

THE TASMANIAN ABORIGINES

VOL.3 PART 1

TASMANIAN ABORIGINAL GENEALOGIES,
WITH AN APPENDIX ON KANGAROO IS.

(To October 1976)

Compiled by

B. C. Mollison

Address: Psychology Department, University of Tasmania

"Wooraddy related his story of the creation. Tom said he would not believe it, he only believed the white man's story. Truganini was angry with him, and said "Where do you come from? White woman?"

(Plomley, 1966)

"I am the family face,
Flesh perishes, I live on;
Projecting trait and trace
Through time to times anon,
And leaping from place to place
Over oblivion".

"Although chess is, from the standpoint of the theory of games, a tree, it is a tree with such an unthinkable number of branches that the possibility of surveying it in its entirety is in practice out of the question".

(Beloff, 1962)

(and this may well be true of genealogies - B.M.)

"Proud scions of First Fleeters should reflect upon their status in relation to Aboriginal genealogy which, on current evidence, must include some 1500 human generations".

(John Mulvaney, 1973)



INTRODUCTION

The following genealogies comprise all known Tasmanian Aboriginal families, excepting the Briggs family which has been published separately (see Vol.3, Part II). They have been compiled from a diverse source of records. The journals of George Augustus Robinson are the basis for much information on the parent generations. These journals, edited by N.J.B. Plomley were published in 1966 and are referred to throughout as Plomley, 1966. Robinson's unpublished journals were also consulted and where quoted are accompanied by the Mitchell Library Call number.

Tasmanian Aboriginal Genealogical data has been gathered in the past by N.B. Tindale, A.L. Meston, E.W. Stephens, J.B. Bladon and, more recently, R.A. Littlewood. These sources, both published and unpublished, have been consulted and to a large extent used with caution. Tindale's records are the most reliable but have been amended where necessary and, like the other researchers, his data is very much restricted to the Cape Barren Island population. The following genealogies are an attempt to update and extend these earlier studies. Much material has been gathered from Church Records, family documents and interviews and correspondence with descendants or local historians.

Although the majority of Tasmanian Aboriginal families now live throughout the state they all have their beginnings in the Furneaux Group. Many people in the south of Tasmania claim Aboriginal descent. These families have not been traced to origin and therefore not included in this publication.

The genealogies are listed in alphabetical order; they are coded for cross reference. Number codes are used for generations and birth order. Cross references contain the family letter code and the personal number code.

It will be clearly seen that I have only partial data for many families. I would greatly appreciate more accurate birth and death data, full names, correct names and addresses, information of descendants not included or with incorrect data. These will be included and corrected in future editions. The genealogies are available only to genuine descendants and are copyright in whole or part. Enquiries to Bill Mollison, University of Tasmania, Hobart. 7005.

Abbreviations used:-

| | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|--------|-------------------|
| m | = married or had children by | Rem | = Remarried |
| b | = born | Div | = Divorced |
| d | = deceased, died | Sep | = Separated |
| p | = living at present time | N.Y.M. | = Not yet married |
| ca | = approximately (usually for dates) | w | = white |
| ex | = came from | Nt | = Native of |

TSA = Tasmanian State Archives

ML = Mitchell Library

MS = Manuscript

CBI = Cape Barren Island

P.P. = Port Phillip

FI = Flinders Island

S.A. = South Australia

KI = Kangaroo Island (S.A.)

Tas. = Tasmania

N.H. = New Holland

Vic. = Victoria

G.A.R. = George Augustus Robinson

B.C.M. = Bill Mollison

M.M. = Morgan Mansell

J.S.M. = John Smith Mansell

E.E. = Ena Everett

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Bladon Papers and papers of Edward Stephens are deposited in the Royal Society of Tasmania Archives (University of Tasmania Library), 8/RS/190/D34.

Meston, A.L. (1947) refers to: "The halfcastes of the Furneaux Group". Records of Queen Victoria Museum Launceston, Vol.2, pp.47-52.

Tindale, N.B. (1953) refers to: "Results of the Harvard-Adelaide Universities anthropological expedition, 1938-1939, Growth of a people: formation and development of a hybrid aboriginal and white stock on the islands of Bass Strait Tasmania, 1815-1949". Records of Queen Victoria Museum Launceston, N.S.2, 64 np. (Tindale's field notes from 1938-1939 expedition are supposed to be held by the S.A. Museum. However, they were not located there in 1975. At this stage this is the only major source of genealogical data which needs to be consulted for this study).

Littlewood, R.A. MS of field notes and research notes for Ph.D. Thesis on Bass Strait Hybrids. (Held by South Australian Museum, Adelaide).

Plomley, N.J.B. (ed.). Plomley (1966) refers to: Friendly Mission: The Tasmanian Journals and Papers of George Augustus Robinson 1829-1834. (Tasmanian Historical Research Association, Hobart 1966).

Plomley, N.J.B. (ed.). Plomley (1971) Supplement - A Supplement to above, published in Papers and Proceedings of Tasmanian Historical Research Association, Vol.18, No.1, June 1971 (white issue).

Nixon, F.R. (1857). The Cruise of the Beacon (London).

Brownrigg, M.B. (1872). The Cruise of the Freak (Launceston).

These are accounts of "Missionary Visits" to Bass Strait. Some accounts of other visits are published in the Launceston Examiner and Church News 1871-1899.