

Thomas Woods, 103, Hashemy

Researched by Marcia Watson

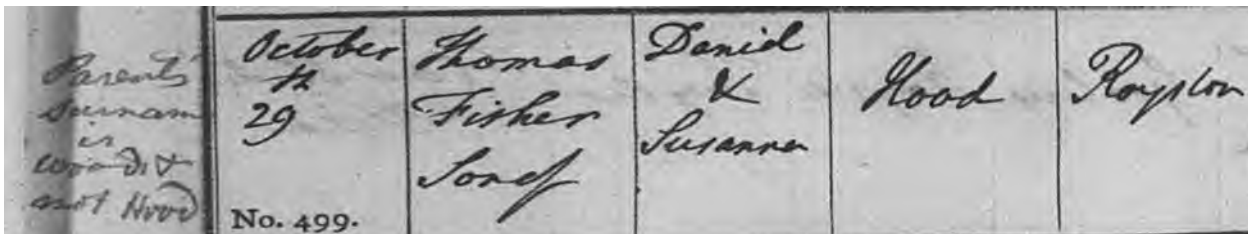
Real name is Thomas Fisher Woods

Baptism	29 October 1826, Royston, Cambridge-Hertfordshire border
Parents	Daniel Woods and Susan/Susanna Chamberlain
Parent's marriage	19 December 1825, Royston
Siblings	James (1828), Mary (1830), Susan (1831), Daniel (1835), Ann (1837), William (1843)
Wife 1	Margaret Cohen
Marriage 1	1853, Guildford, Western Australia
Wife 2	Marian (Mary) McGuinness
Marriage 2	4 May 1877, Perth, Western Australia
Children	John Thomas (1854) William Thomas (1856-1857) William Edward (1858) Sarah Ann (1860) Henry Fisher (1862) Susannah (1865-1866)

Parents: Marriage banns were read on 27 November, 4 December and 11 December 1825 at Royston for: Daniel Hood, bachelor, and Susanna Chamberlain, spinster, both of this parish. They were married on 19 December 1825. Daniel Hood signed his name, and Susanna made her mark.

Daniel Woods was baptised on 20 June 1802 at Royston, son of Thomas and Sarah Woods. Susanna Chamberlain was baptised on 23 September 1798 at Melbourn, the daughter of William and Anne.

Their son, Thomas Fisher Woods:



In 1841, living in Melbourn St, Royston: ¹

Susan Woods, 35, washerwoman; Thomas 17, James 13, Mary 11, Susan 9, Daniel 6, Ann 3.

The family still lived in Melbourn St, Royston in 1851: ²

Daniel Woods, 49, ag lab; Susan, 49, wife, ag lab; Daniel, 15, ag lab; Ann, 13; William G, 8

At the Cambridgeshire Summer Assizes, on 20 July 1847:

Thomas Woods, aged 19, and James Woods, aged 18, both of Royston, labourers, were indicted for having, on 12 April, broken open the house of William Allwood of Royston, and stolen therefrom a cash-box containing about £120 in cash and notes. Thomas Woods pleaded guilty. Mr Burcham prosecuted, and Mr Naylor defended James Woods.

George Knight, p. c. 39, saw the prisoner with his brother after 12 on the night in question going towards the prosecutor's premises. I went with the parish constable to search the house of the prisoner's

¹ HO107/63/20, p4

² HO107/1707, p476

father and, over a rafter, found a purse containing five sovereigns and two half sovereigns. Subsequently, with Inspector Wright, I searched the pigstye.

Frederick Seed, mail-cart driver, about a quarter before 2 in the morning of 13 April, while waiting in Melbourne-street, Royston, heard a noise as of the opening a shutter, which appeared to proceed from the yard in which the prosecutor's premises are situated.

Charles Howard, a carpenter, found a box on a shelf at the entrance to the Cave-yard on the morning of the 13th, adjoining the prosecutor's premises. Thomas Woods took it and gave it to Mr Allwood.

John Allwood, brother of the prosecutor, with whom he lived, made the money-box and saw it safe on going to bed, standing on the table in the sitting-room, with a cloth and hat over it. The next morning Thomas Woods brought the box to the door. An entry had been effected into the house by getting through the window. Thomas Woods was in the prosecutor's employment. He took out of the box two particles of steel.

W. Welsh Allwood, a butcher, on returning from St. Ives on Monday, 12 April, and put £27. 10s into the money-box; there were five cheques in the box, and some gold and silver as well, about £70. Most of the silver was small, fourpences and sixpences. On examining the box, the point of a knife appeared to have been broken in it: a knife which Thomas Woods had was broken at the point.

