

## R.I.P. Scott Dillon

One of the original Brookvale Six, a larger-than-life character, a ratbag, pioneering surfer, stockcar racer, big-wave hellman, boxer, traveller, adventurer, inventor of Da Fin swinfins, father and friend to so many, the seemingly indestructible Scott Dillon died peacefully at 9.15 last night (Tuesday) aged 90.

Many who bumped into Scotty over the years - at his factory, showroom, Museum, festivals, comps, or simply heading for a surf - may remember his early morning catchcry as he threw his arms wide to exclaim grandly, "Let the day begin!"

Every day was a big one to Scotty, and a full life he led . . . Rest In Peace you diamond.

Check out a tribute at: [pacificlongboarder.com](http://pacificlongboarder.com)

## VALE Scott Brewster Dillon

August 19, 1928 – December 11, 2018

Raised in Bondi, Scott was body surfing with his father before he could walk. At the age of six he started to stand up and ride the waves.

Dillon's father, Joseph Dillon was Secretary-Treasurer of Bondi Surf Life Saving Club. At age 15 Dillon became a lifesaver with the club, having spent every weekend at the beach with his parents and siblings Helen Dillon and Josephine Dillon. His sister Helen went on to become a famous swimmer and competed in many triathlons, she was also featured in the swimming hall of fame.

Scott rode and paddled a 16-foot-long hollow, timber surf ski then called a 'toothpick' in the era before Malibu solid balsa surf boards.

He began free diving and spear fishing at Bondi in 1946 during the very early era of the sport, with Don Linklater, Andy Armstrong, Spud Murphy, Jack Murray and Vic Ley Sr before the foundation of the Underwater Spear Fisherman's Association (in 1952). He later went professional spearfishing in Ceylon for 12 months.

After World War II, Scott was a professional speedway driver. He began boxing at Bondi Surf Bathers' Life Saving Club boxing events. He was Australian Amateur Bantam Weight Champion 1952, at age 24. He won the main title for three consecutive years, and narrowly missed competing in the 1952 Olympic Games in Melbourne. He departed for an overseas working holiday, lumber-jacking in Canada and Alaska and professional boxing televised in Canada and the northern US. During that time he surfed the biggest waves he could find in Mexico, Hawaii and California.

He returned home in 1957 and set up the platform for his surfboard business with Noel Ward and the partnership of Ward and Dillon Surfboards was born. In 1959 he went alone and Dillon Surfboards moved to the northern beaches of Sydney where a new factory and showroom was set up at Brookvale. This suburb would become the mecca for the surfboard shaping industry as we know it today.

He began the company Scott Dillon Surfboards at Brookvale making longboards in 1961. Other manufacturers starting at that time were Gordon Woods, Barry Bennett, Bill Wallace, McDonagh and Keyo. The first boards were solid Malibu-style, made of balsa wood which preceded foam boards. He continued this until 1967.

During the expansion of his business Scott was always looking for that adrenalin rush and was a well known big wave rider and manufacturer of highly valued big wave guns. In the early 60's he was shaping for guys like Nat Young and was instrumental in giving shaping knowledge to Bob McTavish. He also pioneered the first polyurethane foam surfboard blank. After radical changes and the emergence of the short-board era many of the early pioneers closed up shop and Scott was one of them. He moved to Coffs Harbour and opened the Legend Surf Museum in 2001. He continued to surf and do the odd shaping now and then. The Legends Surf Museum was forced to close in 2011 when major highway reconstruction began.

Dillon attended major surf riding events in Hawaii, France and UK since his first visit to Hawaii in 1963. He visited Hawaii every year since 1963 until recent years. He represented Australia at

each Oahu surf championship from 1963 to 1975. He was the first to surf Bare Island Bombora (Botany Bay, Sydney), with an estimated wave height of 10 metres.

#### Design

Among the early manufacturers Scott Dillon was considered the master in big wave guns (closely followed by Les Patterson at Dale Surfboards - Bob McTavish/Pods for Primates Part 1).

Consistent high standards of manufacture are evident in boards from all eras and the Scott Dillon Surfboard Collection has many fine examples of professional restoration. Many commentators have noted the use of various fin designs and particularly the quality of fin construction.

Decal design 'developed' from O'Neill Surfboards/Wetsuits, Santa Barbara California.

Developed first Australian use of rice paper decals, circa 1959. Experimented with factory neighbour, Jim Ilsaft? of Itmas Printing who was producing books for the religious market. The early results, using quality Bible paper, encouraged the company to specialise in surfboard decals under the brand Jim the Printer. The company went on to be a major supplier to the industry well into the 1980's.

One of the Brookvale Six - Sydney manufacturers with national sales and reputation in the ten years 1962 to 1972.

#### Manufacturing

1. Ward - Dillon with Noel Ward, Shed, Wellington Lane Bondi
2. Rear shed, Hardware and General, cnr Pittwater Road and Winbourne Road Brookvale
3. 41 Winborne Road Brookvale (down ramp)
4. 39 Winborne Road Brookvale

These pioneering artisans, Barry Bennett, Scott Dillon, Denny Keogh, Greg McDonagh, Bill Wallace and Gordon Woods became known as 'The Brookvale Six'. The transition from long wooden paddle boards, known as "tooth picks", to the modern "Malibu Chip" surfboard first began in 1956, when American lifeguards arrived in Australia for an international surf carnival being held in conjunction with the Melbourne Olympics at Torquay in Victoria. As soon as the Brookvale board builders saw the surfboards the Americans had brought with them, and the manoeuvres they could perform, the race was on to secure one of them to use as a prototype. Gordon Woods jumped in his car and drove 600 miles to make an offer. By 1958, Bennett had formed the core of The Brookvale Six, building Malibu Chip boards from balsa wood – and by the start of the 1960s, surfboard riding really began to take off when the Brookvale pioneers produced the first lightweight foam boards, kicking off a huge Australian surfing boom.

### **Bombora Surfboards 1962 - 1965**

Bulk order of stock 'pop out' boards - [Bombora](#)- for Kock and Kirby's, a chain store. The work was done by young apprentice shapers, for example

#### **Shaper/Surfers**

**3 - 4.** Midget Farrelly, Nat Young, Bob McTavish,

**1964**

Glen Ritchie (Model) Bob Pike, Mick Dooley, Ron Wade, Bob 'Keno' Kennerson (spelling?), Gordon Merchant,

**1966**

*R.W.* (Ron Wade)

**1968**

Brian Ingham

**1974**

**5.** 3 / 18 Gaudrons Road Korora via Coffs Harbour NSW 2450

Phone : 61 02 6653 6536 email : dafin @ key.net.au  
John Blanch, Billy Urbany (USA), Chris Horne ,

Photos: IN LINE on South Bondi Beach are members of the South Bondi Board Club. From left are Scott Dillon, "Bluey" Mayes, Andy Cochran, Rod Cartlidge, Barry Ross, and Des Price. Some wear long pants, and have foam rubber built into the knees, to protect their legs, especially when paddling their surfboards out to catch a wave. From Hot doggers' of the surf (1958, December 3). The Australian Women's Weekly (1933 - 1982), p. 3. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article48077087>

Scott Dillon Bare Island Bombora 1962

photo Jack Eden, sourced in Margan and Finney's A Pictorial History of Surfing 1970, p 269

Scott Dillon surfed the fabled Bare Island bombie at the entrance to Botany Bay in 1962.

Sources: Rare Surf Trees, Wikipedia, Surf Research, Sydney Living Museums

Facing tumultuous seas yesterday, a batch of 18 aspirants for their bronze medallion were put through their test at Bondi, and not one of them failed. So lively was the surf that the buoys kept breaking away. Alan Rennix was sent out, and stayed out till the aspirants reached him.

A. Kinghorn, B. Cummins, and Bill Douglass were highly complimented by the examiners, Messrs. R. Doyle, T. Glazebrook, and J. Lackey, on the courage and efficiency the candidates displayed.

The highly-commended ones were: J. Watson, A. Raynor, Joseph Dillon, A. Prevenen, J. Hearne, H. Gibson, Phil Maher, R. Doernan, A. Kirkman, D. Mackay, W. Mackay, S. Newman, K. Francis, H. D. Hedstrom, S. Croydon, A. Finch, D. New, L. Minty, R. Wilson and V. Looker, of Bondi, passed for their instructors' certificates. Surf Club Splashes (1932, December 19). *The Daily Telegraph (Sydney, NSW : 1931 - 1954)*, p. 9. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article247326138>

## Surf Boat Holed

### HEAVY SEA AT BONDI

North Bondi's new surf boat was badly damaged in! yesterday's heavy seas. It will be repaired in time for the State championships on March 22, but the club's old boat is considered unsafe for training. The boat was being taken out to get the buoys after the surf race had been called off owing to heavy seas. Despite the crew's efforts, the boat was within 50 yards of being dashed on Ben Buckler when Ken Hawthorne, the club's champion, reached it with a line. The boat was towed to the beach while; the crew swam ashore. Hawthorne was badly stung by bluebottles, and was treated at the clubhouse. Col. Hendy, the club's belt champion, and Ron Goode swam with a line to the buoys, and they in turn were pulled into the beach.

## Human Buoys

Guided by North Bondi's experience, Bondi officials refused to allow their boat to take out buoys for Bondi's surf race. Jack Dillon and Steve Duff acted as buoys for the race. They were tossed about for nearly 15 minutes, while the race was in progress. Dillon is the vice-captain of the Bondi Club, and Duff, who is captain of South Narrabeen's crack rescue and resuscitation team, was visiting Bondi.

Norman Bennett and Leon Ferguson, who finished first and second respectively in the surf race, had a trying experience. Bennett caught a wave shortly after rounding the human buoys and beat Ferguson by 10 yards. Heavy seas and the danger of getting boats to the beach prevented any water events being held at the Era carnival. Maroubra Club won all the beach events. Surf Boat Holed (1941, March 10). *The Daily Telegraph* (Sydney, NSW : 1931 - 1954), p. 12. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article247567306>

The Bondi Surf Bathers' Life Saving Club is officially recognised by SLSA as the oldest surf lifesaving club in the world. It is an Australian icon and holds an indelible position in Australian history – see [National Museum Display](#).

### *100 Swim Close To Shark*

#### **STRONG WIND MUFFLES ALARM BELL**

*A shark cruised for 10 minutes within 50 yards of more than 100 surfers at North Bondi yesterday. A strong southerly wind prevented the swimmers from hearing the shark bell alarm.*

*While some surf club members blew whistles or shouted warnings, others swam to the surfers and ordered them to the beach. Beach Inspector Les Davidson swam 150 yards to warn some swimmers. The North Bondi Club's surf-boat crew chased the shark to sea. **S. Dillon, a Bondi Club member**, was beyond the breakers on a surfboard when he saw the shark swimming towards North Bondi. He returned to the beach and reported the shark to the Bondi Club beach patrol. The patrolman sent the alarm to North Bondi Club. Sharks also appeared at Maroubra and Bronte beaches. Surf-club crews drove the sharks away. Caught In Rip Several Manly and Narrabeen surfers were in difficulties when they were caught in strong rips.. Manly lifesavers made 30 rescues. North Steyne beltmen Jack Sallick and Peter Geary each swam 75 yards to rescue a woman and a boy who had been swept out simultaneously. North Narrabeen lifesaver Harry Paul rescued a boy who was being swept towards rocks. Because of bad weather, only small crowds attended the beaches. Seaweed banked up to a depth of 3ft. in the bathing area at Cronulla. Earlier heavy seas washed seaweed on to most of the beach. Cronulla Surf Club vice-captain (W. Philpott) said that the weed would give off an offensive smell when it dried out. 100 Swim Close To Shark (1948, February 9). *The Daily Telegraph* (Sydney, NSW : 1931 - 1954), p. 5. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article248279140>*

*Sharks menace lifesavers on surfboards at Bondi (1949, January 14). The Sun (Sydney, NSW : 1910 - 1954), p. 1 (LATE FINAL EXTRA). Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article230238556>*

Surf Boat Holed (1941, March 10). *The Daily Telegraph* (Sydney, NSW : 1931 - 1954), p. 12. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article247567306>

**Charlie Sale Bondi Surf Club wrestling instructor, 13 December 1942 / photographed by Alec Iverson**

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*COLOMBO'S exclusive Otter Club will affiliate shortly with the Surf Life Saving Association of Australia. Former Bondi Surf Club coach, Harry ("Salty") Nightingale, is pioneering the surf movement at Colombo, where he is teaching swimming. Nightingale recently gave an exhibition belt swim, R & R and a surfboard display in rough surf. It's rough because of the monsoons, but "child's play" compared with Australian surf, he says, in a letter to Geoff Allen. Nightingale is already training three squads for surf lifesaving medallions and has supervised the manufacture of three reels, five surfboards and three surf skis. Squads are being formed by colleges, and the police.*

*Nightingale says he visited the palace of the last of the Singalese princes to teach him to swim. Close to the shore of a large lake, Nightingale demonstrated arm and leg actions in the water and after an hour looked up and saw natives on either bank with .303 rifles pointed at the water. "What is all the artillery for?" asked Nightingale. "Oh, that," replied the prince. "Sometimes a crocodile visits us and I would not like to see you taken before you teach me to swim." Nightingale is coaching 15 selected Ceylon swimmers for the 1948 London Olympic Games. He gives them a strenuous preparation modelled on Japanese methods. Although times are comparatively slow, all the trainees are making good progress. The Surf Lifesaving Association of Australia may send a team to Ceylon this summer, says Association publicity officer Jack Dillon. Reel alarm among the crocs (1947, September 7). *The Sun* (Sydney, NSW : 1910 - 1954), p. 27. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article228974737>*

### *Men Reach Ceylon On Novel Tour*

*COLOMBO, Friday.-Three young Australians, who are spearfishing their way around the world, have arrived in Ceylon, where they plan to spend a month. They are Messrs. Bruce Laird (28), a stevedore, and the New South Wales heavyweight boxing champion, Scott Dillon (24), travelling salesman and the amateur bantamweight boxing champion, and Barry McGuigan (28), a butcher, who is an expert surfboard rider. The trio expect to take four years over their trip, which will include England and Canada. -Reuters. Men Reach Ceylon On Novel Tour (1953, April*

25). *The West Australian* (Perth, WA : 1879 - 1954), p. 20. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article55799302>

### SIX TRAVEL EUROPE IN AN OLD TAXI

*DUSSELDORF, Tues.-Six young Australians who arrived in Dusseldorf in a 20-year-old London taxi caused a traffic jam when hundreds crowded round their vehicle. The taxi, bought for £68/5/, had a chimney pot tied to the spare tyre and a large brush to the front hood. A white dotted line was painted down one of the cab doors. The door bore in large white letters the inscription: "To open tear along the dotted line."*

*The Taxi's six owners, who left Sydney on April 1, are Scott Dillon (25), salesman; Bruce Laird (29), stevedore and former heavyweight wrestler; Barry MacGuigan (24), butcher and surfboard rider, all of Sydney, and three 22-year-old Melbourne men-Adrian Gallienne, accountant, J. Beard, engineer and swimming' champion, and Jim Goodwin, tailor. The Australians' baggage is filled with beer mats, hotel labels, coins and souvenirs they have already collected in Ceylon, India, Egypt, Britain, France, Belgium, Denmark, Sweden and Norway. SIX TRAVEL EUROPE IN AN OLDTAXI (1953, July 29). *The West Australian* (Perth, WA : 1879 - 1954), p. 9. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article49223241>*

### BOARDS FOR TEENAGERS

A new system enabling teenagers to purchase surfboards from as little as 5/ a week, has been introduced by a retail store organisation.

The store, Nock & Kirby's, with a branch in Fairfield, is offering all types of surfboards in its easy purchase scheme for teenagers. A complete range of boards, including famous names such as Scott Dillon, Wallace, and N & K's own Bombora, are available. Since the offer was introduced; there has been a large Influx of teenage business, according to a store spokesman. BOARDS FOR TEENAGERS (1964, November 25). *The Biz* (Fairfield, NSW : 1928 - 1972), p. 2. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article189523809>

Advertising (1964, September 23). *The Canberra Times* (ACT : 1926 - 1995), p. 18. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article131750463>

Advertising (1964, November 25). *The Biz* (Fairfield, NSW : 1928 - 1972), p. 11. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article189523813>

North Bondi Surf Club series, 20 October 1938 / photographed by Ivan Ives

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BONDI. — Christmas Handicap Surf Race: R. Buckley 1, H. **Dillon** 2, F. Harvey 3. Senior Belt Championship — Heat 1: D. Russell 1, C. Moore 2. D. McDougal 3. Heat 2: J. Ferguson 1, J. Gillie 2, M. Downes 3.

Junior Belt Championship — First Round: R. Daniels 1, W. Jones 2, B. Smith, P. McClarty 3. Beach Teams: R. Bird's team 1 GOLF (1948, December 20). *The Daily Telegraph (Sydney, NSW : 1931 - 1954)*, p. 14. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article248352641>

BONDI.— Surf Race: S. Dillon 1, R. Mulholland 2, L. Steinberg 3. General Sport Results (1949, January 10). *The Daily Telegraph (Sydney, NSW : 1931 - 1954)*, p. 13. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article248256549>

## Scott Dillion tests the strength of a surfboard

Date:c 1963

Dimensions:

Overall: 290 × 400 mm

Medium:Photograph on paper

Credit Line:ANMM Collection Gift from Dawn and Jack Eden

Object Copyright:© Jack Eden

Classification:[Photographs](#)

Object Name:Photograph

Object No:ANMS1078[051]

Victoria Barracks, NSW. 20 July 1966. Nearly \$500 worth of surfboard equipment was donated Australian Army troops serving in South Vietnam by seven manufacturers. Pictured receiving the equipment from Denis McDonagh of McDonagh Bros Surf Boards Pty, Ltd, Harbord Road, Brookvale, is the Acting Chief of Staff, Colonel P. Tancred (second from left). The manufacturers with their gifts are, left to right: Messrs Lance Platt (L. and J. Platt, Surfrider Boards Shorts, Foam Street, Harbord); Danny Keogh (Keogh Surf

Boards Pty Ltd, Sydenham Road, Brookvale); Scott Dillon (Scott Dillon Surf Boards Pty Ltd, Winbourne Road, Brookvale); **Bob Brewster** (Manly Surf Shop and Stor-A-Bord, Pittwater Road, Manly); Gordon Woods (Gordon Woods Surf Boards Pty Ltd, Harbord Road, Brookvale); Bill Wallace (Wallace Surf Boards, Winbourne Road, Brookvale); Barry Bennett (Barry Bennett Surf Boards Pty Ltd, Harbord Road, Brookvale).

