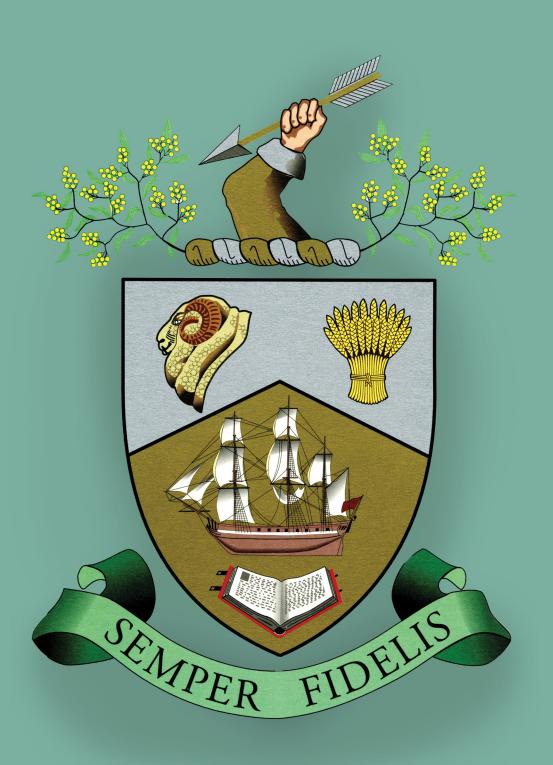
Edition 54

Hassall Family History Association Newsletter

February 2023



REUNION

Now is the time to register for the Hassall Family Reunion which is taking place from 5th to 8th May! The main programme is on the weekend of Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th May, but for those who can make it, there are also optional events on Friday 5th and Monday 8th. The Reunion provides a once in a generation opportunity to connect with relatives spread



across the vast expanse of Australasia (we anticipate members from New Zealand as well as Australia), and to gain a sense of this family's role in these two countries from the early 1800s to the present time.

Book online at https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1023542

Share this newsletter and the accompanying registration form with your children, parents, aunts and uncles, and cousins! The following information will help you decide which sessions to book for. The Committee is providing the venues and programme, but you will have to plan your transport and accommodation.

Friday 5th May (Regional Tour - Camden, Cobbitty, and Narellan)

Friday's daytime and late-afternoon activities are optional. Register for a guided, self-drive, tour of historical sites in south-west Sydney, and/or for a late afternoon reception at Old Government House, Parramatta.

"Denbigh"

The original homestead "Denbigh", at Cobbitty, was built in 1818 by Charles Hook and purchased by Thomas Hassall in 1827. It evolved into a small village with its own school master, blacksmith, carpenter, brickmaker, producing wheat, sheep, vineyards, and orchards, and continues to operate as a working farm under Ian and Susan McIntosh, whose family purchased the property after Thomas Hassall's death in 1868. Come on a self-guided tour of the garden and a guided tour of select rooms in the house, then through the pottery and stables to the hayshed for a Devonshire morning tea/coffee as guests of the McIntoshes.



Camden Museum (40 John St, Camden)

Camden Museum, run by the Camden Historical Society, includes displays and historical information about the Cowpastures region where Rowland Hassall and his sons Jonathan, Thomas, Samuel, and James lived and farmed. Museum staff will be on hand to answer your questions.

St Paul's Anglican Church and Cemetery





Friday afternoon includes a brief visit to St Paul's Anglican Church and cemetery, resting place of Samuel Otoo Hassall, and other family members. Other sites to be observed on this afternoon are "Hassall Cottage" at Macquarie Grove (Camden Airport), and Old *St Thomas* Chapel, built by Thomas Hassall at Narellan in 1839 (1A Wilson Cres, Narellan).

Opening Reception (late Friday afternoon)

The Opening Reception is at Parramatta City Council's new facility "Phive" at 5 Parramatta Square. Mayor of Parramatta, Counsellor Donna Davis, is scheduled to be with us to welcome the Hassall family to Parramatta.



Saturday 6th May Thomas Hassall Anglican College, Middleton Grange

Saturday's daytime and evening activities are all at the Thomas Hassall Anglican College at Middleton Grange. The program includes guest speakers, and breakout sessions at which you can meet other members of your "family line" (depending on which of Rowland and Elizabeth's eight children you are descended from).



