

Richard George Goldsmith, 899, *Minden*

Researched by Marcia Watson

Baptism	1 April 1832, Ramsgate, Kent
Parents	Edward Goldsmith and Mary Jarman
Parent's marriage	26 October 1815, Ramsgate, Kent
Siblings	Edward (1816), Stephen Jarman (1819), Mary Ann (1821), Elizabeth (1824), Emma Elizabeth (1827), John William (1828), Thomas John (1834), Ann Jane (1837-1837)
Wife	
Married	
Children	

On the 1841 census: Little Addington, Ramsgate, Kent. ¹

Edward Goldsmith, 55, mariner

Mary, 45

Elizabeth 15, Emma 14, John 11, Richard 9, Thomas 5

Edward 3, Sarah 1 - appear to be grandchildren, children of son Edward and his wife Sarah.

Richard was in trouble at an early age. At the Quarter Sessions for the Borough and Liberties of Sandwich on 26 December 1844:

Richard Goldsmith, aged 13, a labourer, was charged with stealing one brass candlestick, value 2s, at Ramsgate, the property of E. W. Cherrill. He was sentenced to six calendar months with hard labour and to be publicly whipped once during the last month. ²

He was twice summarily convicted before he appeared at the Easter Quarter Sessions at Sandwich on 30 January 1848.

Richard George Goldsmith, 17, a fisherman, was convicted of stealing on 2 March 1848 at Ramsgate one pair of stockings, value 1s, the property of John Potter. Seven years transportation. ³

Richard George Goldsmith, 17, cannot read or write, fisherman, convicted 30 March 1848 at Sandwich with stealing stockings and sentenced to 7 years. He was received at Milbank Prison on 29 April 1848 from Sandwich Gaol and transferred to Parkhurst Prison on 24 May 1848. HO24/4

Shortly after his conviction, his father died and was buried 8 May 1848 at Ramsgate, aged 64.

The 1851 census was taken just before Richard left England. Parkhurst Prison shows:

R.G.G., unmarried, 19, shoemaker, born Ramsgate Kent. ⁴

After collecting convicts from prisons, the *Minden* left Plymouth, England, on 21 July 1851 and arrived at Fremantle, Western Australia on 14 October 1851. Richard's conduct was good while in prison and indifferent on the voyage.

On arrival at Fremantle, he was described as:

899. Richard Goldsmith, 20, 5'4½", light brown hair, blue eyes, oval visage, fair complexion, slender, no marks, a shoemaker and single. The shoemaking trade was learnt in prison, as Richard was a fisherman or mariner. ⁵

¹ TNA UK, HO107/469/6

² Kentish Gazette, 31 December 1844, p3

³ Dover Chronicle, 08 April 1848, p3

⁴ TNA UK, HO107/1663

⁵ SROWA, Acc 128/1-28

Ticket of Leave men received and remaining on 30 June 1852:

Richard Goldsmith (899), age 20, colonial sentence - 6 months hard labour.

30 August 1852. The undermentioned prisoners will be released from the Associated Room; their Tickets of Leave have been returned and forwarded to the North Fremantle Station: 365 William Walker, 899 Richard Goldsmith, 568 James Cribb, 1114 William Hooker, 806 Charles Meissner.⁶

No further trace has been found of Richard. As a mariner or fisherman, he would have had ample opportunity to leave Western Australia as crew on a ship.

Family in England.

1851 census, Albion Cottages, 21, Ramsgate, Kent, England.⁷

Mary Goldsmith, 53, widow, charwoman, born Broadstairs, Kent

Elizabeth, 26, daughter, house servant, born Ramsgate, Kent.

John W, 22, son, mariner, born Ramsgate.

Mary Goldsmith died in 1886, aged 91.

⁶ SROWA, Superintendent orders, SO1-3, image 240

⁷ TNA UK, RG9/537