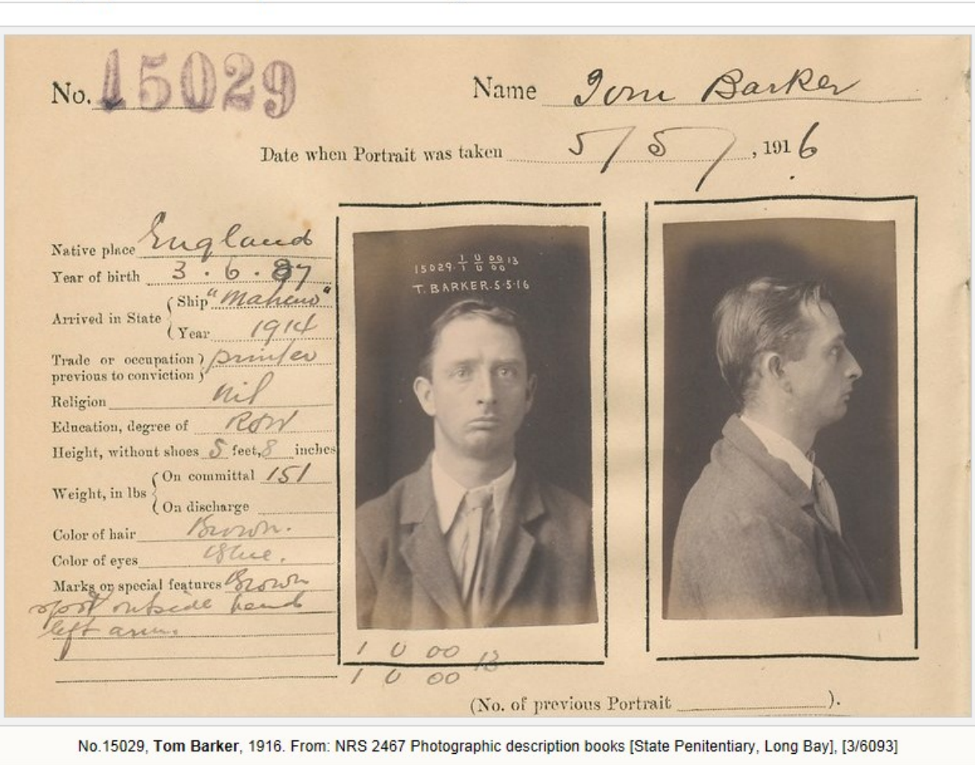
# Now&Then 79 - April 2016

**This issue features online news; Treasures found in the records; Spotlight on Gold Escort Robbery 1862; new library additions; our Flickr update, and more!**

- Gaol photographs digitisation
- Public Service / War Service extended
- Online news
- New library additions
- Treasures found in the records
- Spotlight on: The Gold Escort Robbery, 1862
- Flickr update
- Upcoming talks and tours

## Gaol photographic description books digitisation


No. 15029 Name Tom Barker
Date when Portrait was taken 5/5/1916
Native place England
Year of birth 3.6.87
Arrived in State (Ship "Maheno" (Year 1914
Trade or occupation previous to conviction printer
Religion nil
Education, degree of R&W
Height, without shoes 5 feet 8 inches
Weight, in lbs (On committal 151 (On discharge
Color of hair Brown
Color of eyes Blue
Marks or special features Brown spot outside back left arm
(No. of previous Portrait ).

No.15029, **Tom Barker**, 1916. From: NRS 2467 Photographic description books [State Penitentiary, Long Bay], [3/6093]

One of State Records' focuses this year is the State archives that are at risk of loss because of chemical degradation and/or technical obsolescence. State Records' Minister The Hon Dominic Perrottet MP, Minister for Finance, Services and Property approved a request to commence digitisation of these archives. A project is underway aimed at digitising many of these at risk archives. The project is called EmDARA - Emergency Digitisation of At Risk Archives.

State archives that fall into this category include videos, cassettes, tapes (data and audio), negatives, films, slides, floppy discs, CD-ROMS and transparencies. The resulting master digital copies will be stored as part of the Digital State Archive. Not only does this project offer State Records an opportunity to save the content of these State archives, it will also be the first time it has been possible to provide access for the public to those items open to public access. The films in particular will provide a rich source of social history as well as a good laugh. Times have changed since the 1950s and 60s meaning the films can provide unintended humour.

Below are examples of State archives that have experienced chemical degradation. As serious as this is, State Records and other archives and libraries are equally concerned with technical obsolescence. The technology to play or use many of the formats that once seemed cutting edge is now rare and becoming rarer.

Acetate film deterioration

Film canister damage

Film deterioration inside canister

As well as these non-paper formats the State archives contains hundreds of thousands of photographs. These are generally not at risk however a group of significant and highly used series that include photographs is being included in EmDARA. These are the 20 series of Gaol Photographic Description books.

Bound gaol photo volume, distorted

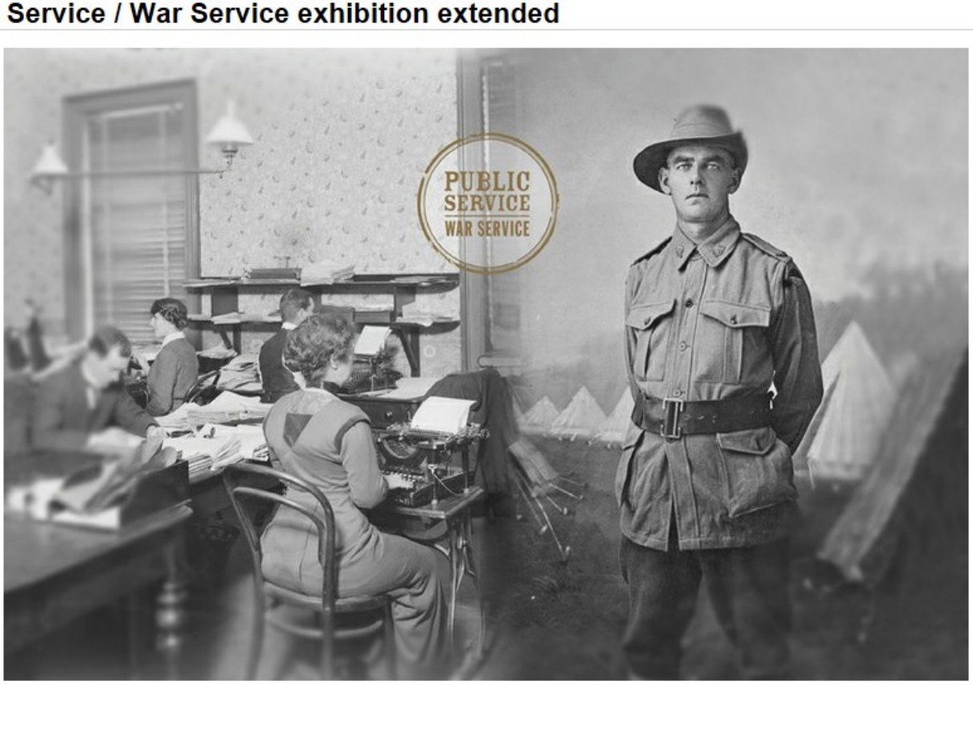
Bound gaol photo volume, open

The Gaol Photographic Description Books are being digitised as part of the EmDARA project. The digitisation will create high resolution copies of every page. Once digitised lower resolution copies will be progressively uploaded for public access. They will be available, once loaded, at the existing Gaol Photograph index at http://www.records.nsw.gov.au/state-archives/indexes-online/gaol-records/index-to-the-gaol-photographs. Orders for images not yet uploaded may take a little longer while the work is being carried out. Once the work is done all of the 47,000 pages will be available online!