The morning session will include a welcome to country by a representative of the Gandangara Local Aboriginal Land Council, and a welcome to the Thomas Hassall Anglican College by its Principal, Ross Whelan.

After a brief reply from our Association's chair Dr Graham Hassall, a keynote address will be given by Dr Anna Johnston, who is Professor in English

Literature in the School of Communication and Arts at the University of Queensland). Anna

has published widely in the field of colonial and postcolonial studies, focussing on literary and cultural history, and referred to the Hassall family in her books and papers. At lunch time our younger participants can enjoy a "Kindifarm" comprising a calf, sheep, goat, rabbits, ducks and chickens. Youth sports will be available throughout the day.

On Saturday afternoon you can select from several concurrent sessions: there will be a room for each of our eight "family lines", should you want to meet and share stories with your closest Hassall relatives. There will also be rooms for those interested in the Association's "Hassall



Heritage", Genealogy, and Research projects. A professional photographer will be onsite from 4pm to take photos of all reunion participants, as well as photos of each family line.



Reunion Dinner

Guest speaker the Reunion Dinner is Professor Tanya Evans, of the Department of History and Archaeology at Macquarie University. Tanya is an acknowledge expert in the history of the family and has written extensively on family life in Australia - including reference to the Hassall family. Her address will place the Hassall family legacy in the context of early Australian colonial society and will offer thoughts on how a family such as ours can best understand its shared heritage and navigate its shared future.

Sunday 7th May - Parramatta

Sunday's programme takes place in Parramatta. It includes a history walk past the site of Rowland and Elizabeth's home and shop in George Street, a tour of St John's Cemetery, and a service at St John's Cathedral.

History Walk

On Sunday morning local tour guides will assist with a walking tour of relevant historical sites, such as the George Street location of Rowland and Elizabeth's home and shop, Old Government House, and St John's Cemetery.

St John's Cemetery The walking tour includes a visit to St John's Cemetery, where Rowland Hassall and other family members rest in peace. **Judith Dunn** and the friends of St John's Cemetery will provide refreshments at the site of Rowland's resting place and answer your questions.



Old Government House



Visit Old Government House, where Rowland worked for Governor King (1800-02, as head of government stores), and for Governor Macquarie (as superintendent of government stock, from 1814).

St John's Cathedral

The Sunday programme concludes with a service at St John's Cathedral conducted by Reverend David Ould. On November 22nd, 1819, three Hassall children married their partners in what became the famous 'triple wedding': Mary to Walter Lawry, Samuel to Lucy Mileham, and Jonathan to Mary Rouse



Monday 8th May - All day Tour: Mt Victoria to O'Connell

Monday's activities are optional. Register for a guided, self-drive, tour of historical sites to the west of Sydney.

Rowland Hassall and six of his children were granted fertile land in 1818 on the scenic O'Connell Plains, along the Fish River just south of Bathurst. Re-trace the footsteps of these intrepid pioneers, your ancestors. Visit the old Hassall barn, St Thomas's church, Eliza Cor delia's grave, and the site of Salem Chapel, and chat with local historians. Lunch at "Hassall Park" on the Fish River. Return to Sydney OR stay in O'Connell /Bathurst to visit Holy Trinity Kelso, Bishop's Court or Mayfield Gardens.



Monday 8th May - All day Tour: Windsor District

First, visit St Matthew's Windsor, which was designed and built by Francis Greenway and is the oldest Anglican church in Australia. Consecrated by Samuel Marsden in 1822 its church yard is the resting place of Jonathan Hassall and his wife Mary (Rouse). Several other substantial Hassall memorials are in good condition and can be read clearly. Sadly, Jonathan's seventh son Charles drowned in the Cudgegong River and commemorated by a plaque within the church.

The Windsor and Richmond district has many Hassall associations as Rowland and his son Thomas preached to settlers along the river at



Ebenezer and Wilberforce which are in easy distance. The townships have many pleasant places for a picnic lunch.

In the afternoon a visit to Rouse Hill Farm has many attractions for parents and children. Built by Richard Rouse it became the home of Jonathan's wife Mary after his early death in 1834. The property includes a well restored school as well as several farm buildings. In 1984 the summer house was repaired/reconstructed, and the property was transferred to the Historic Houses Trust in 1987.



