# WAVERLEY CEMETERY WHO'S WHO LAW AND DISORDER

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ISBN 0 9588081 8 X

Published by and printed at Waverley Library 14-26 Ebley Street, Bondi Junction, 2022

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# INTRODUCTION

averley Cemetery opened in 1877 and now covers an area of some 41 acres, with approximately 48,000 graves and a quarter of a million burials. Waverley Council is the Trustee.

Waverley Cemetery is a place for the living as well as the departed. Joggers, genealogists and visitors find interest among its headstones, paths, wildflowers and million dollar sea views.

Waverley Cemetery is an open-air history lesson, a gallery of the monumental masons' art, a photographers delight, a gem for the family historian, and an open space with its own eco-system and environment. There is something for everyone.

Research by Waverley library is an ongoing process to discover persons of interest buried at Waverley Cemetery. The illustrated biographies included in this booklet are only a selection of "LAW & DISORDER" personalities: Chief Justice, Supreme Court Judge, Attorney-General, Crown Solicitor, barrister, solicitor, police, murder-victim, villain, and ...the hangman.

The booklet has been compiled as an accompaniment to the Waverley Library's "Waverley Cemetery: A Walk Through History, No. 6 Law and Disorder".

# WAVERLEY CEMETERY WHO'S WHO LAW & DISORDER

NAME	OCCUPATION	DATE OF DEATH	GRAVE
		( 1 ( m) (	Contraction in the
SIR JOSEPH PALMER ABBOTT	SOLICITOR. POLITICIAN	15. 9.1901	767 C of E Vault, Section 6
ESTHER ABRAHAMS	FIRST FLEET CONVICT	26. 8.1846	541 C of E Vault, Section 6
FREDERICK "PADDLES' ANDERSON	CRIMINAL	2. 1.1985	Lawn B, Section 2
WILLIAM BARKER	SOLICITOR	24. 1.1879	10-13 C of E Vault, Section 2
JAMES BREMNER	POLICE INSPECTOR	2. 1.1901	General Vault, Section 16
AUDREY ELVA CABLE	HOUSEWIFE - MURDERED	22. 9.1946	6698 C of E Ordinary, Section 15
GEORGE COLQUHOUN	CROWN SOLICITOR	21. 9.1901	2329 C of E Ordinary Section 6
WILLIAM PATRICK CRICK	SOLICITOR. POLITICIAN	23. 8.1908	88a R.C. Special Vault, Sect. 8
ARTHUR DACRE & AMY ROSELLE	ACTORS - MURDER/SUICIDE	17.11.1895	2901 C of E Select, Section 7
WILLIAM BEDE DALLEY	BARRISTER. POLITICIAN	28.10.1888	202 R.C. Vault, Section 10
ERNEST CHARLES DAY	POLICE INSPECTOR-GENERAL	17. 1.1915	6312 C of E Special, Section 15
DANIEL HENRY DENIEHY	SOLICITOR. POLITICIAN	22.10.1865	954-6 R.C. Select, Section 11
SIR JAMES DOWLING	CHIEF JUSTICE OF NSW	27. 9.1844	824 C of E Vault, Section 2
RICHARD DRIVER	SOLICITOR. POLITICIAN	17. 7.1880	30-31 C of E Vault, Section 2

NAME	OCCUPATION	DATE OF DEATH	GRAVE
MICHAEL DWYER	IRISH REBEL	23. 8.1825	Irish Monument, Section 16
PETER FARRUGIA	CRIMINAL	26. 6.1992	221 C of E Vault, Section 2
JOHN DANIEL FITZGERALD	BARRISTER. POLITICIAN	4. 7.1922	311 R.C. Vault, Section 10
SIR FRANCIS FORBES	CHIEF JUSTICE OF NSW	8.11.1841	489-490 C of E Vault, Section 6
GEORGE DAVID FREEMAN	CRIMINAL	20. 3.1990	798a General Ordinary, Section 5
MERCY GREGORY	NURSE - MURDERED	1. 2,1906	4391 C of E Ordinary, Sect. 19
JOHN FLETCHER HARGRAVE	JUDGE. POLITICIAN	23. 2.1885	464 C of E Ordinary, Section 2
ROBERT HOWARD	NSW EXECUTIONER	3. 2.1906	82-83 C of E Ordinary, Section 2
GEORGE JOHNSTON	FIRST FLEET MARINE	5. 1.1823	541 C of E Vault, Section 6
SIR ADRIAN KNOX	CHIEF JUSTICE OF NSW	27. 4.1932	817-9 C of E Vault, Section 6
HAROLD MACLEAN	SHERIFF OF NSW	6.11.1889	995 General Ordinary, Section 9
SIR JAMES MARTIN	CHIEF JUSTICE OF NSW	4.11.1886	834 C of E Vault, Section 6
RICHARD DENIS MEAGHER	SOLICITOR. POLITICIAN	17. 9.1931	1102 R.C. Special, Section 12
ELIZABETH MULLAN	HOUSEWIFE - MURDERED	6. 2.1914	1993a General Ordinary, Sec. 16
MARY KATHLEEN O'GRADY	HOUSEWIFE - MURDERED	5.11.1912	3780 R.C. Ordinary, Section 18
DENIS FRANCIS O'HARAN	CATHOLIC PRIEST	22. 3.1931	258c R.C. Vault, Section 10
SIR WILLIAM OWEN	JUDGE	22.11.1912	66a C of E Special, Section 3