State Records is closing access to the physical Gaol Photographic Description Books now as we need to prepare them for digitisation. In most instances it will be possible to deliver a copy when required.

The Gaol Photographic Description Books are very fragile and easily damaged which is why they are being digitised as part of the EmDARA project. Once the digitisation has been completed these State archives will be closed to access to protect them from further damage. This is State Records' general policy with copied State archives but it is particularly important with these items.

## Public Service / War Service exhibition extended



Our exhibition Public Service / War Service, currently on display at the Western Sydney Records Centre, has been extended until 30 September 2016. Drawing from the State archives, the exhibition honours 11,000 NSW government employees who volunteered for military service overseas during World War I, and those who fulfilled essential services at home. New exhibition-related content that furthers the links between public service and war service will be published on the NSW Anzac Centenary website in the coming months.

Following Public Service / War Service, a new exhibition will be launched. With a focus on the State's photographic archive, the exhibition will extend the key themes of the New South Wales Centenary of World War I and Anzac commemorative program.

## Online news

### Sydney Riot, 1916

Recently on the Anzac Centenary website, Liverpool Riot 1916: Soldier mutiny in Sydney was published to coincide with the 100th anniversary of the mutiny. Simon Carroll, Manager, Security Risks and Standards at Transport for NSW had been doing his own research and contacted State Records to add to the story.

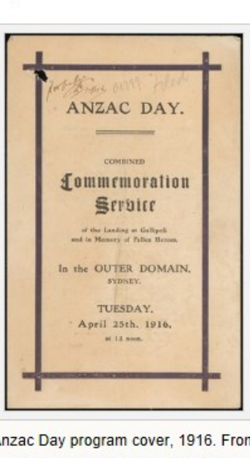
Grand Concourse, Central Station, 1906. Digital ID 17420_a014_a014000289

Photo of mark left by bullet, Central Station (photo by Simon Carroll, 2016)

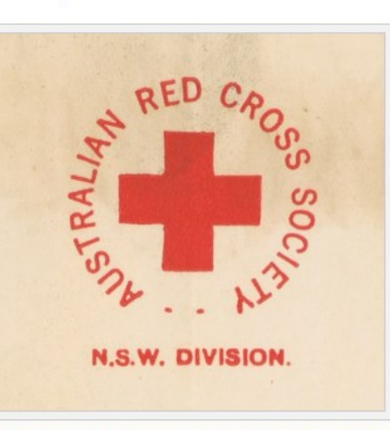
Simon wrote an article for Transport for NSW staff members:

> Late in the night, an ugly confrontation took place on the Grand Concourse at Central, with the troops being forced onto trains to take them back to their camps, and a heavy Police and Military presence. Up to 300 troops and rioting civilians came up against a Police and Military cordon of 150, and a standoff soon started. Bottles, glass, rocks and any other missiles handy were thrown at the authorities, and a toilet facility was badly damaged. What happened next was never made entirely clear despite the various incident reports, a Coronial Inquest, a Royal Commission and more than 1000 courts-martial and numerous criminal trials, however a fire hose was turned on the cordon by the rioters, and a shot was fired in the air, believed to be from the rioters. The authorities returned fire, discharging more than 50 rounds and seriously injuring 7 rioters including a civilian. A 19 year old soldier, Private Ernest William Keefe, was shot in the head and died on the Concourse, near to the Refreshment Rooms. Keefe was armed with a pistol when he died. Central at this time was only 10 years old since its opening in 1906, and much of the mess made was able to be quickly cleaned up. The mobs quickly dispersed and an armed military guard was set at Central Station.
>
> The bullets that flew at Central that day caused death and injury, and also damage to the new structure. Many bullet holes were able to be repaired; however one remains and can be seen by only the most observant. Its precise location is jealously guarded. The Battle of Central Station soon faded from public memory, with both a State and Commonwealth Government keen to downplay such a comprehensive breakdown of security, and the Military deeply embarrassed about the major failure of discipline of its troops in a time of war. Private Keefe was buried at Waverley Cemetery in Sydney's Eastern Suburbs.

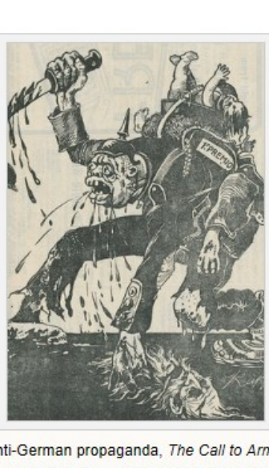
### New pages on NSW Anzac Centenary website


ANZAC DAY.
Combined Commemoration Service
In the OUTER DOMAIN, SYDNEY.
TUESDAY, April 25th, 1916.

Anzac Day program cover, 1916. From NRS 12060, [9/4857], B20/2475



Red Cross letterhead, 1915. From NRS 12060, [9/4697], 15/956


Anti-German propaganda, *The Call to Arms*, 25/4/1916. From NRS 12060, [9/4732], B16/1725

Anzac Day 2016 marks the centenary of this commemorative event, now so entrenched in Australian culture.To mark this important milestone we have contributed a page on the first Anzac Day to our New South Wales Anzac Centenary website. As part of our ongoing Centenary of Anzac program, we have also added other pages on key World War I topics:

- The first Anzac Day, 1916
- Australian Red Cross Society
- New South Wales Division of the Australian Red Cross Society
- Enemy aliens in NSW

## New library additions

Our library is always expanding as new material is acquired through selection and through generous donations. The latest books acquired include:

