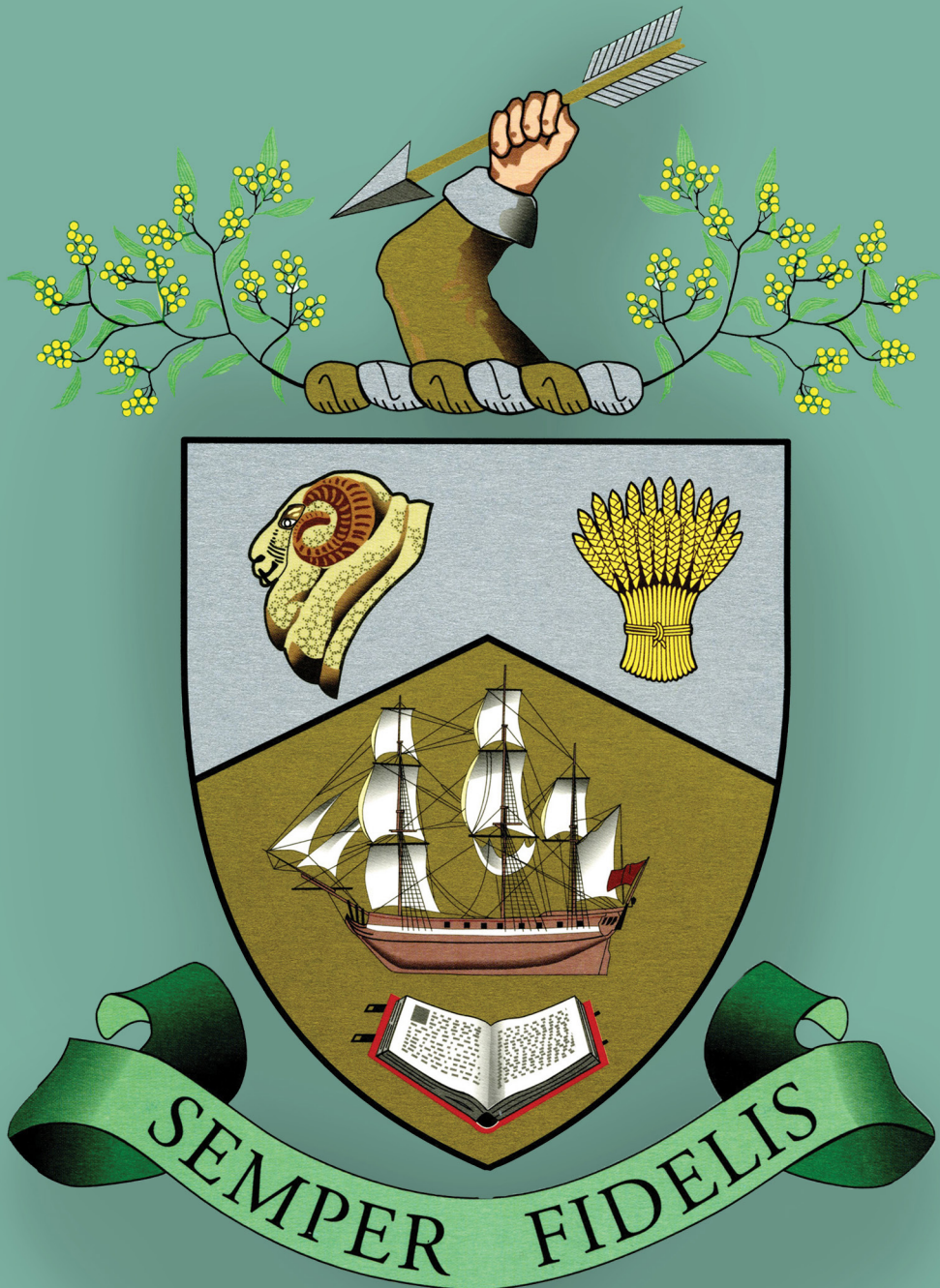


Edition 57

# Hassall Family History Association Newsletter

November 2023



## From the committee

Welcome to the final newsletter for this year! Our committee spent the first half of 2023 planning for the Hassall Family reunion held in May, and we reported on the great success of that 4-day event in Newsletter #55, issued in June. An additional newsletter, #56, published in August, reported on the HFHA Annual General Meeting held online on August 2<sup>nd</sup>. In this newsletter the Committee offers some thoughts about our future activities.

### Planning for the next five years: 2024-2028.

Over the next five years the Hassall Family History Association will foster activities that advance its three main purposes:

1. Foster and disseminate research on the life and heritage of Rowland and Elizabeth Hassall and their descendants.
2. Encourage historical research on other early settler families – particularly those with whom the Hassalls are related or with whom they share historic experience in early Australia;
3. Draw insights from Hassall family history about contributions to culture and innovation in contemporary Australian society.

The Association will continue to produce at least three newsletters each year; greatly develop the Hassall.net.au website, encourage interactions within and across the eight family lines; and advance the activities of five project areas (Genealogy, Hassall Heritage, Research & Publication, Reconciliation, and Transcription).

Additionally, the Association will explore the potential to convene unique events each year, culminating in a 5-yearly reunion in 2028. Projected/potential events include:

2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
	Online family-line meetings	Online family meetings	Online family meetings	Online family meetings	5-yearly reunion
	Hassall papers transcription				
James line meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> edition David J Hassall Book (2024-25)	Hassall papers transcription	Hassall papers transcription	Hassall papers transcription	(May-June)
Melbourne (Dec)	Sydney Meeting	Sydney Meeting	Sydney Meeting	Sydney Meeting	
	Queensland meeting				
	Southern New South Wales Tour	Creative Arts event at Denbigh?	Old Government House Pageant?		
	Windsor/Hawksbury Tour				

## Farewell for Ross Whelan

*Report by Alison Shaw*

On Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October Tom Hassall and I attended the THAC Gala dinner to farewell Ross Whelan. Attached is the speech given on behalf of all Hassalls. Ross was then presented with the Hassall book – a very fitting gift. It was a pleasure and real thrill for both of us to represent the Hassall family by attending this wonderful event. Carmen and team presented the evening beautifully, with class and finesse.



*Alison Shaw and Tom Hassall presenting gift to Ross Whelan (at left)*

The speeches said it all, showing that Ross has always been caring, driven and a visionary. His relaxed style and passion was obvious throughout his teaching career. When it came to the Hassall segment the 400 guest were silent and wanted to hear about the Hassall family as the MC introduced us with an air of excitement. Ross Whelan was touched at our presence at his farewell. Tom and I spoke with Karen Easton, new THAC Principal, who is keen to continue the working relationship with the Hassall family.



