

# The White Clan – from the beginnings in Australia



From 1775 to now 😊

*Our great, great, great grandfather*

1. John White  
(1775 – 1848)

Lucy Turner  
(1786 – 1839)

2. George  
White

Maria  
Gardiner

?

3. John  
Gray

A. Thomas  
Kerr

Eliza  
White

Elizabeth  
Gavin

B Humphrey  
J Sims

4. John  
White

5. Jane Gray

C. Archibald  
Kerr

Elizabeth  
Sims

Married in  
catholic church

6. Arthur J  
White

Mary E Kerr

7. Alan A  
White

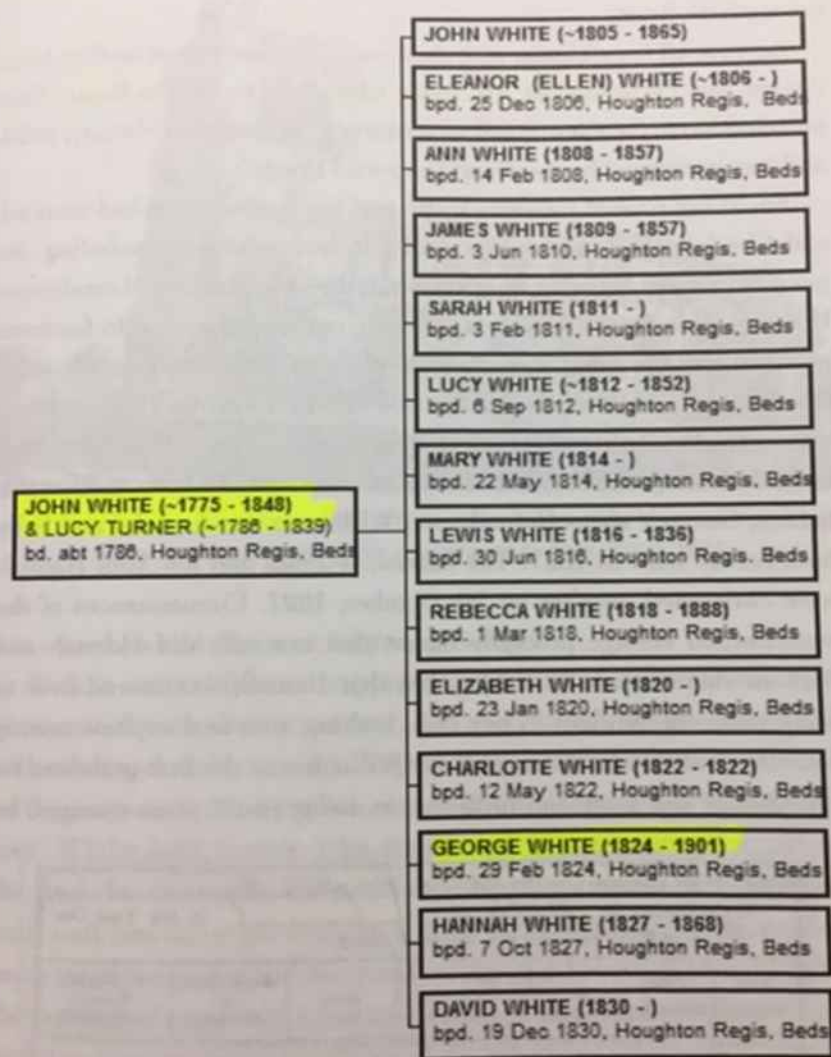
Phyllis  
Harvey

Ronald Joseph  
Elizabeth Joy  
Anne Lorraine  
Nola June  
Janice Lee  
Alan Geoffrey

- A. Thomas Kerr – born 1840. A former **convict** - arrived on the ship York in 1862 – from Glasgow, Scotland. Employed by George White in 1866 (in Northampton); he was a printer when Archibald got married
- B. Humphrey Sims – **convict** – convicted at Yorkshire as a 14 year old; transported on Runnymede ship in 1856 – one of 248 convicts; died 1908 in Northampton. He was a ‘Carrier when Elizabeth got married’ (Driver of (horse-drawn vehicles for transporting goods)
- C. Archibald Kerr - ? Born around 1870 – cant find a registered birth; married at 34 in 1903 – a ‘Fetter’ at the time (railway track worker)
- D. Elizabeth Simms – born in Nth Hampton around 1868; married at 36 – domestic at the time
- E. Mary Elizabeth – born 17/3/1904 (Northampton); Nana White who went on to have 10 children with Dad (Alan Arthur) being the eldest son