| Title / Author / Publisher | Donations |
|---|---|
| **The Lions of Retreat Street : a Chinese temple in inner Sydney** / Powerhouse Museum ; Ann Stephen (ed.). Sydney : Powerhouse Museum and Hale & Iremonger, 1997 | Donation |
| **The Girl who stole stockings : the true story of Susannah Noon and the women of the convict ship 'Friends'** / Elsbeth Hardie. St Kilda West, Vic. : Australian Teachers of Media, 2015 | Donation |
| **Military law in colonial Australia** / Neil Preston OAM. Annandale, NSW : The Federation Press, 2016 | |
| **A real railway : from Yongurra to Border Loop** / Peter Leonard. Coffs Harbour, NSW : Peter Leonard, 1998 | Donation |
| **Brief history of Coffs Harbour Railway** / by Peter Leonard, November 2011 | Donation |
| **Sideshow alley : infamy, the macabre & the portrait** / Joanna Gilmour ; National Portrait Gallery. Canberra, ACT : National Portrait Gallery, 2015 *(mentions SRNSW website and features 'Letters of Scott "Moonlight" and Thomas Rogan' from SRNSW collection)* | Donation |
| **Red poppies and the white waratah : heroines of the Great War from Wollondilly** / Elizabeth Villy. The Oaks, NSW : The Oaks Historical Society, 2016 | Donation |
| **Minding her own business : colonial businesswomen in Sydney** / Catherine Bishop. Sydney : NewSouth (UNSW), 2015 | Donation |
| **Every story counts : recording migration heritage - a Wollongong case study** / written by Meredith Walker ; edited by John Petersen. Wollongong, NSW : Wollongong Migration Heritage Project, 2015 | Donation |
| **So much sky : Bonegilla Reception and Training Centre 1947-1971** / written by Bruce Pennay ; edited by Stephen Thompson and John Peterson. 2008 (leaflet) | Donation |
| **The Sydney Harbour Bridge : celebrating 80 years with 80 fascinating facts** / Peter Luck. Sydney : New Holland Publishers, 2012 | Donation |
| **Treasures of Penrith's past exhibition : celebrating the Bicentenary of Penrith 1815-2015** / Penrith City Council ; Penrith City Library | Donation |
| **Scholarly scoundrel : Laurence Hynes Halloran - fake, forger and father - Australia's pioneer headmaster** / Jan Worthington. Sydney : Halstead, 2015 | |
| **Commemorating the centenary of ANZAC : NSW remembers 2014-2018** / Government of New South Wales. Sydney : Dept of Premier and Cabinet, 2015 | Donation |
| **Callan Park : compassion and conflict in the Asylum** / Friends of Callan Park. Rozelle, NSW : Friends of Callan Park, 2015 | Donation |

The latest CDs and DVDs acquired includes:

| Title / Author / Publisher | Donations |
|---|---|
| **Looking good [electronic resource] : the changing appearance of Australian newspapers** / Victor Isaacs. Mackay, Qld : Australian Newspaper History Group, 2015 | Donation |
| **Index of witnesses who gave evidence before New South Wales Parliamentary Enquiries, Committees and Commissions of the 19th century [electronic resource] : 1832-1888** / Randwick & District Historical Society ; Joseph Waugh (comp.) ; Paul Convy (ed.) ; Rex and Yvonne Toomey (prog.) | Donation |
| **New South Wales Department of Education [electronic resource] : Record of Service in two World Wars** / TA White | Donation |
| **Employment & dispersal lists [electronic resource] : Assisted Passengers arriving 1848-1854 - arrivals at Moreton Bay, Port Phillip, Sydney & Twofold Bay** / Aileen Trinder | Donation |
| **Index to early Queensland court records 1837-1857 [electronic resource] : Supreme Court Jurisdiction information and other case papers** / State Records NSW ; Kaye Vernon and Billie Jacobsen (comps.) | Donation |
| **Index to Supreme Court Criminal Jurisdiction Information & other papers. Deniliquin Circuit Court records [electronic resource] : 1856-1875** / State Records NSW ; Kaye Vernon and Billie Jacobsen (comps.) ; Teapot Genealogy | Donation |
| **Index to Supreme Court Criminal Jurisdiction information and other papers. Index to court records 1840-41 [electronic resource]** / State Records NSW ; Kaye Vernon and Billie Jacobsen (comps.) | Donation |

## Treasures found in the records

2016 marks the 75th Anniversary of the Jeep.[1]

State Records NSW holds some fabulous coloured brochures of early Jeep models from the 1950s onwards as part of a series of Vehicle Brochures from the Roads and Traffic Authority (NRS 19382). The brochures and other publications were provided by vehicle manufacturers as a requirement for the vehicles to be registered in New South Wales.

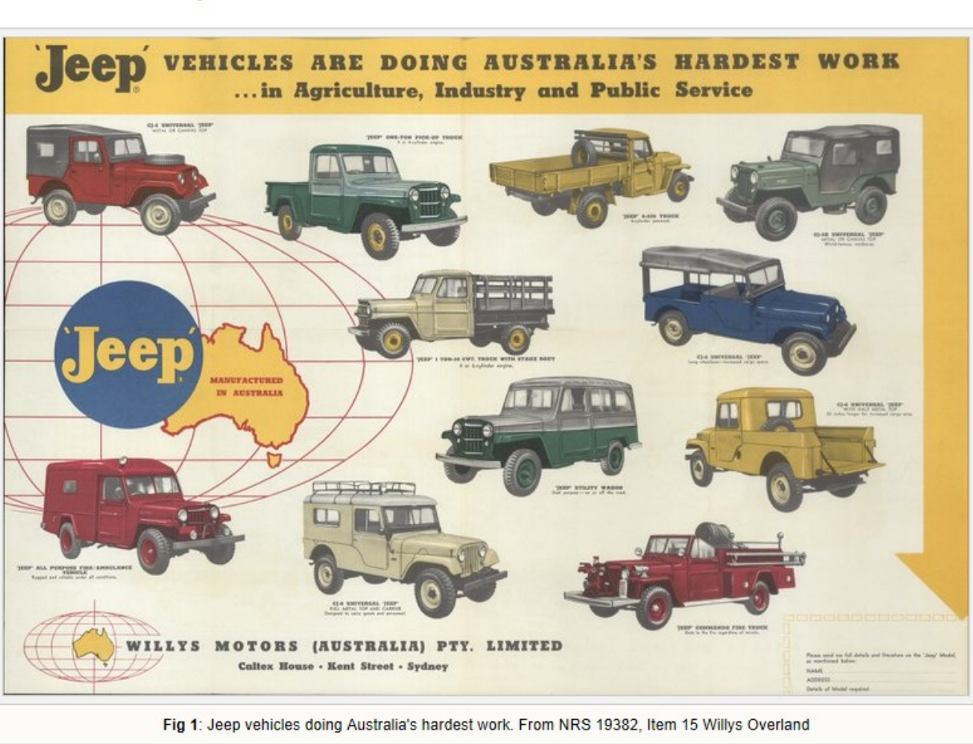

Jeep VEHICLES ARE DOING AUSTRALIA'S HARDEST WORK
...in Agriculture, Industry and Public Service
Jeep
MANUFACTURED IN AUSTRALIA
WILLYS MOTORS (AUSTRALIA) PTY. LIMITED
Caltex House • Kent Street • Sydney

**Fig 1**: Jeep vehicles doing Australia's hardest work. From NRS 19382, Item 15 Willys Overland

The first Jeep was manufactured in 1941 for the US Army. The Army had invited automotive manufacturers to submit designs for an all-wheel drive, light reconnaissance vehicle to replace the Army's motorcycle.[2] In July 1941, the US Army selected Willys-Overland of Ohio as the winning bidder with their prototype vehicle called the 'Quad'. The prototype design was refined and renamed the Model B, or 'MB'. During World War II, Willys-Overland built more than 368,000 vehicles, supported by the Ford Motor Company who manufactured a further 277,000 under license from Willys.[3]

As the war progressed, the MB was given the nickname 'Jeep'.[4] Some say the name came from a slurring of 'GP', the military abbreviation for 'General Purpose'. Others say it came from a character in the *Popeye* cartoon strip called 'Eugene the Jeep' who was a four-footed animal with a four-dimensional brain that enabled it to go anywhere.[5] In either case, by 1943 the Jeep had become an icon of the war itself, featuring in wartime propaganda such as the 'Jeep Campaign' and 'Buy a Part for Our Jeep', and earning itself a permanent place in the American vernacular.[6]