This is the text of the speech on behalf of our Association:

*Thomas Hassall and I, both Hassall descendants, are delighted to be here this evening. We are here on behalf of the Hassall Family History Association to thank Ross Whelan for his enduring support for our Hassall activities, and to wish him well with his future plans and adventures. The Hassall Family History Group was established in 1993 to organise a Bicentennial Event in 1998 celebrating the arrival of Rowland and Elizabeth Hassall in Sydney in 1798. Thomas Hassall was then 3 years*



*old. That bicentenary was held at venues in Camden, Parramatta and Cobbitty – a couple of years before the Thomas Hassall Anglican College was established. When Ross became College Principal in 2007 he continued the collaboration with our Hassall Family Association that had been established by his predecessor, Brian Cowling. In 2013, upon the retirement of our founding secretary David N.H. Hassall, Ross played a major role in ensuring that our Hassall work continued. His personal encouragement, his offer of College support for the printing and distribution of our newsletter, and the future use of the Campus for our Hassall Family events, were crucial factors in our decision to press ahead. How fitting it was for us to gather 180 Hassall descendants at the College last May in a celebration of the Hassall family's 225 years in Australia. Using your college and hearing Ross speak with passion of the history of the Hassalls, made our reunion even more memorable. Tonight, we also celebrate ten years of collaboration with Principal Whelan. We know that Ross saw in the Hassall Heritage of the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries the same pioneering spirit that launched the Thomas Hassall Anglican College in the 21st Century. He saw, too, a common thread in values and faith. For these reasons we are extremely grateful to have the opportunity to be here this evening to express our thanks to Ross and to the College. We hope that he will continue as an honorary member of our Hassall Association and that our collaboration with the College continues to build on this aspect of his legacy. Ross - Thomas and I would like to present you with a small gift - a token of the Hassall family's appreciation and gratitude. Thank you.*

## Family line news

### Thomas Hassall and Anne Marsden

*Report by Alison Shaw*

The second zoom session on the Thomas Hassall Family Line was presented at the end of August 2023. Thomas and Anne Hassall descendants listened to and discussed interesting Hassall facts. Rev Thomas Hassall, eldest son of Rowland and Elizabeth Hassall, was a well-travelled man: England - Tahiti - Sydney (by the time he was three). England - Wales - Sydney – Port Macquarie – Bathurst – Denbigh/Narellan.

In subsequent generations this branch of the Hassall family married into other well-known families, including the Marsdens, Hopes, Oxleys, Betts, and many others, all of whom had an influence on colonial living.

The women closely involved in Thomas Hassall's life are of great interest: Elizabeth Hancox (his mother), Anne Marsden (his wife) and his four daughters. A Camden newspaper article from 1920 about the Hassall women was read. It is also known that most Hassall women were very good horsewomen, comfortable around cattle, and influential in important societal matters.

Hassall artefacts provided much discussion in this session. What do we do with these artefacts? Should we be making a connection with the National Museum in Canberra to establish a central collection and display centre for the Hassall artefacts still out in the community? There is much to be considered for these important family objects. We are hoping that in future sessions some of our current family members will give a short talk on what is their particular Hassall interest.

The following books are highly recommended to broaden your Hassall information: *John Oxley A New Perspective* by Rob Tickle, *The Hassall Family, Mt Ubi, Kenilworth 1896-1996 : family recollections celebrating the centenary of the arrival at Mt Ubi, Kenilworth in 1896* of James Cusack and Frances Percy (Faris) Hassall by Richard Newton Hassall, *Messengers of Grace* by Niel Gunson about the Duff, and, of course, *In Old Australia* by Rev. James Samuel Hassall.

Although there is a brief summation of Thomas' life in the *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, there is, surprisingly, no book yet published about the life of Rev Thomas Hassall.

## Susannah Hassall and William Shelley

*Report by Ann Dudzinski*

Since the Great Reunion (May 2023), some of our family have been quietly reading Jean Stewart's book with real interest. We had a gathering at my cousin's in October with nearly all 3 generations there of my 3 blood cousins. We discovered that they have not met the current William Shelley, [a half-brother to me] so it would be good to encourage some to get together. His wife, Leah, is keen to find Shelleys and has discovered a grandson of Joyce Shelley [Barker}, my aunt Elizabeth's cousin in NSW. He is Paul Avillach. That's great to recover the link again. We are also scanning my Shelley father's Naval documents since they have become available from William.

## Events

### Victoria



The Annual Hassall Family Picnic for family members living in Victoria is being held on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December in Wattle Park, 13 kms from Melbourne CBD. Meet at 11.30am near the Rotunda. Enter via Riversdale Rd, past the Golf course, and parking at the Ovals. BYO Food, drinks and memorabilia.

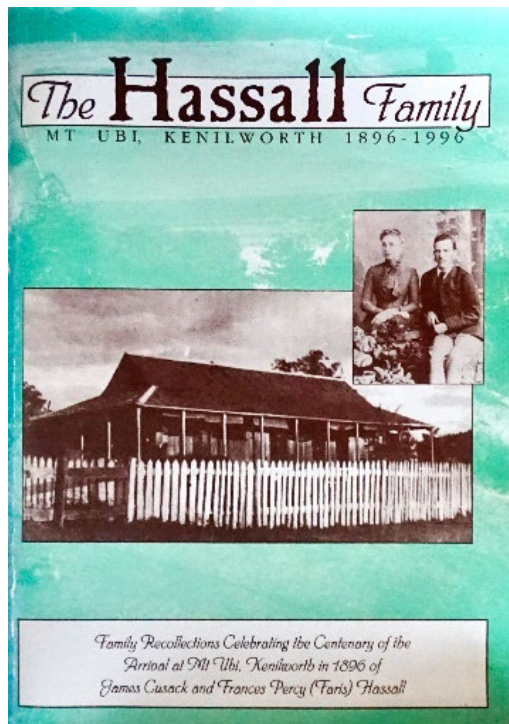
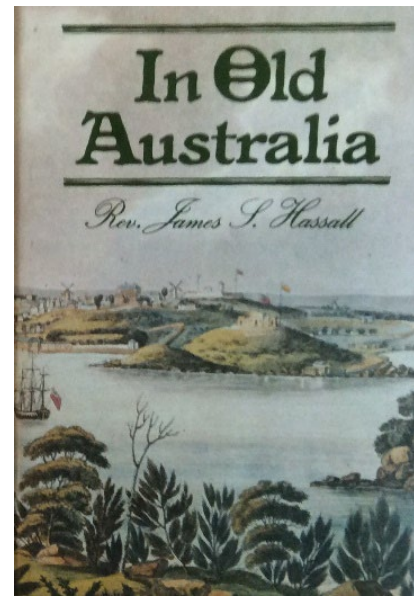
## South-East Queensland

*Update from Ann Brockhurst, Andrew Hassall, and Graham Hassall (event planning team).*

From Friday 5<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July, 2024, a reunion is being planned for Hassall family members from across South-East Queensland (of course any and all family members are most welcome to attend). The venues will include St Matthews Anglican Church, Sherwood, and Kenilworth, two hours to the north of Brisbane).