NAME	OCCUPATION	DATE OF DEATH	GRAVE
JOHN WILLIAM PHILLIPS	BANK MANAGER - MURDERED	24. 9.1893	175 C of E Vault, Section 5
CHARLES EDWARD PILCHER	BARRISTER. POLITICIAN	22.12.1916	796aC of E Vault, Section 6
ELIZABETH RICE	HOUSEWIFE - MURDERED	28. 5.1909	3898 C of E Ordinary, Section 7
FRANCIS DE ROSSILAND	OWNER. FIREBRAND	12.11.1903	2125 General Ordinary, Sect. 16
HENRY CHAMBERLAIN RUSSELL	GOVERNMENT ASTRONOMER	22. 2.1907	756 C of E Vault, Section 6
SIR GEORGE BOWEN SIMPSON	JUDGE	7. 9.1915	779 C of E Vault, Section 6
THOMAS MICHAEL SLATTERY	SOLICITOR. POLITICIAN	25.7.1920	1694 R.C. Special, Section 14
WILFRED JOSEPH SPRUSON	PATENT ATTORNEY	16. 8.1939	97a R.C. Special Vault A Sec 8
REGINALD STUART-JONES	CRIMINAL	10. 6.1961	892d C of E Vault, Section 7
JOHN HENRY WANT	BARRISTER. POLITICIAN	22.11.1905	21b C of E Vault, Section 2
LEE WELLER	SHIP'S CAPTAIN - MURDERED	31.10.1896	1992 General Ordinary, Sec 9
WILLIAMS CHILDREN THREE GIRLS	MURDERED	4. 2.1924	7158 C of E Vault, Section 14
SIR ROBERT WISDOM	BARRISTER. POLITICIAN	16. 3.1888	168-169 C of E Vault, Sec 2
FREDERICK WILLIAM WOLGAST	POLICE CONSTABLE - MURDERED	22. 1.1921	105 General Special, Sec 21

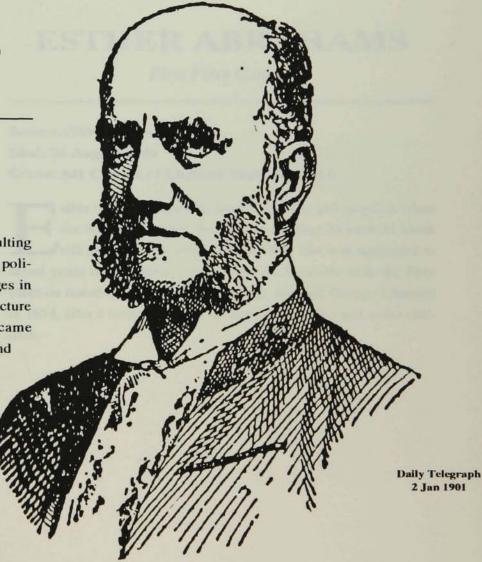
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# SIR JOSEPH PALMER ABBOTT

Politician & Solicitor

Born: 29 September, 1842 Died: 15 September, 1901 Grave: 767 Church of England Vault, Section 6

s a solicitor he specialised in land cases resulting from the 1861 Robertson Land Acts. Entered politics and played a leading role in major changes in land legislation, parliamentary procedure and the structure of politics. Briefly leader of the Opposition, he became Speaker in 1890. Knighted in 1895, Abbott was a tall and commanding figure, generous and tolerant with a lively sense of fun behind a dignified and sometimes frosty exterior. "The Bulletin" wrote of his "fine figure and impressive voice" and "his coldness and want of personal magnetism", but there is no doubt he was a fine figure of a Speaker".





The A - Z of Who is Who in Australia's History

## **ESTHER ABRAHAMS**

First Fleet Convict

Born: c.1769 London Died: 26 August 1846 Grave: 541 Church of England Vault, Section 6

E sher was a 15 year old, Jewish milliner and pregnant when she was arrested for "feloniously stealing 24 yards of black silk lace value 50 shillings", in 1786. She was sentenced to seven years transportation and arrived in Australia with the First Fleet on board the "Lady Penrhyn". She married George Johnston in 1814, after a twenty-six year de facto relationship and seven children.

# FREDERICK CHARLES ANDERSON

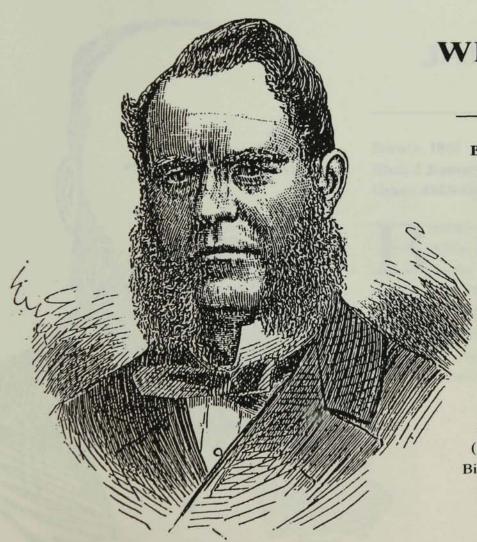
Criminal

Born: 7 February, 1915 Died: 2 January, 1985 Grave: 5 Lawn B, Section 2

addles" Anderson was "one of New South Wales' most vicious criminals over five decades" and was described by crime journalist Bob Bottom as "the titular head of organised crime in Sydney" during the 1960s and 1970s. The N.S.W. Police Gazette reads: "one of the worst criminals in Sydney, would not hesitate to resort to violence in the commission of crimes. Created a reign of terror upon bookmakers, slygrog sellers and night club proprietors by stand-over tactics and produced a gun to enforce his threats."



