## **LUTHERBORROW, Mary Ann**

The early records are very sketchy.

Future research required.

[There was a Mary Lutherborrow born on 5th December 1811 at Windsor N.S.W., daughter of Paul & Anne Lutherburough [sic] but not this Mary Ann Lutherborrow. Refer below notes.]

Mrs. Mary Ann Lutherburrow (nee Pinchin) was supposedly born on 31st March 1813 (probably 1817; parents: William & Ann Pinchin), in the Ryde district and was a resident there for 89 years, the last four years having been spent at North Botany.

**Sydney Morning Herald (NSW: 1842 - 1954), Saturday 5 May 1906, page 9**

In 1812 there was the marriage of William Pinchin & Ann Patfield, at St. John’s Church of England church, Parramatta. [Pinchin also spelt as Pinchon or Pincham].

Ann Patfield was born in 1796, N.S.W. (district unknown), parents being George & Mary.

Children of the marriage of William & Ann were: Mary 1811 ?, Jane 1815, Jane 1816, Mary 1817 ?, William 1817 & Ann 1820.

In 1829 Samuel **Holloway** married **Mary Pincham** (presumably the Mary born 1817, as an early age marriage permissible then) at St. Anne’s (C of E), Field of Mars, Ryde.

Children of Samuel & Mary were Mary 1831, Anna 1833 & Harriett 1835.

Samuel died in 1837, aged 42 years.

In 1839 **Mary Holloway** (nee Pinchin) married William Lutherburrow [Lutherborrow] at C. of E., Hunter’s Hill.

Children of William & Mary were: Lucy A. 1839, **Lucy A. 1840**, John [Lutherburrow] 1842, **Jane [Lutherborough] 1844**, George 1846, Louisa 1848, James 1852 & **Adelaide 1856**.

William Lutherburrow died in 1877, aged 68 years - possibly the son of Paul Lutherborough (died 1858 or 1859, district of Parramatta, aged 86) and Ann Lutherbury (died 1860, district of Parramatta, aged 87).

‘Wm. Lutherborrow, who fell downstairs at the “Caledonia Hotel,” King-street, whilst under the influence of drink.’

**New South Wales Police Gazette and Weekly Record of Crime (Sydney: 1860 - 1930), Monday 31 December 1877 (Index (Jan 1877-Dec 1877)), page 13**

On 9th July 1868, at the Free Church of England, Mr. William Pollard, of South Colah, Hornsby, was married to **Jane**, daughter of Mr. William Lutherborrow, of Pennant Hills, New South Wales.

**Sydney Mail (NSW: 1860 - 1871), Saturday 25 July 1868, page 2**

On 17th March 1873, at the residence of Rev. N. Pigeon, George Henry Barker was married to **Lucy Ann** Lutherburrow, daughter of Mr. William Lutherborrow, of Pennant Hills, near Parramatta, New South Wales.

**Sydney Morning Herald (NSW: 1842 - 1954), Wednesday 19 March 1873, page 1**

On 20th June 1899, at the Presbyterian Church, North Botany, William Henry Keast, of Luther Villa, North Botany, second son of J. B. H. Keast, of Cornwall, England, to **Adelaide** Martin, seventh daughter of the late William Lutherborrow, of Pennant Hills.

[Adelaide Lutherbutton (sic) married Alfred Ernest R. Martin in 1877 at Waterloo – Alfred died in 1898]

**Sydney Morning Herald (NSW: 1842 - 1954), Tuesday 27 June 1899, page 1**

**Sydney Morning Herald (NSW: 1842 - 1954), Saturday 5 May 1906, page 9**

Mrs. M. A. Lutherborrow celebrated her 93rd birthday on the 31st March, at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Keast, Luther Villa, North Botany. Mrs. Lutherborrow was born in the Ryde district in 1813, and was a resident there for 89 years, the last four years having been spent at North Botany. She is the mother of 13 children, 10 of whom are living, and she has 42 grandchildren and 78 great-grandchildren living, and claims to be one of the oldest residents living in the Commonwealth. The gathering was held in a large marquee erected in the garden, which was decorated with flags and coloured lanterns. Mrs. Lutherborrow took a keen interest in all the proceedings.

**Australian Town and Country Journal (Sydney, NSW: 1870 - 1919), Wednesday 27 February 1907, page 18; Evening News (Sydney, NSW: 1869 - 1931), Tuesday 5 March 1907, page 2**

DEATHS.

LUTHERBORROW. - Mary Ann Lutherborrow, February 22 at "Luther Villa," Coward-street, North Botany, late of Pennant Hills and Thornleigh, in her 94th year.’