These are the sites associated with the first establishment of Hassall family-lines in Queensland. In the 1870s Rev. James Samuel Hassall (son of Thomas Hassall, and author of *In Old Australia*) with his wife Frances Dixon, moved to Queensland. For three decades James was parish priest at St Matthews Anglican Church, Sherwood. Both are buried in Sherwood Cemetery.

Also in the 1870s, some children of James Hassall and Catherine Lloyd moved to Queensland. Among these were James Cusack Hassall (1858-1936) and his wife Francis Percy Faris, who settled first at Dandine Station on the Darling Downs before shifting to the Mount Ubi Station at Kenilworth. Their story is told in *The Hassall Family Mt Ubi Kenilworth 1896-1996* and in displays at the Kenilworth Museum <http://www.kenilworthmuseum.org.au>.



Some family historians estimate that Rowland and Elizabeth Hassall had/have over 20,000 descendants in Australia and New Zealand. Many of them lived/live in Queensland and remain to be discovered, contacted and linked. We anticipate meeting many descendants of these two families, in a program that includes:

- Visits to Mt Ubi Station and to Kenilworth Museum
- Talks on the contributions made by Hassall descendants to Queensland history (social, economic, educational, religious, artistic, sports etc);
- Exhibition of Hassall heritage items (letters, photos, relics);
- Reenactment of the triple wedding of November 1819;
- Sunday Service at St Matthews;
- Performance by the Regency Dance group
- Visit to Hassall family gravesites at Sherwood and elsewhere.

For further details and to register your interest in attending, contact Andrew Hassall:  
Phone/text 0417 592206



## Projects

### TRANSCRIPTION

In 2019 the State Library of New South Wales made its collection of Hassall Family papers available for transcription. The collection comprises 8000 pages divided into 18 series. The first two of the eighteen series – “Rowland Hassall Papers 1797-1820” and “Hassall Family Correspondence 1793-1900” – are the most extensive and perhaps of most historical interest. These are transcribed using an online tool “from the page”. <https://fromthepage.com/statelibrarynsw/hassall-family-papers-1793-2000/>

The image set out below shows how a facsimile of an original document displayed in the left-hand column is typed (transcribed) into the right-hand column. Once transcribed in this way, the original document becomes more legible and searchable. Through this process an ever-increasing number of Hassall family documents are made available for all to read. This transcription can be done by an individual or through teamwork, and much more assistance is required to complete the full set.



The screenshot displays the 'FROM THE PAGE' web interface. At the top, the logo 'FROM THE PAGE' is on the left and 'Find A' is on the right. Below the logo, the text reads: 'Hassall family papers, 1793-2000 → File 1: Hassall family, correspondence, volume 2, pp. 1-297, 1794-ca. 1823'. Below this is the identifier 'FL14425359'. A navigation bar contains 'Overview', 'Transcribe', 'Versions', and 'Help'. The main content area is split into two columns: 'Facsimile' on the left and 'Transcription' on the right. The 'Facsimile' column shows a scan of a handwritten letter with the number '263' in the top right corner. The 'Transcription' column shows the typed version of the letter's text, starting with '[MS 262]' and 'in the Brig Active. - We ad very bad weather for several day's at lenth we arrived at New Zealand we were Kindly received by the Missionarys and Natives. - We lay there three week's and got a fresh supply of refreshments on Bord the Natives behaved in general well they bought great quantities of hogs and corn for sail: Musquits and powder were the chief articals of trade which they would receive in return. After a long stay we took our fairwell Departure and saild for Taheiti: After we had been six weeks from New Zealand we arrived at our desired heaven. You have herd I dare to say and I have experienced that a dull sailling vessel the Brig Active is I never knew her to go more than seven nots an hour and at the same time a good sailling vessel would go 10 or 12 nots an hour the Active is a most tidious but saif vessel to sail in. We were 11 weeks in the hole agoing from Port Jackson to Taheiti including our stay at New Zealand. The news of the Actives arrival was soon spread abroad to all the Missionary station no sooner than the good Ladies were passing there compliments a welcoming

### RESEARCH AND PUBLICATION

#### Women Australia

Readers may be interested in the project “Women Australia” <https://womenustralia.anu.edu.au/>. This initiative of the National Centre of Biography at the Australian National University consists of entries on women published in the NCB's websites, Australian Dictionary of Biography <https://adb.anu.edu.au/>, Obituaries Australia <https://oa.anu.edu.au/> and Labour Australia

<https://labouraustralia.anu.edu.au/> as well as biographical register entries. At the current time there are 21 “Hassall” references in women Australia – and of course there may be entries of family members under matrilineal names (which require research).

### Rowland Hassall’s gravesite

Readers may already be aware of Rowland Hassall’s attention to detail and forward planning. This notice in a Sydney newspaper in 1812 reports his subscription to the Parramatta Cemetery, now known as St John’s Cemetery.

The notice at left says “List of subscribers for including the Burial Ground at Parramatta, which is now completed” Governor Macquarie was the largest contributor (£12), then Rev Marsden (£3.2); Elizabeth McArthur, Rowland Hassall, and Messrs Jamison and Durie with £2.2 each.

"Classified Advertising." *Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 04 January 1812, p. 1. <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article62839011> August 2023.