### *"DOWN THE MINE" ON SURFBOARDS*

*By KERRY YATES*

*"Who are these handsome surfboard champions? Where are these beaches?*

*Can I REALLY learn to ride a board from the instructions in the book?"*

*THESE were just a few of the questions I fired at 19-year-old Sydney boy Lee Cross.*

*Lee, a suntanned blond from Bronte Beach, had just shown me a copy of the "Australian Surfer," a book which he had written and published himself.*

*PETER THOMAS, of Manly (left), wearing zip-tweeds, "goes down the mine" at Fairy Bower. Below, three of Sydney's outstanding riders show what they can do on a surfboard - (from left), Johnny Payne, of Newport, rides toes-on-the-nose. Bob Evans, of Queenscliff, ready for a "head dip" (diving off), and Bernard "The Midget" Farrelly doing a perfect "quasimoto." Ron Perrott, of Harbord, took the pictures on this page and the one at the foot of the opposite page.*

*"Grab your swimsuit next Sunday morning," he offered. ' "and we'll lx- oH with my surf board to lind out."*

*So at 8 o'clock that Sunday morning Lee and some of his surfing mates called in a car with surfboards tied on the roof to take me along on their usual weekend wave hurr*

*The forecast wras that the best surf would be rolling on Synev's northern beaches, M*

*decided to start at Fairy Bower, near Manly. Travelling north to Palm Beach, wc would have 16 surf beaches to choose from*



*The boys said they would look for "hot-dogging" waves (long, tapering swells; on uni. they could "go down the mini (ride their boards, sometimes hundreds of yards*

*We beeped our car horn to a passing truck with surfboard piled on top. I buttoned a heavy coat over a chunky sweater and began to feel excited about surfing on a sunny winter's day.*

*As we crossed Sydney Harbor Bridge to the north side ( I was strictly a south-sider, coming from Bondi!), Lee Cross told me a little about himself and why he wrote his book on surfing.*

*Lee has been a keen surf-board rider for four years and spends most of his weekends and holidays riding the waves. Since he left high school two years ago he has worked with a North Sydney advertising company.*

*He believes that surfing should be given more encouragement as a world-wide sport.*

*DAVID JACKMAN, of Harbord, on one of the mighty waves surging over the Queenscliff bombora last June.*

*So Lee set out to produce a book about the Australian surfer, the best surfing spots, how to ride a surfboard, about the new South Pacific Surf Riders' Club (the first successful attempt to form a club to cater for the needs of the surfboard rider), with pictures and news about the local champions.*

*And he did just that, with the help of some of his teenage surfing mates.*

*The dramatic cover shot of a surfboard rider was taken by 17-year-old Terry Flemming, of Bronte, a trainee photographer with the Sydney Water Board.*

*Illustrations and jokes were drawn by an 18-year-old East Sydney Tech, art student, David Letts, of Newport.*

*Lee was telling me of his plans to bring out a second edition of the book before the end of the year when we arrived at Fairy Bower.*

*One of the "Bower Boys" yelled that the "waves were on" and the surf was "too much" (his term for fabulous).*

*We raced to the top of a cliff overlooking the spot where the boards were starting their journey "down the mine," about one mile off Manly Beach.*

*The surf looked wild and rough, but the boys had it mastered, and the champs of this area, like "Nipper" Williams, Hob Pike, and Glen Richie (all pictured in the book), dared to ride with no fear of hitting the craggy stone bottom.*

*BOB PIKE, a renowned "Bower Boy" is hit by a backwash from the beach while cutting across a wave.*

*We were off again, giving Manly a miss, and were heading for a closer view of the Queenscliff bombora.*

*The great bombora, where the sea surges over seven layers of rock, nearly two miles out from North Steyne Beach, thunders in a big sea.*

*It has been conquered by only a handful of boys, including 21-year-old Dave Jackman, of Freshwater.*

*Three months ago "Jacko" successfully cracked four of the mighty bombora waves. (See picture above.)*

*Northwards again, we passed Freshwater, Curl Curl, Dee-why, and Long Reef without stopping. The surf was too big and there was danger of losing surfboards, which would go crashing against the rocks and so "ding" (a bang which splits the fibreglass on a surfboard) badly.*

*The boys told me that Long Reef usually supplies the works-everything from 3ft. to 30ft. waves. The top man among some mighty locals of this area is Peter Clare, the senior surf-board champion for 1961.*

*The Collaroy boys were really "hot-dogging" on "Pitt Street" shoots (waves with five or six riders catching them), but we were off to find where the surfboard riders from the south side had "camped" for the day.*

*We didn't have to go far. As we reached the sands of North Narrabeen we could see cars, surfboards, and riders, and we knew that this was THE beach for the best surf.*

*Shark scare*

*North Narrabeen is best known as the "home-water" for Bernard ("The Midget") Farrelly. At 16 "The Midget," a surfboard-maker by trade, is the junior champion of the Sydney surf-riders, and in November he is going to Hawaii to compete in the International Surfing Championships.*

*Lee Cross and his friends untied their surfboards from the top of the car, changed into their "zip-tweeds," and were off into the surf.*

*I was at the edge of the water, reach to take my first plunge of the season, when there was a yell and everyone headed for shore. I looked out to sea about 150 yards and saw three shark fins circling the area.*

*Everyone was quick to agree to head further north in search of another beach.*

*But we were out of luck. At every beach the waves were too big for me, so we headed back to Collaroy, where we watched the experts do their surfing tricks.*

*Some were riding "toes on the nose" (standing with feet on the front of the board), some were going for a "wipe out" instead of cutting off a wave when it begins to dump, they keep on riding it till they are thrown off the board), and others were crouching in "quasi-moto" style (body bent nearly in two with one hand stretched out in front and one behind).*

*We knew that the surf back home at Bondi was flat, so the boys finally took me there to learn to ride a surfboard from the instructions in the "Australian Surfer."*

*I put a jumper over my swim-suit. The sun had gone and a wind was blowing, but I wanted to have just one go at trying to ride.*

*I found it easy to kneel on the board as long as I kept my hands paddling. I tried and tried to stand up in one action, as the book said I should, but I can't even do that on land!*

*LEE CROSS, 19, author and publisher of the "Australian Surfer," is an expert on the surfboard, too.*

*After about 30 minutes I learnt to stand in a strictly nonfeminine fashion (one leg struggling up after the other).*

*In spite of the comments from Lee and his mates that the fin must have been stuck in the sand" just because I could stand up, I was sure that I'd be a surf-board rider one day. "DOWN THE MINE" ON SURFBOARDS (1961, September 20). The Australian Women's Weekly (1933 - 1982), p. 4 (Teenagers' Weekly). Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article47249167>*

Surfboard team to race in Hawaii

By Kerry Yates

*REPRESENTING AUSTRALIA for the first time at the International Surfing Championships in Hawaii, these boys are members of the 20-strong team. From left: Owen Pilon, David Jackman, Mick McMahon, Bob Evans, Ian Wallis, Ken Bate, Graeme Treloar, Jim Geddes, and Graham Henry.*

*This week 20 Australian surfboard riders, eight of them teenagers, will meet in Hawaii to form a team to compete in the International Surfing Championships at Makaha Beach in December and January.*

*IT will be the first time Australia has been represented by an organised team at the championships, which bring competitors and spectators from all over the world every year.*

*All members of the team paid their own fares to realise this dream of most surfboard experts.*

*Some used the savings of two or three years to travel by ship. Others took advantage of an air-line company's "fly now, pay later" plan.*

*Unlike most overseas travellers, the boys didn't take much luggage. Swimsuits, "ziptweeds" (long pants worn on surfboards), and a few casual clothes were all they thought they'd need - so that's all they took.*

*And, of course, their boards! Each of them took two boards a special malibu-type, the light and easy-to-handle board used on most Australian beaches, and a big, solid "elephant-gun" board, used in heavy surf.*

*Bob Evans, of Narrabeen (one of Sydney's northern beaches), organised the team and arranged for it to compete in the championships. The boys will contest junior and senior surfboard champion-ships and body-surfing events.*

*The South Pacific Surf Riders' Club supplied the team with T-shirts in the Australian national colors-gold and green.*

*This newly formed club, which has a modern clubhouse at Narrabeen, hopes to sponsor an Australian team to Hawaii for the surfing titles each year.*

*The members of the Australian team are:*

*Bob Evans, at 32, is the oldest member of the team. He believes that some of the Sydney surf-riders will be a real challenge to the established champions from California.*

*David Jackman, 21, of Harbord, is a surfboard builder by trade and well known to Sydney board-riders as "Jacko," the boy who rode four big waves over the Queenscliff bombora earlier this year.*

*John Williams, 21, of Queenscliff, is another surfboard builder.*

*Owen Pilon, 18, of North Narrabeen, is a process worker in a city electrical firm and has saved for this trip since he started work several years ago.*

*Graham Henry, 20, of Harbord, is known as "Buz." He works hard at various jobs during the winter so that he can spend the whole of summer riding the waves.*

*Mike Hickey, 24, of Bilgola, gave up his job as an insurance clerk to become a member of the Australian team.*

*Jim Geddes, 17, of Narrabeen, sat for the last exam for his Leaving Certificate at his school, Waverley College, a few days before leaving Sydney for Hawaii.*

*Surfboard team to race in Hawaii (1961, December 6). The Australian Women's Weekly (1933 - 1982), p. 4 (Teenagers' Weekly). Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article51392771>*

## **SURFBOARD WIN TO AUSTRALIAN**

*HONOLULU, Wednesday (A.A.P.-Reuter)*

*Australian surfer, Bernard Farrelly of Sydney' won the world surfboard riding title to-day.*

*He captured the championship from nine of the most experienced surfers in the world at the end of an exciting international tournament at the famed Makaha Beach in Hawaii.*

*Experts who watched the final said Farrelly won because the conditions suited him better than the other finalists, who were all from Hawaii or California.*

*The finalists had to wait two days until tournament officials decided the waves were good enough to make surfing possible.*

*Farrelly showed remarkable control in his series of rides, building up his points tally, based on the length of ride and form displayed in catching a wave.*

*SURFBOARD WIN TO AUSTRALIAN (1963, January 3). The Canberra Times (ACT : 1926 - 1995), p. 20. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article104254829>*

## **DEPORTATION ORDER**

*Stowaways*

## **CHRISTMAS GOODWILL: SURFERS**

## *SENT HOME*

*Surfers Robin McTavish (left) and David Chidgey are pictured leaving the Federal Court in Honolulu yesterday after a judge had ordered their deportation to Australia. -Radio picture.*

*HONOLULU, Friday (A.A.P.). -Two nervous young Sydney surfers, Robert McTavish, 19, and David Chidgey, 17, were ordered to be deported from Hawaii today as illegal visitors who stowed away on the liner Orsova from Sydney.*

*They are expected to arrive in Australia tomorrow.*

*The judge in a "spirit of Christmas goodwill" agreed Federal charges would be dropped as long as the boys went back to Australia.*

*They appeared in court to-day, nervous and with several days' fuzzy growth on their faces but otherwise were clean but casually dressed.*

*They told reporters they arrived last month and had been camping out at Sunset Beach. They hoped to compete in the international surfing championships here.*

*They had lived mostly on "beer, peanuts and chocolates" during the eleven-day voyage to Honolulu, the Associated Press of America reported.*

*They said their trip to Honolulu was "really quite simple."*

*All it took was a visitor's pass.*

*They upset security measures of both the U.S. Government and the P. and O. Orient lines when they got their free trip undetected last month.*

*They boarded the Orsova in Australia on November 5, carrying satchels with bermuda and surfing shorts.*

*They said they walked up the gangplank, waved good-bye and were off-minus a one-way ticket, but with a total of £48 in their pockets.*

*A spokesman for P. and O. said the boys' fares were being paid so the company would not be fined for bringing the two youths into the country illegally, A.P. reported.*

## *Loophole*

*Elaborating on the "visitors pass" procedure, McTavish said that they asked the ship's purser for a visitor's pass, tore off the "boarding" section. and flashed the "disembarking" portion to guards as they got off.*

*Mr. O'Shea had declined earlier to say how they managed to get on and off the liner because it might be tried by others.*

*The loophole in security was being plugged to prevent it from recurring.*

*McTavish said they waited six hours after the other passengers left to make sure they would not be stopped by security guards.*

*Immigration officials discovered their presence in Hawaii from an Australian newspaper clipping and sought them out at Sunset Beach. DEPORTATION ORDER (1963, December 21). The Canberra Times (ACT : 1926 - 1995), p. 40. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article104283106>*

*Disqualified*

### *AUSTRALIAN SURFERS' ENTRIES REJECTED*

*HONOLULU, Sunday (A.A.P.). -Eight Australian surfers have been disqualified from the international surfing championship at Makaha Beach.*

*The surfers allegedly submitted their entries after the December 14 deadline. They are Scott Dillon, Bob Pike, Keith Southion, Mick Dooley, Ian Wallace, Barry Andreas, Terry Adams and Jack Mayes.*

*All had travelled from Sydney and showed up today to compete in the championships.*

*The Australians were upset at the judge's decision.*

*"Our group travelled 6,000 miles and spent about 20,000 dollars to come to Hawaii," Dillon said.*

*"Now they tell us we can't take part because of a minor technicality."*

*The chairman of the meeting, Wally Froiseth, said if an exception was made for Australians, the same would have to be done for others.*

*Waves*

*All three Australians who competed in preliminaries yesterday in the senior men's division. Kevin Platt, Rex Blanks and Barry Kelly, were eliminated.*

*Defending champion Bernard (Midget) Farrelly,, Queensland champion Dave Hines and Tasmanian champion Barry McGuigan, are Automatically seeded in the semi-finals.*

*Waves of between 20 and 30 ft., whipped up by midocean winds, are expected for more preliminaries tomorrow.*

### *Stowaways*

*In Sydney, Australia's two Stowaway surfboard riders, Robin McTavish, 19, and David Chidgey, 17, ran from reporters and photographers at Kingsford Smith Airport Yesterday when they returned from Hawaii.*

*The youths pushed their way through a large crowd outside the Customs Hall and ran to separate cars. McTavish was met by a friend who whisked him away in a station wagon to avoid cameramen.*

*Chidgey was met by his parents and a private investigator, Mr. S. Robson, and he also escaped being photographed and interviewed by running to his parents' car.*

### *Criticised*

*The youths made news this week when they were arrested in Honolulu and were charged with having illegally entered the United States.*

*They stowed away in the liner Orsova, arrived in Hawaii on December 1 and avoided detection until this week.*

*The F.B.I, yesterday decided that charges against the youths would be dropped if they returned to Australia.*

*The deputy chairman of P. and O.-Orient in Australia, Mr. J. D. Bates, criticised the youths' action yesterday.*

*"They have caused this company and the United States authorities much trouble and expense," Mr. Bales said.*

*"A fine of 20,000 dollars was imposed on the Orsova, and the company was forced to repatriate them by air at a cost of over £400," he said.*

*The company is seeking legal advice on the possibility of taking legal action against the youths.* 8 Disqualified AUSTRALIAN SURFERS' ENTRIES REJECTED (1963, December 23). The Canberra Times (ACT : 1926 - 1995), p. 28. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article104283198>

### SURF BOAT RACE AT NORTH BONDII.

At the North Bondii Surf Carnival on Saturday North Narrraheen again won Mie grand parade, and march-past, this being its sixth successive win. Bronte was second and Clovelly third.



The Surf Boat Race was won by North Cronulla A (J. Dillon, sweep, W. Newton, F. Maguire, A. Bett, and B. Bett), North Cronulla B being' second. SURF BOAT RACE AT NORTH BONDI. (1928, January 11). *Sydney Mail (NSW : 1912 - 1938)*, p. 38. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article158400473>

## ATHLETICS. '

### SPORTS AT LUNAWANNA.

The annual meeting of the Lunawanna Athletic Sports Club was held at Lunawanna last week in beautiful weather. The ground on which the event took place was kindly lent by Mr. W. H. Vaughan, J.P., of Thornbury-, and is an ideal one, being nicely sheltered by green timber, and commands a good view of that delightful seascape, Daniel's Bay. There was a good attendance of the public, including many visitors from Alonnah and Adventure Bay, who were excellently catered for by a good afternoon's sport and splendid refreshment booth, the latter being presided over by Mrs. R. Hawkins and a number of assistants. Mr. S. Buxton proved an able and indefatigable secretary, and, aided by a strong committee, got the events off with commendable promptitude. Appended is a list of the results :

Handicap Sawing Event, 15in. logs,- L. Hansson and A. Murray, scr., 1; A. Ohlson and G. Hansson, 2sec, 2.

Handicap Chop, 15in. lying logs.-A. Ohlson, 10sec, 1; Turnbull, scr., 2. Time, 1min. 19sec.

Handicap Chop. 12in. standing blocks. A. Ohlson, 10sec., 1; Turnbull, scr., 2. Time, 48 2-5sec.

Sheffield Handicap, 130yds.-W. Corney, 12yds., 1 A. Ohlson, 8yds., 2. Time, 14sec.

Maiden Handicap, 100yds.-W. Corney. 10yds., 1; H. Dillon. 14yds., 2. ATHLETICS. (1915, January 4). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 8. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article10399225>

## ATHLETICS.

### BRUNY SPORTS CLUB.

At a public meeting held at Alonnah last week Mr. E. J. Dillon (Warden of Bruny) in the chair,, the following were elected a committee to carry out the sports to be held in conjunction with the forthcoming Bruny Agricultural and Horticultural show, to be held at Alonnah ... ATHLETICS. (1916, March 11). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 8. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article1033564>

DILLON. - On March 12, 1931 (suddenly), at his residence, Glen Syne, Alonnah,; **John Joseph**, dearly beloved husband of Mary **Dillon**, aged 69. R.I.P. Funeral , will take place at Alonnah tomorrow (Saturday), after the arrival of the boat. Family Notices (1931, March 13). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 1. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article29900589>

## BRUNY ISLAND PIONEER

Late Mr. J. J. Dillon

### Alonnah's Early History

Our travelling correspondent writes: By the death of Mr. John Joseph Dillon, which occurred at his residence, Glensyon, Alonnah, on the 12th inst., at the age of 69 years, Bruny Island has lost one of its best known and most highly respected residents. Born at Port Cygnet, Mr. Dillon settled on Bruny Island about 46 years ago, one of the first enterprises in which he was engaged being that of procuring piles and beams for the Admiralty Works at Dover (England), In conjunction with his brother, Councillor E. J. Dillon, of Fermoy, Alonnah. Indeed, the deceased had considerable experience in the timber Industry there before and during his mixed farming venture at Alonnah.

Quite a large number of places In Tasmania enjoy the distinction of having been rechristened, as it were, and Alonnah is one of them, its original name, and the one by which it is frequently called to this day, being Mills's Reef, named after a man who lived there in the early days. A man called Carte, or Karte, is supposed to have been the first white resident of Mills's Reef, the land on which he settled there being a Government grant in the first instance. The native name for Bruny Island was "Lunawanna-alonnah," hence its preservation in the two Bruny settlements of Lunawanna and Alonnah.

One of the chief phases in the history and development of the district is that of education, and on April 30, 1900, the first school was opened at Alonnah, 12 children (seven girls and five boys) being in attendance, with a Miss Scharpentier as teacher. The humble bush schoolhouse is identical with that tumbledown, untenanted cottage situated midway between the Roman Catholic Church and Mrs. M. Murphy's residence, known now as "Barnes's old place."

With the progress of the locality came the justifiable agitation for better school accommodation, which came to a head when the late Mr. Dillon and his brother (above-mentioned), than whom none have done more for the district, or taken a deeper interest in its welfare, agreed to contribute £30 each on the £1 for £1 principle with the Government, towards the erection of a suitable building, which was immediately afterwards built in a convenient position, a mile from the local

Jetty, and half a mile from the existing lowly bush school by the side of the Alonnah-Adventure Bay Main Road. After serving as a school for some years, this building was turned into a school residence of four rooms by an addition being made to it, and a new schoolroom erected nearby. A few years ago the school building was removed bodily a distance of a mile and a half to a new site on the angle formed by the junction of the Simpson's Bay by-road with the main road referred to above, for the purpose of serving both Alonnah and Simpson's Bay districts. Besides Miss Scharpentier, the Misses Grace Edwards, Kate Grierson, Mabel A. Curley, Ida Ransley, Clara F. Jones, McMahon, and - Fahey, Mrs. F. H. Watson, and Messrs. Ernest E. Doering, Charles F. Woolnough, W. J. Rowlands, and A. P. B. Anderson, have served in a similar capacity, at Alonnah State School.

In 1913 a long-felt want was furnished by the acquisition of a public recreation ground, nearly five acres in extent, and the erection of a public hall thereon, at a cost in all of £200. This sum the Bruny Municipal Council borrowed from the Government, the local people giving the necessary security, the first committee of management being Messrs. E. J. Dillon (hon. secretary and treasurer), Olaf Ohlson, Alfred and John Adams, A. A. Swards, P. Hennessey, and the late Mr. Dillon. The following year a good cement cricket pitch was laid on the recreation ground. The local council meet monthly in an ante-room of the hall building.

The late Mr. Dillon's Glensyon property embraces an area of about 850 acres, of which some 12 acres are under orchard, with a good assortment of apples and pears, notably Sturmer, Five Crown Pippin, Jonathan, Ribston, Scarlet Pearmain, and Worcester Pearmain (apples), and Gibling's Seedling, and Winter Cole (pears). In the early varieties of apples he pinned his greatest faith to the Worcester Pearmain. In addition to orcharding, he carried out dairying, wool growing, small fruit culture, pig and cattle raising, and root cropping, with varying success, and his well-improved holding stands to-day as a fitting testimonial to his zealous spirit and untiring activities.

Married in early life to Miss Mary Burns, daughter of a well-known Adventure Bay family, the deceased had as issue, three sons and five daughters, all of whom are living- **Timothy, Edward and Maurice**, all of Alonnah, and Elizabeth (Mrs. A. Reynard, who has charge of the local post and telephone office). Myrtle (Mrs. J. J. Dwyer, New Norfolk), Annie (Mrs. A. A. Hansson (Alonnah), Catherine (Mrs. C. E. Hawkins, Alonnah), and Mary (Mrs. Hawkins, Lunawanna).

The Interment of the late Mr. Dillon In the Alonnah Cemetery on Saturday was very largely attended. BRUNY ISLAND PIONEER (1931, March 20). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 6. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article29901466>

## BRUNY PIONEER

### Late Mr. E. J. Dillon, J. P. Alonnah's Early History

By the death of Mr. Edmund Jonas Dillon, which occurred at his residence, Fermoy, Alonnah, on September 23 (our travelling correspondent writes), Bruny Island has lost one of its best known and most highly respected residents.

Born at Port Cygnet in 1859, Mr. Dillon settled on Bruny Island about 46 years ago, and one of the first enterprises in which he was engaged was that of procuring piles and beams for the Admiralty works at Dover (England), in conjunction with his brother, the late Mr. John Joseph Dillon, of Glensyon, Alonnah, who died on March 12 last. The first piles and beams in connection with their contract were obtained on that part of Alonnah which now comprises Mr. Frank Turner's farm and orchard property. Indeed, Mr. E. J. Dillon had considerable experience in the timber industry there before and during his mixed farming venture at Alonnah.

A large number of places in Tasmania enjoy the distinction of having been re-christened, so to speak, and Alonnah is one of them, its original name, and the one by which it still is often called, being Mills's Reef, named after a man who lived there in the early days. A man named Carte, or Karte, is supposed to have been the first white resident of Mills's Reef, the land on which he settled there having been a Government grant in the first instance. The native name for Bruny Island was "Luna-wanna-alonnah," hence its preservation in the two Bruny settlements of Lunawanna and Alonnah.

### THE FIRST SCHOOL.

One of the chief phases in the history and development of the district was that of education, and on April 30, 1900, the first school was opened at Alonnah, 12 children (seven girls and five boys) having attended, with a Miss Scharpentier as teacher. The humble bush schoolhouse is identical with the tumbledown, untenanted cottage mid-way between the Roman Catholic Church and Mrs. M. Murphy's residence, known now as "Barnes's old place."

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converted into a school residence of four rooms by an addition being made to it, and a new schoolroom erected near by. A few years ago the school building was removed bodily a distance of a mile and-a half to a new site on the angle formed by the junction of the Simpson's Bay by-road with the main road mentioned, for the purpose of serving both Alonnah and Simpson's Bay districts. In addition to Miss Scharpentier, the Misses Grace Edwards, Kate Grierson, Mabel A. Curley, Ida Ransley, Clara F. Jones, C. Mc-Mahon, and Fahey, Mrs. F. H. Wat-son, Messrs. Ernest E. Deering, Charles F. Woolnough, W. J. Rowlands, and A. P. B. Anderson have served in a similar capacity at Alonnah State school.