NSW Police Gazette, Wednesday, 16 September, 1964



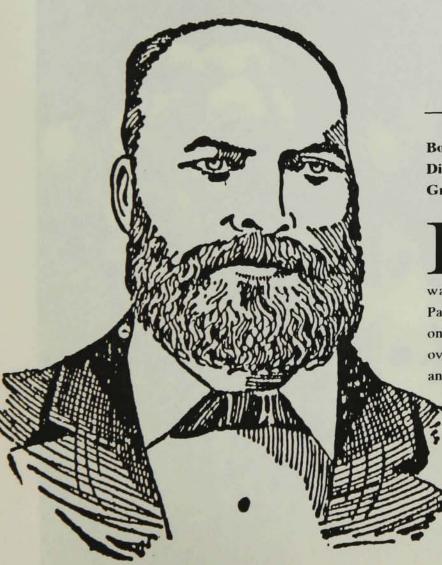
# WILLIAM BARKER

Solicitor. Waverley Alderman

Born: c. 1824, Ireland Died: 24 January, 1879, Sydney Grave: 10-13 Church of England Vault, Section 2

Barker was one of the quiet giants of the profession in his day". A partner in the firm Norton, Son & Barker, he worked up an outstanding practice and was Bishop's Registrar in the C. of E. Diocese of Sydney. "He refused the remarkable honour of being offered a District Court Judgeship", but became a member of the 1870 Law Reform Commission, a Waverley Council Alderman 1863-1865 and Chairman (Mayor) in 1864. His home was "Mandeville", Birrell St, Waverley.

The Sydney Mail, 15.12.1879



### **JAMES BREMNER**

**Police Inspector** 

Born: c. 1841 Died: 2 January, 1901, Sydney Grave:454/6 General Vault, Section 16

Bremner was in charge of No. 3 Division of the Sydney Police. He was killed accidentally at Centennial Park during the Commonwealth celebrations. Inspector Bremner was on duty when a Trooper's horse bolted from the Military Parade and galloped towards him. It reared and struck Bremner full on the chest injuring his spinal cord. His funeral procession was over a mile long, led by Mounted Police, Mounted Rifles, Lancers and the Australian Horse.

Daily Telegraph, 3 Jan 1901



# AUDREY ELVA CABLE

Housewife. Murder-victim

#### Born: c.1917

Died: 22 September, 1946, Dover Heights Grave:6698 Church of England Ordinary, Section 15

rs Cable died from strychnine poisoning. Her husband, William Joseph Cable, 31, was arrested. He was a Police Constable who had served 10 years on the force. The Crown Prosecutor said Cable had deliberately planned to murder his wife so he could be with another woman. "This was diabolical murder by Cable to satisfy his passion". The jury, after questioning if a woman in strychnine convulsions would be able to scream, then returned a "guilty" verdict. Cable was sentenced to hang. The sentence was later commuted to life imprisonment.

Photo credit: C. Turner



# **GEORGE COLQUHOUN**

**Crown Solicitor** 

Born: 23 April, 1830, England Died: 21 September, 1901 Grave: 2329 Church of England Ordinary, Section 6

t the age of 21, he was the youngest solicitor in England when he was admitted. He was the first solicitor to practice in Orange and Forbes and successfully defended bushranger Ben Hall in 1862. Colquhoum had a buggy accident which resulted in his foot being amputated. He went on to be Crown Solicitor in 1894 and held that office for seven years.

Daily Telegraph, 23.9.1901

# WILLIAM PATRICK CRICK

Solicitor & Politician

Born: 10 February, 1862, South Australia Died: 23 August, 1908, Sydney Grave: 88a Roman Catholic Special Vault, Section 8

stocky man with dark curly hair, his temper was easily provoked. Whether drunk or sober, he dominated the Police Courts where he developed a lucrative practice. Famous for his efforts to save his client, Ernest Buttner, from execution, he obtained for him the first Royal Pardon issued in N.S.W. Charged with perjury in the George Dean case, Crick was found innocent, but was expelled from parliament for his notorious involvement, as Minister of Lands, in shady land deals.



# WILLIAM BEDE DALLEY

Barrister & Politician

Born: 5 July, 1831, Sydney Died: 28 October, 1888, Sydney Grave: 202 Roman Catholic Vault, Section 10

Born to convict parents, Dalley became a leading barrister, Attorney-General, member of the Legislative Assembly, Acting Premier of NSW, and the first Australian appointed to the Privy Council. Among his court cases were the defence of bushranger Frank Gardiner; Henry O'Farrell, for the 1868 shooting of Prince Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh; and William Scott, known as "The Grim Butcher of Sussex Street".



Journal of the Royal Australian Historical Society Vol 31, Part 4

#### **ARTHUR DACRE AND AMY ROSELLE**

Actors. Murder/suicide

Died: 17 November, 1895, Sydney Grave: 2901 Church of England Select, Section 7

ad luck dogged the Australian tour of this English husband and wife theatrical couple. Disputes, money troubles and theatre failures finally became too much for Arthur Dacre. On the day before "The Silence of Dean Maitland" was due to open, Amy took a sleeping draught and lay on her bed with a handkerchief over her face. Arthur took his pistol and shot her twice above the heart, killing her instantly. The distraught man then slashed his throat with a razor and bled to death. Their headstone reads "A & A died 17th November, 1895. They loved each other, and in death they were not divided".