**LIST of SUBSCRIBERS for Inclosing the BURIAL GROUND at PARRAMATTA, which is now completed.**

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
His Excellency the Governor on the Part of	12	0	0	Mrs. Oakes	0	10	0
				Mr. Tull	1	10	0
				Harcox	1	0	0
				Parratt	1	1	0
				C. Wright	0	10	0
Government				C. Wright	0	10	0
Revd Mr. Marsden	3	2	0	Winlock	0	5	0
Mrs. M'Arthur	2	2	6	Thorn	0	5	0
Mr. Hassall	2	2	0	Wells	0	5	0
Mr. Jamison	2	2	0	Mrs. Pool	0	5	0
R. Durie, Esq.	2	2	0	Mr. Dalbon	0	5	0
Mr. Sherwin	1	1	0	Beldon	0	10	0
Mrs. Williamson	1	1	0	Stewart	0	5	0
Mrs. Lord	1	0	0	E. Wright	0	5	0
Mr. Ward	1	1	0	Cozier	0	5	0
Larra	1	10	0	Baer	0	5	0
Barrow	1	0	0	Murphy	0	5	0
Shutt	1	1	0	Kable	0	5	0
				Jones	0	5	0
				Hibbard	0	5	0
				Hardwick	0	5	0
				Phelps	0	5	0
				Stevenson	0	5	0

National Library of Australia  
 Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser (NSW : 1803 - 1842), Saturday 4 January 1812, page 1

### Old Sydney

The following article was published in a Magazine called Truth in 1913. The author is unknown as he or she used the *nom de plume* “Old Chum”. However, the article provides context to the events in Sydney in the first years after Rowland and Elizabeth’s arrival.

#### OLD SYDNEY.

Concerning Some Founders of the Benevolent Society — William Pascoe Crook — His Advent — The Ship "Duff" and Missionaries to Tahiti — Mr. Crook at Port Phillip — Collins Expedition — Congregations and Children — Free Settlers — Mr. Crook Teaching at Parramatta — His Opinion of Marsden and Hassall — Our First Rebellion — A Garbled Account— Flogging the Flagellator — Crook Appointed Store-keeper at Port Dalrymple — Providence Intervenes and Sends Him Back to



His People — At Least He Says So — Joseph Holt's Opinion of Crook — Mr. Crook at St Phillip's — Builds a Chapel at Watson's Bay — At His School House in Bligh-street.

(No. 318.— BY "OLD CHUM.")

Two, at least, of the missionaries who were driven from Tahiti, were amongst the founders of the Benevolent Society of New South Wales. These were Rev. John Eyre and Mr. William Crook, who added Pascoe to his first name subsequently, and became in our annals Rev. William Pascoe Crook, though we have no evidence that he was an ordained minister. It may be here stated that the ship Duff, Captain James Wilson, had on board as missionaries four clergy-men, 25 men, all artisans or of some useful occupation, a very wise provision, one surgeon, six married women, wives of missionaries, and three children. Some of these, notably Francis Oakes, Rowland Hassell [sic], and William Shelley, became good colonists of New South Wales, and have left many descendants. Others came to Sydney some years afterwards, notably John Eyre, who was a most useful colonist, useful in art and teaching, as will be proved presently, and William Pascoe Crook, of whom much can be said, as he appears to have been a pushing sort of individual.

From biographical notes collated by Mr. G. R. Nichols, of Llandilo, I am able to give a pretty accurate account of the life and labors of William Pascoe Crook. The Rev. John Ham, in preaching Mr. Crook's funeral sermon in the Baptist Church, Melbourne, July 19, 1846, said that Crook was born in Devonshire, in 1775; he had his early education in Plymouth, and while there attended a dissenting place of worship. Early in life he went to London; there he met the directors of the London Missionary Society. He was accepted as a missionary, and on being accepted he gave his occupation as that of a "gentleman's servant and subsequently tinsmith." He sailed in the Duff in 1796, and arrived at the Island of Santa Christina 12th June, 1797. In consequence of the antagonistic attitude of the natives, most of the missionaries retired, and found refuge in New South Wales, where some remained. Others returned to England. William Crook (and John Harris) stayed at Santa Christina for some time, eventually sailing in the ship Butterworth for England, where he arrived in May, 1799. He remained in England till 1803, when he sailed in the Ocean (Captain Collins' expedition to settle Port Phillip), and remained three weeks at Port Phillip, came to Sydney, and sailed first opportunity for Tahiti, where he discovered that the missionaries had all left, and that war raged. He then returned to Parramatta, was acting as a clergyman at the time of the arrest of Governor Bligh, and similarly officiated during the earlier part of the government of Lachlan Macquarie. He returned to Tahiti in 1816. In 1831 he, his wife, and family of nine children returned to New South Wales, and opened a school. He built a church at South Head, and buried his wife in 1837. He died in Melbourne at the house of his son on June 14, 1846, aged 71 years. When he had arrived in Melbourne his speech and memory were almost entirely gone. Such is the essence of Mr. Ham's funeral sermon.

From Sullivan Bay, Port Phillip, on November 8th, 1803, W. Pascoe Crook, (so signed) wrote Joseph Hardcastle, treasurer to the London Missionary Society. In this letter he gives details of the voyage out and the landing in Port Phillip. He had his wife with him, and asked permission of Governor Collins to preach, but the Governor curtly told him that the duly-appointed chaplain, Mr. Knopwood, would conduct the service. Dissenters in those days were not popular with ministers of the Church of England, and Mr. Crook was snubbed accordingly. The latter, however, in his letter to Mr. Hardcastle, gets back on the parson. Crook came out in the store ship Ocean; Knopwood was on the Calcutta. "I have been enabled to preach frequently to all the people on board the Ocean, so that none of them will perish for want of the Gospel ...I have had no encouragement to engage publicly in preaching the Word since I came on shore. Tho' the Gov'r is polite and kind in other things, yet when I asked him for permission to preach, he turned from me saying, Mr. Knopwood, the chaplain, would perform the service. As his life is immoral, I expect he will give no encouragement to the Gospel. Indeed, on reflection, I found that I should not like to have the people forced to come and hear me, and, as none express a desire to be saved, I should have very few free-will hearers, and I therefore think I can be as useful in private teaching ...I was yesterday informed by the first lieutenant of the Calcutta (Lieut. Tuckey) that it is very probable we shall be detained here two or more months. This will be rather distressing to me, in the midst of much temptation, shut out from any opportunity of preaching the Word. I pray our dear Lord to shorten the days ...There is nothing desirable in my present situation, except it be that it is God's choice, not mine. I have 77 children under my care, and

two congregations to preach to on the Sabbath. I have not at present sufficient support for myself and wife, and have not the temporal advantages of a settler; but God will pro-vide, and will not forget me."