#### RECREATION GROUND.

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#### THE "FERMOY" HOLDING

The late Mr. Dillon's "Fermoy" holding embraces an admirably situated and compact area of 100 acres, of which seven are under full-bearing orchard, a portion of which, was the first planted at Alonnah 30 years ago. An exceedingly fertile little valley traverses a part of the property, and a number of hawthorn trees by the roadside leading to the comfortable residence remind one of old English home surroundings. The principal varieties of apples and pears in "Fermoy" orchard comprise Ribston, Dutch Mignonne, Jonathan, Cleopatra, Vicar of Winkfield (Napoleon), and Beurre Diel.

Besides orcharding, Mr. E. J. Dillon carried on dairying, potato-growing, and pig-raising. His well-improved property stands to-day as a fitting monument to his industry and forethought. He was made a J.P. some years ago.

A man of true public spirit, during his long and almost unbroken association with the public affairs of Bruny Island, he was a member of the old Bruny Road Trust until 1907, and filled the chair on a number of occasions. He became a councillor for the Lunawanna Ward (which included Alonnah) under the new Local-Government Act which followed, until 1917 when he was defeat-ed for the first time; was Warden for two years, from May, 1915, to April, 1917: subsequently, he was again elected for his old ward, and was treasurer of the Bruny Municipal Council at the time of his death, a position he had occupied for many years.

In 1912 the late Mr. Dillon was appointed manager of the Adventure Bay sawmill, a position he filled for 12 months. Some years later he was engaged by Mr. H. G. Gray, of Hobart, to superintend the work of procuring piles for the wharf building operations at Cape Portland, Victoria; and in 1918 and 1919 was manager of Messrs. Gourlay's Junee sawmills at Fitzgerald.

In early life, he married Miss Agnes Dunckell, of Adventure Bay, whose death took place on January 29, 1919, and had a family of five sons and four daughters - Henry, Frank (who served in the Great War), Robert, Patrick, and Edward, and Doris (Mrs. Kohl), Gladys (Mrs. Gordon Hawkins), Ellen (Mrs. R. Burdon, who died a few days after her father), and Amy (unmarried).

The funeral of Mr. Dillon at the Alonnah Cemetery was largely attended, the Rev. Father Arthur Cullen having conducted the service. BRUNY PIONEER (1931, October 10). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 13. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article29927869>

#### **BOTANY HARRIERS.**

The **Botany Harriers** yesterday conducted their Horan Medal 2 Miles Handicap road race with the start and finish at Bay-street, **Botany**. Hayden's time was a record for the race. Results : F. Burchett (65oec), actual time 1X.U, 1 ; II. A. Stone (SO), 1J.S0, 2 ; J. H. **Dillon** (65), 11.21. 3; H. Ilayden (10), 10.27. 4 ; C. Grandcmangc (601, 11.18, S ; H. de Wacey (85). 12, C ; M. J. firandeminge (10),.m48, 7; K. N. Smith (35), 11.21, 8 ; .1. Ciarley (do), 12.1S, 9.

The **Botany Harriers** will hold a special meeting on Wednesday night at the Sports Club. **BOTANY HARRIERS.** (1920, May 23). *Sunday Times (Sydney, NSW : 1895 - 1930)*, p. 7. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article120530360>

#### **AMATEUR ATHLETICS.**

(By. J. A. Edwards.)

Wednesday next will find activity centred on the North Hobart Ground, when a 100yds., 220jrds., and S80yds. handicap events will be held. The twilight sprinting will be held frequently, possibly again in a fortnight to work up for the track championships, which will take place in March or April. A definite date for the latter will soon be available, and this depends entirely on the Cricket Association. It was thought that the North Hobart Ground would ease the sports difficulty, and ensure same being available when required, but it appears that sport other than cricket or football are to be as far in the background as of yore. The committee controlling the approaching Blind Institution benefit have fixed February 24, when amateur races -will form portion of the programme.

Entries for next Wednesday will be received up till to-day, handicaps being available in Tuesday's press. Quite a few mainland athletes have been visiting Hobart. Mr. Dillon, of East Sydney, and a prominent half-miler, was disappointed at not having a race whilst here. Mr. W. Porter, of the same club, is at present in Hobart, after having completed a world tour, and will don the shoe in the half-mile on Wednesday night. Mr. Porter is a runner of brilliance, notably of distances, and stands 6ft 5in. in his socks. He competed in the New South Wales team at the last Australasian C.C.C. held in Melbourne, and will be well remembered by the members of the Tassy team. ...AMATEUR ATHLETICS. (1923, January 13). *World (Hobart, Tas. : 1918 - 1924)*, p. 2. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article190281764>

75yds, 1; Corish, 75yds, 2.; J. H. Dillon, 35yds, 3. BOTANY HARRIERS. (1924, June 2). *The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954)*, p. 15. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article16155131>

#### BOTANY HARRIERS

Two events were carried out by the Botany Club at the Sydney Cricket Ground during the football match interval. Result:

880yds Scratch Relay Race. M'Kenile, 1; L. Chum, 2; K. Ouriangliain, 1; J. H. Dillon, 1; H. Dennett, W. W. Hunt, 2; R. S. Caldwell, 0. Lbart, A. A. Payne, 8. Time, 1m 44s.

830yds Handicap. -H. Dennett, 60yds. 1; J. H. Dillon,

Fix this text 35yds, E; R. O. Corish, 0.0j, 8. Time, 2m 2s. BOTANY HARRIERS. (1924, June 30). *The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954)*, p. 7. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article16133245>

#### BOTANY HARRIERS.

220yds Championship. -W. McIvory, 1; W. W. Hunt, 2; G. Golding, 3. Time, 24s.

One Mile -H. S. Grandemange, 1; O. McKenzie, 2; M. J. Grandemange, 3. Time, 4m 43s,

Three Miles Walk. -A. Bennett, 1; J. H. Dillon, 2. M. Burke, 3, Time, 27m 20s.

BOTANY HARRIERS. (1926, February 15). *The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954)*, p. 7. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article16273887>

#### ATHLETICS.

##### *HIS AMBITION Dillon Shines At Rose Bay*

*HARRY DILLON, the ex-Botany harrier, is keen upon a journey to Adelaide next August as a New South Wales representative in the 10,000 metres cross-country championship of Australia and New Zealand. Judging by his display yesterday, he will have his ambition fulfilled.*

*Competing in the 41 miles road race staged by the East Sydney Amateur Athletic Club at Rose Bay, he completed the journey from actual scratch in 25 minutes 30 seconds, an average of 6 minutes 33 seconds per mile. This itself is fast travelling, but there is more merit than meets the eye, as his run was alone. Usually Milton*

*Cameron shares the mark of honor, but yesterday was an absentee owing to a heavy cold. Stan McAlister ran well to secure second place, while limit-marker Frank Ward, the ex-South Sydney. He surprised the handicapper by gaining third position. Ward, although only fifteen, is an object lesson to those many years his senior by his enthusiasm, determination, and good sportsmanship. ATHLETICS. (1927, May 15). Truth (Sydney, NSW : 1894 - 1954), p. 5. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article168680658>*

A telegram was received from Mr. H. Dillon, agreeing to act as delegate for Tasmania at the conference of the Australian Swimming Union at Sydney in February. Mr. Burrows stated that he would be in Sydney at the time of the conference, and would render, "Mr. Dillon" all possible assistance. SWIMMING (1928, January 26). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 13. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article24202292>

## AMATEUR ATHLETICS

T.A.A.A.

### CHAMPIONSHIP DATES.

The monthly meeting of the Council of the T.A.A.A. was held at the A.M.O.A., Hobart, last evening. There was a full attendance of members. Mr. C. J. Searl was chairman.

Mr. H. Dillon, an ex-Tasmanian, and the New South Wales champion middle-distance runner, attended and gave an interesting talk on the organisation of and training in amateur athletics in that State. He stressed the point of regular training.

G. Walker (O.H.A.) was registered.

Correspondence was read from the Victorian Athletic Association stating that the 10,000 cross-country championship of Australia would be held in Melbourne on August 5, and from the Australian Women's A.A. Union, stating that the Australian women's championships would be held in Melbourne on March 25.

March 18 was fixed for the Tasmanian championships on the North Hobart oval, weather permitting.

A sub-committee was appointed to make general arrangements for the championships, and for a reunion of the old runners at a smoke social on championship night, and to draw up a roster for the twilight sports for the remainder of the season.

Mr. Hart donated a starting pistol.



## TWILIGHT SPORTS

### H. J. DILLON (N.S.W.) TAKES PART.

(NOTES BY "HARRIER.")

The Tasmanian Amateur Athletic Association conducted a successful sports meeting at the North Hobart oval last evening, excellent fields and a large crowd witnessed the keen finishes.

H. J. Dillon (N.S.W.) competing In the 880yds. from scratch, ran excellently, finishing ahead of Barwick, his co-marker, but the long limit made it an Impossible task to be placed. A. O'May (Sandy Bay) won comfortably.

The 100yds. was run in three heats, the final being won by E. Turner (O.H.A.), Slate High School champion last year.. Results: ... AMATEUR ATHLETICS (1933, February 9). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 14. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article24691912>

### AMATEUR ATHLETICS

#### J. H. DILLON'S (N.S.W.) DEPARTURE

It is with regret that Hobart athletes bid au revoir to that fine runner, J. H. Dillon, on his departure for Sydney by the s.s. Zealandia this morning. His presence in Hobart has been a great fillip to amateur athletics. As well as two sterling performances, on each occasion comfortably defeating E. W. Barwick, his 1,320yds (three laps) effort last Wednesday being a great effort, he has given a very interesting talk on athletics, his advice being of great help.

Tasmanian athletes wish him continued success in his athletic career. AMATEUR ATHLETICS (1933, February 18). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 5. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article24722137>

#### Dillon Played a Part

Eastern Suburbs athletic secretary and State selector, J. H. Dillon, played an important part in New South Wales' team success, in the Australian cross country championship at Melbourne yesterday. To him goes the credit of bringing back from retirement, W. J. Hyland, the light blue captain, who filled a creditable sixth place, in the biennially contested event.

J. H. Dillon. Dillon Played a Part (1933, August 6). *The Sun (Sydney, NSW : 1910 - 1954)*, p. 20. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article231434208>

## CROSS-COUNTRY CHALLENGE WIN BY DILLON

Individual honors in an exciting cross-country challenge match, at Kensington racecourse yesterday, went to J. H. Dillon (E.S.), but Randwick-Kensington evened matters by capturing the team's title.

The way in which the runners tackled their task showed that this is the right type of event to stir up interest in cross-country athletics. Relieved of the monotony of wearisome club handicaps, the men found their enthusiasm stimulated. G. D. Bartley (R.-K.), A. Fell (R.-K.) . J. H. Dillon (E.S.), and E. Thornton (R.-K.) were

the leaders in the first mile, but F. Parkwood (E.S.) ran into second place when two-fifths of the journey was over. Further on, a yard separated Bartley and Dillon, and from this point they had the race to themselves. When they came into the short Kensington straight for the last time, Bartley was a shade ahead, but he was unable to cope with Dillon's sprint.

The forward running of Parkwood was a fine feature of an interesting race. The teams' contest went to Randwick-Kensington by 10 points. CROSS-COUNTRY CHALLENGE WIN BY DILLON (1933, June 4). *The Sun (Sydney, NSW : 1910 - 1954)*, p. 36. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article228895699>

## DILLON OUT OF ATHLETICS WITH BAD LEG

Harry Dillon, distance champion of Eastern Suburbs Amateur Athletic Club, will be an absentee from inter-club competitions until early in December owing to a leg injury. **Dillon, who celebrates his 36th birthday next month**, has had a career extending over 20 years, which includes State colors at cross-country running. Even now he regularly clocks 4min. 34 sec. for a mile. Tonight, at Sydney Sports Ground, Dillon will coach Eastern Suburbs athletes during the running of handicap events, in which Botany (men and women), Sydney (men and women), Y.M.C.A., Randwick-Kensington, and South Sydney (men and women) are participating. DILLON OUT OF ATHLETICS WITH BAD LEG (1936, November 10). *The Daily Telegraph (Sydney, NSW : 1931 - 1954)*, p. 15. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article246978504>

## ATHLETICS

### **DILLON** WAS PIPPED

IN pelting rain, cross-country fields opened the season over a three-mile course at Rosebery Racecourse yesterday. The pack run was led by the veteran, **Harry Dillon** (Easts'), and in the 1000 yards run in he made the youngsters move with the leaders all the way. **Dillon** was only beaten a yard by Frank Flanagan, Botany, with club-mate, C. Hensley, in third place. Botany gained the association's pennant for attendance, costume, and running. ATHLETICS (1940, April 28). *Truth (Sydney, NSW : 1894 - 1954)*, p. 10. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article169104883>

## RACEHORSE TRAINING FOR VETERAN ATHLETE

Harry Dillon, veteran Eastern Suburbs runner, is in the same stable as the racehorse, John Dory. Both are trained by Mr. Michael Dann.

While John Dory was winning, the Rosehill November Handicap on Saturday, 40-year-old Dillon defeated the State's outstanding mile runners at Sydney Sports Ground. "I've improved 100 per cent, since Mr. Dann has been training me," said Dillon yesterday. "I used to do fast sprints during the week to increase my pace. This, however, succeeded only in unbalancing my rhythm in races." Dann told me

I was leaving my form on the training track. Double Breakfast "Now I run two miles a day at half pace to build wind and muscle, and save every effort for my race on Saturday. "I also follow the same race-day routine as John Dory. "I eat a double breakfast at 8 o'clock, but go without lunch, and do not have a drink for six hours before the race. "I used to be all-in after a race, but last Saturday I felt so good I trotted around the track again. "I expect to reduce my time for the mile to 4min. 25sec. by the end of the season. "Had I met Mr. Dann 20 years ago, before I had lost some of the fire of my youth. I might have run really sensational times." RACEHORSE TRAINING FOR VETERAN ATHLETE (1941, November 19). *The Daily Telegraph* (Sydney, NSW : 1931 - 1954), p. 10. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article248707054>

#### Athletics

#### VETERAN'S VIM YOUTHS K.O.'d

RUNNING with all his old vim, veteran **Harry Dillon**, of Eastern Suburbs, was much too good for his schoolboy rivals in the Eastern Suburbs v. The King's v. Hawkesbury College triangular match at Parramatta yesterday. This runner, who has just been awarded a silver medal for a sterling surf rescue at **Bondi** recently, is 43 years of age, and has been in active athletics since 1919. Athletics (1942, September 27). *Truth* (Sydney, NSW : 1894 - 1954), p. 9. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article168972004>

#### *Husband, Wife Run For Fun*

#### *JOE DILLON AND HIS WIFE*

*SYDNEY - Mrs. J. H. Dillon helps her husband, Joe, one of the State's leading distance runners, in his training. She ran, trotted, jogged, and exercised like a veteran with him for nearly an hour at Rushcutters Bay Oval.*

*"Running is second nature to me," said Mrs. Dillon. "Every morning my programme is a mile run to the beach, a two-mile work-out on the sand, then a surf."*

*"And then a taxi or ambulance home ?" it was suggested.*

*"Not on your life. The mile run home is just what puts an edge on my appetite," retorted Mrs. Dillon.*

#### *REAL LIFE-SAVER*

*A few minutes later she was hurrying home to Bondi to prepare a meal for Joe and their three children, Scott (14), Helen (11), and Joyce (7).*

*Joe and his wife are also keen swimmers, surfer's, hikers and cyclists.*

*They are only sidelines in Joe's sporting activities. He has been competing in athletics since he was 17. That was 25 years ago.*

*Last week he was presented with the Royal Humane Society's bronze medallion for rescuing a man in a rough sea at Bondi last December. Husband, Wife Run For Fun (1942, October 7). Barrier Miner (Broken Hill, NSW : 1888 - 1954), p. 1. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article48407209>*

Veteran **Harry Dillon** won Eastern Suburbs' three-miles championship by nearly a lap from Don Gallagher, in 16min. 52sec. Boy Athlete's Four Titles (1943, January 17). *The Sun* (Sydney, NSW : 1910 - 1954), p. 4 (Sports Section). Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article231756644>

## DILLON DIDN'T DALLY

HARRY DILLON, veteran Eastern Suburbs track runner, was a brilliant winner in his club's 8-mile handicap for the 'J. C. Marks' ' trophy at Centennial Park yesterday. After winning by 50 yards he said he was not in the race for the trophy, and had it presented to Ted James, who finished second. E. Barnard was third, with D. Gallagher getting fastest time. In his twentieth year as a long distance runner. Arthur Hodson ran brilliantly to win Wests' 8-mile handiest). H. Miller was second and -C. Willcox third, with Ray Mettam fastest in 42.12. 'Bas' Dunklev won the St. George 8-miler from L. Williams and A. Henderson. Jack Hayes collected fastest; time honors. DILLON DIDN'T DALLY (1943, August 15). *Truth* (Sydney, NSW : 1894 - 1954), p. 7. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article168983959>

### *Fathers, Sons In Sport: Two Agree ; Two Rivals*

*Quaint angles on fathers and sons in sport: —*

*Veteran Sydney athlete Harry Dillon is working on a five-year plan to have his son, Alan, 16, win the NSW six-miles title in 1950. Dillon, sen., 45, Is one of the wonders of Sydney athletics. He competes with Eastern Suburbs, and is rarely beaten by his younger rivals. Every day at 6 am, winter and summer, father and son run two miles around the Bondi district. This Is followed by a surf or swim in the baths.*

*"Alan has won several short events, but I am concentrating on making him a distance runner," said the elder Dillon, today. "He is not yet developed enough to win distance races. As he matures, the pressure will be put on him. In five years, he should be ready to win the six-miles title "I do not believe in rushing young athletes. Many good runners are 'burned out' long before they reach their prime. "Many people ask how I manage to win races at my age. The answer is: Plenty of fresh air and not competing unless thoroughly fit. Above all, I was given time to develop before I tackled the champions." Fathers, Sons In Sport: Two Agree; Two Rivals (1945, March 14). *The Sun* (Sydney, NSW : 1910 - 1954), p. 12 (LATE FINAL EXTRA). Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article231713587>*

On the cake were 400 candles

Mrs. **Dillon**, of **Bondi**, last week baked a special cake. It had to be large enough to hold 400 candles. Her husband is Harry Dillon, Eastern Suburbs veteran 45-year-old track star. His win in the interclub race at Erskineville Oval last Saturday was his 399th in 26 years of competitive running.

The cake will be cut the day he scores his 400th win.

Mrs. **Dillon** had originally planned the celebration for his 500th win. But Harry is getting on a little, and his wins fewer.

Although Harry is confident he'll run — and win — until he's 60, his wife is doubtful whether he will record many wins beyond the 400.

Harry has a son, Scott (17), and two daughters, Helen (14) and **Josephine** (10).

Scott runs against his father in club races. Harry once had hopes of him reaching Olympic class. He trained him privately, developed his physique by cycling trips in the mountains and early morning summer, and winter surfing.

But Scott hasn't won a race in two years, is still many yards slower than his father.

He wanted to train Helen. He claims she is the best woman miler in Australia.

But Mrs. **Dillon** believes a woman's place is in the home, won't let her take up athletics.

Harry has run two smart trials in the last few days. He is confident he'll be eating cake within a fortnight. TODAY: Hugh Dash's Backstage Of Sport (1946, January 13). The Daily Telegraph (Sydney, NSW : 1931 - 1954), p. 30. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article248475671>

## ATHLETE'S 'COMEBACK'

Eastern Suburbs athlete Fred Packwood staged a great comeback when he won his club's 3-mile cross-country scratch race at Centennial Park yesterday in 15min. 6sec. Packwood who has been in the Royal Australian Navy for nine years, had his first run for six years, two weeks ago when he clocked 10 min. 4sec. over the Centennial Park course. Clubmates did not believe the time was right, but yesterday's win proved it no fluke. Veteran Harry Dillon was second in 15min. 13sec, with Ivan Rixon third in 15.41. **Scotty Dillon. 16-years-old son of Harry, was inches behind Rixon in fourth place.** Former novice cross - country champion Geoff Bowden made a reappearance after five years in the A.I.F., but was very much overweight and could only clock 16min. Present cross-country champion Don Campbell, competing in Randwick-Kensington's 3-mile handicap at Centennial Park, clocked 15min. 11sec. George Frost, with a handicap of 1min. 20secs., won the race in 16 mins. 14secs. Clarrie Cumming was flat out to defeat junior Jack Clucas in South Sydney's four-mile road race at Tempe in 22.12. Clucas clocked 22.27. Bob Skinner ran -right through the field to win St. George's four-mile handicap in 21min. 54secs. at Ramsgate. With a handicap of 18mins., R Kelleher (St. George) won the invitation 18-mile handicap in 2 hours 4min. 39secs. at Botany. Silver Doyle, off scratch, recorded fastest time of 1.52.17. ATHLETE'S 'COMEBACK' (1946, May 19). Truth (Sydney, NSW : 1894 - 1954), p. 17. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article168769856>

N.S.W. Athletes Here for State Titles

*ELEVEN members, including manager Noel Harrod, of Eastern Suburbs Amateur Athletic Club, oldest club of its kind in N.S.W., reached Launceston late yesterday afternoon by boat train from Burnie.*

*THEY will compete in the Tasmanian amateur track and field games championships at York Park on Saturday. **Forty-eight-year-old Hobart born, Harry Dillon**, who will compete only in the three miles walk at Hobart on the second and concluding day (March 19), accompanied the party from Sydney, but joined the Hobart express at Western 'Junction. He will not be seen in Launceston. Members of the party are: Kevin Fetherston, middle-distance runner; Eric Young, pole vault; Bill Fowler, middle-distance and club champion over 400, 880, and one mile; Kevin Miller, hop, step and jump and broad jump; selected to represent N.S.W. in the 1948 Australian championships in Perth, but injured an ankle, and was unable to make the trip; Stan Allen, 220yds. and 440yds. hurdles, former N.S.W. junior champion hurdler; Bill Powell, hurdler, only junior in the party; Ivan Rixon, one and three miles, third in N.S.W. 10,000 metres championship in 1946; Ray Bull, sprinter, for whom a particularly bright future is predicted; Frank O'Rourke, two miles walk; and Jack Connelly, one and three miles; also specialises in 5 miles and marathon running. N.S.W. Athletes Here for State Titles (1949, March 9). Examiner (Launceston, Tas. : 1900 - 1954), p. 14. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article52668184>*

This week I had the pleasure of a visit from Mr- H. R. **Dillon** of the Botany Harriers who carried introductions from the leading N.S.W. Sportsmen. **Dillon** was keen on competing whilst here, and I had placed him on virtual scratch in the SS0 yards, to have; been held last week. His home mark is 15 yards from H. R. Turner the N.S.W. half mile champion. He is loud in his appreciation of Carr and Grandemange. AMATEUR ATHLETICS. (1922, December 20). *World (Hobart, Tas. : 1918 - 1924)*, p. 7. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article190279136>

**Dillon—Williams.—On** April 19th, at St. James Church, Sydney, by the Vicar, Rev. W. **J.** Carr Smith, Joseph Charles **Dillon**, clerk to the Solicitor-General, Hobart, to Carolin Spencer, only daughter of William Williams, merchant, Sydney, and granddaughter of the late O. W. Williams, M.D., formerly of Sydney. Family Notices (1897, April 27). *Tasmanian News (Hobart, Tas. : 1883 - 1911)*, p. 1 (THIRD EDITION). Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article172882297>

**DILLON-CARRUTHERS.—On** March 22, at Primitive Methodist Church, Forest Lodge, Sydney, by the Rev. G. James, assisted by Rev. J. Metcalfe, **Joseph Charles Dillon**, of Hobart, Tasmania, to Emma Elizabeth, eldest daughter of H. Carruthers, Forest Lodge, Sydney. Family Notices (1900, April 13). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 1. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article12789758>

**DILLON.—On** January 2, 1915, at his late residence, 58 Napoleon-street, **Joseph Charles**, dearly beloved husband of Emma Elizabeth **Dillon** (nee Emma Carruthers, of Sydney), aged 48 years. At Rest. Sydney papers please copy.  
FUNERAL NOTICES.