The war also brought the Jeep to Australia. Over 1,000,000 American military personnel and 5,000,000 tons of materials, including the trusty Jeep, came to Australia during the war. The NSW Department of Railways played a key role in transporting these men and supplies via the NSW rail network.[7]

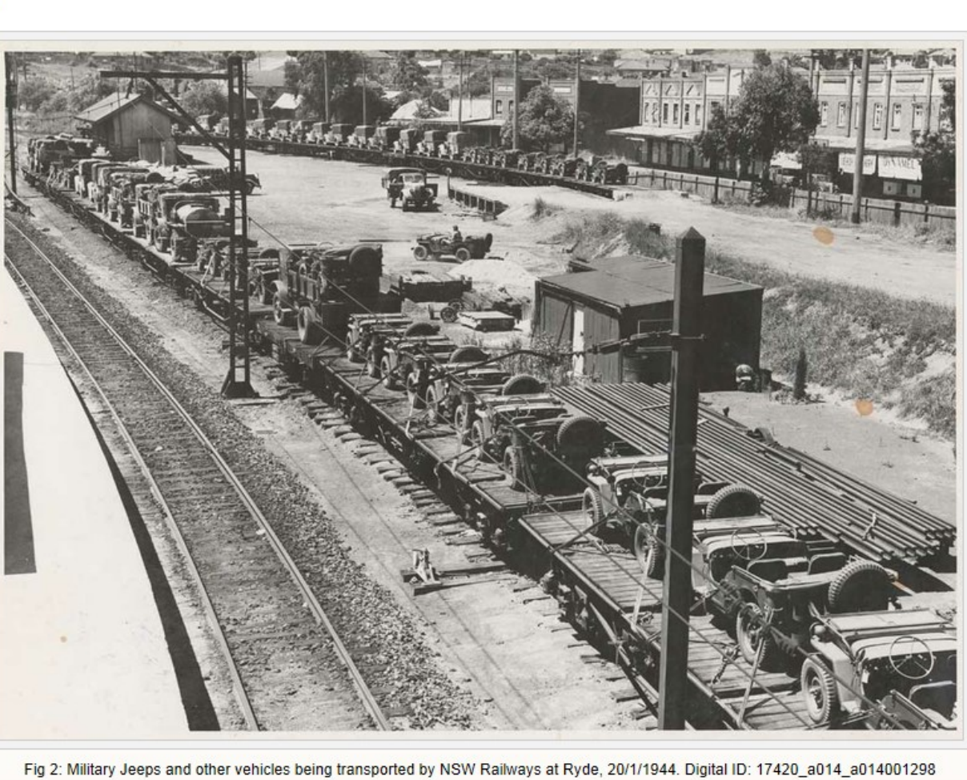


Fig 2: Military Jeeps and other vehicles being transported by NSW Railways at Ryde, 20/1/1944. Digital ID: 17420_a014_a014001298

After the war, the United States Government decided not to return the vehicles to their homeland, so they were sold to members of the Australian public as army surplus. The Jeeps were so popular that demand for them outweighed supply.[8] One ex-serviceman by the name of Alan Prince was lucky enough to secure a Jeep in November 1946, however his luck was short-lived. In January 1947 his Jeep was written off after a crash on the road between Cowra and Lyndhurst and, despite repeated requests to the NSW Department of Road Transport, he was unable to get a replacement as there were no more Jeeps available. He had to settle for a Ford Prefect or a Ford Anglia instead.[9]

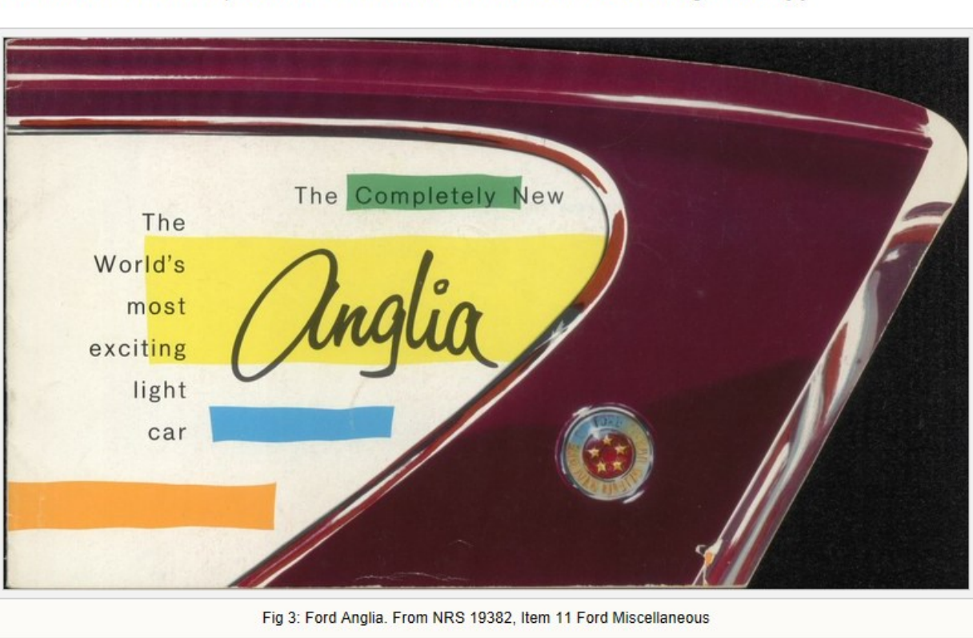

The Completely New
The World's most exciting light car
Anglia

Fig 3: Ford Anglia. From NRS 19382, Item 11 Ford Miscellaneous

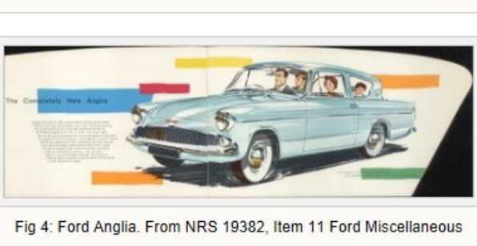


Fig 4: Ford Anglia. From NRS 19382, Item 11 Ford Miscellaneous

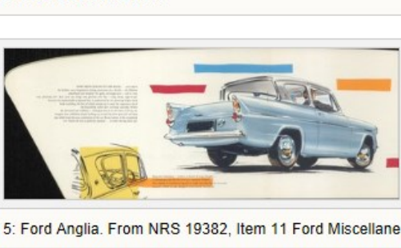


Fig 5: Ford Anglia. From NRS 19382, Item 11 Ford Miscellaneous

The first civilian importation of Jeeps into Australia began in the late 1940s, with motor dealers such as Dominion Motors the main importers. In 1958 Willys Motors Australia Pty Ltd was established and this enabled the vehicles to be assembled and sold locally. However, they needed to supply the Department of Road Transport with specifications of the vehicles to ensure they met registration requirements. On 24 April 1958 Willys Motors supplied specifications for the Universal Jeep model CJ-3B. The soft top model retailed for £1199.1.0 plus tax, while the hard top went for £1273.1.0 plus tax.