There is something in this letter of Mr. Crook which requires explanation, if not too late in the day. The Calcutta was a man of-war, and the Ocean a transport, which carried the colonists and their stores (as James Bonwick puts it). According to Tuckey, who has left us "A Voyage to Establish a Colony at Fort Phillip," there were 307 male convicts, with 17 of their wives and 7 children. Another account gives 12 wives. Of the marines, Tuckey Bays there were 4 officers, 3 sergeants, 3 corporals, 2 drummers, 39 rank and file, 5 women, and one child. Of the free settlers, there were 11 men and one woman. There were also the chaplain, three surgeons, commissary, surveyor, mineralogist, two overseers, and two superintendents of convicts. The Calcutta had nine officers, besides mates, midshipmen, and crew. The names of the free settlers, or those having permission to go in the Ocean, were two seamen, Hartley and Collins; two carpenters, Thomas Collingwood and Edward Newman; a mason, Anthony Fletcher; a cutler, John Skilhorne, and a pocket-book manufacturer, T. R. Preston. The trades of the other three, E. F. Hamilton, John J. Gravie, and — Pownall, are not given. Bonwick says: "A female servant is also noted, but there must have been others after the list was made up, since we read of Blinkworth, dealer in clothing, with others. Hartley, down as a seaman, opened a store. No doubt Crook was of the party, but how, in opposition to Knopwood, he had two congregations to preach to, and where he got the 77 children, is a mystery. I assume he was paid a salary by the Missionary Society, as he is not down in the list of paid officials."

When Captain Collins removed his people to the Derwent Crook did not go with him. Neither did William Buckley, "the wild white man," a giant in stature, an old soldier and a prisoner of the Crown. Buckley took French leave and strolled away, with, it is alleged, a couple of others, one of whom returned to camp, the other un-heard of. Mr. Crook came to Sydney in one of the vessels by which, no doubt, Collins used to send despatches to the Governor at Sydney. Amongst Mr. Crook's fellow passengers was a boy of 12, named John Pascoe Fawkner, who, thirty-two years after-wards, returned to Port Phillip and founded the city of Melbourne. He also resided in Sydney between the years 1814 and 1817. It is noteworthy that Fawkner belonged to the Independent Church, as did Crook, and likewise that in his boyhood days he was John Fawkner, merely; he no doubt was one of the "77" children under Crook's care at Sullivan Cove (now Sorrento), and may have picked up the name Pascoe from his teacher. I only say, he may.

On March 1, 1804, we find Mr. Crook in Parramatta, and in a letter, probably to the London Missionary Society, he states that by the advice of Mr. Marsden, and under his direction, he was engaged, with two men prisoners, teaching children through the week; he also preached constantly on the Sabbath; his greatest obstacles in doing good arose from the very bad conduct of former missionaries. Even Marsden was afraid to appoint him, lest he should behave as others had done. "Had I come out as a settler I should have had much greater advantages. But even now I trust there is somewhat of an open door which no man can shut." There was "a little praying society" at Kissing Point, where he preached every Sunday; also at Castle Hill, and sometimes at Toongabbie. He gives a good deal about himself in this letter, and his movements in preaching. Concerning other preachers he says: "Mr. Marsden resides here, so does Mr. Hassall. I fear their large concerns in the world limit their usefulness. Mr. Marsden preaches here once on the Sabbath, but is sometimes absent. He has been absent for two Sabbaths past. He has very few hearers. He generally goes down to Sydney on a Saturday, preaches there on the Sabbath morning and then rides (eighteen miles, sic) up here, and preaches in the afternoon. The Gospel is not preached any otherwise than above in these two principal settlements."

Mr. Crook then gives an account of our first rebellion, which I quote, mainly to show the heroism of some. "I embrace a few moments' leisure to give you a short account of the rebellion. On Sunday last, 4th of March, Mr. Hassall had preached at Castle Hill and all was quiet. In the evening, as it grew dark, a house was purposely set on fire and as the general attention was excited, C —, a stone-mason, supported by the mob, broke into the houses and took the firearms and ammunition. A party of them dragged D —, the flagellator, out from under a bed, where he was secreted, and beat him in a most unmerciful manner. One of them presented a piece at the breast of an officer, which providentially flashed in the pan. C — got the mob together and harangued them. After seizing all the arms and a keg of spirits be-longing to a French colonel, a settler they got to the top of an adjoining

hill. There they divided into parties, each under a leader, which took different directions, and went about to seize the arms and ammunition of the settlers, and to increase their party by volunteered prestmen (sic). They were to have met at Parramatta, and at daybreak to have entered it, where a party were to join them. Intelligence was received by a watchman who escaped from Castle Hill, and others who fled from their houses. Parramatta was alarmed, and the drums beat to arms between 9 a.m. and 10 o'clock. We had spent the evening at Mr Hassall's, but were now in bed, and living on the skirts of the town, some distance from the barracks, heard nothing till between 1 and 2 in the morning, when Mrs. C. was awakened by voices, and heard one say: 'They will burn all the houses down here, as they have done at Castle Hill.' I was then called, and informed that the Croppies were coming, that Mr. and Mrs. Marsden and Mrs. McArthur had gone to Sydney by water, and that all the principal people had fled to the barracks. We slept on our cloths, shut up our house, took a small bundle of linen, and our little girl that we have under our care, and, carrying her on my back, went to Mr. Hassall's. Here we found a Mr. Joyce, a settler, who had been forced from his bed at Seven Hills and had escaped. Having a good horse, the commanding officer ordered him out to reconnoitre. He shortly returned, and re-ported that the rebels were at hand. Mrs. Hassall chose to remain with the children and a servant, but we went with Mr. Hassall into the barracks (brave man to leave his wife and children unprotected). I got a fowling-piece, charged with a ball, and stood at my post appointed me (within the barracks?). We remained in immediate expectation of the rebels until daybreak, when the Governor arrived from Sydney on horse-back, attended by his bodyguard only. He informed me that Major Johnson was at hand with 100 men. They soon arrived, and our fears were in a measure removed. We returned to our habitations, and now Major Johnson marched out after the rebels, fell in with them, and defeated them."

This letter, I regret to say, being the composition of a semi-reverend, is a garbled account of the "rebellion." Johnson's party consisted of two officers, two sergeants, and 52 "rank and file," just about one-half the number mentioned by Crook. The "rebels" never reached Parramatta, the houses at Castle Hill were not burned down, and the arms taken from the rebels consisted of 26 musquets, one fowling-piece, four bayonets on poles, one pitchfork, one pistol, eight reaping hooks, and two swords, not much armament for an "insurgent army," said to number upwards of three hundred. The leaders, C— and J—, were struck down without notice during a parley with Major Johnson.