LOYAL ROSE OF TASMANIA LODGE,

No. 4478, I.O.O.F., M.U. Members of the above Lodge are respectfully invited to follow the remains of our late respected Brother, **Joseph Charles** Dillon, of 58 Napoleon-street, Battery Point. Funeral will leave the above address on Wednesday, the 6th inst., at 9 a.m., for Cornelian Bay Cemetery. E. L., N.G.

**DILLON.-Funeral** of the late **Joseph Charles Dillon**, of 58 Napoleon-street, Battery Point, will leave the above address on Wednesday, the 6th inst., at 9 a.m., arriving at Cornelian Bay Cemetery at 10 a.m. ALEX CLARK AND SON LTD., Undertakers. Collins-street. Family Notices (1915, January 5). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 1. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article10399273>

**DILLON.** -In loving memory of Joseph C. **Dillon**, dearly beloved husband of Emma, also father of Harry, **Edgar**, and Vic. **Dillon**, died January 2, 1915. Not forgotten. Family Notices (1917, January 2). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 1. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article1059347>

Remarried

1379/1928 DECHOW CHARLES H L DILLON EMMA E RANDWICK

**Charles Dechow**, quarantine officer, said that his duties were to supervise the fumigation of vessels lying in port. On July 13 he had orders to fumigate the steamship Kalgoorlie, lying at the Federal Wharf, Sussex-street. At 5 p.m. he went on board, and found all ....1903, Evening News

**DECHOW.** -The Friends of Mr. and Mrs. **CHARLES** H. L. **DECHOW** are kindly invited to attend the Funeral of their late beloved MOTHER, Mary Ann Elizabeth **Dechow**, which will leave our Mortuary Chapel 810-2 George-street, city, THIS (Wed. ) AFTERNOON, at 2.30, for Waverley Cem. WOOD and CO. 1907 – Sydney Morning Herald

FUNERALS.

**DECHOW.—** The Relatives and Friends of Mr. **CHARLES** H. DECHOW, of Brisbane and Sydney, are kindly Invited to attend the Funeral of his lute beloved wife, Elizabeth, to leave Wood Cofill's Mortuary Chapel, fU2 George Street, City, THIS DAY, at 2.45 p.m., for Waverley Cemetery. Motor Funeral. WOOD COFFILL LIMITED. December 31<sup>st</sup> 1926 -

**DECHOW.** — The Relatives and Friends of Mrs. EMMA **DECHOW** are Invited to attend the funeral of her dearly beloved HUSBAND. **Charles** Henry (late Quarantine Officer, Brisbane), to leave our Private Chapel, 340 Oxford Street, Paddington, THIS AFTERNOON, after service commencing at 3 o'clock, for Waverley Cemetery. May 13, 1938 – Sydney Morning Herald

Died

DECHOW **EMMA ELIZABETH** 22510/1946 HENRY ELLEN JANE WAVERLEY

**DECHOW** (DILLON).-July 21, 1946, at her residence, 20 Brisbane Street, Bondi Junction, **Emma** Elizabeth **Dechow**, dearly loved mother of Joseph, Henry, Edgar, and Victoria (Mrs. Buckingham), aged 77 years. At rest.

DECHOW (DILLON).-July 21, 1940, **Emma** Elizabeth **Dechow**, dearly loved eldest daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Henry Carruthers. (Sen.) Family Notices (1946, July 23). *The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954)*, p. 14. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article29766098>

DEATHS.

**DILLON.—On** Thursday the 30th December, at her late residence, Upper Davey-street, Mrs. Ann **Dillon**, after a painful illness, in the 70th year of her age. Family Notices (1869, December 31). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 1. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article8863139>

**DILLON.—On** January 19, at her residence, 78 Davey-street, the wife of T. **Dillon**, of a son. Both doing well. Family Notices (1878, February 18). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 4 (The Mercury Summary for Europe.). Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article8960160>

**Title:**

Thomas Dillon

**Publication Information:**

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1 photograph : sepia toning ; 14 x 10 cm.

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image (online)

**Notes:**

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Title inscribed in pencil beneath image in unknown hand.

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**In:**

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[Dillon, Thomas, 1847-1908 -- Portraits](#)

[Dillon, Thomas, 1847-1908 -- Photographs.](#)

**Other Authors/Creators:**

[Beattie, J. W. \(John Watt\), 1859-1930 Members of the Parliaments of Tasmania.](#)



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OBITUARY. Mr THOMAS DILLON. There passed away yesterday in the 61st year of his age, a gentleman who was well known in public and political circles for two decades. Mr Thomas Dillon arrived in Hobart in the fifties, and by sheer industry and unflagging determination and strong sense of purpose carved out for himself a prominent position in the citizenship of Hobart. He took a great interest in public affairs, and in the eighties entered the City Council at the head of the poll. He held strong democratic views, which found favor in the eyes of the worker, who always looked upon him as a friend. In the early nineties he was elected to the House of Assembly seat for the Brighton district, but was disqualified on the petition of Mr H. B. Mugliston, who opposed him. The deceased gentleman, who had been ailing for some time, possessed a kindly heart, but most of his benevolence was buried under the proverbial bushel. As a contractor he carried out many important works in Hobart, on the West Coast, and the Derwent Valley. He leaves a wife and family of grown up children to mourn their loss. The deceased funeral will leave for Cornelian Bay Cemetery tomorrow at 2 p.m. Family Notices (1908, January 13). *Tasmanian News (Hobart, Tas. : 1883 - 1911)*, p. 3. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article186383978>

**DEATHS.**

**DILLON.—On** January 12, 1908, at his residence, Harold-street, off Cascade-road, **Thomas**, beloved husband of Alice Eliza **Dillon**, aged 61 years. R.I.P. Funeral on Tuesday, the 14th, at 2 p.m., for Cornelian Bay Cemetery. Family Notices (1908, January 13). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 1. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article12697233>

**MARRIAGE.**

**DILLON—FISHER.—On** 28th December, by special licence, **Alice Eliza**, youngest daughter of Captain William Fisher, Recherche Bay, to Thomas, youngest son of the late Mr. Edward **Dillon**, both of this city. Family Notices (1872, January 1). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 1. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article8921205>

**DILLON.—On** the 14th inst., at his parents' residence, 405 Macquarie-street, Alfred Thomas William, fourth dearly beloved son of Thomas and **Alice Eliza Dillon**, in the 14th year of his age. Funeral from the above address on Monday (this day), at 2 o'clock. Family Notices (1902, June 16). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 1. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article9583780>

As was his usual custom for many years, 'Tommy' Dillon started down Macquarie-st on polling day towards the Town Hall. But the procession branched off at Elizabeth- st, and the crowd in front; of the polling booth reverently waved a farewell as the slow black line crawled away towards the cemetery at Cornelian Bay.

Passed over to the Beyond, old Hobart identity and general favorite, Thomas Dillon. ' Tommy ' Dillon, as he was familiarly called, was for some time Alderman of this city, and once won a seat as member of Parliament for Brighton, but was protested against successfully by his opponent. Of late Mr Dillon's smile has been less boisterous than usual, but his natural cheerfulness never wholly left him. He was a genial soul, and as a consequence his Friends were many. Peace to his ashes.

CLACKERY. (1908, January 18). *The Clipper (Hobart, Tas. : 1893 - 1909)*, p. 3. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article84644377>

ELCTIOZN PETIT IONS. MR DILLOI UNSEATED.. CAMPBELL TOWN PETITION DISMISSED. t(Y ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.) HOBART, JULY 24. The Full Court to-day delivered judgment in the petitions against the recent elections for Brighton and Campbell Town as follows :

#### BRIGHTON ELECTION.

The Chief Justice delivered judgment, of which the following is the gist: This is a petition by Henry B. Mugliston, a candidate at the recent general election for the House of Assembly for the electoral district of Brighton, against the return of Thomas Dillon, on the grounds of bribery, undue influence, and treating by himself and his agents, and petitioner claimed the seat. The latter claim may be at once dismissed, as, assuming that bribery, undue influence, and treating were proved on this enquiry, there would be no such absolute and notorious disqualification of Dillon at the date of the election as would justify this court in declaring Mugliston to have been duly elected, for these disqualifications did not arise until after the candidate had been found guilty of them, and therefore the electors could have had no notice of them when they voted.

Certain legal objections were raised by the counsel for the respondent to the writ, which it was contended was bad, and that there had been no valid election, and that therefore there could be no candidate to become petitioner, and no member to be unseated. Whether such objection is open to respondent, who has taken oath and signed the declaration required by members of Parliament, and has taken his seat, is a matter open to question. The objections to the writ cannot be upheld, and all legal objections are over-ruled. The evidence given has been, in the case of many of the witnesses, most unsatisfactory, manifest reluctance being shown to speak the whole truth, and this has rendered the duty cast upon the court of deciding questions of fact one of no ordinary difficulty and responsibility.

The case divides itself into two branches, first whether there was "bribery," and second whether there was "treating." As to, bribery, I cannot find bribery or undue influence in subscriptions to racing clubs, cricket clubs, ploughing matches, Broadmarsh sports, or in Sunday schools, nor in taking a hundred shares in a milling company, nor in the offer of the candidate to use his influence to secure a punt from Ministers over the Lower Jordan. Had the subscriptions been excessive in amount and not, as they are in fact moderate, then there would have been some evidence that they were intended to corrupt the electors.

In relation to the bets with Daniel Browne, I find that they were made and that the cases of Browne and Toulls are those on which I cannot do otherwise than find, as a matter of fact, that Dillon's actions brought him within the provisions against bribery in the Electoral Act. With reference to treating, it must, in the language of the Electoral Act, be "corruptly" done. This word does not mean wickedly or dishonestly, or anything of that sort, but with the object and intention of doing that which the Legislature plainly means to forbid. The evidence disclosed instances of treating, but those to which I have referred satisfy me that there was treating by the candidate, or on his behalf before or during the election, and that such treating was with the intention of doing that which the Legislature meant to forbid, namely, influencing persons to vote for a candidate. I should have felt greater difficulty in finding on the question of treating against Dillon, had I not been satisfied that other corrupt means were being used by him to influence the electors. Treating after the poll was declared at Byrne's does not come within the act, as it was not shown to have taken place in pursuance of any promise made before or during the election, nor is it shown to have been done by any agent of Dillon. I am of opinion that bribing and attempting to bribe, and also treating, have been committed by the respondent Thomas Dillon in reference to the election for Brighton held on the 22nd May last, and that the petition should be allowed with costs.

Mr Justice Dodds said—

I am of opinion that the petitioner has failed to prove the charges of undue influence and general drunkenness. With reference to the charges of treating, I think that a case of the gravest possible suspicion has been presented, and if it were necessary to do so, I should have little difficulty in saying that the respondent has contravened the provisions of the Electoral Act, 1890; but I'm willing to give Dillon the benefit of any doubt that may exist as to the completeness of the proof against him under this head, and exclude from my consideration a large portion of the evidence. I cannot, however, take a similar course with reference to the remaining charge of bribery. I have heard the evidence in the case and closely watched the demeanour of the witnesses, and as to that evidence I think it right to say that the greater part of it was, in my opinion, insincere and untruthful. I cannot conceive anything that would have raised greater suspicion or blackened the case of the respondent more than the way in which many of the witnesses gave their evidence. I have no doubt that those witnesses thought that they were successfully

deceiving the court and favouring the respondent, but the evidence that they gave and the manner of giving it produced upon any man an almost irresistible impression that Dillon had been guilty of illegal acts of which they were cognisant, and that they were trying to shield him. They were thus doing him, unfortunately, more harm than good. Upon other points raised, I concur in the opinion of the Chief Justice. Mr Justice Adams also concurred. The court was crowded during the delivery of the judgment, and little or no surprise was expressed at it, as there was a foregone conclusion as to its result. ELECTION PETITIONS. (1891, July 27). *Launceston Examiner (Tas. : 1842 - 1899)*, p. 4. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article39574410>

*Surname:* **DILLON**

*Given Names:* **Thomas**

*Title and Honours:*

*Qualifications:*

*Date and Place of Birth:*

*Date of Death:*

*House of Assembly:* **22 May 1891**

*Electorate:*

*Party:*

*Positions Held:*

*Minister:*

*Date of Departure:* **25 July 1891**

*Reason for Departure:* **Election declared void under the provisions of the Electoral Act 1890 after the incumbent candidate, Henry Boyes Mugliston, petitioned the court regarding accusations of Dillon's corruption and bribery during the campaign.**

*Comments:*

*House of Assembly Long Room Picture:* **201**

*Surname:* **MUGLISTON**

*Given Names:* **Henry Boyes**

*Title and Honours:* **Mr**

*Qualifications:* **LLB**

*Date and Place of Birth:*

*Date of Death:*

*House of Assembly:* **26 July 1886**

*Electorate:* **Brighton**

*Party:*

*Positions Held:*

Minister: **No**

Date of Departure: **May 1891**

Reason for Departure: **Defeated.**

Didn't get back in!

CITY COUNCIL.

The Hobart City Council met this afternoon- Present: His Worship the Mayor (Alderman D. Freeman), Aldermen Crisp, Kerr, Hoggins, Gould, Atkins, Haywood, Macleod, and (he Town Olerk I&lr W. A. Brain). Before commencing the bounces of the meeting the Mayor rose and said since they had last met death had removed ex alderman Dillon. There were several present at the meeting to-day who were associated with the deceased as a member of that council; and there was, therefore, no necessity to speak of his usefulness and the measures and reforms which he had initiated. He was sure all present deeply sympathised with the widow and family of deceased, Alderman Kerr said that as a former colleague of Mr Dillon, he could bear testimony to the readiness with which he had always done his duty when a member of the council- He always had the benefit of the city at heart. It was a sad thing to see that one of the group of aldermen and ex-aldermen which had been photographed a few weeks since had already passed away. He would move,— 'That a vote of sympathy and condolence in their bereavement be accorded to the widow and family of the late Mr Thomas Dillon, for many years an alderman of this city.' The motion was seconded by Alder\* man Crisp, and carried in silence, the aldermen standing. CITY COUNCIL. (1908, January 13). *Tasmanian News (Hobart, Tas. : 1883 - 1911)*, p. 4. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article186383944>

**DILLON.\_ On January 24, 1901, at 23 Napoleon-street, Battery Point, the wife of J. C. Dillon : a son. Family Notices (1901, January 28). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 1. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article12828763>**

AT CHRISTMAS PARTY. **Helen Dillon** (left) and Maree McGrath, members of the Bellevue Hill younger set for the Spastic Centre, at the younger set's dance at Florida House last night. *WOMEN'S NEWS* (1950, December 21). *The Daily Telegraph* (Sydney, NSW : 1931 - 1954), p. 12. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article248409778>

LURED by a warm July day, **Helen Dillon**, 20, of **Bondi adjusts flippers for-**; Berenice Harry, of Bellevue Hill. Both swam at Bondi. *SURFING IN THE SUN* (1951, July 29). *The Sun* (Sydney, NSW : 1910 - 1954), p. 44. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article230226456>

Daughter Josephine marries

MURPHY PETER ANTHONY DILLON JOSEPHINE ANN BONDI

Daughter Helen marries

1558/1954 MACCORMICK OWEN HAROLD DILLON HELEN MARIE BONDI

**DILLON.—June 9, to Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Dillon, Rose Bay.—  
a daughter (Helen). Family Notices (1931, June 10). The Sydney  
Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 10. Retrieved from  
<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article16784499>**

### **SILVER WEDDINGS**

**DILLON-BREWSTER.-December 10, 1924, at Hobart, Joseph  
to Lena. Present address: 212 Old South Head Road, Bondi.  
Family Notices (1949, December 10). The Sydney Morning  
Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 38. Retrieved from  
<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article18147667>**

### **Joseph Henry Dillon (1901-2001) - Find A Grave Memorial**

**Born in 1901 and died in 6 May 2001 Sutherland, New South Wales Joseph Henry Dillon.**

#### **AMUSEMENTS.**

#### **CONCERT AND GYMNASTIC DISPLAY.**

There was a good attendance of parents and friends of the pupils at a concert and gymnastic display last evening at the Masonic-hall by pupils of Misses Livingstone and M. Z. Brown. The dumb-bell club, skipping rope, and other displays were very creditable; also the singing, pianoforte playing, and recitations. Miss **Lena Brewster** discharged the onerous duties of accompanist. AMUSEMENTS. (1911, November 21). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 3. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article10121113>

The committee had secured the services of the IXL Band, of Hobart, and they gave, under the direction of their bandmaster, Mr. Barnett, some very enjoyable music, both inside and outside the hall, in the afternoon and evening.

-In the evening a concert was held in the .hall, ..when a very enjoyable programme was contributed to by the following artists : - Misses Bertha Monks, **Lena Brewster**, Dorothy Geeves: Messrs. A. Sargison, R. M. Littlechild, W. Valentine, L. Harnett, P. Ffoughton, T..A. Frankcomb, and the IX L Quartette Party and Band, ..... RANELAGH FAIR. (1917, October 16). *Huon Times (Franklin, Tas. : 1910 - 1933)*, p. 2. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article135678122>

*Tasmanians Games Chance!*

*TASMANIAN bantamweight boxer Scott Dillon, who won the final of the bantam-weight division in Sydney last week, is regarded by amateur boxing officials in Sydney as a definite prospect for the next Olympic Games.*

*Dillon won the bantam title when he defeated E. Arnold by a knock-out in the first round.*

*Dillon also is one of the leading surf board exponents of the Bondi Surf Club, and is a proficient skier.*

*He is a grandson of Mr. G. F. Brewster, of Hobart, and a great grandson of the late Mr. H. Dillon, well known in Tasmanian regatta circles about 1900. Tasmanian's Games Chance (1950, July 14). The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954), p. 10. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article26715105>*

Olympic prospects in fight finals

Two Olympic Games prospects will contest finals of the State amateur intermediate boxing championships at Sydney Stadium on Wednesday 'night.

They are middleweight Tony Madigan: and bantamweight Scott Dillon. Madigan will fight Arnold Hamilton, who impressed with a three-rounds knockout of C. Quinn last Wednesday night. He wore Quinn down with solid left hooks to the head. Madigan is unbeaten, and already has won a State intermediate title. Former Australian champion Hughie Dwyer. trains Madigan. who is. expected to win. **Dillon, a son of former champion athlete Harry Dillon,** will meet B. Gleeson.

Dillon also is unbeaten, and has won most of his fights on knockouts. A 34-years-old wrestler, Terry Reilly, will meet George Maina in the final of the welterweight wrestling championship. Reilly took up wrestling two years ago because he was losing form as a distance swimmer. He took up wrestling to build up his strength. Olympic prospers in fight finals (1951, May 28). *The Daily Telegraph (Sydney, NSW : 1931 - 1954)*, p. 19. Retrieved December 13, 2018, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article248670629>

#### BOXER HAD HOBART LINK

**Scott Dillon,** son of former Hobart athlete Joe **Dillon,** who now lives in Sydney, on Wednesday night won the New South Wales amateur bantam-weight boxing title.

At the Sydney stadium, he knocked out his opponent in the first round. He had won his three preliminaries by first round knock-outs.

**Dillon** is reported to be a skilful and hard hitter, who could reach the final of the Australian bantamweight championship at Brisbane next month.