Mitchell Library



#### **ERNEST CHARLES DAY**

Police Officer

Born: 30 October, 1857 Died: 17 January, 1915 Grave: 6312 Church of England Special, Section 15

**B** nglish-born, his taste for adventure and tales of Australian bushrangers decided him to migrate. He joined the NSW Mounted Police, was a good horseman and a crack shot with revolver and rifle. He tracked and killed two escaped prisoners who had killed a constable (earning him promotion) and helped break up gangs of cattle duffers and horse thieves. In 1892, Sergeant Day disguised himself as a woman and captured a man, known locally as "Jack the Ripper", who had been molesting females. His most famous case was the arrest of Tommy Moore, who had murdered and mutilated five men. Day rose through the ranks to become Inspector-General of Police and was popular and respected by his men.

**NSW Police Association** 

### **DANIEL HENRY DENIEHY**

Solicitor & Politician

Born: 18 August, 1828, Sydney Died: 22 October, 1865, Bathurst Grave: 954-6 Roman Catholic Select, Section 11

Born to convict parents, he became a solicitor in 1851, practising in Sydney and Goulburn. Deniehy coined the phrase, "bunyip aristocracy", and ridiculed William Charles Wentworth's scheme to institute Australian titled nobility. He was in demand as an orator and writer but, sadly, died an alcoholic.



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#### **SIR JAMES DOWLING**

Judge

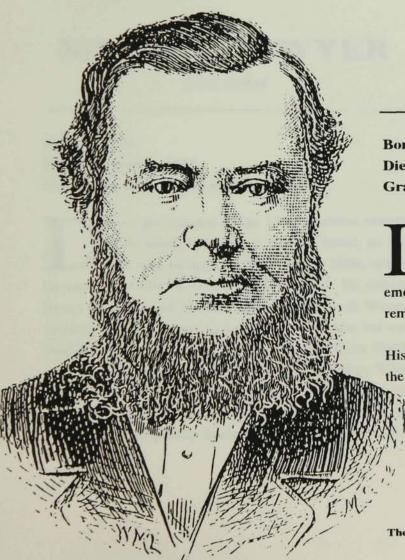
Born: 25 November, 1787, London Died: 27 September, 1844 Grave: 824 Church of England Vault, Section 6

The second Chief Justice of NSW, appointed in 1837, following the retirement of Sir Francis Forbes. Throughout his judicial career Dowling "was remarkable for a painstaking industry rarely equalled". Dowling, in fact, died of over-work and exhaustion.

In 1840, a man named Bright was sentenced to death for murder and this was respited on Dowling's recommendation. The following year another man confessed to the crime. Sir James' son, James Sheen Dowling, followed in his father's footsteps to become a judge and he too is buried in Waverley Cemetery, Grave 671 Church of England Vault, Section 6.



Painting by J.T. Dennis, 1840



#### **RICHARD DRIVER**

Solicitor & Politician

Born: 16 September, 1829, Cabramatta Died: 7 July, 1880, Sydney Grave: 30-31 Church of England Vault, Section 2

D river was admitted as a solicitor in 1856, and three years later was solicitor to the Corporation of Sydney. He began what grew into an extensive practice in the police courts. Driver emerged as one of the chief law reformers in parliament and tried to remove two "obnoxious clauses" from the Treason Felony Act.

His great interest in cricket led to Driver Avenue, on the western side of the Sydney Cricket Ground, being named after him.

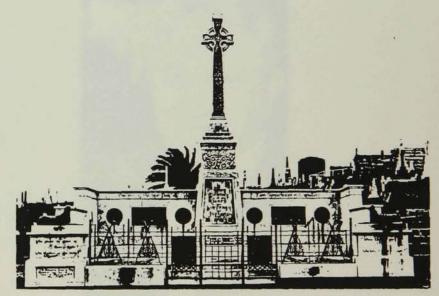
The Bulletin 19.6.1880

#### **MICHAEL DWYER**

Irish Rebel

Born: c.1770 Died: 23 August, 1825 Grave: the Irish Monument, Section 16

wyer participated in the 1798 rebellion centred in Wexford, Ireland and, when it failed, he and 400 men escaped to the Wicklow Hills, where he earned the title of "The Wicklow Chief". He surrendered in 1803 and was exiled to New South Wales. Granted land, he became Constable at Parramatta, but was banished to Norfolk Island by Governor William Bligh, accused of implication in the Castle Hill Uprising. When allowed to return to the colony, he lived in respectable prosperity until his death. He and his wife, Mary, nee Doyle, were originally buried in Sydney's Devonshire Street Cemetery.



#### **PETER FARRUGIA**

Criminal

Born: 1929 Died: 26 June, 1992 Grave: 221 Church of England Vault, Section 2

nown as the "Black Prince" of Kings Cross, "Peter Farrugia was involved in illegal gambling, prostitution, drugs and pornography." He was short and stocky but always "a picture of sartorial elegance" and a big player in Sydney's colourful turf scene. Farrugia, with a brace of heavies, travelled to Queensland to finalise some business, but it was Farrugia who was finalised - "at the business end of .38 slug."



Sun-Herald, 5.7.1992



# JOHN DANIEL FITZGERALD

Barrister & Politician

Born: 11 June, 1862, Shellharbour Died: 4 July, 1922, Darling Point Grave: 311 Roman Catholic Vault, Section 10

hile his brothers, Tom and Dan, ran the very successful Fitzgerald Bros. Circus, John studied law and was admitted to the Bar in 1900. Fitzgerald was an Alderman of Sydney Municipal Council 1900-1904, when town planning was his special interest. He was Solicitor-General and Minister of Justice between 1912-1920.

Of medium build, handsome, with a well-trimmed moustache and Vandyke beard, Fitzgerald was a cultivated, well-read man, spoke French and German, and was a passionate lover of good music. Fitzgerald Avenue, Maroubra, is named after him.



