabeth Catherine, only daughter of the late William Jenkins, Lachlan, New Norfolk.

- These are the first, and possibly only records which put an 'O' before the Byrne surname – thus in the register we have Thomas O'Byrne and his brother Walter O'Byrne and, in the newspaper item, we find James O'Byrne.
- Walter died in 1940 in New Zealand, but the marriage register indicates that he was still in Tasmania in January 1890.
- Reference is made to James O'Byrne as being 'formerly of County Wicklow, Ireland', but as we know, even if 'his heart was in Ireland' he had actually been born in Hobart and had never visited the homeland of his father. Perhaps the reference to Wicklow referred to his convict grandfather?
- In the newspaper notice the bride is referred to as 'Elizabeth Catherine, only daughter of the late William Jenkins, Lachlan, New Norfolk.' Another of the Byrne men married a Jenkins girl – in 1903, John Francis Byrne married Sarah Ann Jenkins, daughter of William and Mary Jenkins, of River Dee. In the register, Elizabeth Jenkins' age is given as 23 – indicating a birth year of 1867. In the marriage certificate, Sarah Ann Jenkins' age was stated to be 21, indicating a year of birth of 1882. The Byrne family tree records Elizabeth (born 1863) and Sarah (born 1882) as sisters, and both daughters of William Jenkins (1824) and Mary Stock (1848-1836). And the TAHO records confirms the birth in 1863 of Elizabeth and also show that they had three other daughters – Mary Anne, Maria Jane, and Sarah Ann May.

However, the newspaper item states that Elizabeth Catherine was the only daughter of William Jenkins. So, was the Elizabeth born in 1863 the same person as the Elizabeth Catherine born c1867? And were there two William Jenkins – one the father of a number of daughters and the other the father of just one?

NOTES

¹ *Lancaster Gazette*, 23 Dec 1815, p.3.

² Illustration of Bleaching Ground at Monteith's Dye-Works, Glasgow, Alamy, <https://www.alamy.com-D888M1>.

³ *Liverpool Mercury*, 12 Apr 1816, p.2. Female Convicts Research Centre (FCRC), Female Convicts in Van Diemen's Land database, Convict ID: 3621. William Brindle, a weaver born c1766 in Chorley, Lancashire, arrived in New South Wales and aged 50 on the *Elizabeth* in October 1816. He was probably the William Brindle whose death was registered at Parramatta in 1839. He was a married man with children when he was transported. Biographical Database of Australia (BDA), Biographical report on William Brindle. Ancestry, Australian Death Index, 1787-1985. Ancestry, Brindle W.I.P Online Family Tree, <https://www.ancestry.co.uk/family-tree/person/tree/65670930/person/30139565129/facts>.

⁴ Findmypast (FMP), England & Wales, Crime, Prisons & Punishment, 1770-1934, Lancaster Gaol, Lancashire, Governor's Journals.

⁵ Free Settler or Felon? Convict Ship Friendship 1818, https://jenwilletts.com/convict_ship_friendship_1818.htm.

⁶ Tasmanian Archives and Heritage Office (TAHO), Assignment List, CON13/1/1 p.139.