John Hatton, a parish constable, changed three sovereigns with the prosecutor before the robbery, one of which he could identify. Examined the box, which had been much cut; in it were two pieces of steel like the points of knives. Took the prisoner into custody, who said he had a knife in his greatcoat pocket, and another one at home, but he had not one with him. On searching him, found the knife produced upon him: one of the points found in the box fitted it exactly: the other point fitted a knife given to witness by the prosecutor; was the property of Thomas Woods. Confirmed Knight's Evidence. One of the sovereigns found in the house of the prisoner's father was the one the witness changed with the prosecutor. Never before saw the prisoner in the dress which he wore when taken into custody. Mrs Hatton corroborated her husband in some unimportant particulars.

W. Wright, inspector of police, produced the money and handkerchief found in the thatch of the pigstye. One of the £5 notes was identified by the prosecutor at once. There were 17 sovereigns, 22 half-sovereigns, and a great number of sixpences and fourpenny pieces in the handkerchief.

Thomas Clark, grocer and tallow chandler, identified the same note as one which he paid to the prosecutor.

W Evans of Dunstable saw the prisoner at Hitchin on 13 April; he had a knife in his hand with a piece broken off the point.

Mr Naylor addressed the jury for the prisoner and called a witness, George Smith, shoemaker of Cambridge, who gave him a good character.— Not Guilty. [James Woods]

Thomas Woods, who was recommended to mercy by the prosecutor, was sentenced to transportation for 15 years. In passing sentence, his Lordship said he believed the other prisoner to be as guilty as his brother.³

Thomas Woods, 19, single, could read and write imperfectly, was sent to Millbank Prison, arriving there on 29 September 1847, from Cambridge Gaol. Nearly four months later, on 27 January 1848, he was transferred to Northampton Gaol. Thomas was transferred back to Millbank Prison on 24 April 1849, before being sent to Portland Prison two months later on 20 June 1849. A further year later, he boarded the *Hashemy*, on 19 July 1850, for the voyage to Western Australia.⁴

On arrival at Fremantle in October 1850, his description was:

³ Cambridge Chronicle and Journal, 24 July 1847, p5

⁴ HO24/3; HO23/8; HO24/4; HO8/105

103. Thomas Woods, 23, 5' 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ ", light brown hair, blue eyes, long face, fair complexion, one mole at the back of the neck and one wort(*sic*) on right side of breast, groom and single.⁵

General Register:

103. Thomas Woods, 23 years old in October 1851, single, a butcher, Church of England, went to school, can read, write and do accounts. His parents, Thomas and Susan Woods, live in Royston, Cambridgeshire.

Attended Divine Service? Not for the last few years
 Received Sacrament? Never
 Habits? Drank rather freely
 Intellect? Sound
 State of Mind? Means to be industrious and careful
 Knowledge, Secular? Limited
 Knowledge, Religious? Tolerable – humble dependence on Christ
 Alleged Cause of Crime? Drink and bad company

Name of Person referred to for Character, &c. Mr William Allwood, butcher, Melville St, Royston

Thomas received books while in prison

NOTE: William Allwood is the person from whom Thomas and his brother stole £120. William Allwood (31) and James Allwood (28) were butchers in High Street, Royston, on the 1851 census. William was a Master Butcher employing two men. Their younger sister lived with them.⁶

Thomas was put on the sick list several times in 1851. ⁷ H=in hospital

Woods Thos H	10 April 1851	Bad knee	Liniment
Woods Thos H	11 April 1851		Continue liniment
Woods Thos H	12 April 1851		Continue med
Woods Thos H	13 April 1851		Mist feb
Woods Thos H	14 April 1851		Mist feb
Woods Thos H	15 April 1851		Discharged
Woods Thos	24 April 1851	Cough	Cough mixture
Woods Thos H	18 May 1851	Feb. C.C.	Continue fever mixture
Woods Thos H	19 May 1851	Feb C.C.	Mist Quinine
Woods Thos H	20 May 1851		
Woods Thos H	21 May 1851	Debility P. Feb	Continue meds
Woods Thos H	26 May 1851		Discharged

On 8 April 1851, the following prisoners are to be received from the Road Party and placed in the Infirmary under Surgeon's charge viz: Reg No 26 Samuel Brakes, Reg No 103 Thomas Woods.⁸

Thomas was issued with a ticket of leave on 26 May 1851. He was assigned as a labourer to Mr T Lockyer in the Toodyay district. His rate of pay was £1 per month.⁹

A Conditional Pardon was granted on 14 July 1855.¹⁰

Thomas married in 1853, and his children were all born in the Guildford area. [Index Thomas Woulds] Margaret was buried at Guildford on 8 July 1865, aged 32. Her youngest daughter, Susanna, died 12 days later, aged about ten months.