1. John - employed by Duke of Bedford until his sudden death aged 67 (labourer); went to the Crown Inn in Houghton Regis (UK) after work – fit & healthy looking – had a pint of ale & then went to leave & collapsed & died on the threshold – unable to be revived
2. George – farm labourer in UK - **convict** – transported to WA 1851 (Mermaid); ticket of leave 1852 (see other slides); became a wheelwright (builds or repairs wooden wheels)
3. John Gray - miner
4. John White - youngest son – Wheelwright; married Nth Hampton - 4/12/1888; engine driver
5. Jane Gray - ? When / where born; no occupation when married
6. Arthur J White – born 9/8/1895 – married Wongan Hills on 16/5/23
7. Alan A White (registered as Allan) – born 26/10/24 – Northam (?at home) – 1 of 10. Married 16/10/48; died 1/11/86 - went for a run on the beach – fit & healthy looking – collapsed & died at home – unable to be revived – like his great, great grandfather.

## George's beginning.....



- George White – this is where our history started in Australia – **convict** – transported to WA 1851 (Ship: Mermaid – departed Portsmouth); ticket of leave 1852. Father John & mother Lucy. More about George on the following slides
- George lived in Northampton WA until he died of influenza on 12/05/1901 (3 days short of his 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his arrival in WA). He was 77 - buried at Gwalla cemetery – beside the ruins of the church. See plaque on outside wall at Chiverton House museum in Northampton - George was the 1<sup>st</sup> owner of the cottage
- George is my (Nola) great , great grandfather
  - No. 12 of 14 children; & christened at All Saints Church in Houghton Regis. A very poor life in the UK – hand to mouth struggle for the large family
  - Lucy – George's mother – died when he was 15; she was 53
  - Married in UK to Emily – she died 18mths later (typhoid)
  - Married in UK to Sarah – 1 child Eliza – left behind in UK when George was shipped out to Australia (she was with another man by the time he left the UK – about 18 mths after his initial imprisonment. Things were really tough for the poor – she would have had no choice but to move on; particularly for their young daughter
  - Met Maria Gardiner (no record of when / how she arrived) – six children (George, Mary Anne, Maria, Martha, **John** & Georgina)
- John White - George's youngest son (born 1863) – worked as an engine driver & also? with his father as a Wheelwright – married Jane Gray in Nth Hampton - 24/12/1888; Died of paralysis 18/10/1898 at 35 yrs old (?polio); also his sister Mary Anne died the same way
- It is likely that Georges children never knew about the circumstances of his arrival or where he is from. He outlived all his family except for Georgina (youngest daughter) who looked after him until he died
- John & Jane's son Arthur J White – born 9/8/1895 – married in Wongan Hills to Mary Elizabeth Kerr on 16/5/23: he is the father of my dad (Alan Arthur White)
- Alan A White – born 26/10/24 – Northam (?at home) – 1 of 10 children . Married 16/10/48 and died at 62 on 01/11/1986





# Convict Records

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## George White

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George White, one of 209 convicts transported on the Mermaid, 30 December 1850

### Name, Aliases & Gender

Name:	George White
Aliases:	none
Gender:	-

### Conviction & Transportation

Crime:	-
Convicted at:	Bedford Assizes
Sentence term:	15 years
Ship:	<a href="#">Mermaid</a>
Departure date:	<a href="#">30th December, 1850</a>
Arrival date:	13th May, 1851
Place of arrival:	Western Australia
Passenger manifest:	Travelled with <a href="#">208 other convicts</a>