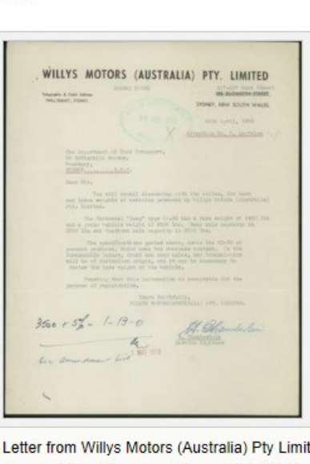

WILLYS MOTORS (AUSTRALIA) PTY. LIMITED

Fig 6: Letter from Willys Motors (Australia) Pty Limited to Department of Road Transport. From NRS 19382, Item 15 Willys Overland.

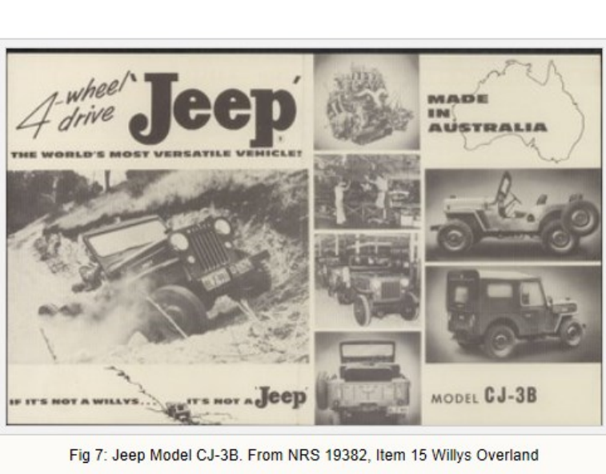

4-wheel drive Jeep
THE WORLD'S MOST VERSATILE VEHICLE!
MADE IN AUSTRALIA
IF IT'S NOT A WILLYS... IT'S NOT A Jeep
MODEL CJ-3B

Fig 7: Jeep Model CJ-3B. From NRS 19382, Item 15 Willys Overland

During the 1960s other models such as the CJ-5 and CJ-6 also became available in Australia.

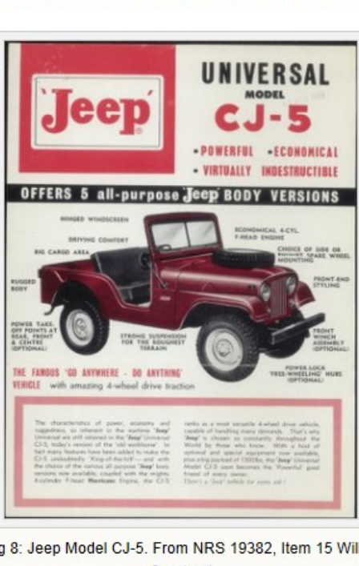

Jeep UNIVERSAL MODEL CJ-5
• POWERFUL • ECONOMICAL
• VIRTUALLY INDESTRUCTIBLE
OFFERS 5 all-purpose Jeep BODY VERSIONS
THE FAMOUS 'GO ANYWHERE - DO ANYTHING' VEHICLE with amazing 4-wheel drive traction

Fig 8: Jeep Model CJ-5. From NRS 19382, Item 15 Willys Overland

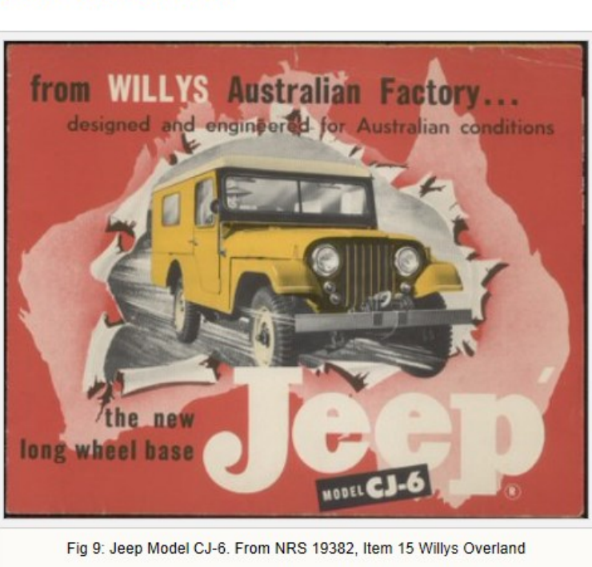

from WILLYS Australian Factory...
designed and engineered for Australian conditions
the new long wheel base
Jeep
MODEL CJ-6

Fig 9: Jeep Model CJ-6. From NRS 19382, Item 15 Willys Overland

Today the Jeep, of course, is a household name in Australia.

**References:**

[1] Walter P., Chrysler Museum. (2009).*The Jeep Story, 1940 – 1970.* Retrieved from: http://www.fcanorthamerica.com/company/Heritage/Heritage%20Documents/Chrysler%20Heritage%201940/The%20Jeep%20Story,%201940%20-%201970.pdf, p.1

[2] Ibid

[3] Ibid

[4] Ibid

[5] Ibid; *Gloucester Advocate*, 19 June 1942, p. 4, http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article160199388

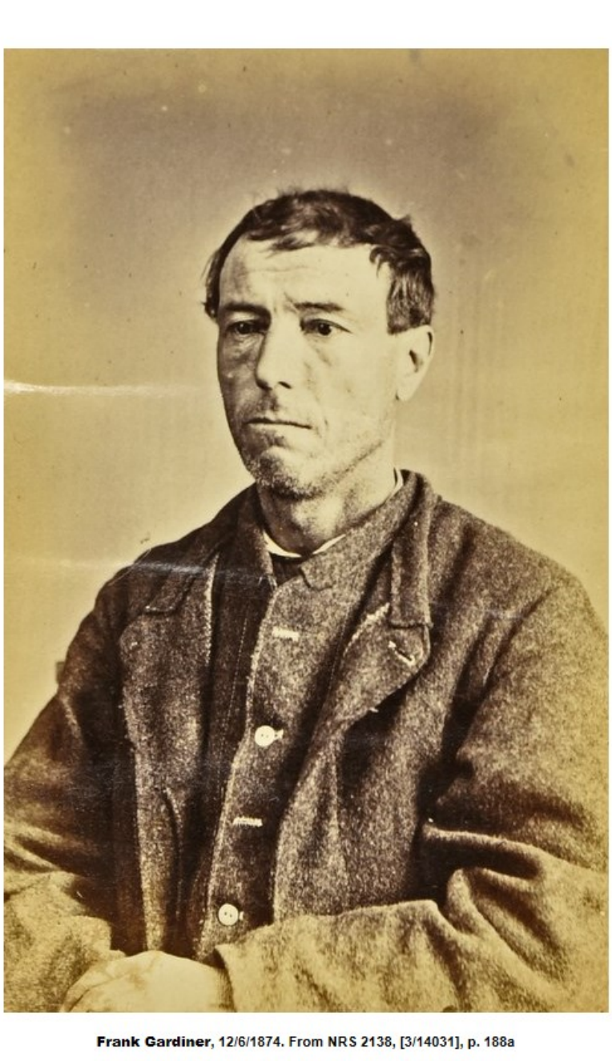
[6] U.S. National Archives and Records Administration, Series: World War II Posters, 1932 – 1947, National Archives Identifier: 514325, "Jeep Campaign", URL: https://catalog.archives.gov/id/514325; ibid, National Archives Identifier: 513992, "Buy a part for your jeep. Back the attack!" Your bond or stamp starts a jeep down the ramp, URL: https://catalog.archives.gov/id/513992.