Research by the Historic Houses Trust places it on the line of the old Hawkesbury Road (1794-1813) on which the pursuit and "battle of Vinegar Hill", an armed conflagration between convicts and troops, took place in 1804. That event is commemorated by an historic marker.

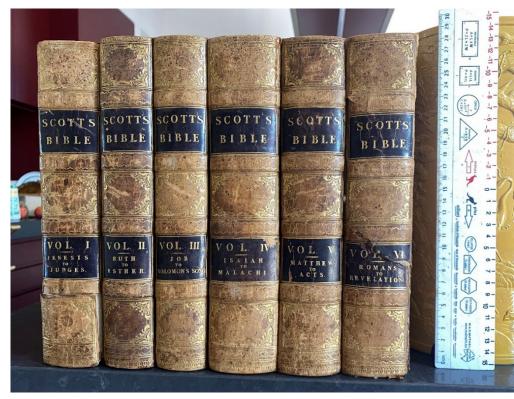
A cafe and store provides visitors with refreshments and information about the property

RESEARCH AND PUBLICATION

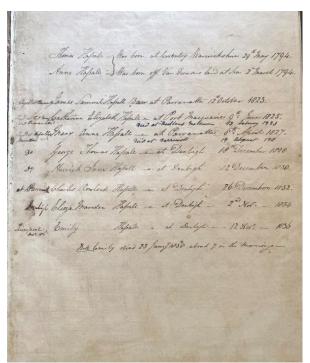
Thomas Hassall's Scotts Bible

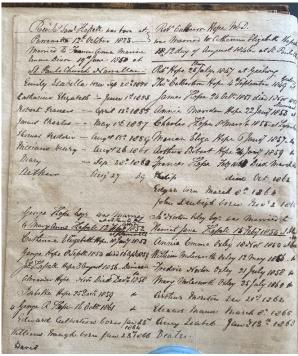
Ellen Hope possesses **Thomas** Hassall's Scotts Bible and has shared the following photos of the Bible's six volumes. together with inscriptions.

The bible is inscribed "Thomas Hassall May 1827". Additional pages note the



birth dates of Thomas and Anne's children; the children of the first son James Samuel Hassall and his wife Frances Dixon; the children of their daughter MaryAnne and her husband George Hope; and the children of their daughter Catherine and her husband Robert Culbertson Hope.





Bibliography

The following items relevant to Hassall family history have been entered into our bibliography.

"A Long-Lived Family." *Toowoomba Chronicle* (Qld.), 13 February 1918, 6. http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article252798090.

A LONG-LIVED FAMILY.

The recent death in Sydney of Miss Hassall, at the age of 84 years, has served to draw attention to the remarkable longevity of the members of the family to which she belonged (states the Brisbane "Courier"). It is, in fact, claimed that the family holds the record in Australia for long living. The founder of it was the Rev. Thomas Hassall. M.A., who in 1822 married the eldest daughter of the Rev. Samuel Marsden, the young Cambridge under-graduate who began his ministrations in Sydney in 1794. There was issue of the marriage of three sons and four daughters, all of whom were born in Australia, and lived continuously in it. All but two have passed away. Rev. J. S. Hassall, the eldest son, lived 81 years; Mrs. J.N. Oxley, of Kirkham New South Wales, whose husband was a son of Surveyor-General Oxley, lived 82 years; Mrs. George Hope lived 85 years; Miss E. M. Hassall (mentioned above lived 84 years, after having been for a number of years the principal of the Marsden Training School for Women Missionaries at Ashfield Sydney. Mr. George Hassall lived 83 years; Mrs Robert Hope is still living at the age of 93 years, and Mr. Charles Hassall, the youngest member of the family, has 86 years to his living credit. The father (Rev. Thomas Hassall) was 75 years old at the time of his death, and his wife attained the age of 92 years. The combined ages of the complete family of nine is 761 years, an average of over 84 ½ years. There are in Brisbane a number of children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren of one or other of the Hassall family – that is, of the children and Rev. Thomas Hassall and his wife. Neither of the latter was actually an Australian native, but Mr. Hassall was only three years old when his father, Rowland Hassall, one of the 30 missionaries who went to Otaheite, in the Pacific, at the end of the eighteenth century, brought him to Parramatta, while his wife was born on the ship which brought her faither and mother – Rev. Samuel and Mrs. Marsden – to Port Jackson.