Chief Justice of NSW

Born: 1784, Bermuda Died: 8 November, 1841, Sydney Grave: 489-490 Church of England Vault, Section 6

The first Chief Justice of NSW, his influence over Australian law was enormous. He introduced trial by jury to NSW and decided that all free persons (including former convicts) were entitled to all the privileges of free men.

Forbes presided over the 1826 murder trial which has taken its place in Australian folklore as "The Story of Fisher's Ghost". The NSW town of Forbes is named after him, also Forbes Street and the Forbes Hotel in Sydney.

> "Australian Men of Mark" Vol 1

### **GEORGE FREEMAN**

Criminal

Born: 1935 Died: 20 March, 1990 Grave: 798A General Ordinary, Section 5

The Premier of NSW described Freeman as "one of Sydney's leading criminals". He was named in almost every inquiry into organised crime from the 1970's on. "A piece of a finger, hacked off with a tomahawk, was the terrible price punters sometimes paid for outstanding racing debts owed to SP bookmaker George Freeman. The bit of finger was to show others that the heavies had been around to do business. In those days you had to pay your debts to little George."

The media always referred to him as that "colourful Sydney racing identity".



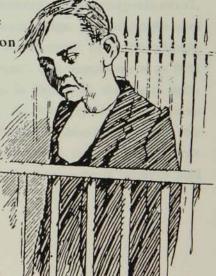
Sun-Herald, 10.6.1990

# **MERCY GREGORY**

Nurse. Murder victim

Born: c.1865 Died: 1 February, 1906 Grave: 4391 Church of England Ordinary, Section 19

Not rs Gregory, "a quiet, pleasant, ladylike woman", was the wife of the Union Club Hotel licensee of Coolgardie, W.A. and was the former Matron of the Coolgardie Hospital. She was holidaying in Sydney, lodging at the Royal Hotel, George Street, when she was "foully murdered by being stabbed thrice in the back and once in the breast, penetrating to the heart". Arrested for the murder was the hotel's 15year old lift-boy, Thomas John Quinlan. "There is nothing vicious in his looks and his almost mild manner is quite deceptive". Quinlan was stealing Mrs Gregory's jewellery when "he was disturbed and used his knife with fatal effect".



QUINLAN IN THE DOCK.

Both pictures from The Bulletin, 8 Feb, 1906

# JOHN FLETCHER HARGRAVE

Barrister & Judge

Born: 28 December, 1815, England Died: 23 February, 1885 Grave: 464 Church of England Ordinary, Section 2

Supreme Court Judge, his judgeship was "disastrous for women" as he "habitually decided against them". His appointment as first NSW divorce judge in 1873 was, therefore, strikingly inappropriate. As Attorney-General he prosecuted Frank Gardiner's bushranging gang in the 1862 Gold Escort Robbery trials. His son was Lawrence Hargrave, aeronautical pioneer and inventor.

Mitchell Library

#### **ROBERT HOWARD**

**NSW** Executioner

Born: c.1832 Died: 3 February, 1906 Grave: 82/83 Church of England Ordinary, Section 2

Howard was the NSW hangman from 1875-1904 and was nicknamed "Nosey Bob". His nose had been cut off when, as a hansom cab driver, a horse had kicked him in the face. Among his "customers" were: Frank Butler, murderer of three men in the Blue Mountains; Louisa Collins, the "Borgia of Botany Bay"; bushrangers "Captain Moonlite" and Jimmy Governor"; mass murderers Jonny Moore and John Makin, and William Scott "the Grim Butcher of Sussex Street". Howard lived for some years in a solitary house amongst the sandhills at North Bondi.



**Illustrated by Virgil Reilly** 



# **GEORGE JOHNSTON**

Soldier, Pioneer

Born: 19 March, 1764 Died: 5 January, 1823 Grave: 541 Church of England Vault, Section 6

Beight of the seven children. He planted the first Norfolk Island pines in the colony.

**Pictures: National Library of Australia** 



# **SIR ADRIAN KNOX**

**Barrister and Chief Justice** 

Born: 29 November, 1863 Died: 27 April, 1932 Grave: 817-9 Church of England Vault, Section 6

Became a King's Counsel in 1906 and was Chief Justice of the High Court of Australia in from 1919 until his retirement in 1930. He conducted his court with dignity and brought to it common sense and a wide knowledge of the world and of men. His judgements were almost with exception short and to the point.

Clean-shaven, Knox had a long, straight nose, brown eyes, and a firm mouth and chin. His main interests were horse racing and silky terriers.

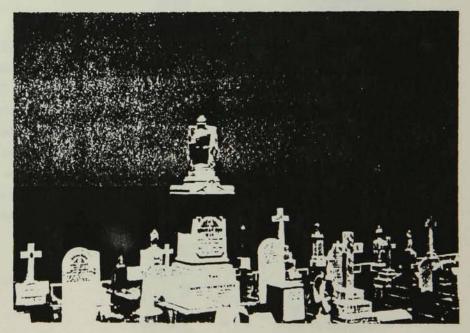
**High Court of Australia** 

#### HAROLD MACLEAN

Public Servant. Sheriff of N.S.W.

Born: 14 May, 1828 Died: 6 November, 1889 Grave: 995 General Ordinary, Section 9

Solution of the western goldfields and was widely trusted for settling miner's disputes on the spot. Maclean became Sheriff of N.S.W. in 1864 determined to reform the inhumane conditions of the colony's prisons. His new regulations for the remission of gaol sentences were more lenient than England's and against advice he banned the treadmill. In 1871 he initiated photography for identifying criminals, and by 1874 he was Comptroller-General of Prisons. Maclean was a "judicious, large-hearted, kind and merciful friend" to convicts and believed that prisons should be industrious hives of labour, allowing prisoners schooling, choir practice and visits by authorised outsiders.