**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 9 March 1907, page 8**

An Old Identity.

Her Interesting Life Story.

Early Days at Ryde and Pennant Hills.

There has just died at Coward Street North Botany, at the age of 94 years, Mrs Mary Ann Lutherborrow, whose life was identified with the earliest history of Ryde. Her father was one of the first settlers that arrived with Governor Phillip in 1788, and her mother, one of the earliest-born natives, was the daughter of another first settler. They were, therefore, pioneers of Kissing Point, which was known as Ryde from somewhere in the forties.

The late Mrs Lutherborrow was born in 1813, and was, therefore, in her 94th year. Retaining the use of her faculties until a few days before she died, she was an encyclopaedia of the past, in the district of Pennant Hills, where she lived for 89 years, removing thence to her daughter's house at North Botany about four years ago.

In clear-cut, accurate pictures, she could tell the story of her youth — of times which are absolutely foreign to the greater part of the present generation. Her first marriage was at St. Anne's, Ryde, by the Rev. Dickerson, when she became a bride at 16, her sister, only 14, being married at the same time.

Hardships, such as would be impossible nowadays, were hers, when away in a bark hut in the bush. She waited many a weary hour for the measure of wheat to grind into coarse meal for her own and her children's dinner. "Bunging the mill" was a term used for grinding corn in those days, and very often several families got a mill by subscription, when more waiting would have to take place, if out of flour and the mill in use elsewhere.

BUSHRANGERS AND HER HUSBAND.

"Bushrangers infested the district," said the old lady some time before her demise, "and especially do I remember Butler. He was the son of a gentleman in England, and was sent out — a harmless fellow enough, whose worst fault was that he would not work, and as everybody had to battle for a living, he could not be kept in idleness, so took to the bush.

"There was a very heavy penalty upon giving an outlaw food, and my first husband was a kind man, who could not bear to know anyone was hungry. Someone informed, and he was arrested for harbouring bushrangers. I never saw him again, as he died in prison. They were cruel times. I was left to struggle with three little daughters, and nothing but a shilling and some tea in the house."

The second marriage was happier, her husband being a cedar-getter, one of a fine type of bushmen now almost extinct. The sawyers mostly made money, and Mr. Lutherborrow put his into land, and ended his days as a prosperous orchardist in the Pennant Hills district. ORIGIN OF A FAMOUS PLUM.

His wife grew the first fruit trees — plums — raised from two brought by her husband from Sydney, which in that fine virgin soil grew into such an excellent variety that orchardists from all parts came for slips, and named it the “Lutherborrow,” which name is retained at the present time by the large black plum so much in demand.

The principal industries round Kissing Point were wheat-growing and pig-raising, outside of timber-getting, in those early days, there being some splendid farms belonging to the big men, in the Blaxlands, Commissary Walker (across the river), and others; but there were great difficulties in getting both timber and produce to market. The old lady remembered the days when the small farmers, loading up a rowing boat at the Point, would wait for the tide to help them down the river to market in Sydney, and would return any time during the night, as the next tide served.

There were few roads, and such as there might be were infested with robbers, so one was safer with a load of produce on the water, and also more secure there when returning with money in one's purse.

In those times an informer was looked on with great contempt; and for many years it was remembered against a certain man that his grant of land was the Government reward for giving information which led to the arrest of a number of bushrangers, for whom the small farmers had a sneaking sort of sympathy, so long as it wasn't their fowl roost that was depredated or their cattle that disappeared.

ROMANTIC WASHING DAYS.

The wonderfully perfect water supply which citizens of Sydney, and even the distant suburbs, now enjoy was a topic that Mrs. Lutherborrow often spoke of, comparing domestic conditions of to-day with the trials of the housewife of the days (in Australia) "when George was King." Every drop of water had to be brought in buckets from some creek, or from the river, carried over the shoulders by a yoke. "I remember," said one of Mrs. Lutherborrow's daughters, "how mother and we girls used to take the three-legged iron pot, the tubs, and the clothes in the dray, and go off for a day in the bush, down by some creek, where we could get plenty of water. At night we returned with piles of snow-white linen and the washing gear. It was a simple healthy life, and conduced to my mother's long years, for she was (outside of the infirmities of old age) always strong, and never knew a day's illness." Her family consisted of thirteen children — eight girls and five boys — nine of whom survive her. There are also forty-two grandchildren, eighty-one great-grand-children, and one great-great grand-child.

VICE-REGAL SYMPATHIES.