Australian Council of National Trusts. *Historic Homesteads*. Canberra: Australian Council of National Trusts, 1982.

This book includes a section on "Denbigh", home of Thomas and Anne Hassall

Bishop, C., and M. Roe. *The Journal and Letters of Captain Charles Bishop on the North-West Coast of America, in the Pacific and in New South Wales, 1794-1799.* published for the Hakluyt Society at the University Press, 1967.

As readers will know, Bishop's Nautilus removed LMS missionaries from their precarious position at Tahiti in 1798 and brought them to Sydney. This book is now published by Routledge https://www.routledge.com/The-Journal-and-Letters-of-Captain-Charles-Bishop-on-the-North-West-Coast/Roe/p/book/9781409414971 and available for a mere \$250.00. a search of the text at https://books.google.com.au/books?id=phEOAQAAIAAJ finds three references to Rowland Hassall, but the full text is not available. Routledge describes the book as follows:

"In 1794, Charles Bishop sailed from Bristol as master of the Ruby, a trading ship bound for north-west America. He had instructions to procure otter furs from the Indians and then to proceed to Canton via Japan and sell the cargo. During the years 1794-1802, he rounded South America to reach the Pacific coast, then visited the Pacific islands and the coasts of Asia and

Australia. In the Moluccas, he sold the Ruby and purchased the Nautilus; correspondingly, the text is divided into two sections. This narrative is Bishop's journal of his voyages and relates a minor epic of adventure, courage and turbulent fortune. The records of his letters and financial accounts show something of the ships' general organization, and of the seamen who served such expeditions. Bishop also describes the various ports and peoples he encountered; his experiences typify European contacts in the Pacific, and the reaction between trader, missionary, administrator and local inhabitant".

Burcher, Honour C. *Pioneers and Their Better Halves, or, Seven Generations of Women in Australia / Honour C. Burcher.* Caloundra, Qld: Boolarong for H.C. Burcher, 1985.

Includes as chapter six:

"Horse and Buddy Days and Animal power: William and George Shelley – Second Generation" – which makes reference not only to William's wife Susannah Hassall, but to many of the families that the Shelleys and Hassalls interacted with – notably the Humes.

Burge, John, Janice Johnson, and Joy Thorn. *The Cemetery at St Paul's Anglican Church Cobbity*. Cobbity: St Paul's Anglican Church, 2015.

Clark, C.M.H. The Puzzles of Childhood. Ringwood, Victoria: Penguin Books, 1989.

Manning Clark, a famous Australian historian, was a 3rd great-grandson of Rowland and Elizabeth, through the Thomas and Anne line. Late in life he penned this recollection of his childhood, which includes references to his heritage.

Johnstone, Samuel Martin. Samuel Marsden: A Pioneer of Civilization in the South Seas. Sydney: Angus & Robertson, 1932.

The full scope of Marsden's relationship with the Hassall family is yet to be written. Some elements of Marsden's friendship with Rowland are scattered through the pages of this rare book.

King, Joseph. "London Missionary Society." In *Sydney Mail and New South Wales Advertiser*, 335. NSW, 15 August 1896. http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article163785075.

This article was quite a find, as it is not even referred in Gunson's *Messengers of Grace*. King paints a picture of Sydney Cove at the time the *Nautilus* brought 19 missionary refugees from Otaheiti (Tahiti) and the warm reception given them by Governor Hunter.

Lake, Meredith. The Bible in Australia a Cultural History. Sydney: New South Publishing, 2018.

Lake draws on Rowland's description of Samuel Marsden's sermon on the occasion of the establishment of Sydney's first orphanage in 1801 – material drawn from *Historical Records of New South Wales*. She also refers to Mary Cover Hassall as depicted in Margaret Reeson's *Currency Lass*.

Macquarie, Lachlan. Lachlan Macquarie, Governor of New South Wales: Journals of His Tours in New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land, 1810-1822. Facsimile Series (Library of Australian History); No. 17. Edited by Library Council of New South Wales. Sydney: Library of Australian History in association with the Library Council of New South Wales, 1979.