#### SIR JAMES MARTIN

Judge & Politician

Born: 14 May, 1820, Co. Cork, Ireland Died: 4 November, 1886 Grave: 834 Church of England Vault, Section 6

Three times Premier of N.S.W., the fourth Chief Justice of N.S.W., he was elected to the Legislative Council in 1848, Attorney-General 1856, admitted to the Bar 1857, knighted in 1869. He defended three members of Frank Gardiner's bushranging gang during the Gold Escort Robbery trial in 1863. Martin proved to be a notable Chief Justice and as a "journalist, lawyer, statesman and judge, his reputation will endure through Australia's history". The father of 8 sons and 7 daughters, he was originally buried in St Judes' Churchyard, Randwick.

Martin Place is named after him and Lady Bay after his wife.



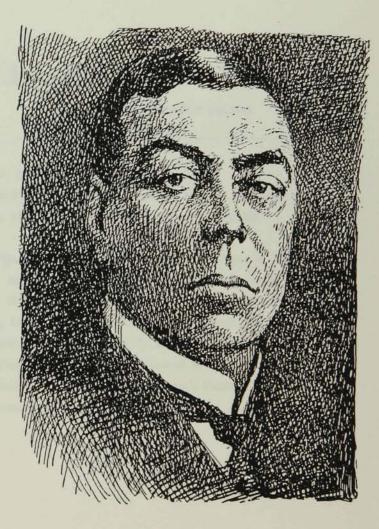
The Bulletin 13.11.1886

# RICHARD DENIS MEAGHER

Solicitor & Politician

Born: 11 January, 1866,Bathurst Died: 17 September, 1931, Lewisham Grave: 1102 Roman Catholic Special, Section 12

eagher became a partner in Paddy Crick's law firm, practising mainly in the Police court. Astute, cantankerous and earthy, Crick found Meagher's self-conceit hard to take, even as they prospered. They were both charged with conspiracy for their handling of the George Dean murder trial and Meagher was struck off the roll of solicitors. He went on to become an Alderman of Sydney Council and the Lord Mayor of Sydney 1916-17. He was re-admitted a solicitor by special act of parliament in 1920.



**Illustration by Virgil Reilly** 



Waverley Library Collection

# **ELIZABETH MULLAN**

Housewife. Murder victim

Born: c. 1876 Died: 6 February 1914, Charing Cross, Waverley Grave: 1993a General Ordinary, Section 16

The mother of five children, Elizabeth Mullan was hacked to death with a pair of iron tongs. She was found by her 12 year old son, lying on her bed, encircled by blood-stained bedclothes, her head and face horribly mutilated. Given to jealously and frequently drunk, her husband, James, a vanman, was found at Coogee where he had attempted to drown himself in Wylie's Baths. He was arrested and accused of her murder.

# MARY KATHLEEN O'GRADY

Housewife. Murder victim

Born: 1887 Died: 5 November, 1912 Grave: 3780 Roman Catholic Ordinary, Section 18

cosy cottage in Wells Street, Annandale, was the scene of a terrible domestic tragedy when Mary O'Grady and her 18 months old daughter were murdered. Confessing to the crime was Albert O'Grady, 28 year old husband of Mary. The police found her body lying on the bedroom floor, her throat cut ear to ear, with the child on the bed its throat also cut. A blood-stained razor was on the mantelpiece.

During a domestic quarrel, Mary struck Albert with a poker and began packing with the intention of leaving him for good. O'Grady went and fetched his razor. He was arrested and charged with "feloniously and maliciously murdering his wife and child".





The Bulletin, 15.12.1900

## **DENIS FRANCIS O'HARAN**

Catholic Priest

Born: 11 February, 1854, Ireland Died: 22 March, 1931, Sydney Grave: 258c Roman Catholic Vault, Section 10

dministrator of Sydney's St Mary's Cathedral and private secretary to Cardinal Moran, O'Haran was cited as co-respondent in a divorce action which became known as "The Coningham Conspiracy". Australian test cricketer Arthur Coningham claimed O'Haran had committed adultery with his wife and fathered a child. It proved to be a hoax and O'Haran was completely exonerated.

Illustration by Virgil Reilly

#### SIR WILLIAM OWEN

Judge

Born: 4 November 1834, Ireland Died: 22 November, 1912 Sydney Grave: 66a Church of England Special, Section 3

In 1887 Owen was appointed to the Supreme Court bench as Chief Justice in Equity; Common Law Judge in 1896; and knighted ten years later. He chaired the 1892 Royal Commission which cleared Railways Commissioner Edward Eddy of maladministration; was sole Commissioner which dealt with the NSW Lands scandal and saw the resignation of Paddy Crick; and he handled the second trial in "The Coningham Conspiracy" in a 'masterly manner'.

His son, Sir Langer Owen, also became a judge as did his grandson, Sir William Francis Langer, who was Chairman of the 1954 Petrov Royal Commission.



**Illustrated by Virgil Reilly** 



"Infamous Australian Crimes" by Alan Sharpe

## JOHN WILLIAM PHILLIPS

Bank Manager. Murder Victim

Born: 1863 Died: 24 September, 1893 Grave: 175 Church of England Vault, Section 5

Phillips was the manager of the Commercial Bank at Carcoar, N.S.W. On Sunday, 24th September, 1893, a Gothic horror tale unfolded with a telegram: "Bank entered 3 o'clock this morning, Mr Phillips, Mrs Phillips, Miss Cavanagh hacked with axe dreadfully. Former two not expected to live. Latter is dead. Nothing stolen". Less than one hour later came: "Mr Phillips has since died. Nothing further". Hearing an intruder in the bank, Mr Phillips had gone to investigate and was struck down by a man wearing a black mask and wielding a hatchet. The murderer was Edwin Herbert Glasson, the 25 year old son of one of the wealthiest pastoralists in the district. Brought to trial before Mr Justice Innes, Glasson was found guilty and his Honour's voice shook with emotion when he passed the death sentence. The whole colony approved the outcome and Glasson was hung at Bathurst on 29 November, 1893.