If he meets Tasmanian Ron Gower in the final, the bout should be one of the best of the tournament. BOXER HAD HOBART LINK (1951, November 9). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 17. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article27054055>

**DILLON.-On** April 24, 1934, at Hobart General Hospital, Sydney James, of 59 Molle Street, eldest son of the late H. and B. **Dillon**, of Waterworks Road, aged 45 years. R.I.P. Family Notices (1934, April 25). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 1. Retrieved December 13, 2018, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article24928473>

#### Deaths.

**DILLON** -On February 9, at her late residence, 76 Hill st, Lansdowne Crescent, Bridget **Dillon**, the dearly beloved wife of Henry **Dillon**, aged 44 years. The Funeral will take place on SATURDAY, at 2 p.m when friends are respectfully invited to attend. "May she rest in peace. Family Notices (1892, February 11). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 1. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article12736224>

**DILLON.-On** August 17, of consumption, Mary Cissie ,the oldest and beloved daughter of **Henry** and Bridget **Dillon**, in the 21<sup>st</sup> year of her age. Family Notices (1887, August 20). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 1 (The Mercury Supplement). Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article9137180>

#### MARRIAGE.

**RICHARDS—DILLON—On** July 2, at Carlton, Melbourne, by the Rev— Mason, William Malcolm Richards, chemist, to Amelia (Millie) eldest surviving daughter of **Henry Dillon**, of Hobart. Family Notices (1889, July 22). *Tasmanian News (Hobart, Tas. : 1883 - 1911)*, p. 1. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article172870574>

**DILLON-On** July 19, 1907, at tho residence of his daughter, Mrs. G. Roberts, Watcrwork6-road, **Henry**, relict of the late Bridget **Dillon**, aged 78 years. It.I.P. Friends are r«speotlully invited to attend his funeral, which -will mows front the above address This Day (Monday), at 2 p m., for Cornelian Bay Cemotory. Family Notices (1907, July 22). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 1. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article9928174>

#### CHAMPIONS OF THE FUTURE

Sandy Bays Winning Maiden Eight at Franklin, chosen to represent the Club in the Junior Eights at New Norfolk—E. McCreary (bow), J. **Dillon** (2), M. Fisher (3), A. Young (4), J. Law (5), J. Inglis (6), S. Darling <7), G. Lucas (stroke), L. Griggs (cox).

(Inset) Franklin Association's Cup won for first time by this crew. CHAMPIONS OF THE FUTURE (1924, November 14). *The News (Hobart, Tas. : 1924 - 1925)*, p. 6 (FIRST EDITION). Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article233534766>

## OBITUARY

### MR CHARLES DILLON.

An old familiar figure on the Hobart wharves, Charles Dillon, has rounded the last flagboat. Charlie (says the "Tasmanian News") came from good old English stock, and landed in Hobart in the year 1837, when Sir John Franklin was Governor. At that time of day, according to Charlie's description, the harbor was all beach from the Customs House Tavern round as far as the eastern end of the Constitution Dock.. Charlie pulled in a watermen's race in the second regatta, and came in second. He pulled in many subsequent regattas until the end of the sixties, when, he gave up professional rowing and confined himself to looking after his business as a licensed waterman. He owned pretty nearly half the boats on the ferry in the sixties and seventies, and his house boat, the Admiral, always led the time honored



flotillas at the regattas until this function was discontinued. In the good old days Charlie made money. It cost a couple of shillings to get out to a warship 30 or 40 years ago, and as Mr Dillon always kept the best of boats and the most reliable of men, he was in great demand. He was very popular among old time pressmen.

Up till 20 years ago it was customary to board the ocean steamers and sailing vessels down the river, and the competition for the files was keen. Charlie tells of a memorable race he had with old Jack Smart in the sixties. An English vessel was coming up the harbor, and the rival pressmen were on the alert for news. The 'Mercury' representative engaged Charlie Dillon, and the opposition paper Jack Smart. They both put out together in the teeth of a biting southerly, with Jack Smart leading as far as Perry's Point. Charlie then came up with a spurt, and put his man on the gangway steps of the vessel, which was then broad off Long Point, whilst Smart was laboring under the stern. The subject of this notice was a lovable old man with a large heart. He was always ready to assist his poorer fellows, and many persons who are alive in this community to-day owe long debts of gratitude to Charles Dillon. Perhaps if the deceased had been just before he was generous, he would have been possessed of more of this world's riches. He always told one that all he wanted in this world was sufficient to enable him to keep his end up and good health. He attained both these wishes ; a more vigorous, healthy man for his years could not be found south of the line. He never mixed himself up much with public affairs, and he was passionately fond of music. He possessed the good-will and esteem of the whole community, and his demise severs another link which binds to the chain of the speedily forgotten past. OBITUARY (1907, October 7). *Daily Telegraph (Launceston, Tas. : 1883 - 1928)*, p. 8. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article151805364>

**DILLON-CARRUTHERS.-On** March 22, at Primitive Methodist Church, Forest Lodge, Sydney, by the Rev. G. James, assisted by Rev. J. Metcalfe, **Joseph** Charles **Dillon**, of Hobart, Tasmania, to Emma Elizabeth, eldest daughter of H. Carruthers, Forest Lodge, Sydney. Family Notices (1900, April 13). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 1. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article12789758>

**DILLON.-On** January 24, 1901, at 25 Napoleon-street, Battery Point, the wife of J. C. **Dillon**; a son. Family Notices (1901, February 2). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 5. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article12829658>

## **George Frederick Brewster – died 8<sup>th</sup> of August 1955**

Lena born (Helen Frances Dillon) – daughter was Josephine Dillon not Joyce – 'Leonora was at 74 Napoleon Street, Battery Point - his will is dated 1956 :

**BREWSTER.** — On March 7, at her residence, Kelly-street, Hobart, the wife of G. F. **Brewster** : a daughter. Family Notices (1900, March 31). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 5. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article12787737>

**ROSS-BREWSTER.** - On 12th October, 1920, at St. **George's** Church, by the Rev. Thos. Knox, Hugh, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Ross, of Colac, Victoria, to Winifred Kathleen, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. **Brewster**, Leonora, Napoleon-street, Hobart. Family Notices (1920, November 13). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 1. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article11500907>

#### MARRIAGES.

**BREWSTER-BURKE.** On April 5, 1923, at St. Joseph's Church, Hobart, by the Rev Father John Cullen, Marie, third eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George **Brewster**, Napoleon-street, Battery Point, to John, only son of Mrs. M. Burke, 35 Regent-street, Sandy Bay, and the late Mr. Daniel Burke, of Sorell (late Tas. Government Railways). Family Notices (1924, January 26). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 1. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article23712152>

**BREWSTER-HARRIS.** - On January 28, 1935, at St. **George's** Church, Hobart, by the Rev. James May, Colin Campbell, only son of Mr. and Mrs. G. F. **Brewster**, Battery Point, to Ethel Jean, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Harris, Gormanston. Family Notices (1935, April 24). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 1. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article30083229>

#### Amateur Boxing

#### RESIGNATION OF SECRETARY.

The hon. secretary (Mr. G. F. Brewster) tendered his resignation, as the work took up too much of his time, which meant a loss to him in his busi-ness, and he was also handicapped through protracted illness at home. It was mentioned that Mr. Brewster had been hon. secretary for four years, and had been« a member of the committee and closely associated with the sport since Its inception 26 years ago. He also had acted as one of the judges for more than 20 years.

Mr. Brewster said he regretted dropping out after the close and pleasant relationship that had always existed between members of the committee and himself, but would still keep in close touch with the sport, and would gladly give any help or assistance to the committee In any way possible

It was decided to allow the resignation to remain in abeyance until after the championship contests. RESIGNATION OF SECRETARY. (1934, July 28). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 5. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article24951687>

#### Sandy Bay Swimming Club

... A report from the Secretary (Mr **G. Brewster**) was then read, thanking those gentlemen who so generously contributed trophies and cash towards the prizes, 'special mention being made of a

wine decanter, value £ 4 4, presented by Messrs T. J. Cane and Company for competition next-season, and hope was expressed that other shopkeepers will come forward with-donations for next season. The Vocal items were numerous and well selected, the following gentlemen being repeatedly ecoredi—Messrs McNamara, E. tV« RADIUSN, Raynor, and H , Johnston;! the latter officiating at the piano. A vote of thanks to the Chairman, proposed by Mr Blaister, seconded by Mr. G. Brewster, terminated an enjoyable evening's entertainment. Nineteen new members were enrolled by the Club's Hon. Secretary, and the enthusiasm ... Club. SANDY BAY SWIMMING CLUB. (1898, April 16). *Tasmanian News (Hobart, Tas. : 1883 - 1911)*, p. 4 (THIRD EDITION). Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article173665394>

Swimming.-The Sandy Bay Swimming Club brought oil' a 100yds. open handicap at the local baths last Saturday morning, before a fair number of spectators. Considerable interest was manifested in the race amongst swimming enthusiasts. The following gentlemen officiated :-Judge, Mr. Rodway ; starter, Mr. Crick ; time-keeper, Mr. A. W. Plaister. Starters : G. Brewster (scratch), E. Evans (12«ec), C. Norman (19scc), H.Jones (22sec), E. Jones (24sec), B. Doran (29sec), J. Williams and A. Fesenmoyer (30sec), C. Rodway (35sec.), E. Rodway (35sec.) A splendid race ensued, the competitors finishing in a bunch, and were placed-H. Jones, 1 ; C. Rodway, 2 ; G. Brewster (scratch), 3.' Time, lunn. 2-lsec. THE MERCURY. (1899, March 27). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 2. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article94444401>

**Description:**

Photograph - Sandy Bay Baths

**Item Number:**

[NS1013/1/351](#)

**Start Date:**

01 Jan 1900

**Source:**

Archives Office of Tasmania

**Description:**

Photograph - Swimming races - Sandy Bay baths?.

**Item Number:**

[NS1231/1/93](#)

**Start Date:**

01 Jan 1920

**Source:**

Archives Office of Tasmania

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**Series:**

[Photographs of Hobart and Suburbs, Port Arthur and Ships \(NS1231\)](#)

**View online:**

[NS1231-1-93](#)

Boxers' Day (Out.

A full muster, numbering 60, including visiting amateur boxers, spent a most enjoyable day yesterday, at New Norfolk as the guests of the Tasmanian Amateur Athletic Association.

Colonel Lord and Messrs C. J Eady, **George Brewster**, **George** Collis, and J. A. Edwards acted as hosts, and one and all had a delightful day. The managers, in thanking the committee for the outing paid a tribute to the kindness, of Hobart people and stated that they had received every courtesy and attention. Mr. Dawson, the manager- of the New Zealand team, especially -spoke in glowing terms. He hopes, before lafcing farewell, to pnblically- give his impressions of Hobart The members of the Victorian team forming the last, of the competitors to arrive, came by Saturday's express. They were met on arrival by "the committee, and conveyed to Highfield Hotel.. AH appear in good spirits, and are in charge of Mr. Clemson. To-night's big programme "starts at 7.45 - p.m. sharp. ITEMS OF INTEREST (1922, September 25). *World (Hobart, Tas. : 1918 - 1924)*, p. 4. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article190268510>

## ELIZABETH-STREET

### Delay in Reconstruction Shopkeepers' Grievances The Mayor's Comment

I For some time past shopkeepers of Elizabeth-street have been feeling dis-, I satisfied with the length of time taken

by the City Council in the reconstruction of Elizabeth-street. It will- be remembered that prior to the visit of the United States cruders in August excavations were begun, and these, have continued ever since, footpaths have been torn up, and shop fronts screened with saclrinc, thc whole performance making access to mau}' shops a matter of considerable inconveni-ence, and in .some casca actual difficulty.

Leading business men of Elizabeth-street when interviewed by a representative of "The Mercury" on the subject yesterday, complained that the protracted delr-inga

of the Council were causing them loss of business at a time when they needed it most, while dust and grit were blowing into their shops.' The Mayor (Alderman F. D. Valentine) says that the non-removal of certain pipes by the Hobart Gas Co.' is responsible for much of the delay.

"SEVERELY HANDICAPPED."

In common with all other business houses, Messrs. T. J. Cane and Co., iron mongers, felt severely handicapped by the delay which was taking place in the work, said Mr. George Brewster of that firm, when interviewed yesterday. The foot-path outside the shop at that moment resembled an alpine gorge, and the optimistic pedestrian who desired to gain admittance, or even to pass by, had to make his way along a very narrow and insecure-looking strip of footpath flanked by a large excavation in the centre. "I personally complained to the City Engineer about it last week," Mr. Brewster remarked, "and he said the delay was due to the Gas Company. He said they could not get the Gas Company to take up their pipes and put them under the footpath. We as business men, particularly at this time of the year, wonder why the Council cannot put a night shift on. They have opened up the footpath right along in front of the shops. I think a job of this kind should be done during the night."

They were anticipating increased business with the spring. Mr. Brewster added and it was very disheartening. Some of the shopkeepers thought of forming a deputation to the Works Committee of the City Council to see if something could not be done in the matter. They should discontinue their work during December and give the shops an opportunity of dealing with their customers.

The manager of Inglis's grocery store (Mr. C. Browse) was inclined to treat the matter philosophically. They had to put up with it, he said, and he thought that all that could be done in the circumstances was being done.

"RUINING BUSINESS."

"It is ruining our business," said Mr. Bert Heathorn, of H. C. Heathorn and Co., whose garage is situated in Bathurst-street, only a few yards from the Elizabeth-street intersection. "I do not know what we are losing by it. Half the time you have to get round the corner. Our customers say they have to go right round the block. The work has to be done, but we think they could get it over very much more quickly than they are doing, and they seem to be doing it in patches,

know we have lost a lot of money by it.'

Mr. Blackwood, of the firm of Blackwood and Lowe, drapers, said that the Council had certainly been a long time on the job, but it really did not affect them

very much, as they did ;not havi very much carting. He thought it ver: silly to have started in the middle of thi town, -whan they could have begun ou

in the suburbs.

#### DUST NUISANCE.

Mr. A. F. Golding, whose jeweller; shop is situated on the Liverpool-Elizu beth streets corner, said that the timi which was being taken over the job wa simply dreadful. It was very inconveni ent, and when a northerly wind wa blowing they had to keep their doorclosed to prevent the shop from beinj

filled with dust.

Mr. A..T. Davis, managing director o the firm of Charles Dávis Ltd., iron mongers, also expressed his dissotisfa.' tion with the length of time which th job was occupying. It would be best, h said, if three shifts couij bo put ci the work so that it could be continua at night.

Mr. J. Sharp, of Messrs. Taylor nu. Sharp, jewellers, remarked tnat it seem ed like another case where Hobart, un fortunately, could be noted for its sloi methods. It was affecting business ver considerably. People got accustom ed to tho street being closed, and use the one-way traffic. They knew they ha to put np with a certain amount tf in convenience, but why prolong it?

#### THE MAYOR'S REPLY.

The Mayor, y^;en asked for the Cit Council's sido of the matter, said thu with such a big undertaking as ti e on in Elizabeth-street the troubles whic tho Council had been up against ha been greater than had been anticipate! What with water mains, drains, ga mains and pipes it had taken a ver much longer time to get tho fonndatio work prepared than they had ever c> pected, but they had now got over mos of the diificulty. and, with the exceptio of the section of Elizabeth-street e? tending to Melville-street, the fonndatio work had been done for thc whole t one side of tho road as far as Burnett street.

"The delay has been caused," said the Mayor, "owing to the opposition of the Gas Co. to removing mains. A great deal of time has been lost owing to this but I understand now that everything has been fixed up as regards Elizabet! street, and men are now opening the last trench on the west side of Elizabeth-street to carry the new gas main. The Council has endeavoured to expedite this work as- far as possible by working overtime when necessary at night, and also on Saturday afternoons, and next: Saturday afternoon the men will be engaged in putting in the balance of the crossting at Liverpool-street. When the section from Melville-street is concrete and "cured" the contractors will sta: immediately with the top coat of

nat: ral'Trinidad asphalt. The machino fe doing thc mixing for this work is no installed.^-nd will ho ready for n: within' a xew days, eo no delay will I experienced here.- .

"I had a conversation with the Ci! Engineer this morning wjth a view 1 getting the footpath put in order as soo os possible, so we hope that both tl repairs necessary to the footpaths an the road surfaces' should be finishc practically at the same time."

Asked if shopkeepers could be assure of the work being completed in time ft the Christmas trade rush, the Maye said, "Shopkeepers need not worry th; 1 thc work will not be finished in the central blocks of the city well before the busy Christmas season." ELIZABETH-STREET (1925, November 4). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 9. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article29118519>

MRS. E. F. BREWSTER. '

Mrs. Elizabeth Frances Brewster, wife of Mr. George Frederick Brewster, of Hobart, died at her residence, Battery Point, Hobart, on Thursday, after a long illness. Deceased, who was of a retiring disposition, is survived by her husband, four married daughters, and a son. OBITUARY (1935, May 25). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 3. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article30087902>

MRS. E. F. BREWSTER. '

Mrs. Elizabeth Frances Brewster, wife of Mr. George Frederick Brewster, of Hobart, died at her residence, Battery Point, Hobart, on Thursday, after along illness. Deceased, who was of a retiring disposition, is survived by her husband, four married daughters, and a son. The funeral, which was private, took place yesterday in Cornelian Bay cemetery. The chief mourners were deceased's husband, Mr. C. C. Brewster (son), and Mr. J. Burke (son-in-law). Numerous floral tributes were received. Funeral arrangements were carried out by Clark Bros. OBITUARY (1935, May 25). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 3. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article30087902>

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Amateur Boxing

What has happened to amateur boxing in Tasmania? Since the days of Mr. C. J. Eady, Col. J. E. C. Lord, Mr. G. F. Brewster, and others, public interest seems to have completely faded. The last annual meeting of the association was a fiasco. It was not properly publicised, and as there were not the required number of fully qualified financial members present to form a quorum, ' the proceedings were informal. Amateur boxing in Tasmania is at its lowest level for many years, and needs rejuvenating. The easiest method to do this is to put some new blond on the committee.

### AMATEUR SPORT.

Sandy Bay. LETTERS TO THE EDITOR Amateur Boxing (1950, July 5). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 24. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article26713355>

## SWIMMING.

### AMATEUR UNION

#### Tasmanian on Executive

#### Mr. G. F. Brewster Appointed

Efforts that have been made in Tasmania for years for representation on the executive of the Amateur Swimming Union of Australia have met with success at last, Mr. G. F. Brewster, president, of the Tasmanian Amateur Swimming Association, having been appointed.

Interests in other States have blocked Tasmania's efforts until now. It is expected that the appointment of Mr. Brewster will be a great aid to the sport in Tasmania. News of his election has been forwarded by Mr. J. P. Sheedy, hon. secretary of the union, who stated that only two nominations were submitted at the annual conference for the executive positions, namely Messrs. G. F. Brewster (Tasmania), and D. S. Carter (Queensland), and both were declared elected. The executive would decide all matters of policy or decisions relating to the affairs of the union. SWIMMING. AMATEUR UNION (1935, July 13). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 15. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article30095670>

## SWIMMING

#### Messrs. M. Moore And R. Duffey Honoured

At the Carlton Club Hotel last evening the president (Mr. G. F. Brewster) and council of the Tasmanian Amateur Swimming Association entertained Messrs. Mas Moore and R. H. Duffey, of Launceston, at supper. Mr. Moore, who is secretary of the association, is to be married on Saturday, and Mr. Duffey, who is the swimming sprint champion of Tasmania, is leaving with the Second A.I.F. SWIMMING (1939, December 7). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 21. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article25762480>

## MR. G. BREWSTER MISTAKEN

#### Matchboxes and Medals Presentations to Footballers



" And Sir. Emsley (drawing a match "box from his vest pocket) I have much pleasure in presenting yon with this medal "Good Lord; it's a match box!" Mr. George Brewster, chairman of the Southern Juniors' Football Association, emulated the nervous best man on Saturday night at the dinner at the Hotel Alexandra tendered by his association to the visiting Junior footballers from Launceston, when he brought out the match box instead of the box containing the ring, or rather the medal. The recipient, however. Sir. F. Emsley, who had been chosen by independent judges as having played the best game in the Southern team during the afternoon's North v. South junior game", did not mind, and Mr. Brewster was forgiven amidst shouts of laughter. The' medal was donated by Mr. P. Seerey, licensee of the Hotel Alexandra. The medal for the best Northern player. awarded by Mr. G. Tajl, {ell to Mr. R- Brpomtiy. MR. G. BREWSTER MISTAKEN (1924, June 23). *The News (Hobart, Tas. : 1924 - 1925)*, p. 5 (FIRST EDITION). Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article233517913>

## POLICE COURT NEWS

### HOBART

#### Illegal Use Of Car

IN the Hobart Police Court yesterday, before Messrs. R., O. Harris and G. F. Brewster, Js.P., Sgt. Boxhall prosecuting, POLICE COURT NEWS (1942, March 13). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 5. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article25889286>

#### Motor Yacht Notes

(By "PENNANT")

THE recent contribution of Mr. G. F. Brewster, Vice-President of the Tas. Regatta Council, Chairman of the Sandy Bay Regatta Assn., and Committeeman of the Hobart Regatta Association, disassociating himself with comment in this column as regards the withdrawal of the latter-body from the Regatta Council, is the cause of great wonderment, for never, even in their wildest flights of imagination, have any Of the active participants in this sport connected hint with if: That he should do so and refer id the article' as an unfair attack' on the Regatta Committee, makes one wonder just what is his motive.

As a delegate to the Council he was instructed by the Sandy Bay Committee to support the principles involved; and he has also publicly stated that they are also his own personal views. As a Committeeman of the H.R.A. he must be perfectly aware, for he was at the meeting, that what is here stated on reliable authority, that the article in question was generally read by members of the Hobart Committee

and considered to be fair comment, is a very true reflection of their opinion, and why, then, must lie disagree with the sentiments expressed. Everybody, competitors included, take off their hats to the Committee of the parent body, for, as he has stated, they indeed "give a good deal of work and gratuitous time to the public's interests," but nevertheless surely they can be disagreed with and a plain statement of fact as regards existing methods and desired alterations can be made without being subjected to such wild and rambling criticism. In another portion of this issue an interesting article appears on the subject of the desired amendments and all that is required to complete the job is a reasonable reply from this correspondent as to where the article so condemned exceeds the bounds of fair criticism. What about it?