[7] NRS 20017, [A92-4/8].

[8] *The Courier-Mail* (Brisbane, QLD), 10 July 1946, p. 3, 'RUSH FOR £225 JEEPS IN RUNNING ORDER'. Retrieved from: http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article49356968

[9] NRS 10623, [10/2596], 47/54/746.

## Spotlight on: **The Gold Escort Robbery, 1862**


**Frank Gardiner**, 12/6/1874. From NRS 2138, [3/14031], p. 188a

**The Ideal Spot**

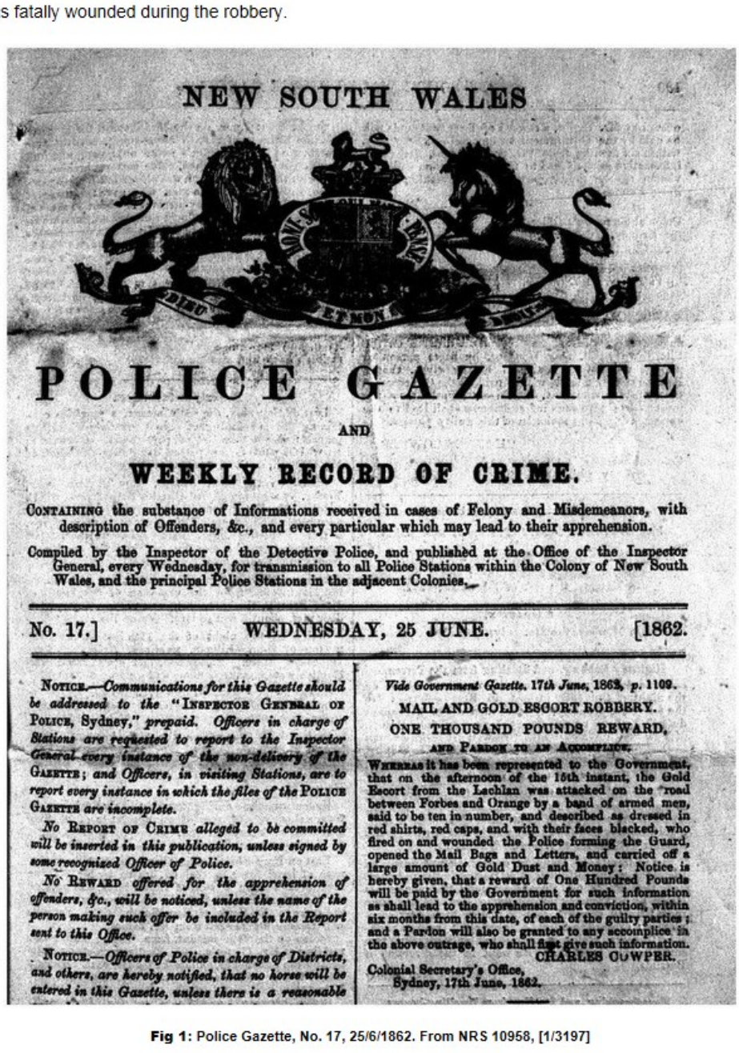
The discovery of gold around Lambing Flat and Forbes in 1860 bought large numbers of gold-seekers to the area to try their luck, and also provided rich opportunities for bushrangers.

On the morning of 15 June 1862 the Gold Escort started its journey from Forbes loaded up with mail bags and £14 000 worth of gold and cash. The driver John Fagan was accompanied by police guard Sergeant James Condell (who rode on the box) and three constables. Little did they know that only a few hours later their load would be considerably lighter courtesy of a gang of robbers lead by one of the most notorious bushrangers of the time, Frank Gardiner.

The gang chosen by Gardiner consisted of Dan Charters, Henry Manns, John McGuire, John Bow, Alex Fordyce, John Gilbert, John O'Meally. All were equipped with plenty of bush knowledge and experience.

As the Escort approached the Eugowra rocks they were stopped by a number of horse trays blocking the road. Gardiner and his gang swooped down on the escort. Sgt Condell reported "…we were attacked by men dressed in red jumpers, and blacked faces." The spot chosen was ideal, it concealed the gang until the precise moment the escort was at its most vulnerable. Condell continues, "The bushrangers were commanded by one man who gave them orders to fire and load. I believe it to have been the voice of Gardiner, as I know his voice well".[1]

The heist was over quickly and the gang of bushrangers managed to get away with the gold leaving the wounded and shocked Fagan and guards behind. Luckily no one was fatally wounded during the robbery.


NEW SOUTH WALES

POLICE GAZETTE

AND

WEEKLY RECORD OF CRIME.

CONTAINING the substance of Informations received in cases of Felony and Misdemeanors, with description of Offenders, &c., and every particular which may lead to their apprehension.

Compiled by the Inspector of the Detective Police, and published at the Office of the Inspector General, every Wednesday, for transmission to all Police Stations within the Colony of New South Wales, and the principal Police Stations in the adjacent Colonies.

No. 17.] WEDNESDAY, 25 JUNE. [1862.

NOTICE.—*Communications for this Gazette should be addressed to the "INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE, Sydney," prepaid. Officers in charge of Stations are requested to report to the Inspector General every instance of the non-delivery of the GAZETTE; and Officers, in visiting Stations, are to report every instance in which the files of the POLICE GAZETTE are incomplete.*

*No REPORT OF CRIME alleged to be committed will be inserted in this publication, unless signed by some recognized Officer of Police.*

*No REWARD offered for the apprehension of offenders, &c., will be noticed, unless the name of the person making such offer be included in the Report sent to this Office.*

NOTICE.—*Officers of Police in charge of Districts, and others, are hereby notified, that no horse will be entered in this Gazette, unless there is a reasonable*

*Vide Government Gazette, 17th June, 1862, p. 1169.*

MAIL AND GOLD ESCORT ROBBERY.
ONE THOUSAND POUNDS REWARD,
AND PARDON TO AN ACCOMPLICE.

WHEREAS it has been represented to the Government, that on the afternoon of the 15th instant, the Gold Escort from the Lachlan was attacked on the road between Forbes and Orange by a band of armed men, said to be ten in number, and described as dressed in red shirts, red caps, and with their faces blacked, who fired on and wounded the Police forming the Guard, opened the Mail Bags and Letters, and carried off a large amount of Gold Dust and Money: Notice is hereby given, that a reward of One Hundred Pounds will be paid by the Government for such information as shall lead to the apprehension and conviction, within six months from this date, of each of the guilty parties; and a Pardon will also be granted to any accomplice in the above outrage, who shall first give such information.

CHARLES COWPER.
Colonial Secretary's Office,
Sydney, 17th June, 1862.