Barrister. Politician

Born: 20 April, 1844 NSW Died: 22 December 1916 Grave: 796a Church of England Vault, Section 6

Pilcher was a "stickler for legal forms and technicalities" and had the essential gifts for success - a fine presence, a full rich voice, clear convincing language, the ability to quickly assimilate facts and, moreover, he was shrewd, cautious, circumspect and wary". One of the most famous cases with which he was involved was that of George Dean who, in 1895, made six attempts to poison his wife.

The Bulletin 5.6.1880



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#### **ELIZABETH RICE**

Murder Victim

Born: c. 1849 Died: 28 May, 1909, Leichhardt Grave: 3598 Church of England Ordinary,Section 7

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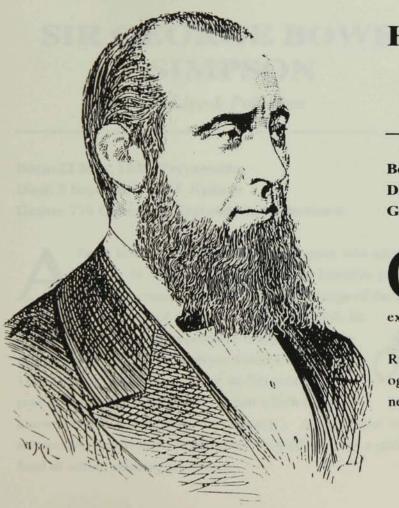
"Great Australian Scandals" by George Blaikie

## FRANCIS ROBERT LOUIS DE ROSSI

Landowner. Firebrand

Born: 19 February 1823, Mauritius Died: 12 November, 1903, Sydney Grave: 2125 General Ordinary, Section 16

member of a noble Corsican family, Rossi came to Sydney at the age of two. He later moved to Goulburn and married, aspiring to be "a colonial squire". His home, Rossiville, was robbed by Ben Hall in 1864. He was a magistrate, a devout Anglican, first registrar of the diocese. As a Church property trustee, Rossi became involved in a great deal of litigation about the parish church when this was given cathedral status. Contrary to the wishes of church authorities, he placed a family tablet in the cathedral and occupied it with a body of men to ensure its retention. He was involved in endless litigation throughout his later life -temporal, eccliastical, marital. If there was any way of making a difficult situation worse, Rossi would find it!



# HENRY CHAMBERLAIN RUSSELL

NSW Government Astronomer

Born: 17 March 1836 NSW Died: 22 February, 1907 Grave: 756 Church of England Vault, Section 6

n 8 September 1877, an attempt was made to murder Russell with a parcel bomb. A box, containing a gingerbeer bottle packed with blasting powder, was set to explode when the lid was opened. Fortunately it didn't.

Russell was appointed N.S.W. Astronomer in 1870 and as meteorologist began the practice of publishing a weather map in the daily newspapers.

The Bulletin 9.10.1880

#### SIR GEORGE BOWEN SIMPSON

Judge & Politician

Born: 22 May, 1838, Parramatta Died: 7 September 1915, Sydney Grave: 779 Church of England Vault, Section 6

A fter a brilliant scholastic career, Simpson was admitted to the Bar in 1858 and had a large and lucrative practice in civil and criminal courts. Appointed Judge of the District Court and Chairman of Quarter Sessions in 1867, he was the youngest man appointed, being only 29. He was elevated to the Supreme Court bench in 1894, and succeeded as Judge in Divorce. He presided over the hoax divorce action which became known as the "Coningham Conspiracy". A large man of impressive appearance, fashionably dressed, he was a genial man fond of telling amusing anecdotes.

The Bulletin, 15.12.1900

# THOMAS MICHAEL SLATTERY

Solicitor. Politician. Civil Servant

Born: 17 December 1844, Tipperary, Ireland Died: 25 July, 1920 Grave: 1694 Roman Catholic Special, Section 14

dmitted solicitor in 1875; became Chief Clerk to the Supreme Court of N.S.W.; entered politics in 1880. As Prothonotary and Curator of Intestate Estates he was dismissed by the government for abysmal foolishness. His haphazard handling of other people's money led to a charge of malversation. He served 3-1/2 months in gaol and was struck off the rolls.

"Australian Men of Mark" Vol 1

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## WILFRED JOSEPH SPRUSON

Patent Attorney

Born: 29 March, 1870, Sydney Died: 16 August, 1939 Grave: 97a Roman Catholic Special Vault A, Section 8

s one of Sydney's leading patent attorneys for over 40 years, most local inventions of any importance passed through his capable hands. He exhorted his countrymen not to lag behind other nations in technological training and development, and was among the foremost in Australia in the fields of patents, trade marks and copyright.