### Sentence Severity



Sentenced to 15 years

## The Accused Story; and more of George.....

- 10<sup>th</sup> March, 1849 – in Standbridge (UK) - 3 men local to the area charged with having unlawfully and maliciously wounded 2 constables
- All born & bred in Bedfordshire – Thomas Dockerill (29) – married to **George's** sister Rebecca, **George White (24)** & his nephew William White (22); who was the son of his eldest brother John
- All agricultural labourers – a really tough life at this time; all very poor – hand to mouth struggle for all to survive
- Thomas Dockerill suspected of being the ringleader – noted as a colourful character
- They got sprung by 2 policeman who had been detailed to watch the activities of Dockerill and his associates – each man was seen carrying something which, from the outline, looked like a sack on his back & head
- As they drew level with the policemen who were laying in wait for them, they dropped their sacks & a 'fight' began – & Dockerill also shot one in the shoulder
- It was later found that the sacks had barley in them; and one also had some fowls
- The police quickly apprehended Dockerill & then the hunt was on for the other 2 men
- A few days later George and William were also in custody – in the Bedford goal; later charged with felony. The judge stated that evidence against Dockerill was very conclusive; but as regards George & William – there was a great deal of conflicting testimony. Both protested their innocence.
- Dockerill got life & George & William 15 years each – all for transportation to Australia. Two months later, William received a free pardon
- The 1<sup>st</sup> stage of their sentence was solitary confinement – Bedford goal; the 2<sup>nd</sup> stage was in a public works goal & the 3<sup>rd</sup> was the transportation itself
- The ship with George on it set sail from Portsmouth on 09/01/1851 – it arrived in WA in May of that year
- By Dec 1851 (same year of arrival), George & William Golding (his acquaintance from the Mermaid), were working in Freshwater Bay (half way between Fremantle & Perth) as sawyers

## Northampton; and more of George.....

- On 1<sup>st</sup> Dec 1852, George obtained his ticket of leave; he continued to work at Freshwater Bay for a time – this is where he met Maria Gardiner (no record of her arrival in the colony) & they went on to have 6 children
- He repaid all of his passage money; & on 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept 1859 was then free to settle wherever he wished. After hearing of opportunities in Northern Districts, they moved there – two main towns – The Mines and Gwalla
- In 1864, the township of Northampton was proclaimed
- George applied for one of the 1<sup>st</sup> town lots to be sold
- He purchased on 23<sup>rd</sup> Sept 1865 – town block, lot No. 130
- On this land now stands Chiverton House – a museum dedicated to the pioneers of the district
- During his time here, George employed 3 ex convicts – one was Thomas Kerr – born in Glasgow in 1840; convicted in 1861 receiving a sentence of 8 years. Arrived in Fremantle on 13/12/1861 on the York ship. He became my (Nola) great, great grandfather (dad's mothers grandfather)
- It is thought the convicts would have helped build the cottage on lot No. 130
- On 16/10/1871, George sold his block of land to John Hosken (the youngest son of Martin Hosken who built the Miners Arms hotel at the northern end of town)
- George bought Lot No.70 in August 1876 – situated in Gwalla St – the little cottage built on this land still stands; left to his daughter Georgina when he died in 1901
- The good thing about all this is that George made something of his enforced migration & his new life in Australia
- On 28/02/2004, the Premier announced part of the Govt's plans to celebrate the migrant contribution to WA through the Migrant Welcome Wall at the Maritime Museum, Victoria Quay, Fremantle. Georges name appears on this wall & will therefor forever be remembered as one of the pioneers – having arrived on the convict ship Mermaid

## UK Census 1841 – George was 15

1841 CENSUS HO 107 / 5 / 17 Houghton Regis, Thorn Hamlet			
John White	65	Agricultural Labourer	Not Born in County
George White	15	Agricultural Labourer	Born in County
David White	10		Born in County

1841 CENSUS HO 107 / 5 / 17 Houghton Regis, Chalk Hill			
Joseph Mooring	20	Agricultural labourer	Born in County
Elizabeth Mooring	20	Straw plaiter	Born in County
Ann Mooring	2		Born in County
Ephraim Mooring	1		Born in County
John White	35	Butcher	Born in County
Sarah White	35	Straw plaiter	Not Born in County
Lucy White	15	Straw plaiter	Born in County
William White	14	Agricultural labourer	Born in County
Charles White	13	Agricultural labourer	Born in County
Joseph White	11		Born in County
John White	10		Born in County
Hannah White	7		Born in County
Lewis White	1		Born in County