We next hear of Mr. Crook on his appointment on June 4, 1804, as storekeeper at Port Dalrymple (now Launceston). In his letter to the Missionary Society, he says he was appointed to be storekeeper and to act as chaplain, but the General Order contains no notice of the latter appointment. He gave up his school and his preaching, and set sail. After being three parts of the way to the Tamar, the vessel put back, and Mr. Crook was "restored to his people." In April, 1806, a General Order appointed Mr. Crook missionary at Castle Hill. There is one other reference to Mr. Crook in the "Historical Records of New South Wales" so far as published. It is a coarse extract from a very coarse letter, but it will be found at page 217, vol. 7, of the Records. It is a letter by T. Brown to Viscount Castlereagh, and of a verity Mr. Brown, whoever he was, spared no one. "And here is a fellow, one Crook, a shopkeeper, a missionary, who keeps shop, yet was chaplain and read the absolution, and had more favors shown him than any clergyman, for he was miserably poor; but these two Honours and the two Lieutenant-Governors have set this fellow (who was a gentleman's servant) up chaplain to the 102 — his Majesty's loyal corps." Joseph Holt, in his Memoirs, vol. 2, page 271, refers to Crook as "a little swaddling fellow that taught the school at Parramatta" (Holt belonged to the Church of England).

It may be mentioned that in the "Sydney Gazette," of June 12, 1808, is an advertisement which reads thus: 'To be sold by private contract, the house and premises of William Pascoe Crook, situate near the Barracks, Parramatta.' Presumably, he disposed of the house, as in Dr. Houison's History of St. Phillips Parish, I find this: "When the Rev. William Cowper arrived on the 18th of August, 1809, he found that the Rev. W. P. Crook and Major Abbott had both been conducting services in the church. Mr. Crook had been a missionary in Tahiti. During the time that Governor Bligh was under arrest he acted as Colonial Chaplain, and was allowed a salary by the Home Government. Subsequently to that, Governor Macquarie sent for him and told him that he would not be allowed to administer the Holy Communion, not being a minister of the Church of England. He persisted in doing what he conceived to be his duty, and the Home Government protected him to the end. He went back to Tahiti but returned to Sydney in 1831. In 1832 he raised contributions and built



a stone chapel at Watson's Bay, and preached in it for a considerable time. The chapel was demolished in 1910.

On his return to Sydney Mr. Crook established a seminary on Bunker Hill. In 1835 he had a seminary in Jamieson street, from where he addressed a long letter to the "Sydney Herald," 23.2.1835. In this he speaks of the missionaries, Davies, Wilson, Tessier, John Hosking, and himself. "Met together in August, 1810, in my school house in Bligh-street, corner of Hunter-street, which place was also used as a chapel. We then and there, after prayer for Divine direction, formed ourselves into a church, on the Congregational or independent plan." He then enters into details of the "persecution" he endured for, at the request of his brethren, administering the Lord's supper. The letter is interesting to those who are looking for the founder of the Congregational Church in Australia, but it is of little value in connection with the Benevolent Society. He was on the committee of the latter up to the time of his death. In 1844 we find the Rev. Dr. Ross in charge of the Congregational Church, Pitt street, with Rev. W. P. Crook and James Harward as deacons. In removing to Melbourne soon afterwards he would appear to have joined the Baptist Congregation, in the city by the Yarra, and was the first person immersed in connection with that church. Likewise, as mentioned, Rev. John Ham, first Baptist minister in that city, read the burial service over Mr. Crook's grave and preached his funeral sermon. Note Crook's school-room was standing as late as 1893, when Coleman "Eucalypti Oil" had it. Mr. Philip J. Newland, of "Mynon," 118 Norton-street, Leichhardt, writes under date November 19:— "Sir: In your reminiscences of "Old Sydney," in speaking of the old Custom House at Circular Quay, you state that stonemasons got 4/- per day. My father, who was a stonemason, has told me that he had worked at that building for 2/6 a day, and that was all that was paid to anyone — laborers, stonemasons and others were all treated alike. He did not stop there long, for he went and worked at some buildings being erected in Pitt-street where Penfold stationer, is now, for Mr. W. Moffitt, when he got 3/6 per day. I trust I have not intruded, but the above I believe to be true." S. T. Leigh's "Handbook to Sydney," published 1868, says: "On landing at Circular Quay the first public building that meets the eye is the Custom House, a plain cubical structure, which may be said to be more useful than ornamental to the city. It was erected by direction of the Governor, Sir George Gipps, in 1844, on the site of the landing place of the passengers by the First Fleet, in 1788. The colony underwent in 1843-4 one of its severest monetary crises. Many of the ordinary employers of labor were ruined, and all were suffering. The consequence was that many of the working classes, especially those connected with building, were out of employment, and some were reduced to absolute want. An appeal for relief was made to the Governor, Sir George Gipps. While he denied the right of such to claim remunerative employment from the Government, he admitted that the Government was bound to protect them from starvation. He, therefore, employed them, at low wages, to erect the present Custom House, which was finished and opened in April, 1845," etc. Many years ago, before the building under review was demolished, a Sydney stonemason fixed four shillings as the "low rate," but Mr. Newland emphasises the fact that times were very bad, and that the Benevolent Society — about which I was writing when I mentioned the wages of the masons as illustrating the poverty of the time — had its work cut out to keep pace with the necessities of the poor. It is, perhaps, some gratification to be able to note that, notwithstanding the low rate, whether 2s 6d or 4s. There was no refusal of the work. There was no strike. I presume Mr. P. J. Newland is a son of Mrs. William Newland, who lived in Wentworth-buildings, Miller's Point, in the early forties.

Mr. J. F. Thomas, Tenterfield "Star," writes asking for information concerning an oil picture of Tenterfield, painted by an artist named Beckler in the sixties. Mr. Thomas has a companion picture by the artist, but would like to have the pair, particularly as he is gathering data for a history of Tenterfield. There was an artist, Ludwig Becker, who was a member of the Burke and Wills Exploring Expedition, 1860. He died at Menindie, in 1861, but I think he was before the date of Mr. Thomas's picture. Any reader knowing of such an artist and such a picture will oblige by communicating. (To be Continued.)

"Old Sydney." *Truth*, 30 November 1913, p. 9. <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article168732618>

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

The following items have been added to the Association's bibliography of references to the Hassall family.