**Fig 1:** Police Gazette, No. 17, 25/6/1862. From NRS 10958, [1/3197]

**The Pursuit**

The Police didn't waste any time. A notice appeared in the *Police Gazette* offering a £1000 reward for information which would lead to arrest and a pardon to an accomplice [Fig 1].[2]

Sir Frederick Pottinger (Inspector) was tasked with locating the gang. Pottinger and his team reached Eugowra the morning after the robbery. On the road they found the empty gold boxes and the remains of a campfire. The team decided to divide in two to cover more ground. Pottinger searching south-west of Forbes while Sergeant Sanderson to search towards the Weddin Mountains. Thus began an epic pursuit covering more than 400km in difficult conditions.

**Gardiner still at large**

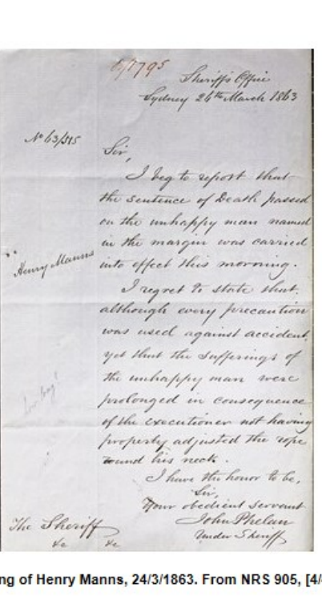
By an uncanny coincidence Pottinger and two others came across three well-dressed men on the road, John Gilbert, his brother Charles and Harry Manns carrying their share of the escort loot. All three were arrested and transported to Sydney for trial.

By the end of July 1862 a series of police raids netted Ben Hall (later released), John McGuire, Dan Charters, John Bow and John O'Meally. Gardiner, though, continued to evade capture much to the frustration of the Police. The public were enthralled by Gardiner's daring exploits.

**Trials**

A breakthrough occurred when Charters decided to confess in exchange for a pardon. He named Bow, O'Meally, Fordyce, Manns, Gilbert and Gardiner as his accomplices. Charters gave lengthy evidence at the trial in Sydney in February 1863.

Fordyce, Bow, Manns were all found guilty and sentenced to death while McGuire was acquitted.[3] Fordyce and Bow's sentences were later commuted to life imprisonment. The unfortunate Manns, only 22 years old at the time, faced the gallows on 26 March 1863.[4] He endured a prolonged and painful death as a result of the executioner, Robert Elliott, not having properly adjusted the rope round his neck [Fig 2].[5] Manns struggled for about ten minutes before he died.[6]


63/1795
Sheriff's Office
Sydney 24th March 1863

Henry Manns

Sir,
I beg to report that the sentence of death passed on the unhappy man named in the margin was carried into effect this morning.
I regret to state that although every precaution was used against accident yet that the sufferings of the unhappy man were prolonged in consequence of the executioner not having properly adjusted the rope round his neck.
I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant
John Phelan
Under Sheriff
The Sheriff
&c &c

**Fig 2:** Letter reporting the hanging of Henry Manns, 24/3/1863. From NRS 905, [4/499], 63/2215 enclosing 63/1795

**Gardiner's capture**

Word had reached the Police that Gardiner had fled to the Rockhampton area with his mistress Mrs Catherine Brown (her sister Bridget was married to the notorious Ben Hall). Detectives McGlone, Pye and the Trooper Wells arrived in Apis Creek in disguise on 2 March 1864, and they quickly recognised Gardiner. The bushranger had been running a small store near the local hotel. The following day Gardiner was handcuffed and arrested. Gardiner was charged with the Escort Robbery,[7] and escorted back to Sydney where he was held in Darlinghurst Gaol to await trial.

**The Gardiner Trials**

By an unusual turn of events and much debate in Parliament – it was decided not to try Gardiner with the Escort Robbery. This was due mainly to the fact that the evidence against him would be given by Dan Charters, who was considered an unreliable witness. There were doubts a conviction and sentence would be achieved.[9]

Instead, Gardiner was charged with wounding with intent to murder in July 1864 (a previous crime not related to the gold robbery). Every available space within the court was crammed with the excited public audience. Gardiner was found guilty and sentenced to 15 years' hard labour with the first two in irons.[10]

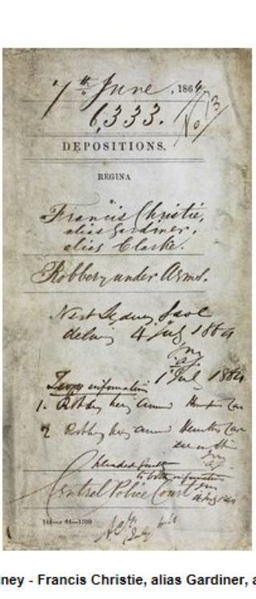
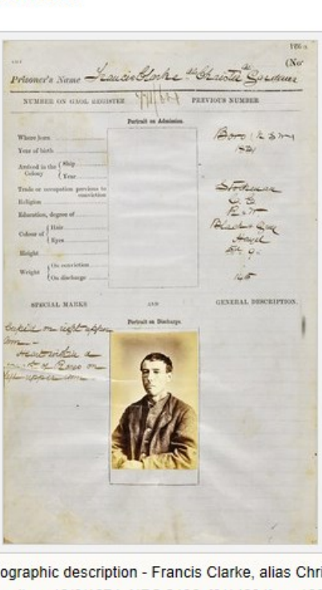

7th June 1864
6333.
DEPOSITIONS.
REGINA
Francis Christie, alias Gardiner, alias Clarke.
Robbery under Arms.
Central Police Court

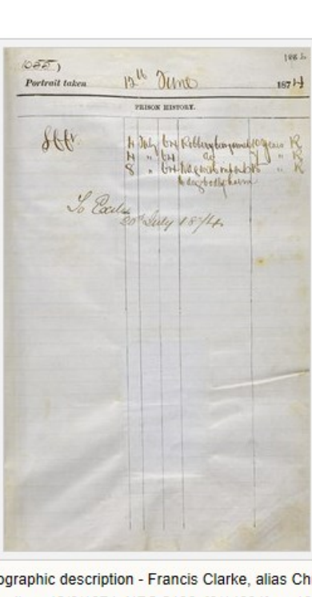
**Fig 3:** Depositions, Central Police Court, Sydney - Francis Christie, alias Gardiner, alias Clarke, 7/6/1864. From NRS 880, [9/6461]

Gardiner then faced a second trial where he was charged with two counts of robbery under arms [Fig 3]. On 9 May 1862 he had held up a coach and stolen from Mr Alfred Horsington the sum of £145.[12] Gardiner was found guilty and sentenced to ten years' labour on the roads. On the second charge, Gardiner was again found guilty and sentenced to seven years' labour on the roads. His charges and convictions are detailed in the Colonial Secretary's letter 65/5515.[13]

All up Gardiner was sentenced to 32 years' imprisonment. Gaol life was hard for Gardiner and as a result his health started a steady decline. In 1866 Gardiner requested that his mistress, Mrs Brown, be allowed to visit him in gaol.[14] This request was initially denied. Henry Parkes, the Colonial Secretary, conveyed to the Legislative Assembly a visit he had with Frank Gardiner's sister, Mrs Hyams, a person of 'very respectable appearance' who went to Parkes to plead for Mrs Brown to be allowed to visit her brother.[15] This request was now granted.