- ⁷ Mrs. Louisa Capon and daughter Mary arrived in Tasmania on the *Duke of Wellington*, so it is likely that Thomas was also on board – Biographical Database of Australia (BDA), Biographical reports for Louisa and Mary Capon.
- ⁸ *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 3 Feb 1816, p.1. *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 8 Nov 1817, p.2. *Colonial Times and Tasmanian Advertiser*, 8 Sep 1826, p.1.
- ⁹ TAHO, Conduct Register, CON40/1/9 p.3.
- ¹⁰ FCRC, Female Convicts in Van Diemen's Land database, Convict ID: 3621.
- ¹¹ Ancestry, New South Wales and Tasmania, Australian Convict Musters, 1806-1849.
- ¹² Extract, LISTmap-Land Information System Tasmania, <https://maps.thelist.tas.gov.au/listmap/app/list/map>.
- ¹³ TAHO, Hobart marriages 1822, RGD36/1/1 no. 564.
- ¹⁴ BDA, Biographical report for James Byrne. There were two men of the same name aboard the *Anne*. The other James Byrne had been tried at Co. Wicklow in October 1800 and sentenced to 7 years transportation. According to the 1828 New South Wales Census he settled in the Appin district.
- ¹⁵ Free Settler or Felon? Convict Ship *Anne* 1801, https://www.jenwillets.com/convict_ship_anne_1801.htm.
- ¹⁶ Perhaps he was referring to Irish dissidents, of whom some were already on Norfolk Island who had arrived in early November 1800 – Looking at History, <http://richardjohnbr.blogspot.com.au/2014/08/rebellion-on-norfolk-island-foveaux-and.html>.
- ¹⁷ BDA, Biographical report for James Byrne. BDA, Biographical Report for Thomas Hobby.
- ¹⁸ Ancestry, New South Wales and Tasmania, Australia Convict Musters, 1806-1849, 1811.
- ¹⁹ Ancestry, New South Wales Australia, Convict Registers of Conditional and Absolute Pardons, 1788-1870.
- ²⁰ *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 12 Mar 1814, p.2. However, many of the evacuees were resentful of having to leave Norfolk Island where they had established families, homes and farms.
- ²¹ Irene Schaffer, Land Musters, Stock Returns and Lists Van Diemen's Land 1803-1822, St. David's Park, Hobart, 1991, List 9:2, Land and Stock Muster, Van Diemen's Land, 1819.
- ²² Irene Schaffer, Land Musters, Stock Returns and Lists Van Diemen's Land, List 11:1, Hobart Town Muster, Men, 1822.
- ²³ *The Hobart Town Courier*, 26 Jan 1828, p.3.
- ²⁴ *Colonial Times*, 16 Jul 1830, p.3.
- ²⁵ *Colonial Times*, 16 Apr 1830, p.3. But note, the cited Mrs. Burns may have been Jacobina Burns, an unrelated settler at Hollow Tree.
- ²⁶ *The Hobart Town Courier*, 1 Oct 1831, p.3.
- ²⁷ TAHO, Wills, AD961/1/1
- ²⁸ *The Hobart Town Courier*, 23 May 1829, p.3.
- ²⁹ Ancestry, Byrne Online Family Tree, <https://www.ancestry.com.au/family-tree/person/tree/23716906/person/1471389416/facts>.
- ³⁰ TAHO, New Norfolk marriages 1853, RGD36/1/2 no 1726.
- ³¹ *The Hobart Town Courier*, 31 Dec 1831, p.3.
- ³² *The Hobart Town Courier*, 24 Mar 1832, p.4.
- ³³ *The Tasmanian*, 11 Jan 1833, p.3.
- ³⁴ *The Hobart Town Courier*, 22 Jan 1831, p.2.
- ³⁵ *Launceston Advertiser*, 7 Dec 1831, p.360. Jacobina Burn(s), the first woman to be granted land by Governor Macquarie was the owner of a large property "Ellangowan" near Hamilton. She and her son David were bankrupted in 1844. She was not related to Ellen's husband James. D. H. Borchardt, 'Burn, David (1799–1875)', Australian Dictionary of Biography, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/burn-david-1854/text2153>, published first in hardcopy 1966, accessed online 13 December 2018.
- ³⁶ *The Tasmanian*, 28 Jan 1832, p.3.
- ³⁷ *The Hobart Town Courier*, 21 Sep 1832, p.3. *Colonial Times*, 5 Nov 1833, p.1.
- ³⁸ *Colonial Times*, 7 Oct 1834, p.1.
- ³⁹ *The Tasmanian*, 1 Aug 1834, p.8.
- ⁴⁰ *The Colonist and Van Diemen's Land Commercial and Agricultural Advertiser*, 15 Jul 1834, p.4.
- ⁴¹ *Morning Star and Commercial Advertiser*, 10 Apr 1835, p.1.
- ⁴² *Morning Star and Commercial Advertiser*, 9 Jun 1835, p.4. *Colonial Times*, 2 Jun 1835, p.2.
- ⁴³ *The Hobart Town Courier*, 23 Oct 1835, p.3.
- ⁴⁴ The James Byrne referred to was Ellen's son.
- ⁴⁵ TAHO, Inquests, SC195/1/31 Inquest 2880.
- ⁴⁶ Refer to BOF account for Hester Wright.
- ⁴⁷ TAHO, Hamilton deaths, RGD35/1/21 no 78.
- ⁴⁸ TAHO, Hamilton deaths 1863, RGD35/1/32 no 231.
- ⁴⁹ Ancestry, Australia Cemetery Index, 1808-2007.
- ⁵⁰ Photographs courtesy of Mark Rowland, descendent of Ellen and James Byrne. As well as these photographs Mark also provided some additional information about Ellen and her sons which has been incorporated into this account.
- ⁵¹ Ancestry, Byrne Online Family Tree. "England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:N8TS-Y6P> : 9 March 2018, Ellen Simkin.); citing Items 9-12, index based upon data collected by the Genealogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City; FHL microfilm 1,040,821.