Cumbrae-Stewart, F.W.S. "Some Queensland Memoir Writers." *Journal of the Historical Society of Queensland*, vol. 2, 1920, pp. 1-26.

James Samuel Hassall, Rector of Sherwood from 1873 to 1899, published in 1902 some records and reminiscences from 1794, under the title "In Old Australia". Unfortunately Mr. Hassall says little about his life in Queensland, and so his memoirs do not come within my present limits. But he came in personal contact with many who were connected with the early days of Queensland. He was at the King's School with the sons of John Oxley and Major Lockyer. He spent holidays with the Hannibal Macarthurs at The Vineyard, now called Subiaco. He visited Edinglassie, the property of Chief Justice Forbes, and he was at a private tutor with James and Albert Norton at Campbelltown, when J. G. MacDonald, James Tyson, and Harry Hammond were lads there. Later on he met John Douglas, then sub-commissioner, at Major Creek diggings, and Mr. and the first Mrs. Douglas were very kind and helpful to him when he came to Queensland in 1873. His connection with Australia went back to 1796, when his grandfather; Roland Hassall, one of the missionaries who came out in the *Duff* to Tahiti, settled at Parramatta. His father, Thomas Hassall, then three years old, afterwards, in 1822, married the eldest daughter of the Rev. Samuel Marsden. J. S. Hassall was the first child of this marriage. He had at his disposal a diary kept by his father, but he records that a diary kept by his grandfather, Samuel Marsden, during his second missionary journey to New Zealand, in 1819, was submerged in the great flood in the Brisbane River in 1893, and is now quite illegible. Mr. Hassall resigned his cure at Sherwood in 1899, and died there in 1905. (p20)

The Lower Burnett was then being opened up. Kolan station had been formed for Robert Tooth by Thomas- Alford. The Hassalls hit upon Tantitha in 1862, and a man named Roberts went up the Burnett River in a small sailing vessel. (p23)

Jervis, James. "William Lawson, Explorer and Pioneer." *Royal Australian Historical Society Journal and Proceedings*, vol. XI, 1954, pp. 65-93.

Since Lawson was in the colony when Bligh was deposed by the Johnston-MacArthur faction, it was but natural that he should have been involved in the dispute. Like other officers of the New South Wales Corps, he supported Johnston and was appointed his aide-de-camp. Rowland Hassall stated that he saw Lawson, Gregory Blaxland and Thomas Hobby go to Judge Atkins' house and seize his papers. As Hobby was going out of the house, he showed Hassall paper that the inhabitants were signing for the arrest of the Governor. Hassall wrote that the inhabitants were not to blame for the arrest of Bligh, and pointed out that the fact of these persons signing the paper to arrest His Excellency was no justification for the act which had been committed (Hassall's Letter Book, Mitchell Library, Sydney). (p68)

King, Joseph. "London Missionary Society." *Sydney Mail and New South Wales Advertiser*, 15 August 1896, p. 335. <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article16378507522>.

Pearson, Michael. "Bathurst Plains and Beyond: European Colonisation and Aboriginal Resistance." *Aboriginal history*, vol. 8, no. 1/2, 1984, pp. 63-79.

P 75: "Also in May [1824], Hassall's property on O'Connell was attacked, and a stockman badly wounded. A revenge party of stockmen were reported to have killed three Aboriginal women near 'Raineville', which led to a trial in Sydney of five men on charges of manslaughter. All of them were acquitted. Four more stockmen were killed on Lawson's property at Cambell's River after July. Reports of retribution killings were, for obvious reasons, less exact than reports of Europeans killed. However, rumours reached Sydney of massacres of up to 60 or 70 Aborigines, although the *Sydney Gazette* preferred to believe that only eight or nine Aborigines had been killed. Reverend Walker believed that at least 100 Aboriginal men, women and children had been killed in 1824; massacres were reported at Billiwillinga, Wattle Flat, Capertee and Clear Creek, but no details recorded."

Radford, N. A., and J. Fletcher. *In Establishing and Maintaining a Library: Two Essays on the University of Sydney Library*. Sydney: University of Sydney Library. Sydney: University of Sydney Library, 1984.

It's so interesting to learn that Thomas Fisher (1820-1884), the principle benefactor of the library of the University of Sydney, arrived in NSW as a convict in 1802 and was assigned to work on Rowland Hassall's sheep farm near Castle Hill. Within a few years Fisher was placed in charge of Rowland's flock. From there he moved to horse breeding and into very successful commercial ventures.

Refshauge, W.F. *Searching for the Man from Snowy River*. Arcadia, 2012.

Page 174 of this book offers evidence that Ada Hassall (nee Geary), wife of James Samuel King Hassall, was A.B. Paterson's informant about the exploits of young horseman in southern New South Wales, Charlie McKeahnie:

In her eighties, Lem McKeahnie in a private letter in 1960 wrote as an afterthought: "Forgot to tell you Charlie was the original of The Man from Snowy River – Mrs Jim Hassall was staying with friends and they told the author of the poem the story of Charlie's ride and he wrote it there in her presence."

Rowland, E.C. *A Century of the English Church in New South Wales*. Angus and Robertson, 1948. <https://books.google.com.au/books?id=bWNbAAAAMAAJ>.

Shumack, S. *An Autobiography; or, Tales and Legends of Canberra Pioneers*. Australian National University Press, 1967. <https://books.google.com.au/books?id=gRxxAAAAMAAJ>.

Smith, S.H. *A Brief History of Education in Australia (1788-1848)*. Angus & Robertson Limited, 1917. <https://books.google.com.au/books?id=x8swAQAAMAAJ>.

Refers to Rowland Hassall's early interest in education.

Steele, J. *Early Days of Windsor*. DigiCat, 2022.



<https://books.google.com.au/books?id=HhR0EAAAQBAJ>.

Taussig, "How Bathurst Began"

Thanks to Alison Shaw for this reference, from: Chp 1: *How Bathurst Began* by J. C. Taussig, in the Book *The Story of Bathurst* edited by Bernard Greaves:

When Rowland Hassall, the superintendent of Government stock, went to Bathurst early in August 1815 he met William Lawson returning after leaving his herd in "one corner of the plains, close to Queen Charlotte's Vale".

Hassall reported that Lawson was "wet, cold and starved" and gave a dreadful account of the season and country, saying that snow lay two inches deep and that the road was so boggy as to be almost impassable. Never in all his life had he gone through such labour, hardship, and fatigues; he had lost several cattle from the frost and the intense cold.