**Pardon and Release in 1874**


Gaol photographic description - Francis Clarke, alias Christie, alias Gardiner,12/6/1874. NRS 2138, [3/14031], p. 188a


Gaol photographic description - Francis Clarke, alias Christie, alias Gardiner,12/6/1874. NRS 2138, [3/14031], p. 188b

Parkes also tabled the question of Gardiner's pardon and release in Parliament.[16] It was hotly debated. A large petition with thousands of names on it was circulated petitioning against the release of Gardiner. The petition highlighted that "...Bushrangers, were so daring and defiant in their operations, that both life and property were in constant jeopardy throughout a large portion of the Colony. At the head of this band of desperadoes Gardiner stood prominent and his deeds stirred the evil passions of many young men throughout the Country…"[17]. The petition while substantial was not successful. Parkes' Government succeeded in putting the matter through and Gardiner was released, subject to his exile on 20 July 1874 [Fig 4].

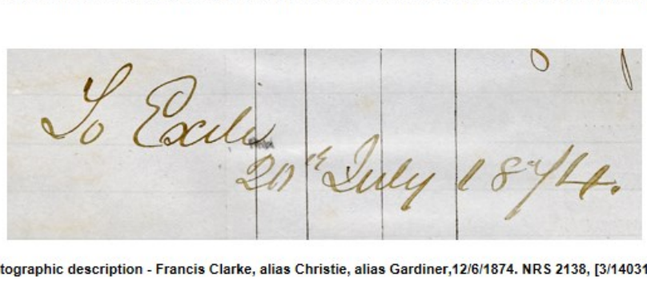

To Exile 20th July 1874.

**Fig 4:** Gaol photographic description - Francis Clarke, alias Christie, alias Gardiner,12/6/1874. NRS 2138, [3/14031], p. 188b, detail

Rumours and stories surround Gardiner's life after exile. It is known that he boarded a vessel in Newcastle sometime in July 1874 bound for Hong Kong. Reports state that he travelled to San Francisco arriving there in February 1875 where he opened the Twilight Salon and married a rich widow. He was reported as having died in Colorado in 1903. This has not been verified.[18]

Finally there is the question of the whereabouts of Gardiner's share of the gold, which still remains unaccounted for. One thing is for certain, Gardiner and his gang were responsible for the biggest and most daring gold robberies of the time.

**References:**

[1] "The Gold Escort Robbery," *Freeman's Journal*, 25 June 1862, p. 6

[2] NRS 10958, Police Gazette, [1/3197], Reel 3129

[3] NRS 880, Supreme Court, Papers and depositions, R v Fordyce, Bow, Manns, McGuire & O'Mealy, [9/6449]

[4] NRS 905, Colonial Secretary Letters received, [4/518], 64/102

[5] NRS 905, Colonial Secretary Letters received, [4/499], 63/2215

[6] NRS 905, Colonial Secretary Letters received, [4/500], 63/2274

[7] NRS 880, Supreme Court, Papers and depositions, R v Gardiner, [9/6459]

[8] NRS 2138, Darlinghurst Gaol, Photo description book, [3/14031], photo No.1055

[9] Votes and Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly, 1865, Vol. 1, pp.53, 62

[10] NRS 880, Supreme Court, Papers and depositions, R v Gardiner, [9/6459]

[11] NRS 880, Supreme Court, Papers and depositions, R v Gardiner, [9/6461]

[12] NRS 880, Supreme Court, Papers and depositions, R v Gardiner, [9/6461]

[13] NRS 905, Colonial Secretary Letters received, [4/559], 65/5515

[14] NRS 905, Colonial Secretary Letters received, [4/569], 66/528

[15] Votes and Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly, 1865-66, Vol. 1, pp. 339-440

[16] Votes and Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly, 1875, Vol. 1, p. 302

[17] NRS 333, Attorney General, Special Bundle, [5/7701.2]

[18] Edgar F. Penzig, 'Gardiner, Francis (Frank) (1830–1903)', Australian Dictionary of Biography, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/gardiner-francis-frank-3589/text5561

## Flickr update

| | |
|---|---|
| Tramways Tower Wagon mounted on horse drawn wagon | Bobbin Hill Road, 100 chains below trig station, descent 508 feet, Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park |
| Tramways Tower Wagon, n.d. | Bobbin Hill Road, n.d. |
| Cootamundra Railway Refreshment Room - kiosk on the platform | Electrical Fitting Shop, Randwick NSW |
| Cootamundra Railway Refreshment Room | Electrical Fitting Shop, Randwick |
| Sydney Harbour Bridge - View from Fort Macquarie | Photograph album of Eveleigh Workshops during the 1917 railway strike - Chess tournament |
| Sydney Harbour Bridge, 1930 | Eveleigh Workshops, 1917 railway strike |

## Upcoming talks and tours

See more upcoming events on our State Records Events page.

### What's not online

Emily Hanna will be speaking to the Society of Australian Genealogists about State archives that are great for researching family history but are not accessible online. Hear some more about our hidden genealogical gems.

5 May 2016
10:30am to 12:30pm
Society of Australian Genealogists, Richmond Villa, 120 Kent Street Sydney NSW 2000
(02) 9247 3953
More information

### Botany Bay Family History Fair

State Records will be involved with the Botany Bay Family History Fair. The theme this year is 'Discovery and Rediscovery'. For more information about the Fair contact the Botany Bay Family History Society.

7 May 2016
10:00 to 4:00pm
Tradies, The Kingsway, Gymea
(02) 9523 8948
More information

### Making the most of your visit to State Records, Kingswood

Gail Davis will be presenting this talk to the members of the Ku-ring-gai Family History Group.

7 May 2016
2:00pm to 4:00pm
Old Gordon Public School, next to the Gordon Library, 799 Pacific Highway, Gordon (Corner Pacific Highway and Park Avenue)
✉ khs@khs.org.au
(02) 9499 4568
More information

### The art of deciphering hand written documents from the late 18th and 19th centuries

Gail Davis will be presenting this session at Tuggerah Library.

11 May 2016
10:30am to 12:30pm
Tuggerah Library, Westfield Tuggerah, 50 Wyong Road, Tuggerah
✉ Michelle Goldsmith
(02) 4350 1560
More information

### Divorce and probate records

Gail Davis will be presenting this talk to the Parramatta and District Family History Group. Gail will also present a session on What's new at State Records.

4 June 2016
1:30pm to 3:30pm
Hambledon Cottage, 63 Hassall Street (cnr Gregory Place) Parramatta
✉ parramattahist@tpg.com.au
More information

### What's new at State Records

Gail Davis will be presenting this session to the Parramatta and District Family History Group. Gail is also talking about divorce and probate records.

4 June 2016
1:30pm to 3:30pm
Hambledon Cottage, 63 Hassall Street (cnr Gregory Place) Parramatta
✉ parramattahist@tpg.com.au
More information

### Probate records in NSW

Gail Davis will be speaking at the Society of Australian Genealogists about NSW Supreme Court probate records. These can contain a wealth of family history information - from an original will, codicils and letters of administration to birth death and marriage certificates. The session will include information on how to research probate records and some examples from the NSW State archives collection.

23 June 2016
10:30am to 12:30pm
Society of Australian Genealogists, Richmond Villa, 120 Kent Street Sydney NSW 2000
(02) 9247 3953

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