Some pics related to George 😊

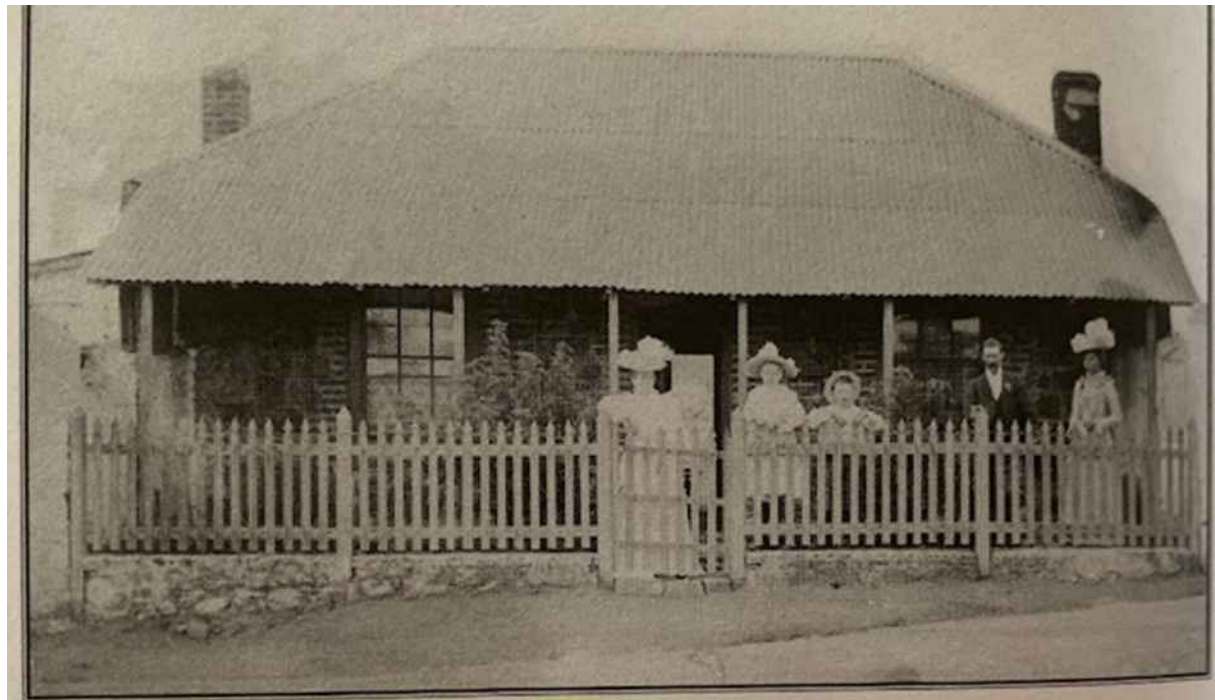
*Colonial Secretary's Office, Perth,  
3rd September, 1869.*

**CONDITIONAL PARDONS** have been this day signed for:—

REG. No	NAME.
92	Matthew Horsfield
302	John Pearce
320	George White
333	Thomas Ashbee
340	Edward Wilding
1465	Edward Macklin
2664	John Bridger
2956	Thomas Wilding
2963	William Ramsey
3023	George Waters
3235	Thomas Grant
3461	Thomas Gallacher
3839	George Lloyd
4452	John Marshall
4690	William Jones
4703	Charles Lancaster.

By His Excellency's command,  
**FRED. P. BARLEE,**  
Colonial Secretary.