This book includes a chapter "Journal of a tour to the Cowpastures and other parts of the interior in the month of October 1815", which includes numerous references to Rowland

Hassall, who was at that time Superintendent of Government Stock. One interesting passage (page 6), records:

"We crossed the River Nepean at a ford immediately below Mr. Hassall's farm, and encamped there at 4 o'clock, having been 8 hours on horseback and rode about 30 miles. We found our baggage had arrived about half an hour before us at Macquarie-Grove, which is the name Mr. Hassall has been so good to give to this very finely situated and beautiful farm. As soon as we had rested a little, I wrote a short letter to Mrs. Macquarie before dinner, giving her an account of our safe arrival here. We dined at 6 o'clock in a room in Mr. Hassall's farm-house.

Sunday 8 Oct. We breakfasted at 8 o'clock this morning and had Divine Service performed in the veranda of Mr. Hassall's house at 10 o'clock, the whole of our party, including Mr. Hassall's family, and all our own attendants being present."

Reeson, Margaret. Certain Lives: The Compelling Story of the Hope, Tragedy and Triumph of Three Generations of Women / Margaret Reeson. Sutherland, N.S.W: Albatross, 1989.

This is an historical novel in which the Hassall family plays a supporting role.

Sargeant, D.A., and C. Rivett. *The Toongabbie Story: A Compact History of the Settlement Established Soon after Australia Was Founded in 1788 up to 1964*. Primary Mothers' Club, Toongabbie Public School, 1964.

Sidman, G.V. The Town of Camden: A Facsimile. Camden, N.S.W.: Camden Public Library, 1995.

This little book was published in 1995, but it includes content published in the Camden News on 5th January 1939 under the heading "Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Municipality of Camden". One interesting paragraph is the following:

"Macquarie Grove" home became well known for hospitality and the entertainment of visitors. Mrs. Samuel Hassall's letters from this happy homestead give wonderful picture insights into the lives of outstanding pioneers developing virgin bush land to productivity. Then again there were the difficulties and hardships, the depredations of blacks, escaped convicts and bushrangers. Sending to the settlement at Sydney Cove for provisions meant a journey of weeks in those days. Samuel Hassal! died in July 1830, and his was the first vault in the graveyard at Cobbitty. In latter days a William Gordon, of Narellan, conducted a school on this property, and the late Miss Gordon, of Narellan, was a descendant of this old scholar."

Smith, William. Journal of a Voyage in the Missionary Ship Duff to the Pacific Ocean in the Years 1796, 7, 8, 9, 1800, 1, 2, &C Comprehending Authentic and Circumstantial Narratives of the Disasters Which Attented the First Effort of the "London Missionary Society": Interspersed with a Variety of Singular Incidents and Adventures, with an Appendix; Containing Interesting Circumstances in the Life of Captain James Wilson, the Commander of the Duff, When He Was Engaged in the Wars in the East Indies, and Taken Prisoner by Hyder Ally's Troops, His Bold Attempt to Escape, and Subsequent Difficulties. New York: Collins and Co, 1813.

This very useful first-hand account can is available on the internet.

Vane, Hilda. "Some Girls of Early Australia." Camden News (NSW), 02 December 1920, 3.

The full article can be read online at http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article136647902. The section below focuses on the life of Anne Hassall, wife of Thomas and daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Marsden:

"Another of the Rev. Samuel Marsden's daughters, Anne, married her father's assistant, the Rev. Thomas Hassall, one of the London Missionary Society's clergy, who, on being expelled from Tahiti, settled in Parramatta. He was the first native born to be sent home to be educated for the work of the Anglican Church in Australia. He had opened the first Sunday-school before leaving for England and on his return he introduced that important addition to Sunday school work, the Sunday school picnic. The native-born in those days were entitled each to a grant of 800 acres. Hassall worked his land, adding to it as time went on. Shortly after his marriage he was given charge of a district from Mulgoa to Goulburn. He established his family on a property near Cobbitty, called Denbigh. Here, while he undertook interminable journeys, they lived in a state of patriarchal comfort beyond a modern cleric's dreams of avarice. The convict servant cost about £5 a year for rations and clothes, so from twelve to twenty of them ministered to the family's comfort.