⁵ SROWA Acc 128/40-43

⁶ SROWA Acc 1156 R21A

⁷ SROWA Acc 1156 CS1

⁸ SROWA Acc 1156 SO1, p36v

⁹ Further correspondence on the on the subject of Convict Discipline and Transportation. Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of her Majesty. 30 April 1852, p196

¹⁰ SROWA Acc 1156 R21B

Thomas married again: Woods—MacGuinness.—On 4 May 1877, at St. George’s Cathedral, Perth, by the Very Rev. Dean Gegg, Mr Thomas Fisher Woods, of the Lower Canning, to Marion, widow of the late Mr George MacGuinness, of Perth.¹¹

Her first husband: McGuinness— At the Military Hospital, Perth, on the 4 April 1872, George McGuinness, Pensioner, late of H.M. 99th Regt. ; aged 51 years. Tombstone says 53 years old (East Perth cemetery) Arrived in W.A. per convict ship *Vimiera* on 22 December 1865

Western Australia directories: Woods, Thos., Road Contractor, Canning, 1880

<https://www.carnamah.com.au/WA-directories?search=woods&page=4>

1888. Government Gazette: Mrs T. F. Woods has been appointed a Registrar of Births, Marriages, and Deaths, for the Canning district, vice F. J. Liddelow, resigned.¹²

1897. T F Woods, one of 24 persons, struck off the Canning Electoral Roll. ¹³

1899, 1900, 1901, 1902 Post Office Directory: T Fisher Woods, farmer, Cannington

Thomas Fisher Woods died on 24 March 1901, aged 74, drowned in the Canning River.

Body Found This Morning: During the forenoon, the police in Perth were informed that the body of a man named Thomas Woods had been found drowned at the back of the Cannington Hotel. The discovery was made by Geo. Hay, at about 11 o’clock. Two constables were dispatched from Perth to bring the body to the morgue.¹⁴

On 25 March 1901: An inquest concerning the death of Thomas Woods, who was found drowned in the Canning River at the rear of the Cannington Hotel yesterday, was opened this morning, before the deputy-coroner (Mr T.F. Quinlan, J.P.). After the body had been identified, the inquest was adjourned to 10.30 a.m. on the 4th prox.

4 April 1901: The deceased was an old resident of Western Australia and formerly kept a hotel at Guildford.¹⁵

An inquest was held at noon today in connection with the death of an old man named Thomas Fisher Woods, whose body was found in the river at the rear of the Cannington Hotel a week ago. The acting coroner, Mr T. F. Quinlan, conducted the inquest. There was no evidence to show how the deceased came to be in the water, and the medical evidence was to the effect that death was due to drowning. A verdict was entered accordingly.¹⁶

He was buried at Karrakatta Anglican B.A. 28, at 4 pm. The cost of the funeral was £13. ¹⁷

The funeral was ordered by Mr Thomas Woods, Canning.

WOODS. - The Friends of the late Mr Thomas Fisher Woods are respectfully invited to follow his remains to the place of interment, the Church of England Cemetery, Karrakatta. The funeral is appointed to leave Mr Donald J. Chipper’s undertaking establishment, 616 Hay-street, Perth, at 3 o’clock THIS (Tuesday) Afternoon, per road.¹⁸

His second wife, Marion, is buried at the East Perth Cemetery. More information is available from the website: <https://www.eastperthcemeteries.com.au/explore/burial-search.html>

¹¹ The Inquirer and Commercial News (Perth, WA: 1855 - 1901), 16 May 1877, p3

¹² The W.A. Record (Perth, WA: 1888 - 1922), 30 August 1888, p3

¹³ The West Australian (Perth, WA: 1879 - 1954), 19 May 1897, p7

¹⁴ The Daily News (Perth, WA : 1882 - 1950), 25 March 1901, p 3

¹⁵ The Daily News (Perth, WA : 1882 - 1950), 26 March 1901, p 3

¹⁶ The Daily News (Perth, WA : 1882 - 1950), 4 April 1901, p 3

¹⁷ Family Search, Chipper Burial forms, 901962, 25 March 1901

¹⁸ The West Australian (Perth, WA: 1879 - 1954), 26 March 1901, p4