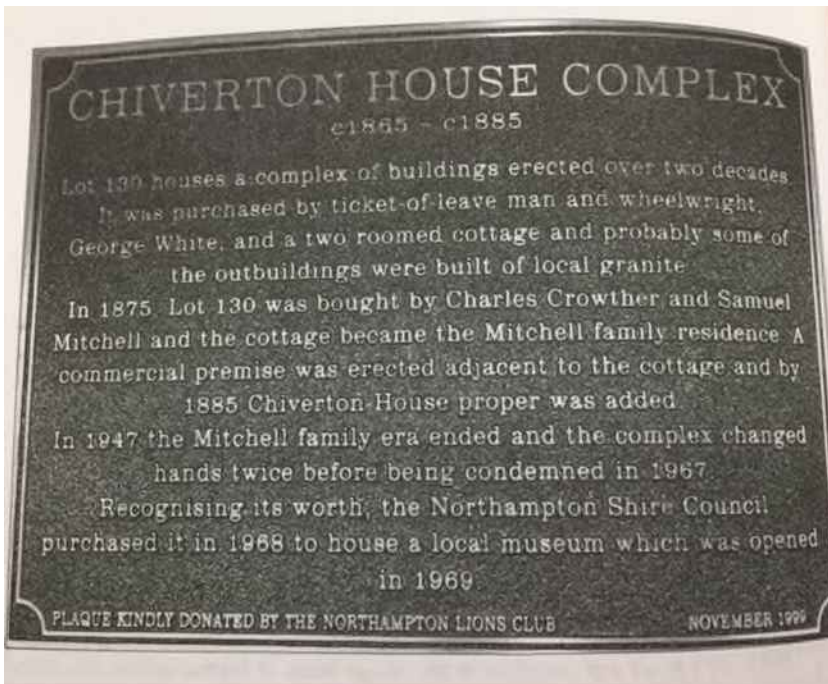
Northampton Shire Records  
George White Lot No 130 purchased 18 April 1866  
Receipt No 22506  
For fee simple of his Northampton lot No 130



The cottage on part lot 70. George White lived here until his death, leaving the property to his daughter Georgina.



Some pics related to George 😊



Young  
George's  
(junior) son  
– also  
George  
(George's  
grandson)



Entrance to Gwalla graveyard when George & most of his family are buried



In the Avenue of Honour in Kings Park, WA

TERRIACCA, Domenico

TONUS, Vanda & Rita

TONUS, Vitaliano

TRUSTY, George

TURNER, WLC & PM & Family

VACCARO, Lucia

VAJDA, Aladar & Eszter

VAJDA, Elemer I

WHITE, Family

WHITE, George

WILKINSON, Jean & Anne

WOJTCZAK, Adam, Hilda, E, M

Toscana

Oceania

Sydney

Britannis

Australia

Viminale

Skaugum

Skaugum

Castel Felice

Mermaid

Strathaird

Skaugum

1971

1948

1955

1954

1971

1966

1939

1950

1950

1962

1851

1953

1950

SURNAME, INITIALS

SHIP NAME

DATE

The Migrant Welcome Wall at Fremantle.

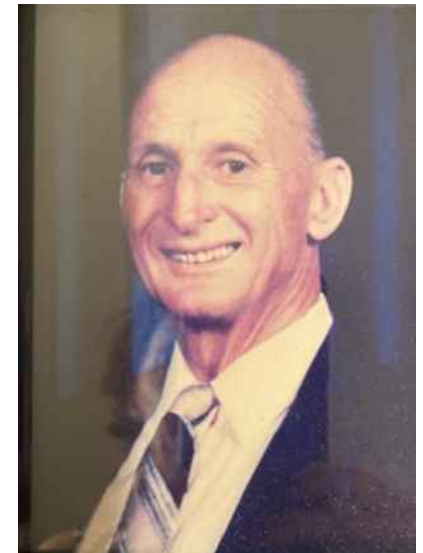


# Alan Arthur White

(26/10/24 to 1/11/86)



World War Two Service	
PRIVATE ALAN ARTHUR WHITE WX22711	
	
SERVICE	AUSTRALIAN ARMY
DATE OF BIRTH	26 OCTOBER 1924
PLACE OF BIRTH	NORTHAM, WA
DATE OF ENLISTMENT	21 DECEMBER 1943
LOCALITY ON ENLISTMENT	SUBIACO, WA
PLACE OF ENLISTMENT	CLAREMONT, WA
NEXT OF KIN	WHITE, MARY
DATE OF DISCHARGE	12 AUGUST 1946
POSTING AT DISCHARGE	2/16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION
	Australian Government Department of Veterans' Affairs



# LAKE VIEW STAR DIVISION



## ABSENT

Cadet Supt  
A. Shillinglaw  
Cadet Offr.  
W. Axell  
Cpl. G. Schultz  
Pte. R. Bell  
Pte. B. Deacon  
Pte. W. Ferguson  
Pte. M. Cahill

## ABSENT

Hon Sec-  
R. White  
Pte. J. Giles  
Pte. S. McDonald  
Pte. L. Pilkington  
Pte. G. Pomi  
Pte. S. Stewart  
Pte. K. Wydra  
Pte. B. Smith  
Pte. T. Roach

## BACK ROW

Sgt White. Pte C Weary. Pte H Menhennett. Pte R Hill. Pte W Moore. Pte P Emmerson  
Pte J Warren. Pte A Davies. Cpl R Woollams.