## THE SEASON

The season just concluded has been one of happy triumphs and reflects great credit on all responsible for the general advancement made. There is - only one unfortunate feature, and that' is the retirement .of., the Senior Flag Officer, Mr. J. G.. Turner, and the fact that he has relinquished the helm will be long regretted. The usual extensive racing program, both club and regatta, was well supported and with excellent results. The power craft were very much in evidence from the distant down-Channel Southport' to, the up-river New Norfolk, and once again the Club was worthily represented in the North at the Tamar Regatta. On every side there was the most pleasing feature of the growing popularity of the petrol-eaters, and the highly congratulatory references made speak volumes for the ever increasing number of converts to the "benzine breeze." Socially the club has continued to make -history, and it would indeed be hard to find a happier band of good fellows who rejoice in their association with each other and take every opportunity of mingling together at ... Motor Yacht Notes (1932, September 3). *Voice (Hobart, Tas. : 1931 - 1953)*, p. 8. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article219409378>

## BOXING BOUTS AT QUEENSTOWN.

Following a communication from Mr. G. F. Brewster (hon, secretary of the Tasmanian Amateur Boxing and Wrestling Association), it has been decided by-the committee of the Queenstown Recreation Club to stage a series of boxing bouts on the occasion of the visit of the Sandy Bay Amateur Swimming Club on Saturday, February 18. Mr. Brewster stated that included in the swimming team to visit Queenstown they would probably be three or four good amateur boxers. He suggested the arranging of half a dozen bouts against local amateurs on the Saturday night to help the sport along. This would provide an excellent opportunity of introducing amateur boxing into Queenstown, and the formation of an amateur club might result. Mr. Brewster said he was confident that if a club was formed it would prove a huge success.

The Recreation Club has now decided to arrange the bouts in the club's stadium as suggested. The proceeds will assist to defray the expenses of the visiting party. BOXING BOUTS AT QUEENSTOWN. (1933, February 10). *Advocate (Burnie, Tas. : 1890 - 1954)*, p. 8. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article68000264>

## Amateurism

G. F. BREWSTER writes: Referring to your remarks re above on March' 25th. The Boxing Association are, not - greatly concerned with the views held by the "Voice" (or for that matter any other newspaper) on the above subject, for, after all, 'it , is only one person's opinion, who, probably is not as well fitted to judge as the Special Committee who investigate these reported breaches. But the Association are concerned and take exception to unfair and misleading statements made in airing these views. Your editorial mentions: "At present the T.A.B. Association has the power to reinstate a boxer who breaches, and that rule is availed of frequently each year, until we are forced to believe that it is possible to be an amateur in the winter and a professional in the summer." ". The : inference, of course, being that reinstatements are granted so frequently that an amateur can breach any old time he likes, with a certainty of being reinstated on application. This statement is absolutely incorrect, and the inference entirely wrong and misleading, and tends only to blind amateurs to the true position. The /facts rare; that although the Association has been controlling the \ soorthoVTor five, years,, and although they have-the power to reinstate anyone who, in their opinion, is deserving of it, in the whole five years there has only been (quoting from memory) four reinstatements, and no reinstatements for about eighteen months. And probably during the five years we have had over 100 applications for reinstatements. Thus it will be seen the great stretch of imagination required to make the statement, "That reinstatements are made frequently," or words to that effect. Your boxing editor has probably been talking to some interested party, -who has "an axe to grind." The Boxing Committee are about the hardest and tightest body in Australia adjudicating on reinstatements. In my opinion they could be a lot more lenient (for some time to come) with benefit to the sport, but doubtless, before very long, the Australian Union will cut out reinstatements altogether. The views expressed by your correspondent (H. Richardson) recently hits the nail fair on the head, and is a correct summary, in mv opinion, of the position. Regretting" the necessity for so much space on such a small question.

Mr. Brewster's unsolicited admission (although, as Hon. Secretary of the T.A.B.'W.A., he only speaks from memory) of four reinstatements and approximately 100 applications for reinstatement in the last five years, justifies the belief that boxers are under the impression that they can change with the seasons. Perhaps we would see fewer breaches if the rule was mad a more rigid, and we commend the laws reigning in rowing to the Boxing Association for its earnest

consideration to prevent the cleavage that has been alleged to have taken place in recent years.

## DEFINING AN AMATEUR

Anyone who has never competed in any competition for a "stake," money or entrance fee in any branch of athletic.

Anyone who has never taught, pursued or assisted in athletic exercise of any kind as a means of livelihood.

Anyone who has not been employed in or about boats for money or wages.

Anyone who has never competed in a boat race in connection with which a wager or bet is recognised.

Anyone who is not disqualified as an amateur from any other branch of athletic sport.

Anyone who is not, or has not been within a period of three years, a bookmaker.

A rule designed on similar lines with slight modifications to suit the game might cause boxers to think, a little more deeply before taking the plunge into professionalism, a step' that in nine cases out of ten ruins the career of a lad who might have reached great heights as an amateur. Laurie McKennie provides an example. ' The loss of the lightweight champion, to amateurism is great, while the gain to professionalism is negligible, because a fight with the "pros" can only be had. once.; every pancake day. To proceed further it is necessary to turn our 'attention to other sports, preferably athletics. In rigidity the rule defining an amateur runner could walk side by side with rowing. Although, the prospects of a professional runner ' in Tasmania' are brighter than those of. a professional boxer there have been few transgressions, and in a period of five years there have been only three applications for re-admission to amateur ranks, none of which have been granted. Rowing, true to the traditions of amateurism, enjoys an impeccable record. Since the inauguration of the Tasmanian' Rowing Association on March 1st, 1912, there have been four applications for reinstatement, but those applications met with a fiat refusal.

Whether it is right, wrong or otherwise, we can't quite see how an athlete can be a true dyed-in-the-wool amateur when he is barred from competing as an amateur in one sport and accepted in another. It is all a remorseful reminder of the lack of uniformity among amateur bodies. If they all sincerely believe in the one principle, they should all support a common cause that would place everybody above reproach. In the majority of cases where improvement is suggested in a particular branch of sport, and such improvement does not meet with the approval of those at

the head of affairs, the familiar cry is raised that somebody with an "axe to grind", has been squeaking. In this case, however, the article was printed, solely with the desire to see a fine sport progress along lines that are worthy of it, and there were no "axe-grinders" on the job, although even Mr. Brewster might admit that in the case of amateur boxing they can be found without a microscope. Anyway if Mr. Brewster finds it difficult to recall the names of boxers who have infringed amateur rules we will be only too pleased to submit a list of boys who have violated the laws of amateurism and then continued along the even tenor of their way in amateur boxing circles. Amateurism (1933, April 8). *Voice (Hobart, Tas. : 1931 - 1953)*, p. 5. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article219406227>

### Life-Saving Judges At Regatta

Judges for the parade of life-saving teams at the Royal Hobart Regatta will be Messrs. G. F. Brewster (Regatta Association), R. A. Hutchings (Bonbeach Life-Saving Club, Victoria), D. R. Plaister and A. Wells (Royal Life-Saving Society, Tasmanian Division).

It is expected that this event will be one of the highlights of the regatta. Three teams of leading Victorian life-savers will compete with four Hobart teams.

A running commentary of the waterfront events will be provided following the installation of a special public address system.

Matthew Flinders (Mr. A. Palfreyman) will act as flagship on the first day of the regatta and H.M.A.S. Australia on the second. Life-Saving Judges At Regatta (1949, February 5). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 24. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article26491031>

### BOXING POOR REFEREEING AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Widespread Criticism Criticism of the refereeing in the Australian boxing championships recently held in Brisbane was voiced yesterday by Mr. G. F. Brewster, manager of the Tasmanian team, on his arrival at Beauty Point on the Zealandia.

Mr. Brewster, who later went on to Hobart, said there had been considerable comment' on the subject, not only by officials of other states, but also at the annual conference of the Australian Amateur Boxing and Wrestling Union. He said that the refereeing in the championships was faulty, and not of a high standard. Experts disagreed with many of the decisions, particularly with that in the semi-final of the lightweight championship, in which the Tasmanian, J. Purdy, was beaten by the Victorian, Hattam.

Many who saw this bout considered that Purdy had a fair margin of points in his favour, and that he should have been awarded the contest. Mr. Brewster said that had the decision gone in Purdy's favour he would probably have won the final. All the boys had shown fairly good form, and interstate visitors considered the standard was quite good. A. Taylor had made a bad start in the lightweight contest. He was matched with Humphreys, of New South Wales, who was recognised as one of the best in the class. Though Humphreys gained a substantial lead in the first round, Taylor fought much better thereafter and lost only by a narrow margin of points, K. Reid won his bantam-weight class rather well, but was outclassed by Burn, of Victoria, in the final. Burn has won the title for the past six years. E. Branigan did not come quite up to expectations in the welterweight class, and was hardly up to Australian championship standard.

The team had been extended much hospitality in Brisbane, and had been given free passes to all places of entertainment. Interest in the championships had been added by the visit of the New Zealand team. Accompanied by Mr. S. Hutton, Mr. Brewster had represented Tasmania at the annual conference of the A.A.B.W.U., at which the control of amateur boxing had been transferred from Victoria to Queensland. Mr. Brewster said that it was felt that the control of the sport should be handed round every three or four years to different states. BOXING (1933, October 19). *Examiner (Launceston, Tas. : 1900 - 1954)*, p. 3 (DAILY). Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article51841914>

#### CONFIRMS HOLD-UP OF ROOFING IRON

THE manager of G. F. Brewster and Co. (Mr. Bruce Ross), who represents John Lysaght (Australia) Pty. Ltd. in Tasmania, confirmed the reports made in "The Mercury" on Saturday that the manufacturers were withholding supplies of galvanised sheets from Victoria, Tasmania, and other States until such time as the Victorian Prices Branch granted an increase in price on the cost of production.

An increase of about £2/10 a ton was granted to the manufacturers on January 11 and roofing and plain iron would be shipped from Newcastle as and when shipping, was available, he said.

As far as Hobart was concerned Mr. Ross stated that about 320 tons was due for delivery ex previous quarterly rolling programmes, and a similar tonnage has been allotted for the current quarterly programme. However, Mr. Ross points out that the whole of this tonnage would not be delivered into Hobart in less than four separate shipments.

Other steel mills in Newcastle receive a proportion of the space made available to lift steel car-goes, and consequently Lysaghts will be limited to ship only the tonnages that will be allotted by the shipping company.

The fact that all States from whom deliveries have been with-held since mid-November would be arranging for steamers to call at Newcastle to obtain their quotas would probably cause a shipping congestion at that port, and would delay deliveries to Tasmania longer than normally experienced.

Mr. Ross stated that the Adelong left Newcastle before the price rise was granted, but possibly Hobart would receive a shipment in the Talum about the end of the month and Launceston could expect a shipment in the Wanaka due about the middle of February. CONFIRMS HOLD-UP OF ROOFING IRON (1954, January 18). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 8. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article27202204>

## RN OFFICER'S REGATTA APPRECIATION

The following letter of appreciation has been received by Mr G. F. Brewster from Lt R. Power, RNVR, of HMS Bermuda, who was in charge of the naval swimming and aquatic events at the Royal Hobart Victory Regatta last month:

"Owing to the general rush, and the fact that I was on duty on the last day of the Hobart Regatta, I had no opportunity of thanking you and your committee for all the trouble you must have taken to arrange and carry out the Navy part of the swimming and novelty events. I enjoyed it all very much indeed, and so did everyone else taking part from the ship. It was a most successful function, and I wish all sports and aquatic programmes one comes across were as well arranged and carried out as yours. Hoping you continue this good work, and that next year's regatta will be equally successful in every way." RN OFFICER'S REGATTA APPRECIATION (1946, March 18). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 7. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article26176158>

## Swimming Facilities

The whole of the swimming fraternity in Tasmania, and at a moderate estimate fully 80 pc of citizens, Will strongly support your editorial on in-adequate bathing facilities. In other large towns throughout the State equal negligence in this respect has been shown. A proper-size Olympic pool, not only in Hobart, but also in Launceston, is an-absolute necessity, not only as a revenue producer, and a public utility, but, as you say, a State asset. Every worthwhile visitor will look for and expect to And, ordinary facilities of this nature. But the most important factor is for competition swimming, as a sport. Without an Olympic size pool in Tasmania this State will be cut out of Australian or world championship meetings. Any records our swimmers may put up in baths other than Olympic size, will not be recognised by the Amateur Swimming Union of Australia. We have a brilliant lot of young swimmers and divers, prospective champions, both men and women. They would be a wonderful advertisement to the State. Their hopes are blighted by lack of vision. Their only chance to excel is to leave the State. A team of American

champions is competing in Sydney, and will compete in the Australian championships in Adelaide at the end of the month. These visitors are debarred from coming to Hobart, on account of the lack of proper facilities.

G.. F. BREWSTER.

President, Tasmanian Amateur Swimming Association.

Having attended the opening of the learn-to-swim campaign and heard the Lord Mayor stress the necessity of being able to swim and also the value of being able to save life, it is with surprise one reads his remarks on the necessity of a tepid pool. He says there are ample facilities for bathing in Hobart and its environments. By this I presume he means the beaches, but what facilities are there when one reaches the beaches? The variations in climatic conditions preclude regular attendance. Results can only be obtained by constant tuition. Mention also was made of an opinion by an engineer from the Mainland. He did not state the engineer came from the same area as the town clerk. All baths in the city centre have been allowed to go to rack and ruin. The council seems to have no wish to provide bathing facilities which many towns and suburbs, smaller than Hobart, on the Mainland willingly provide. Why not adopt a less parochial view?

LEARN TO SWIM. Sandy Bay.

Swimming Facilities (1947, January 17). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 17. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article26376769>

SUPREME COURT.

FOURTH TERM.

TUESDAY, 17TH NOVEMBER, 1875.

Before their Honours Sir FRANCIS SMITH, Chief

Justice, and Mr. Justice DOBSON.

POTTER v. DILLON.

Mr. Justice DOBSON delivered the following judgment of the Court in this case, in which the validity of the will of the late Mr. Michael Dowson is disputed :Michael Dowson, arrived in Tasmania in the year 1822 ; he resided for many years before his death in a cottage in Davey-street, in this city, living upon the means which he had accumulated. He died about 9 a.m. on the 25th of January, 1875, at the advanced age of 88 years. About 10 o'clock on the night before his death he executed a document purporting to be his last will, by which he left all his real and personal estate to Alice Eliza Dillon for her sole and separate use, and



appointed her sole executrix. She applied for probate of the alleged will, and Thomas Steadman Potter, a nephew of Dowson, entered a caveat. Thereupon these proceedings commenced by way of common condidit, and Potter in his answer denied the capacity of Dowson to make a will, and also im-puted the exercise of undue influence and coercion to the party proponent and her husband, Thomas Dillon. To this answer a plea was filed, and with the consent of the parties, the evidence was taken orally before the full court upon the issues raised by the pleadings. The onus of proving the testator's capacity rests on the party propounding the will, who must satisfy the Court that the testator was, in the language of the law, of a sound and disposing mind and memory. If it were necessary that a testator should have these faculties in the highest degree, then few men would have testa-mentary capacity ; but the law makes allowance for human infirmity, the decline of life and the decay of the mental powers. Where the testator is fully capable of any rational act requiring thought, judg-ment, and reflection, there proof of bare execution is sufficient, but where this is not so, a deficiency of capacity exists--a deficiency not necessarily rendering the person intestable, but, in proportion to the degree of weakness, requiring clearer and more direct proof of the unbiassed testamentary intention. The difficulty in a case like the present is to determine with reason-able accuracy the minimum degree of reason which will satisfy the requirements of the law as to a testator's capacity. The case of Stevens v. Vancleve, before the Supreme Court of the United States, and which is cited and relied upon in the considered judgment of the Court of Queen's Bench delivered by Cockburn, C. J., in Banks v. Good-fellow, L.R., 52B, 569, is authority for the following positions :--The testator must have memory ; a man in whom that faculty is totally extinguished cannot be said to possess understanding to any degree whatever or for any purpose. But his memory may be very im-perfect ; it may be greatly impaired by age or disease ; he may not at all times be able to recollect the names, the persons, or the families of those with whom he had been intimately acquainted ; may at times ask idle questions, and repeat those which had before been asked and answered, and yet his understanding may be sufficiently sound for many of the ordinary tran-sactions of life. He may not have sufficient strength of memory and vigour of intellect, to make and to digest all the parts of a contract, and yet be competent to direct the distribution of his property by will. This ia a subject which he may possibly have often thought of,

and there is probably no person who has not arranged

such a disposition in his mind before he committed it to writing. The question is not so much what was the degree of memory possessed by the testator, as this : Had he a disposing memory ? Was he capable of recollecting the property he was about to bequeath,

the manner of distributing it, and the objects of his bounty? To sum up the whole in the most simple and intelligible form, were his mind and memory suffi-ciently sound to enable him to know and to understand the business in which he was

engaged at the time he executed his will ? In *Harwood v. Baker* (3 Moore 282) before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, in which case a will had been executed by a testator

on his death-bed in favor of a second wife, he being in a state of weakened and impaired capacity, the law was then laid down, " Their Lordships are of opinion that in order to constitute a sound disposing mind, a testator must not only be able to understand that he is by his will giving the whole of his property to one object of his regards, but he must have capacity to comprehend the extent of his property and the nature of the claims of others, whom by his will he is excluding from all participation in that property." Such being the law, it is in the next place important to consider the relationship in which the testator stood to the parties to this suit, and to those who may be supposed to have had claims upon his bounty. Thomas Steadman Potter, the party opposing the issue of probate, is the testator's nephew ; about 52 years ago

he came to the colony with his mother, the testator's sister, who died many years since. For some months after his arrival in Tasmania, he lived with the testator, and was for some years afterwards intimate with him. During the last 13 years, Potter has been crippled in one arm and one leg, and has been in poor circumstances, acting as a night watchman when he could obtain employment, but depending to some extent upon assistance from his children. During this period his uncle, the testator, gave him six shillings when he was flooded out of his house, about three years ago ; and shortly after Alice Dillon's marriage, and during the time she was not residing at the testator's house, he met Potter on the wharf, and went with him to his house, and sat there for a short time, and on coming away, he gave Potter £1. On that occasion he told Potter that Alice Dillon should never darken his doors again, and intimated that when he died he would leave his property to his own relatives,

who had never been a burden to him. To these facts

Potter himself alone deposes. With these exceptions Potter says that the testator never did anything for him, and that he never ate a mouthful in the testator's house during that period of 13 years. John Fisher and Mrs Lucas, a brother and sister of Mrs Dowson, witnesses for Potter, say they had very seldom seen him at the testator's house, and Alice Dillon and Mrs Parker say they never saw him there before the time of Mrs Dowson's last illness and death. As to other relatives, Potter deposes that he does not know that at the time of the testator's death he had a relative besides himself ; he adds, there might be a younger sister, and that he had heard the testator, twenty years before, speak of his sister. Potter evidently knows nothing of his relatives in England, and there is no reason for supposing that the testator had for many years corresponded with his family in England. Alice Dillon says she never heard Dowson or his wife speak of his relatives in England. Potter, therefore, seems to be the only relative in whom Dowson had, at any rate for

many years, manifested even the slightest interest. It is true that in an affidavit sworn by Potter at the commencement of these proceedings, he says that the testator's sister, Susanah, married, and had one girl and one boy, and he believes that they are all alive because he has never heard of their deaths ;and also that the testator's sister, Mary Ann, married, and had issue, of whom all are dead, but one, and that one is married and has issue. But Potter does not give the source of his information, and there has not been correspondence between either Potter or the testator and the members of the family in England for very many years. The only remaining claimant on his bounty is Alice Eliza Dillon, the party proponent. She is a niece of

the testator's wife. Her mother died when she was an infant, and from the age of two years she lived with, and was maintained and educated by, the testator and his wife, and, as is admitted by witnesses on both sides, was always treated by them as if she had been their own child, and in correspondence with her in 1870 the testator addresses her as " my dear child. " On the 28th December, 1871, when a little more than 17 years of age, she was married to Thomas Dillon, without the knowledge or consent of her father or of the testator or his wife. After her marriage she left the testator's house, and resided with her husband. This marriage created some estrangement, the extent of which is variously described, but the fact is undisputed that about the 17th March, 1873, less than 15 months after the marriage, she returned, with her husband, to the testator's house and they both continued to live there with him till he died, and they still continue to reside in the same cottage. Alice Dillon had a child in February, 1874, which appears to have been treated with kindness and attention by the testator and his wife. The testator was for some years past very deaf, his eyesight was greatly impaired, and he had also an indistinctness in his speech, arising from a defective palate. It, therefore, was very difficult to make him hear what was said, and to understand him when he spoke. The evidence as to his capacity divides itself into two branches--first, the direct testimony as to his mental state on the day of his executing the will ; and secondly, the inferences to be drawn as to his mental capacity at the time he executed the will from the evidence of persons who had seen him at various intervals of time antecedent to that day. Before considering the evidence, it is convenient once for all to dispose of the testimony of Thomas Dillon. Not only is he deeply interested in the result of these proceedings, but his admissions as to what took place on the occasion of his marriage, in falsely declaring that his intended wife, a girl of 17 years of age, was 21, satisfies the Court that, where

he is deeply interested, the sanction of an oath is ineffectual to secure the utterance of the truth by him, and moreover his evidence conflicts in so many

instances with that of other witnesses as to render it unsafe to place any reliance upon it. What has been said as to the evidence of Thomas Dillon applies with almost equal force to that of his wife, so

far as the interest and false declaration are con-

cerned, but her testimony is not in other respects so far shaken as is that of her husband. The first witness, whose evidence is material as to what took place on Sunday, the 24th January, 1875, is Mary Ann Parker, the wife of Charles Parker, a journeyman baker, who had lived next door to the testator, and been his tenant for about ten years before his death. The witness nursed the testator's wife during her last illness in September 1874, and subsequently was employed to attend upon and nurse the testator till his death. She went home at night unless the testator was unwell. She says that he had been bad on the Saturday, but on the Sunday he became weaker and could not take his food, and went to bed

about 11 O'clock on that morning. About 4 O'clock in the afternoon he rang his bell and the witness went to his room. He asked her if Mrs Dillon was in, she said "No." He said he wanted to see Mr Dillon if he was in. The witness went downstairs, saying she would tell him when he came in. In a little time the bell again rang, the witness went again to the testator

who again asked if Dillon was in, and on being told he was not in, he asked if Mrs Dillon was in the house. Witness replied "Yes," and he said "Tell her I want her." Witness called Mrs Dillon who came; he asked if her husband was at home, she said "No." He said he wanted him to get a lawyer. He told Mrs Dillon to get him a sheet of paper and a pen and ink, as he wanted to see her protected, or something like that. When she got him the sheet of paper he said, "I am scarcely able to raise hand, there is a sheet of paper or signature in my desk that will do as well."