Lawson was evidently disillusioned by the Bathurst district's cool temperate climate, but not so Hassall, who said that when he reached Bathurst he found to his delight the whole country snow-covered. "It was like a winter's day in the month of January in England," he wrote.

Still, Lawson's intentions to make good as the first settler west of the Blue Mountains were serious enough, for Macquarie noted in a memorandum in his diary: "Lieut. Lawson has built a very fine large barn at Bathurst of bricks and shingles. He has 150 acres of as fine wheat now growing as I ever beheld in any country, 15 acres of very fine looking oats and 3 acres of very good flax...."

Teale, Ruth. "Hassall, Eliza Marsden (1834–1917)" *Australian Dictionary of Biography, Supplement 1580-1980 Names: A-Z*, edited by Beverley Kingston and Stephen Garton Editor: Christopher Cunneen with Jill Roe and Published in hardcopy 2005, 2005, <https://womenustralia.anu.edu.au/biography/hassall-eliza-marsden-12970>.

Tilson, Kate. "Sexual Health, Morality and the Missionary Press in Britain and the South Pacific, 1795–1850." [In English]. *Social Sciences and Missions* 35, no. 3-4 (28 Nov. 2022 2022): 399-430. <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1163/18748945-bja10051>.  
[https://brill.com/view/journals/ssm/35/3-4/article-p399\\_7.xml](https://brill.com/view/journals/ssm/35/3-4/article-p399_7.xml).

Walsh, K., and J.W. Hooton. *Australian Autobiographical Narratives: To 1850*. Australian Scholarly Editions Centre, University College, ADFA, 1993.  
<https://books.google.com.au/books?id=pJRCAGAAQBAJ>.

*The Wesleyan-Methodist Magazine*. 1820. <https://books.google.com.au/books?id=BhMEAAAQAQAJ>. Includes a letter written from Windsor by Mr Harpur dated 20 February 1819, describing the preaching of Reverends Samuel Leigh and Walter Lawry, on the occasion of laying the foundation stone of a "neat little chapel" in Macquarie Street, Windsor.

Whittington, F.T. *William Grant Broughton, Bishop of Australia, with Some Account of the Earliest Australian Clergy*. Angus & Robertson, Limited, 1936.  
<https://books.google.com.au/books?id=dJ5FAAAIAAJ>.

Willis, Ian C. "Convicts in the Cowpastures, an Untold Story." (2017).

Yarwood, A.T. "The Missionary Marsden an Australian View." *New Zealand Journal History* 4, no. 1 (1970): 20-33.

This is online at [https://www.nzjh.auckland.ac.nz/docs/1970/NZJH\\_04\\_1\\_03.pdf](https://www.nzjh.auckland.ac.nz/docs/1970/NZJH_04_1_03.pdf)

Family Line	Coordinator
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: red;">■</span> Thomas Hassall &amp; Anne Marsden</li> <li><span style="color: blue;">■</span> Samuel Hassall &amp; Lucy Mileham</li> <li><span style="color: yellow;">■</span> Jonathan Hassall &amp; Mary Rouse</li> <li><span style="color: green;">■</span> Mary Hassall &amp; Rev Walter Lawry</li> <li><span style="color: purple;">■</span> James Hassall &amp; Catherine Lloyd</li> <li><span style="color: grey;">■</span> Eliza Hassall &amp; Rev William Walker</li> <li><span style="color: purple;">■</span> Susannah Hassall &amp; William Shelley Jr</li> <li><span style="color: pink;">■</span> Ann Hassall &amp; Robert Campbell</li> </ul>	<p>Alison Shaw <a href="mailto:alison.shaw@optusnet.com.au">alison.shaw@optusnet.com.au</a>  Melissa Blanks <a href="mailto:melissajb3@outlook.com.au">melissajb3@outlook.com.au</a>  John Brooks <a href="mailto:brooksjno@gmail.com">brooksjno@gmail.com</a>  Barbara Scott <a href="mailto:bmsbarb@icloud.com">bmsbarb@icloud.com</a>  Rowland J Hassall <a href="mailto:rowlandjhassall@gmail.com">rowlandjhassall@gmail.com</a>  Jennifer Walton-Smith <a href="mailto:jennywaltonsmith@icloud.com">jennywaltonsmith@icloud.com</a>  Anne Dudzinski <a href="mailto:annedudzinski@optusnet.com.au">annedudzinski@optusnet.com.au</a>  Ann Brockhurst <a href="mailto:brockhurst1@live.com.au">brockhurst1@live.com.au</a></p>

### About the Hassall Family History Association

The **Hassall Family History Association** fosters and disseminates research on the life and heritage of Rowland and Elizabeth Hassall and other members of the Hassall family and encourages historical research on other early settler families - particularly those with whom the Hassalls are related or with whom they share historic experience in early Australia. Membership is open to all. Donations are welcome to cover the group's activities. Newsletters are published three times each year (approximately February, June, and November).

Life Members: Sally Anderson, David N.H. Hassall, Gavin Hassall, Graham Hassall, Huon and Fran Hassall, Frank and Rosemary Hassall, Jonathan Guy Hassall, Rowland Hassall, Ian and Susie McIntosh, Jane Miura, Alison Shaw, Jean Stewart, Joyce Warn, Ross Whelan, and Robert Wiles.

#### *Website*

<https://www.hassall.net.au/>

#### *Committee*

Graham Hassall (chairperson)

email: [ghgcoast@gmail.com](mailto:ghgcoast@gmail.com); mobile 0409 711 773

Alison Shaw (secretary)

email: [alison.shaw@optusnet.com.au](mailto:alison.shaw@optusnet.com.au); mobile 0431 227 777

John Brooks (treasurer)

email: [brooksjno@gmail.com](mailto:brooksjno@gmail.com); mobile 0408 687 954

John Hassall (member)

[jjh@mmt.com.au](mailto:jjh@mmt.com.au)

Margaret Hassall (member)

[margaret.hassall@gmail.com](mailto:margaret.hassall@gmail.com)

Rowland Hassall (member)

[rowlandjhassall@gmail.com](mailto:rowlandjhassall@gmail.com)

Please notify the secretary of changes to your contact details.

Annual Membership \$20; Life Membership \$200.

Please send subscription renewals and donations by Direct Deposit to the Hassall Family History Association Account:

**BSB:** 062 575

**Account:** 10248050

*(include your name in the reference box so that we know who has paid).*