## MIDDLE ROW

Cpl G Moderana. Pte J Campbell. Pte T Calvetti. Pte R Bail. Pte. S Satti. Pte J Chambers.  
Pte D Hicks. Pte S Harvey. Pte J Wydra. Cpl K Jenkins.

## FRONT ROW

Cpl R Madalena. Pte M. Scally. Div Subt K Young SB St. J. Div Surg Dr. L A Watson. Div Offr G Calneppia





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## Thomas Kerr

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Thomas Kerr, one of 300 convicts transported on the York, 07 October 1862

### Name, Aliases & Gender

Name:	Thomas Kerr
Aliases:	none
Gender:	-

### Birth, Occupation & Death

Date of Birth:	-
Occupation:	-
Date of Death:	-
Age:	-

#### Life Span



### Conviction & Transportation


Crime:	-
Convicted at:	Scotland, Glasgow Circuit Court of Justiciary
Sentence term:	8 years
Ship:	<a href="#">York</a>
Departure date:	<a href="#">7th October, 1862</a>
Arrival date:	31st December, 1862
Place of arrival:	Western Australia
Passenger manifest:	Travelled with <a href="#">300 other convicts</a>

#### Sentence Severity



Sentenced to 8 years

Nana Whites (Mary) grandfather on her mothers side



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## Humphrey Sims

Contribute to this record

Humphrey Sims, one of 248 convicts transported on the Runnymede, 11 June 1856


### Name, Aliases & Gender

Name:	Humphrey Sims
Aliases:	none
Gender:	-

### Birth, Occupation & Death

Date of Birth:	-
Occupation:	-
Date of Death:	-
Age:	-


#### Life Span



### Conviction & Transportation

Crime:	-
Convicted at:	Yorkshire, York Assizes
Sentence term:	14 years
Ship:	<a href="#">Runnymede</a>
Departure date:	<a href="#">11th June, 1856</a>
Arrival date:	7th September, 1856
Place of arrival:	Western Australia
Passenger manifest:	Travelled with <a href="#">246 other convicts</a>

#### Sentence Severity



Sentenced to 14 years

# Convicts in Australia

- Between 1788 and 1868, about 162,000 convicts were transported to Australia from Britain and Ireland
- Seeking to pre-empt the French from expanding into Aus, Britain chose Australia as the site of a penal colony, and in 1787, the First Fleet of 11 convict ships set sail for Botany Bay, arriving 20/01/1788
- WA received convicts from 1850
- Penal transportation to Australia peaked in 1830s & dropped off the following decade as protests against the convict system intensified
- In 1868, the last convict ship arrived in WA
- The majority of convicts were transported for petty crimes
- Approximately 1 in 7 convicts were women
- Most ex-convicts stayed in Australia and joined the free settlers, with some rising to prominent positions in Australian society
- In earlier times, convictism carried a social stigma, however attitudes became more accepting in the 20th century and it is now considered by many Australians to be a cause for celebration to have a convict in one's lineage

# Convicts in WA

- Swan River Settlement was in existence for 20 years when it elected to become a British penal settlement in 1849
- The first ship (of 43) arrived on 1st June 1850 & ceased in 1868
- Around 10,000 convicts were shipped during this time
- Most convicts in WA spent very little time in prison
- The main depots of the Convict Establishment were in North Fremantle, Freshwater Bay, Clarence, Guildford, & Greenmount
- Initially, they were set to work creating infrastructure for the convict system
- Later, they were set to work on other public works, especially roads
- They built some notable landmarks including the Perth Goal, Perth Town Hall & Government House.
- Ticket of leave was granted before the end of a prisoner's sentence; they were then able to seek employment on their own but not allowed to leave the assigned district; & to report to the local resident magistrate monthly
- Conditional pardon was granted after they had repaid all of their passage money (for George, this was on 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept 1859)



The end is never the end – if you add to this file, please forward an update to [nhingston@hotmail.com](mailto:nhingston@hotmail.com)