He told her to get Mr Symons to see that the will was looked after, and a lawyer. The witness adds that Dillon came home between 6 and 7 p.m. and she heard Mrs Dillon give her husband the message, that he went up to see Dowson and then left the house by the front door. Alice Dillon corroborates this witness and renders more intelligible what took place as to the signed sheet of paper. She says that when the testator found he could hardly raise his arm, he said "there was a paper in the desk with his name signed upon it, and when the lawyer came, to tell him to fill it up in favour of myself." Dillon's evidence, if it is worth anything, agrees with that stated so far as relates to him, and

he says that the testator repeated to him when he went upstairs, the same story as to the signed sheet of paper, and that it was to be filled up for the benefit of

his wife, as was told by Mrs. Parker and Mrs. Dillon. Dillon went to Symons, who had been a neighbour of the testator for 20 years, and had always been on friendly terms with him, but had not been in the habit of going to his house, except on rare occasions, on matters of public business. Symons says that Dillon came to him about 6 p.m., and they had conversation about the testator's state of health, and about his making a will. Dillon left Symons, and went to Mr. Sheehy, a solicitor,

and told him that the testator was very bad, and wanted to make his will, and Dillon asked Mr. Sheehy to call Symons as a witness. Mr. Sheehy and Dillon then went to Symons's house : Dillon preceded them home ; and Mr. Sheehy and Symons followed him. At the house Mr. Sheehy asked Dillon where the will was that he had prepared some time before, but which had not been executed. That was given to him. Mr. Sheehy asked Dillon if the testator could write his name. Dillon said he thought not. Dillon says that just before Mr. Sheehy and Symons arrived, he asked his wife to bring him the desk, and he looked and found there, as Dowson had described, a sheet of paper with "M. Dowson" written on it. He says he gave that sheet to Mr. Sheehy, and Mr. Sheehy says that Dillon gave him

a sheet of paper with "M. Dowson" written on it, and said this is a paper that old Mr. Dowson signed and left in his desk to be filled up with his will, and that it would be quite sufficient if he acknowledged it before two witnesses. Mr. Sheehy said that that would not do, but he used the sheet of paper to write out a new will. He informed them that another

witness would be required, as one of them would have to write the testator's name, as he was too weak to do it himself, and Dillon was sent to find a witness. He says he went, as directed, for Symons' son, but he was not at home and then he secured the attendance of one John Williams, who is a car driver in Dillon's employ. Whilst Dillon was absent, Symons at Mr. Sheehy's request went upstairs to the attic, in which the testator was, to see him. Symons says " when I went into the room I laid my hand on Mr. Dowson. A woman was in the room. I asked him how he felt. He said very bad. I asked him if he wished to have a doctor. He said no, a doctor could do him no good, he would rather have a lawyer to make his will. I asked him how he wished to leave his property. His answer was, he wished to leave all to his niece Alice Dillon." Symons adds that he mentioned that Mr. Sheehy was in the house when the testator said he wanted a lawyer, and Symons thinks he said that he knew Mr. Sheehy's father, but he did know Mr. Sheehy. Symons says he went down stairs and repeated their conversation to Mr. Sheehy, and

Mr Sheehy corroborates Symons as to this. Symons also added that he expected he would leave all to his niece Alice, as he Symons had heard him say so before. Symons described the testator as being " very weak and low, but perfectly sensible." That he spoke with much difficulty, but he, Symons, understood him. The woman whom Symons saw in the testator's room when he went upstairs, was Mrs. Parker, and she gives substantially the same account of the conversation between the testator and Symons, as Symons gives in his evidence, and which Mr. Sheehy says was given to him by Symons as soon as he came down stairs. Mr. Sheehy prepared on the sheet of paper with M. Dowson written on it, another will in precisely the same terms as the former unexecuted one, leaving all to Alice Dillon, but varied the attestation clause to suit the circumstances of the testator's name being signed for him. On the return of Dillon, with Williams as a witness, they, accompanied by Mr. Sheehy and Symons, went upstairs to the testator's

bedroom. Mr. Sheehy believing, (as he says) that since the testator was very deaf, a voice with which he was familiar would be more intelligible to him, requested Dillon to read the will to him. He read it slowly and clearly, and in a loud voice, so that, according to Mr. Sheehy, any one could understand. When Dillon had read the will, Mr. Sheehy said he wanted the testator to be asked if he understood that the paper just read was his will. Dillon was about to put the question, but

Mr. Sheehy said he would rather that Symons would put the question, and at the same time he stated that he would put the questions himself, but an old neighbour and acquaintance, with whose voice and appearance he was familiar would be less likely to put the old man out. Symons then put the question, if he understood that the paper just read was his will. And Symons repeated as his answer, "Yes." Mr. Sheehy says he cannot say he heard the word "Yes," but he heard a sound, and saw the testator make a gesture of assent. The witness John Williams, says that he heard the word " Yes " as well as saw a nod of assent. The next question Mr. Sheehy directed to be put by Symons to the testator was if he understood that by that will he gave all his property to his niece Alice Dillon ? We are of opinion that a more unsatisfactory

form of question could scarcely have been devised for ascertaining what was the real "will" of the dying man, who for quiet sake might nod assent, or who for want of strength to talk, or think, might seek relief from importunity by a monosyllabic declaration of assent. The testator, whether by inspiration, or by an effort of his reasoning power it is impossible to say, aided the weakness of the question by answering " Yes, all." Mr. Sheehy saw a gesture of assent and he says distinctly, heard the word " All," and that after that, he was satisfied as to the testator's testamentary capacity. Symons and Williams say they heard " Yes, all." Symons then at Mr. Sheehy's request asked the testator if he wished Mr. Sheehy to sign his name. Mr. Sheehy heard a sound and saw a gesture of assent, whilst the other two witnesses heard the word "Yes" answered by the testator. The testator was sitting in bed propped up by pillows, and Mr. Sheehy signed the will on the bed just before

the testator and then putting the will towards the testator told Symons to ask him if he acknowledged it was his will. Symons did so and Mr Sheehy heard a sound and saw a gesture of assent, whilst Symons and Williams heard the word "Yes" uttered by the testator. The will was then passed to Symons and to Williams, who both signed it on the bed in the presence of the testator, and of each other. The only other person who saw the testator before his death was Charles Parker, the husband of Mrs Parker. He saw him at 9 a.m. on the Monday morning. He shook hands with Dowson and said good bye to him, and Dowson seemed to recognise him.

As to the witnesses whose evidence is material to the first branch of this case it is to be remarked that besides Dillon and his wife, Mrs Parker was employed as a nurse virtually under the control of the

Dillons. Symons was not a witness called in at the suggestion of Mr Sheehy, but one whom Dillon had previously visited and talked to about the testator's state and the will, and who was called by Mr Sheehy at Dillon's request ; and when Mr Sheehy asked Dillon to procure some respectable neighbour as a witness, he brought in Williams, a carman in his employment. It is certainly unfortunate that these witnesses (who may be all speaking the truth) should be either in the service of or have had previous communication as to the will with Dillon, who was desperately interested in procuring its execution, securing, as it did, to his wife all that Dowson had to dispose of. So far as Mr Sheehy's testimony is concerned, he heard the testator utter one word only, viz, the monosyllable " all. " As an officer of this Court, and one in whose testimony, so far as his memory and observation served him, the Court would place every confidence, it is very much to be regretted that he did not himself put questions to the testator to ascertain his capacity, more especially as he had received the instructions for the will, not from the testator, but from Dillon. We consider that the absence of the reasonable precautions (having regard to the age and weakness of the testator) of procuring thoroughly independent and intelligent witnesses and of carefully testing the capacity of the testator in their presence, and ascertaining, beyond doubt, his real testamentary intention and capacity, has largely, if not solely, given rise to these proceedings. Notwithstanding the adverse comment to which this portion of the evidence is open, it cannot be lightly assumed that the witnesses are committing perjury. Mrs Parker's detailed account of what took place on the Sunday afternoon, if it is not true, is cleverly concocted, and it is borne out by the Dillons ; but what is more important she was present when Symons saw the testator in the evening, and she gives substantially the same account as he gives of the conversation which then took place between him and the testator. When

Symons left the testator he immediately repeated to Mr Sheehy what had passed between him and the testator, and Mr Sheehy's account of what Symons told him had taken place, agrees with what Symons and Mrs Parker say in fact took place. If this is not true, there is not only perjury on the part of Symons and Mrs Parker, but conspiracy between them as to what they should falsely swear, and that too apparently before Symons left the room and repeated the alleged conversation to Mr Sheehy ; unless Mr

Sheehy is also conspiring with them in the fabrication of this piece of evidence , a conclusion which the Court cannot for one moment entertain. The testimony of these witnesses stands substantially unshaken by cross-examination, and whilst it is not received without hesitation, when read by the light of other evidence in the case still it would be a very strong step to reject it. And if it is not rejected, Mr Parker's testimony evidences a consistent determination on the part of the testator from 4 p.m. that afternoon to have his will made in his niece's favour, and Symons's testimony, corroborated by Mrs Parker, and also to some extent by Mr Sheehy, shows the existence of that intention, expressed in a short but intelligent conversation with Symons just before the will was executed. Again, when the

question "Do you give all your property to your niece Alice Dillon?" was put to the testator, and he replied, "Yes, all," the utterance of that word "all" (which every person present says he heard) implies something more than a mere acquiescence, either to escape importunity, or because the testator did not understand what was going on, and was too inert to exercise judgment or thought; it imports intelligence sufficient to appreciate the nature of the question, and capacity of mind to reply to it intelligently and emphatically. The circumstances of the sheet of paper with "M. Dowson" written on it having been produced to Mr Sheehy was relied on as corroborative of the testimony of Mrs Parker and the Dillons, and also as manifesting memory and intelligence on the part of the testator. And if the testimony relating to this paper was free from all question, it would undoubtedly have the effect desired to be attributed to it. The evidence as to its discovery in the desk is that of the Dillons only and the only other witness is Mrs Parker,

who says that she heard the testator tell Mrs Dillon that there was a signed paper in the desk. Her relation to the Dillons has already been pointed out. Much evidence was offered as to whether the "M. Dowson" was, or was not, the testator's handwriting, and documents signed by the testator were put in evidence. After a careful comparison of the handwriting, it is clear that in some characteristics the "M Dowson" closely resembles some of the genuine signatures of the testator. His handwriting is, however, of so variable a character as to render it almost impossible to determine with certainty whether the signature is or is not a genuine one. We incline, however, to the opinion that it is a genuine one. But looking at the character of the testimony by which this paper is introduced into the proceedings, and the doubtful genuineness of the signature, we deem it unsafe to allow this feature of the case to affect our ultimate decision. In addition to the consideration of the weight and

effect of the evidence which has been under review, there are two other matters which most materially bear upon the question whether the document executed contained the true expression of the testator's will, viz.--(1st) Was it under the circumstances a natural and a just will, that is, was it such a will as a reasonable man in the testator's circumstances may be supposed to have made? and (2ndly) was it made in accordance with, or in opposition to, his previously

declared intentions as to the disposal of his property? The first question is a most material one; for where the disposition is a just and proper one, and consonant

with the natural duties and moral affections of the deceased, it speaks for itself, and carries on the face of it its own recommendation; and then proof of almost any glimmering of capacity, at the time of the execution, would be sufficient to support such a will. (*Brogden v. Brogden*, 2 Add. 441.) The testator had adopted as his child his wife's niece, Alice, when she was not quite two years old; she was brought up in his house, and he had maintained and educated her until her



marriage. There was then some short estrangement, but within fifteen months the testator and his wife had received Alice Dillon, with her husband, into their house, where, for anything that appears in the evidence, she occupied the same place in the affection of Mrs. Dowson and the testator that she had formerly done. Besides the cottage in which he lived, the rental of his other property did not yield more than from £100 to £120 a year ; and this property, with some trifling amount of personal estate, he left to her for her sole and separate use. The only other claimants on his bounty were Potter and his family, and the testator's sister and nephews and nieces, if alive, in England. So far as his English relatives are concerned, the testator seems to have had no communication with them long for at least twenty years past, in fact he seems to have ceased to take any interest in them whatever. As to Potter and his family, the testator's relations to them have already been pointed out, and except at the inter-view between the testator and Potter, whilst the testator was manifestly very much annoyed at the marriage of Alice, the testator certainly exhibited about as little interest as it was possible for an uncle, who was in comparatively comfortable circumstances, to exhibit towards a nephew who was in poor circumstances, and with whom he had no cause of quarrel. Had Alice Dillon not married, there would have been a moral duty on Dowson's part to make some provision for her, and not leave her destitute at his death, and there can be no doubt that Dowson and his wife were far more attached to Alice than to any other claimant on his bounty. When once the offence caused by the marriage was condoned, and she was received back and lived with the testator again, it would be unnatural to suppose that his former affection for her did not revive. Under all the circumstances the Court (as was intimated during the argument) can arrive at no other conclusion than that the will was one that a reasonable testator in such a case might justly make. With reference to the second question as to previous declarations of intention the evidence is conflicting. The usual source of information on this point is found in former wills, but the testator appears to have made no will for 25 years past, and the one which he then made was executed some years before Alice Dillon was born, and his own relatives were included in it as the objects of his bounty. No trace of this will could be found or of any subsequent one except that which is contested, and to ascertain the testator's intentions it is necessary shortly to review such evidence as bears upon the question. Joseph Fisher, an uncle of Alice Dillon, says that 14 or 15 years ago the testator told him that he and Mrs. Dowson would take care of Alice as long as they lived, and that after their death she should have the property. Richard Alsebrook, a painter by trade, who for many years had been employed by Dowson, says that he has heard Dowson and Mrs. Dowson both say that what there was would be Alice's : He, however, heard this before her marriage to Dillon, and not afterwards. Mrs. McArthur, who knew the Dowsons intimately since 1825 and whose son married Alice Dillon's sister, says she always understood that Alice was to be the heir, and she says that she heard Mr. Dowson say that Alice should have all after her

marriage with Dillon. Ann Bush knew the Dowsons for 50 years and was at school with Mrs. Dowson, and

says that they have been like brothers and sisters ever

since. She visited the testator about once a fortnight after his wife's death, and in conversing with him on one of those occasions she said " Mr. Dowson, I hope you won't forget your niece, and her baby, she has been very kind to you ;" he said "No, I will not forget her." Mrs. Parker says that in addition to what the testator said to her on the afternoon before his death, about seeing Alice protected, she heard him say to Alice, about 4 or 5 weeks before when he was very ill, that he intended to leave her his property. Charles Parker, the husband of the last witness, says that on the Tuesday night before the testator's death he saw him about some repairs to a closet on the premises which he rented from the testator, who said to him, "Dillon will look to that, as my pro-erty will sooner or later fall into the hands of Alice." John Symons, not only on the night of the execution of the will, but also on the 1st January, heard the testator speak of his niece. He was at the testator's house on that day, and the testator, amongst other things, said, " She (Alice) was very kind to him, very attentive, and he intended to leave her all his pro-erty." Frederick Miller, a shoemaker, who lived close to Dowson's, and often worked for him at his trade and as a labourer, says that he has on several occasions heard the testator say that he would leave Alice all his property. Dillon and his wife give similar testimony. On the other hand, Potter says that Dowson always said he would leave him something when he died. The last time he said so might be three or four years ago, and this was the occasion on which he told Potter that Alice Dillon should never darken his doors again, and that none of his family had ever been a burden to him, and when he died he should look to them for it. Elizabeth Smith, a niece of Mrs. Dowson, who was very intimate with the Dowsons, says that Mr. Dowson some few years ago told her that he would leave all his property to Mrs. Dowson ; also, that at the time of the marriage the testator was very angry with Alice for marrying Dillon, and said she should never be a penny the better for him. Mrs. Smith also says that Mrs. Dowson, at the time of the testator's illness, some eighteen months before his

death, said that the property was left to her and then to her relations She says she thinks that Mrs Dowson said Mr Pitcairn drew the will, and that the will was in the house. Eliza-beth Lucas was present at a conversation between her sister (Mrs Dowson) and Dr Crowther during

Mrs Dowson's last illness. She heard Mrs Dowson tell Dr Crowther that she was aware Dowson's rela-tives would take the property, as Dowson had made the will so long before he was insane. She had pre- viously heard from Mrs Dowson that Dowson had made a will 22 years before, leaving the property to her if she survived him, but to go to his relatives if she died first. Dr Crowther says he had heard that Dowson had made a will in Mrs Dowson's favour, and knowing that she was dangerously ill he got into conversation with her about it, and she expressed her regret at his inability to alter the disposition of his property from the state of mind in which he was. John Fisher, a brother of Mrs Dowson, and who had known

the testator intimately for 50 years says that Mrs Dowson told him, two days before her death that Dowson had made a will and that if he died before her all the property would come to her and if she died first it was to come to Dowson's friends in England. Mrs Wright, who had been a neighbour and tenant to Dowson for 20 years and who remained one night with Mrs Dowson when Dowson was very ill, begged Mrs Dowson to send for her relatives to settle his affairs. Mrs Dowson said his affairs had

been settled 25 years ago by Mr Pitcairn, and the property was all left to her, and then it went to Dowson's relations, and her relations would not have a penny. It is remarkable that whilst ten witnesses (i.e. including Dillon and his wife) depose to the testator's declarations of intention to provide for Alice Dillon by his will, which could only be done by destroying or altering his former will, made before Alice Dillon was born, and executing another will or codicil, one witness only and that one Potter ever heard the testator declare his intention of benefiting any other person besides Alice Dillon, and that declaration embraced Potter amongst the objects of the testator's bounty. The testator spoke to Potter whilst Alice Dillon was absent from his house shortly after the marriage, and it was also during the same period, and when, as Mrs Smith deposes, the testator was very angry at the marriage, that the testator said to her that Alice Dillon should never be a penny the better by him. Both conversations, especially that with Mrs Smith, imply that but for the marriage he had intended to make provision for Alice. When he received her back into his house and became reconciled to her, the presumption is that as the old feelings revived so would the former intentions. The rest of the evidence as to intention consists not of what the testator said, but of what Mrs Dowson told the witnesses were the contents of a will made by Dowson more than 20 years ago. There is some conflict of testimony as to what were the precise provisions of that will, but the great preponderance of evidence is in favour of its leaving all to Mrs Dowson if she survived him, but, if she predeceased him, then all went to his relatives. With such a will the testator might rest content, relying upon Mrs Dowson making proper provision for Alice if they both survived him. And if he survived Mrs Dowson, then in order to provide for Alice, he would have to destroy the old will and execute another. When or how the old will was destroyed is unknown. No trace of it can be found. But, as evidence of testator's intention, his own declarations are far more important than any statements of Mrs Dowson's as to the contents of a will made years before Alice Dillon was born, can possibly be. Although it is remarkable that the testator should be reticent as to his affairs when with some of those with whom he was most intimate, and that he should talk freely about the ultimate disposition of his property, amongst others to his tradesmen and tenants, and also attributing every reasonable weight to Mrs Dowson's statements, still the weight of evidence warrants the conclusion that

the testator had both before and after Alice Dillon's

marriage, expressed his intention to make some provision for her. The will then being one that, looking at the surrounding circumstances, may be deemed to be on the whole a natural and just one, and consistent with the affections of the deceased, and also with his declared intentions, the Court accepts, but not without some hesitation the testimony immediately connected with the execution of the will as prima facie satisfying it that the testator had testamentary capacity at the time he executed his will. There is, however, a mass of other testimony relating to the testator's capacity for years before his death, and the question remains whether there is anything in that to alter the inference arrived at by the Court from the nature of the testamentary act itself, and the evidence immediately connected with it. The evidence of highly respectable and intelligent witnesses on this branch of the case is so conflicting as to the testator's capacity, not only for months, but even for years before his death, that the Court is forced to the conclusion that the testator's mental powers must have varied greatly at different times. In the first place the medical testimony is conflicting. Dr Bright was for many years the regular medical attendant of the testator, and as such he last visited him on the 6th, 7th, 9th, and 21st October, 1874 that is shortly after Mrs Dowson's death. On account of the testator's deafness, the doctor found it easier to obtain information as to the testator's state through Mrs Dowson, and usually adopted this mode of