Lady Tennyson, when in New South Wales, became interested in the old lady, through her son-in-law (Captain Keast) being skipper of the Government launch, the Premier, and her Ladyship paid several visits to listen to her wonderful reminiscences of early days in the colony, when Mrs. Lutherborrow said "the Government women might be seen at Toongabbie working in the wheat fields alongside of the men."

A DREADFUL HOLE.

Her memories took in the dreadful “Billibot,” so often referred to by early timers. In close proximity to the stockade on the Windsor Road (then in course of making) was a pit, into which any convicts who died, either naturally or by hard usage, were thrown. It was a round hole, dug out like a well, about thirty feet deep, and many bodies were there interred with not even the leg-irons removed, covered with quicklime and earth. Dr. White, a well-known early medico of Hawkesbury, often spoke of the horrors of Billibot.

THE STILL IN THE GULLY.

There still may be seen near the Pennant Hills station reminders of the time when ------- had his big still in the rocky gully. They were wild times, and people were not improved by the presence of these illicit stills, where vile spirit was made. The more respectable residents of the district where relieved when the police made a raid and cleared the neighbourhood of the principal offenders, when a very undesirable lot of people, who always congregated where there was a still, would soon disperse to other places. Few people who attain the remarkable age of Mrs. Lutherborrow have any clear and definite recollections of their youthful days worth recording; therefore, there is special interest in speaking of her early memories, which refer to the earliest agricultural settlement outside of Rose Hill.

OLD MEMORIES.

How Kissing Point settlers got their stock is an interesting story. For 20 acres of wheat and 30 acres of maize, examined just before harvesting, the Government reward was two heifers and two ewes; while for half the quantity was given one heifer and an ewe. Eighteen hundred and one saw a Chapel of Rest, where St. Anne's was afterwards erected, through the instrumentality of the Rev. R. Johnson, himself one of the largest orchardists of the day. In the quaint old graveyard round the church lie four generations of Mrs. Lutherborrow's kinsfolk; therefore, it was a source of grief that the old lady, one of the last of her time, and certainly nearly the oldest inhabitant of the Commonwealth, should not be laid to rest there; but no burials being allowed she was interred at Botany cemetery.

**Australasian (Melbourne, Vic.: 1864 - 1946), Saturday 9 March 1907, page 42**

OBITUARY.

Mrs. Mary Ann Lutherborrow, who died last week at North Botany, at the age of 94 years, was a native of New South Wales. She was born at Ryde, then known, as Kissing Point, and was a descendant of one of the first settlers who arrived with Governor Phillip in 1788. She was a resident of Ryde for 89 years.

**Evening Mail (Fremantle, WA: 1905 - 1910), Wednesday 13 March 1907, page 3**

A MONOGENARIAN.

Mother of Kissing Pt.

Early Sydney Days.

Interesting Link with the Past.

The death is announced of Mrs. Mary Ann Lutherborrow, who passed away a week ago at her residence, Luther Villa, Howard-street, North Botany, Sydney, at the age of 94 years. Born at Ryde in 1813, or what was then known as Kissing Point, Mrs. Lutherborrow was one of the oldest subjects of the Commonwealth. She was the direct descendant of one of the first settlers who arrived here with Governor Phillip in 1788. It was at Kissing Point that the first agricultural settlement was established, and from a seedling Mrs. Lutherborrow raised at Kissing Point years ago the black plum that has proved so valuable among Australian fruits. This plum has always been known as "The Lutherborrow Plum."

Mrs. Lutherborrow resided at Kissing Point (which in 1845, changed its name to Ryde) for 69 years, and later at Thornleigh, North Willoughby, and North Botany. She was the mother of 13 children, viz., eight girls and five boys, nine of whom survive her; there are also 42 grand-children, 81 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-granddaughter.

At the celebration of her 93rd birthday a photo, was taken of her, surrounded by four generations, and just before Christmas, 1906, she was visited by five generations. She retained her faculties till a week prior to her death when her eyesight failed her, and she could only recognise any of her family by their voices.

Her remains were laid to rest in the Botany Cemetery, in the presence of a large gathering of relatives and friends.

**First Marriage**

1. Mary [Holloway] 1831
2. Anna [Holloway] 1833
3. Harriett [Holloway] 1835, married James Inwood 1857

**Second Marriage**

1. Lucy A. 1839
2. Lucy A. (Lucy Ann) 1840, married George Barker 1873
3. John [Lutherburrow] 1842, married Elizabeth Inwood 1862
4. Jane [Lutherborough] 1844, married William Pollard 1868
5. George 1846
6. Louisa 1848, married George Fairbrother 1870
7. James 1852
8. Adelaide 1856, married Alfred Martin 1877, married William Keast 1899

NOTE: Some children missing – 8 girls & five boys (supposedly)