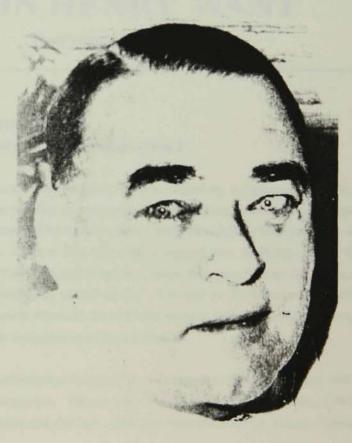
The Bulletin, 21.3.1934

# **REGINALD STUART-JONES**

Criminal. Society Doctor

Born: September 1903, London Died: 10 June 1961 Grave: 892D Church of England Vault, Section 7

Acquarie Street surgeon, playboy, nightclub proprietor, punter, sly-grog trader, drug dealer and abortionist. Known as "The Doc" by Sydney's underworld, many were grateful for his discreet treatments after gun battles. His partner in the sleazy abortion rackets was notorious stand-over man Dick Reilly. During World War II he was partner to Donald "The Duck" Day peddling liquor and drugs to American soldiers from his luxury yacht in Sydney Harbour.



## JOHN HENRY WANT

**Barrister & Politician** 

Born: 4 May, 1846 Died: 22 November, 1905 Grave: 21B Church of England Vault, Section 2

> dmitted to the Bar in 1869, he was suited by temperament to the theatre of the courtroom and gained a reputation as an advocate, particularly in criminal and civil action cases. His skill with a jury was widely acknowledged. Over 6 feet tall with a rugged jaw, flashing eyes, "fierce mustachios", a voice full and sonorous, Want was never more dangerous that when "toying with his watch-chain". Elected to Parliament in 1885, he served as Attorney-General. In 1889 his motion for adjournment precipitated the surprise resignation of Henry Parkes.

The funeral obsequies resulted in a ceremony of a more than ordinary, imposing character. Those who attended read like a Who's Who of Sydney politics and the law. The pall-bearers were six King's Counsels.

Daily Telegraph 23.11.1905

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## **CAPTAIN LEE WELLER**

Ship's Captain & Murder Victim

Born: Unknown Died: c. 31 October, 1896 Grave: 1992 General Ordinary, Section 9

aptain Weller was murdered by Frank Butler in a case which became known as "The Mountain Mystery". He was only one of Butler's three victims. Butler would advertise for a mate to accompany him on a gold prospecting venture in the Blue Mountains and after establishing a camp site, Butler would kill his companion and steal his possessions.

Weller was a former sea captain, recently widowed and drinking heavily in his grief. He believed the prospecting expedition would help overcome the pain of his loss.

Butler's trial opened on 14 June, 1897, after he had been extradited from the USA. Attorney-General Jack Want prosecuted and Butler was found guilty and hung at Darlinghurst Gaol on 16 July, 1897. The last face he saw was the hangman's, Robert "Nosey Bob" Howard.

"Infamous Australian Crimes" by Alan Sharpe

## WILLIAMS, CECILIA, MARY, ROSALIE

Murder Victims

Children aged 2, 3 and 5 Died 4 February, 1924, Paddington Grave: 7158 Church of England Special, Section 14

Paddington landlady preparing rooms for reletting made a gruesome discovery. Under the bedclothes lay the bodies of three beautiful little girls, their nightgowns caked with dried blood which had gushed from their razor-slashed throats. Their widowed father, Edward Williams, was arrested for the crime. A music professor, in debt and unable to care for his children, he decided to kill his "little angels" so they could be with God. On the morning of 29 April, 1924, Edward Williams was hung, despite the jury's recommendation for mercy.



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#### SIR ROBERT WISDOM

Barrister & Politician

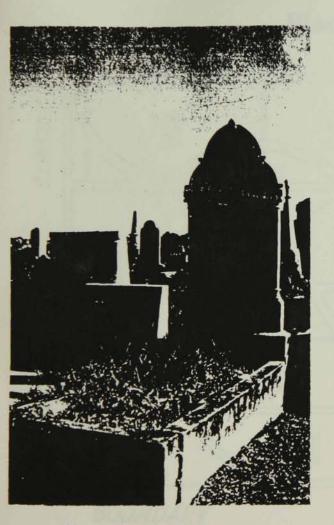
Born: 31 January, 1830, England Died: 16 March, 1888, Sydney Grave: 168/169 C of E Vault, Section 2

isdom was elected to Parliament after having served as Gold Commissioner for the Western Goldfields. Admitted to the Bar in 1861, he was Crown Prosecutor in 1874 and NSW Attorney-General from 1879-1882

He was prosecutor in the 1879 Wantabadgery bushranger case which tried Andrew George Scott, better known as "Captain Moonlite". Scott and Tom Rogan were found guilty of murder and hanged at Darlinghurst Gaol. Weighing 18 stone (252 lbs), Wisdom died of cirrhosis of the liver and kidneys, leaving a considerable fortune of 38,000 pounds.



The Bulletin 30.10.1880



Waverley Library Collection

## FREDERICK WILLIAM WOLGAST

Police Officer - Murdered

Born: 1891 Died: 22 January 1921 Grave: 105 General Special, Section 21

Police Constable Wolgast was on duty in Centennial Park when he was shot by a purse-snatcher. A young couple, Jack Kennedy and Winnie Phegan, were seated in the park when a man snatched the girl's handbag. Kennedy immediately gave chase, shouting "Stop him, thief!" Wolgast took up the chase with Kennedy. Finding he was being overtaken, the fugitive turned and fired a shot point-blank at the constable, who fell to the ground mortally wounded. Kennedy picked up the policeman's revolver and fired three shots, but the thief escaped and a 250 pounds reward for his capture was offered.

At Wolgast's funeral, the Police Band lead the cortege playing "Dead March", followed by over 200 members of the police force, including the Inspector-General, James Mitchell, who said: "When a man sacrificed his life in defence of law and order, he gave it for the benefit of the community and was a type of man the State could ill afford to lose".