- ⁵² "England Marriages, 1538–1973," database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:NKZ9-Q3D> : 10 February 2018), Edward Simkin and Ellen Felthouse, 28 Dec 1776; citing Tixall, Stafford, England, reference , index based upon data collected by the Genealogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City; FHL microfilm 421,605, 435,875. "England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," database, FamilySearch.
- ⁵³ "England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," database, FamilySearch.
- ⁵⁴ "England, Staffordshire, Church Records, 1538-1944," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QL74-81L2> : 9 March 2018), Ellen Simkin, 12 Sep 1837; citing Burial, Berkswich with Walton, Staffordshire, England, United Kingdom, Staffordshire & Stoke on Trent Archive Service, Stafford; FHL microfilm 4,006,340.
- ⁵⁵ Ancestry, New South Wales and Tasmania, Australia Convict Musters, 1806-1849.
- ⁵⁶ I have not located any records of birth/baptism for James and John, but have taken the dates from the Byrne Online Family Tree.
- ⁵⁷ *The Courier*, 18 Apr 1846, p.2.
- ⁵⁸ *Colonial Times*, 12 Jun 1846, p.4.
- ⁵⁹ TAHO, Hamilton marriages, RGD37/1/5 no 522.
- ⁶⁰ Refer to Friends of the Orphan Schools, report by Lyn Kaica on William Littlehales, Orphan Number 3255, and his family, http://www.orphanschool.org.au/showorphan.php?orphan_ID=3255.
- ⁶¹ Ancestry, Byrne Online Family Tree. TAHO, Hamilton births.
- ⁶² *The Mercury*, 10 May 1875, p.1. TAHO, Hamilton deaths, RGD35/1/44 no 382.
- ⁶³ TAHO, Wills, 1875, AD961/1/5.
- ⁶⁴ *Daily Post*, 26 Aug 1916, p.1. Mrs. H. Poke was youngest daughter, Mary (Minnie) who had married widower Harold George Poke in 1896 – TAHO, New Norfolk marriages, RGD37/1/56 no 762.
- ⁶⁵ *Launceston Examiner*, 10 Apr 1856, p.6.
- ⁶⁶ He was to receive his Conditional Pardon on 24 October 1854 and his Certificate of Freedom on 11 September 1860 – TAHO CON37/1/3 p 643.
- ⁶⁷ *Brighton Gazette*, 2 Aug 1849, p.7.
- ⁶⁸ FCRC, Female Convicts in Van Diemen's Land database, Convict ID: 2591. TAHO, Fingal marriages, RDG37/1/11 no 94.
- ⁶⁹ TAHO, Hamilton deaths, RGD35/1/40 no 213.
- ⁷⁰ *The Mercury*, 6 Jan 1872, p.1.
- ⁷¹ TAHO, Hamilton deaths, RGD35/1/41 no 192.
- ⁷² *The Mercury*, 26 Mar 1872, p.2.
- ⁷³ TAHO, Wills, 1872, AD960/1/8.
- ⁷⁴ TAHO, Hamilton births, RGD33/1/37 no 762.
- ⁷⁵ TAHO, Hamilton marriages, RGD37/1/39 no 159.
- ⁷⁶ TAHO, Hamilton births, RGD33/1/40 no 720. TAHO, Hobart marriages, RGD37/1/9 no 487.
- ⁷⁷ TAHO, Hamilton marriages, RGD37/1/38 no 147.
- ⁷⁸ TAHO, Hamilton deaths RGD35/1/64 no320.
- ⁷⁹ TAHO, Hobart marriages, RGD1/1/13 no 284. The three children were Cecil Joseph (1881) and Elsie Ellen (1885), births registered at Hamilton, and Francis William (1892), birth registered at Otlands – TAHO birth records.
- ⁸⁰ *The Mercury*, 10 Apr 1903, p.1.
- ⁸¹ Victor William (1904), Albert Edward Arthur (1906), Elizabeth Sarah Ann (1909), Lilian Elizabeth (1910), Joseph William (1913) – Ancestry, Byrne Online Family Tree.
- ⁸² *Daily Post*, 7 Jul 1913, p.1.
- ⁸³ Ancestry, Australia, Electoral Rolls, 1903-1980. Subsequent rolls indicate that John Francis Byrne found labouring work at various places while, at least up to 1928, Sarah Ann Byrne remained at Bushy Park.
- ⁸⁴ *Examiner*, 24 May 1945, p.4.
- ⁸⁵ *Examiner*, 25 May 1945, p.2. There is an intriguing reference in the *Examiner* of 8 August 1939 to a Mrs. J.F. Byrne of Bracknell having won £400 in a lottery run by Monaghans Lucky Agency – but no further clue as to the winner's identify.
- ⁸⁶ Find a Grave, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/145681005/john-francis-byrne#source>.
- ⁸⁷ Photograph attached to the Find a Grave entry, contributed by MargaretM.
- ⁸⁸ TAHO, Wills, 1945, AD960/1/73, Will No 29480. Alice Haywood and her medical instrument maker husband and War Pensioner Arthur Robert Haywood were listed as resident at Longford for the 1944 electoral roll. Incidentally, Alice was another person who placed a notice in the papers warning that any person found scandalising her name would be dealt with according to law – *Examiner*, 25 Sep 1941, p.2.
- ⁸⁹ *The Mercury*, 24 May 1899, p.4. *The Mercury*, 30 May 1899, p.4.
- ⁹⁰ *The Mercury*, 2 Dec 1904, p.8.
- ⁹¹ *The Mercury*, 22 Feb 1915, p.1.
- ⁹² TAHO, Hamilton marriages, RGD37/1/49 no 48. *The Mercury*, 15 Mar 1890, p.4.



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