

BOYKETT FAMILY HISTORY NEWSLETTER

No. 1, November 2005

Welcome to the first edition of the Boykett family history newsletter.

The Boykett Family Tree is seeing so much activity that I thought it was time to create a newsletter. What started out as merely a hobby for myself, is now very much a community effort, such that I think of it not as my family tree but as our family tree.

It seems, there is no other Web site devoted to the Boykett family, so it is my responsibility to document my information properly. I am slowly bringing it up to standard.

Perhaps, for those who do not know, I should explain where I belong in the family. My mother's mother, Esther Irene May Boykett, (b. 1889) was one of the daughters of John George Boykett, a grandson of the original Thomas, and his wife Emily May Jarvis.

I qualified as a Victorian lawyer, which apparently gratified my grandmother, since I was following in the profession of Thomas and William.

I retired in 1998, and since then have made the family tree my principal occupation. I have no formal training in Web design. I am now living in Bendigo, Victoria, married with three daughters and one granddaughter, whose photo (at six months) is on the web site.

In August, I moved the family tree to a Web host specifically set up for genealogy, where tools are available to support it. The basic forum I had created was never used. At the present address, the family tree can be integrated with a discussion-board

type of Web site. You can see the type at <http://carey.id.au/> . Similarly, I used a free and very basic program to set up my images. The resources of this site include a relational database and an open source program to display images stored in the database. The program can be seen in operation at <http://demo.phpwebgallery.net/> . I propose to integrate the present family tree with both these programs in due course. There have been a couple of changes to the Home Page, and I took the opportunity to re-write its HTML code.

Somebody, sometime may do a history of the Boykett family. I may start writing one just to keep the facts in order in my mind. Any history is likely to become out of date very quickly. Until a few months ago, we thought that Thomas was the eldest in his family, and one of only two sons.

Then Francis Musto of Cheshire, England contacted me. He was descended from Francis, a nephew of Thomas' brother Francis. This led to the discovery of an elder brother, Charles George, born in 1805. He also gave the link to the Boyketts of Croydon, Surrey. A month ago I submitted an article to the Australian Family Tree Connections magazine.

Since then, our latest recruit, Berenice, casually mentioned details of Hannah's burial. We can no longer say that we know nothing whatever about her, although the article is still accurate.

Doug.