In such surroundings the Misses Hassall had what it would probably have shocked them to hear their descendants call, a good time. They had plenty of horses, were able to mount some twenty people at Denbigh when they made riding parties, and went picnicking at beautiful spots, such as Bent Basin, Cowpasture River, Donohue's Cave, The Oaks, on the Razorback. Some of the neighbours kept high state on great occasions, such as weddings, using a carriage with four horses and postillions. There were four sisters to enjoy this happy time, Kate, Marion, Harriet and Elizabeth, and with all the sociable gaiety in which they took part they also, learnt the art of needle-point, which their mother brought from the Parramatta parsonage. The narrow lace collar, the property of the Australian Historical Society, was made by these girls as a birthday gift to their mother.

The brothers of these girls, and their friends went to the newly established King's School. They paid, the princely sum of £28 a year for their education and board. It is interesting to know at this time when Basic and Living Wage Commissions have wrested out the irreducible minimum cost of growing a young Australian, that these young bloods, who were to become the squattocracy of Australia, leaders, pioneers, and benefactors to their country, Hassalls, Blaxlands, Kings, McArthurs, Wentworths, were supplied daily with a basin of tea and half a loaf of dry bread for breakfast and tea, roast beef one day and boiled fresh beef the next day for dinner. But the arrival of the maternal tucker basket broke the monotony. One fond mother followed the despatch to her son of a hundredweight of butter with a letter directing him to sell it at the market, but the whole hundredweight of the butter had been eaten by the boys before the letter had reached the school. The boys' clothing seems to have been, as quaint as their feeding. They wore cloth jackets tucked inside their trousers, knickerbockers not having been invented. Some wore holland suits joined at the waist and fastening behind with a button at collar and waist. Hats were mostly home-made, the crown being supported by a piece of cane, usually abstracted by the wearer and used for his own nefarious purposes.

For the people on what Edward Bellamy calls "the box-seat of the social coach" these times— recalled by the relics shown by the Historical Society — were days of simple, dignified sociability. It is to be feared they were made so largely by the sufferings of the convict population. Hard times came when convict labour ceased, and free labour made for the gold diggings, but while they lasted they give a pleasant picture of pastoral life, pioneered by stern, but withal far-seeing patriotic men, and sweetened by the gracious influence of high-bred charming women."

"Family Line" coordinators	Representative
 Thomas Hassall & Anne Marsden Samuel Hassall & Lucy Mileham Jonathan Hassall & Mary Rouse Mary Hassall & Rev Walter Lawry James Hassall & Catherine Lloyd Eliza Hassall & Rev William Walker Susannah Hassall & William Shelley Jr Ann Hassall & Robert Campbell 	 Alison Shaw <u>alison.shaw@optusnet.com.au</u> Melissa Blanks <u>melissajb3@outlook.com.au</u>, James Daniel <u>jmtdaniel10@gmail.com</u>, and Cathy Cohen <u>catherinecohen@bigpond.com</u> John Brooks <u>brooksjno@gmail.com</u> Barbara Scott <u>bmsbarb@icloud.com</u> Rowland J Hassall <u>rowlandjhassall@gmail.com</u> Jennifer Walton-Smith <u>jennywaltonsmith@icloud.com</u> Anne Dudzinski <u>annedudzinski@optusnet.com.au</u> Ann Brockhurst <u>brockhurst1@live.com.au</u>

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 time each year (approximately February, June, and November) and are distributed with the assistance of the Thomas Hassall Anglican College.

<u>Life Members:</u> 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, and Robert Wiles.

Committee

Graham Hassall (chairperson)

email: ghgcoast@gmail.com; mobile 0409 711 773; post: 17 Scenic Avenue, Benowa, Qld. 4217.

Alison Shaw (secretary)

email: alison.shaw@optusnet.com.au; mobile 0431 227 777; post: 33 Brucedale

Avenue, Epping. NSW 2121.

John Brooks (treasurer)

email: brooksjno@gmail.com: mobile 0408 687 954; post: Unit 106/149 Pyrmont

Street, Pyrmont. NSW 2009.

Melissa Blanks (member)

melissajb3@outlook.com.au

John Hassall (member)

jjh@mmt.com.au

Margaret Hassall (member)

margaret.hassall@gmail.com

Rowland Hassall (member)

rowlandjhassall@gmail.com

Katrina Shirref (member)

shirrefskatrina@gmail.com

Please notify the secretary of changes to your contact details.