communication. Dr Bright says that his eyesight

was so defective that he had to be told who Dr

Bright was ; when he was told, Dr Bright thinks that Dowson always knew him. Dr Bright says there was nothing in his language or manner to lead him to the conclusion that his mental capacity was destroyed, or impaired more than might be expected in a man of his age ; he would give a rational answer to a rational question. Dr Bright is ignorant of any structural disease or softening of the brain in Dowson producing idiotcy. He does not believe that it existed, and he could not have failed to notice it. In his judgment when he last saw the testator he had capacity to make a will. Dr Butler, who had attended Dowson some 25 years ago, when in charge of the practice of Dr Bedford, the then medical attendant of Dowson, frequently saw Dowson when

he (Dr. Butler) was passing his premises, and the last time he saw him was about the time of Mrs. Dowson's death. Dr. Butler says he used to have very little talk with him. On the last occasion. Dr. Butler says, "I saw decrepitude coming on." He said, "How do you do, Dr. Bedford, my hand is better." Dr. Butler had treated him for an injury to his hand 25 years before. Dr. Butler noticed that " his gait was tottering, and his feet turned round--pigeon toes." The conclusion arrived at by Dr. Butler from these facts is that there was progressive mental disease, and so far as the old man came under his observation, he ventures to assert that he had not sufficient mental capacity to dispose of his property. In another part of his evidence, Dr. Butler says that Dowson ought not to have been allowed to make a

will, unless the doctor in regular attendance on him was there to say he could. Dr. Butler, therefore, does not treat the opinion which he believes he was able to form from the very slight material before him as conclusive that the testator was unable to make a will. There are well authenticated cases in which a person, whilst retaining perfect possession of his intellectual powers, lost all power of spontaneously summoning up the correct name or expression corresponding with the idea existing in his mind. It shows that the machinery of the human mind as to a part of it may be thrown out of gear, leaving the intellect substantially intact, just as a clock may keep time correctly although the striking apparatus may be disordered. *Davies v. Gregory*, L.R., 3 P and D., 32. Dr. Bright had infinitely better opportunities of observing and forming an opinion as to the real state of Dowson's mind than Dr. Butler had, and giving them equal credit for the skill and intelligence they bring to bear on the materials before them, the opinion of Dr. Bright is, from the greater opportunities, necessarily of greater weight in the scale of evidence. Dr. Crowther never attended Dowson professionally, but he was called in to attend Mrs. Dowson from 12th August till she died on 24th Sept., 1874. He visited Mrs Dowson about every other day, and on those occasions he used to see Dowson in her room. He says his countenance was pale, haggard, vacant, and inexpressive, his eyes and mouth were watery, his tongue was partly out of his mouth, his gait across the room was in a sort of half-staggering way. When Mrs. Dowson told him who Dr. Crowther was, Dowson, staring at him, came up and felt him ; Dr. Crowther made some remark, but Dowson did not speak to him. Dr. Crowther says, "I should say the symptoms were

those of confirmed senile dementia, a total loss of reasoning faculties. I hardly think him capable of any effort of mind. Nor should I think him capable of comprehending any proposition, however simple. I should expect the disease to be progressive at his time of life. The state in which I saw him was hardly consistent with his saying, yes and no, to understand what he

said." In cross-examination Dr. Crowther says "he was not in a condition to say to Smith the undertaker with reference to Mrs. Dowson's funeral, ' You will have to look to that,' decidedly not ; nor would he be able to make a sustained proposition to a lady to go and reside with him ; I think it would be highly improbable, it would be a complete inversion of the laws of nature. Supposing a clergyman, Mr. Sharland, saw him apparently going out, and he (the testator) said he was sorry he could not see him to-day, he was going out and would see him another time, it would be a transient impression : if it were so I am staggered." " I would not expect that he could go to his neighbour's houses and have conversation with them." The court has thus Dr. Crowther's opinion, derived as he says from external observation, but not from any actual examination of the testator to ascertain his capacity, and it has also circumstances, which, if they had taken place, Dr. Crowther admits would

be utterly subversive of his opinion. These circumstances are sworn to by various witnesses, and it is impossible to entertain any doubt that many, if not all of them, are absolutely true as matters of fact. In such a case the evidence of the witness answers itself. Dr. Bright saw Dowson a month after Dr. Crowther had seen him, and had better opportunities than Dr. Butler, or even than Dr. Crowther, of being aware of the real state of the testator's capacity, and his evidence is more consonant with the facts than theirs. The conclusion arrived at is that the medical testimony preponderates in favor of the party proponent.

With reference to the draft will in favour of Alice Dillon, prepared by Mr. Sheehy by Dillon's instructions some weeks before the testator's death, and which will was not executed because it is alleged the testator, who was at the time very ill, was asleep when Mr. Sheehy attended to have it executed, and they did not like to awaken him, it is unnecessary to consider this portion of the evidence because it merely affected Dillon's conduct, and whether fraudulent or otherwise the court has proceeded to consider the case only on such evidence and facts as are unaffected by Dillon's testimony or conduct. As to the testator's business capacity, there can be no doubt that at any rate during the last year or two of his life his wife assisted him in the receipt of his rents and other matters of business, and four days after her death on the 28th September, 1874, he is said to have signed an authority for Dillon to collect them for him. This was produced and appeared to be signed by Dowson ; the last entry in his hand-writing in his account book appear to be in the year 1873, and the last receipt produced which appears to have been signed by him for rent is dated 13th February, 1874. It is clear therefore that latterly the testator's age and infirmity rendered him unwilling or incapable to transact business as he had done in former years. As to the other evidence of capacity, that portion of it is the most important which relates to the acts of the testator shortly before the execution of his will, but it is desirable to refer to it all, whether it has more or less weight. On the Wednesday before his death, Mrs. MacArthur, whose evidence has already been referred to, went with her daughter-in-law, Alice Dillon's sister, to Dowson's house. She says :-When "we went into the parlour Dowson was not there. He came in

and shook hands with me, asked after myself, and how

Mr. MacArthur was, saying, 'I should much like to see him.' I said, ' Why don't you come over and see him. You have got a carriage, and can drive over.' He said, 'That is not so easy. We can't go at present, the big steamer is not running.' I said, 'She is running now. She had been laid up for some time.' He said, ' Oh, that alters the case.' He then turned to Dillon, and said, 'Tom, can you drive us over?' He said, 'Certainly' and Dowson said, 'We will take Alice and the child with us.' It was then decided that he would come on the following Monday--the Monday that he died. He was perfectly sensible ; sensible as ever I knew him to be ; he always was a sensible man." She adds that he was very deaf, and difficult to converse with, but

she always did it ; and that there was something the matter with his palate which affected his speech, but when once you were acquainted with him you could understand him. This witness was intelligent, and apparently truthful, and her testimony is of great value, evidencing as it does, on the Wednesday before his death, a degree of intelligence on the part of Dowson which could leave little doubt as to his capacity up to that time. Charles Parker, who was a tenant and lived next door to Dowson says : From the period of his wife's death Dowson was often at my place. He conversed rationally. On the Friday before his death on complaint being made by Parker as to the state of a closet, Dowson, who was with Dillon at Parker's, told Dillon to make a gap in the fence that separates Parker's premises from his (Dowson's) garden, in order that Parker might use a closet in the garden. Callaghan, the barber who shaved Mr. Dowson regularly for some months before his death and for the last time on the

Friday before his death, speaks of his being able to converse with Dowson and to make him hear by speaking loudly, and to understand his replies. Within three weeks of his death Dowson walked alone to Callaghan's shop because, as he said, Callaghan had neglected to come to him at the usual time. Emily

Gregory, a respectable and intelligent witness, used to visit at Dowson's. She was a friend of Alice Dillon's,

and visited for the last time about the second week in

January. She then saw Dowson, he recognised her and shook hands with her, and called her by her name. He knew what she was saying, and his answers were rational. He was very feeble, not so deaf but that he could hear what she said. She was for some time alone with Mr. Dowson in the garden. He used often to nurse the baby. Frederick Miller, a shoemaker living close to Dowson, and who had known him and worked for him for years, says that a week before Dowson died he came to his gate wanting a patch put on a boot, and he repeats a conversation which he said then took place with the testator ; and, he adds, that he never noticed anything wrong with the testator's reason. Ann Bush, an old friend of fifty years' standing, saw Dowson a fortnight before he died, and she says that the moment he saw her he recognised her and shook hands with her. He was rather hard of hearing,

but she made him hear. She could understand what he said, and he spoke to her as sensibly as any man in the world could speak to her. She gives a portion of the conversation, which is that of an intelligent man and originates ideas. The Rev. F. B. Sharland visited Mr. Dowson shortly before his wife's death, and once afterwards. The first time he saw him he was in bed, and did not seem able to converse. The second time he saw him he was out of bed, and could speak a word or two indistinctly, it had to be interpreted by those in

the room. On the last occasion Mr Sharland met him at the door, and was rather astonished to find that he had sufficient intelligence to say, " I am sorry I can't see you to-day, I will see you at some other time." Mr. Sharland did not think he had recognised him on the first two occasions, but the last time " he knew who I was and for what purpose I had come." This evidence was called for the party opposing, but it manifests not only intelligence at the time of the last visit, but also a memory and understanding of who Mr. Sharland was, and what he came for. The two servants, Mrs Parker and Sarah Ann Newman, both had ample opportunities of ascertaining the testator's mental state. Mrs. Parker is called for the party proponent, and

Newman on behalf of Potter. The former makes him out as perfectly sensible. The latter says that he seemed to be right some days, and sometimes he was wandering about, and seemed to be childish. He was very deaf, and sometimes she could make him understand, and sometimes not. Sometimes he was able to take care of himself, and sometimes not. She says in cross-examination, sometimes he and I used so have a

talk. He used to be often talking about the baby and seemed very fond of it. I was nursing the baby, then he talked sensibly enough. Sometimes he went out and visited the neighbours, and he saw his friends when they came. He was very fond of Mrs. Dillon. " She also spoke of certain advances on the part of Dowson, which would, if true, bespeak a certain amount of vitality remaining in the old man. R. Alsebrook worked for Dowson for some days in April, 1874, and put questions to Dowson and Dowson to him, and he talked sensibly. He saw Dowson about nine days before his death ; he was standing at his own door by himself. He said he should want the front door and two shutters painting soon, but he would not have the shutters the same colour as those next door. He appeared to be in the same condition as he usually was,

but more feeble. Alsebrook had also seen Dowson a few days after his wife's death, standing at his garden gate. He spoke of the death, and complained of being lonely since he had lost her. He never had reason to suppose Dowson was imbecile or incapable of taking care of his affairs. Joseph Fisher, a brother of Mrs. Dowson, had not seen Dowson for fourteen years, but on going to Dowson in January last he says Dowson at once recognised him. John Symons saw Dowson on 1st January, and again about the middle of January, and had conversation with him, and he says Dowson appeared to be quite sensible in his mind as to what he was doing. Frederick Lipscombe, a respectable and intelligent witness, spoke to Dowson

six months before his wife's death ; he was then very deaf, but every answer he gave was rational, and the witness had no idea that his reason was impaired ; he knew what he was about, and could have transacted business. On the other hand, in opposition to this



testimony, the party opposing probate called the following witnesses :--Mrs. Wright, a widow advanced in years, living within a few yards of Dowson, and who has been his tenant for twenty years past. She says that for the last two or three years when she wanted repairs done to her house, she went to Mrs. Dowson, because Dowson was incapable of doing any business, of hearing what she said, or understanding it. Dowson three or four times after his wife's death went alone to Mrs. Wright's house, and she used to send to his house for them come to and take him away, as she could not be annoyed with an old man coming there and not know what he was doing. She could never understand Dowson ; " he was blind and almost speechless, and so deaf that he could not be under-stood." She, however, says that Dowson, one day after his wife's death, came to her house and asked her if she and her second daughter would go to his house and take charge, because he was being robbed right and left by the Dillons, and he would get rid of them.

She said it was difficult to understand what he said. This, however, shows that he could make himself intelligible, even to Mrs. Wright when he pleased. She speaks, too, of his doing certain acts in his bed-chamber, whilst she was visiting his sick wife, which delicacy would have forbidden when females were present. Christiana M. Wright, a daughter of Mrs. Wright, says Dowson had no mind for some years before his death ; that he failed to recognise her, and when she spoke to him he did not answer. On 13th August, 1874, she went to pay her mother's rent. Mrs. Dowson was ill in bed, and could not sign a receipt. Dowson was sitting by the fire. She asked him very loud if he could give a receipt, and he gave no answer. On 13th September, 1874, she went and asked who she was to pay the rent to, and all she could make out was, that he said "to me." Next morning she went again with E. M. Fisher and Mr. Macdowell, and Dillon in their presence said,--Is not Miss Wright to pay the rent to me ? and Dowson said Yes ! and she then paid it to Dillon. She entertains no doubt as to his imbecility. John Fisher, a brother of Mrs. Dowson, and had been most intimate with Dowson, says that during the last five years the testator became quite silly and childish, especially during the last two years, he was not sane at all ; he never attempted to speak of his own accord, and sometimes the witness could make him understand who he was, and sometimes not, but could not enter into conversation with him. He last saw Dowson at his wife's funeral, when he appeared to him to be quite silly. On the other hand, Lipscombe was at the funeral and thought he behaved like a rational man. Elizabeth Lucas, a sister of Mrs. Dowson was frequently at Dowson's, and for a fortnight at the time of his wife's death. She speaks of his uncleanly habits, and his

conduct when his wife died, but her evidence is con-tradicted on these points by other witnesses. She says Dowson was a very affectionate brother-in-law, but since the change in him, he used sometimes to order her out of the house without any reason or quarrel having taken place. Mrs. Dowson used to try and make him understand who Mrs. Lucas was, some-times she could do so, and sometimes not. Mrs. Dowson said he was out of his mind, and not to take any notice of him. She says Dillon and his wife lived in a skilling at the back of the house, (this is, how-

ever, directly contradicted by other witnesses), and that Mrs. Dowson told her that she took Dillon into the house for fear Mr. Dowson would murder her. There is, however, no evidence that Dowson ever ill-treated his wife in any way. Mrs. Lucas never went near the house after her sister's funeral, in consequence of an affront offered to her by Dillon. John Lucas, a son of the last witness, last saw testator at the time of his wife's funeral ; he then had a quarrel with Dillon for an affront offered to his mother, and he never entered the house again. He lived with Dowson from 1851 to 1855, whilst he was at the Hutchins School. He often saw his uncle, but in September, 1873, on going to Dowson's house he failed to recognise him.

Lucas asked him if he did not remember him, but he made no reply. His aunt told him his uncle had gone wrong there, tapping her forehead. He saw Dowson on several occasions afterwards, but he never recognised him. Edward M. Fisher, a son of John Fisher, had lived for years with the Dowsons. He says Dowson had a fit in 1864, and from that time till 1869, his mind became gradually weaker. In August 1869, Dowson knew the witness when he was leaving for Melbourne. On his return in December, 1869, Dowson did not know him until Mrs. Dowson made him understand who he was. Witness frequently saw him in 1870 and 1871, and looked upon him as completely childish ; he never knew witness at all, who went in and out of the house, and he never noticed him. Witness, during 1872, 1873, and 1874, never entered the house three times after the Dillons were there. He went once in 1873, when Dowson was very ill in bed, almost unconscious. After that, witness saw him on the Sunday after Mrs. Dowson's funeral. He was standing in the sitting-room, and appeared altogether an imbecile,--his mind gone, no intelligence in his face, and his mouth open. Mr. and Mrs. Smith went with the witness, and Smith tried to make Dowson understand who witness was, but he does not believe Smith succeeded. Witness remained ten minutes in the room, and Dowson said nothing and took no notice of him. As he was going away he said in a loud voice to Dowson, " Can I do anything for you ?" but received no answer. Then Dillon repeated the question loudly, and Dowson answered "No," and muttered something about wanting peace in answer to Dillon, not to witness, and Dillon said, " That's plain, isn't it? " meaning that he did not want anything to do with me. Witness was annoyed at Dillon's inter-ference, and left. He also corroborates Mrs Wright as to testator's reply of "Yes" to the question whether she was to pay her rent to Dillon on 13th September,

1874. Samuel Smith and his wife Elizabeth Ann Smith, who was a niece of Mrs. Dowson's, were pre-sent with E. M. Fisher at his last interview with Dowson, and corroborate his testimony. In addition, Smith says that for some six years past he noticed a

change in testator ; he continued to visit him till within a fortnight of his death. Witness and his wife

used to spend the evening occasionally and play crib-bage till within the last two years of his life ; he used to make great mistakes, and could not understand when Mrs. Dowson tried to explain them to him. After Mrs. Dowson's death, witness called on Dowson and sat a short time and tried to converse with him, but could not ; he did not seem to understand. Wit-ness adds, " On leaving him I saw from, his vague look he did not seem to know me. I said, " Mr. Dowson, you don't know me. " He said, " No. "I said, " Don't you know Smith'?' He said," No, don't know you."

I have repeatedly been in his presence and he did not know who I was." In witness's judgment he was not able to understand business or mind his own affairs. Witness was at Dowson's just after his wife died, and he showed Dowson the body, and said she would have to be buried, and Dowson said to the witness, who is an undertaker, "You will see to that." The last time Mrs. Smith saw him was three weeks before his death; he did not recognise her, and she said, "Yon don't know me, uncle ;" and he then said "God bless you." He did not converse at all ; he sat by the fire. Smith spoke to him several times, but he did not seem to make any answer. Mr. Dillon asked him if he would have any more wood on the fire, and he said " No." Thomas S. Potter last saw Dowson alive two days before Mrs. Dowson died. Dowson did not recognise him, and Mrs. Lucas said, "Why it's your nephew, Tom, don't you know him, your own nephew." He only answered " Eh? " and did not seem to recognise him. William W. Tolman speaks of an act showing a want of decency of conduct in presence of his wife and of Tolman. It would be difficult to find a case in which respectable and intelligent witnesses take such diametrically opposite views of the state of a testator's mental

capacity. It cannot be supposed that the Fishers, the

Smiths, the Lucas's, and others, are wilfully deposing to the existence of facts which never took place, or on the other hand, that such witnesses, as Lipscombe, McArthur, Gregory, Bush, and others are doing so. The testator's defective powers of sight, of hearing, and of speech must have made conversation both irksome to himself and to those with whom he con-versed ; moreover it appears that he was at all times a reserved man, and it may well be supposed that as these defects increased, accompanied by the progressive feebleness of age, he became more and more disinclined to hold communication with others, unless he was

aroused by some want, or by some matter in which his interest was excited. The testimony, if reconcileable at all, can only be so on the supposition that whilst the testator was inert at times, and would not, or perhaps could not, rouse himself to exercise intelligently his defective powers, at other times, he could, if excited

to exertion, apply those defective powers, and bring into action a reason and intelligence which would otherwise lie dormant for want of energetic determination to exercise to their full extent the faculties which still remained to him. After a

careful review of the whole of the testimony on this branch of the case, the Court is of opinion that balance of evidence is in favour of the testator at times, at least, having had testamentary capacity, and that at any rate it cannot avail to prejudice the inference arrived at by the Court as to the effect of the evidence in the first branch of the case. If the testator had capacity, then the onus of proving undue influence rests on the party asserting it. The influence to vitiate a will must amount to coercion--destroying free agency ; it must not be the influence of affection and attachment ; it must not be the mere desire of gratifying the wishes of another ; and further, there must be proof that the act was obtained by coercion--by importunity which could not be resisted --that it was done merely for the sake of peace, so that the motive was tantamount to force and fear Williams v. Gude, 1 Hagg., 581. Whilst there were many circumstances which might reasonably give rise to the suspicion that undue influence had been exercised by Dillon and his wife, the evidence has fallen short of satisfying the Court that the Dillons exercised such coercion over the testator as to amount to what comes within the legal definition of undue influence. The will having, in our judgment, been proved to be the act of a testator who was in the eye of the law free and capable, must be accordingly, pronounced for, and probate will pass as prayed. With reference to costs, the rule is that if the circumstances are such as to justify the litigation, then this Court in its ecclesiastical jurisdiction, going further than it does in any other jurisdiction, will allow the party who has entered into a litigation, which it considers reasonable and justifiable, to have its costs out of the estate. One of the grounds on which costs are always allowed out of the estate is that the testator has left his testamentary papers in such a state that they excite suspicion and invite litigation--Orton v.

Smith, L.R., 3 P. and D. 25. Another ground is where the testator, by his conduct, naturally led those interested in his property to suppose that there was ground for alleging that he was of unsound mind, and the next of kin had no means of personally forming an opinion as to the condition of the testator during the later years of his life--Davies v. Gregory, L.R., 3 P. and D. 33. In the earlier case of Ross v. Chester, 1 Hagg, 235, there was no question arising from the state of the papers, but the will being made in articulo mortis the Court considered the next of kin were fully justified in entering into the investigation and were entitled to their costs. No modern case goes so far. In the present case, not only was the will made in articulo mortis, but there was strong evidence of the testator's testamentary incapacity. One experienced medical man to whom Potter went

before he commenced proceedings, was satisfied that Dowson was perfectly incapable of making a will, and many of his oldest and most intimate friends were of the same opinion. Moreover, the active part Dillon

took in giving instructions for, and procuring the

execution of the will, and also the relation in

which he stood with regard to the testator, coupled with the other facts, were sufficient to raise, in the mind of a reasonable man, very grave suspicions as to whether the document propounded contained the expression of the unbiassed testamentary intentions of a capable testator. Under all the circumstances, the

Court consider that it will not be affording encouragement to frivolous or unnecessary litigation as to wills, if, in this case, it follows the course taken in those already cited, and also in the case of *Rogers v. Espie* before this Court, and directs that Potter's costs be paid out of the estate, as well as those of the party proponent.

SUPREME COURT. (1875, November 17). *The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954)*, p. 3.  
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