

George BRUCE (1839-1908?)

George Bruce was aged 18, single, literate, a gardener from Suffolk when migrating to Tasmania on the 'Trade Wind' in 1858. He was sponsored by James Turnbull of Hobart Town and discharged from the Quarantine Station, Impression Bay per 'Hammock' to James Turnbull of New Norfolk on 7 May 1858. James Turnbull owned a property named 'Millbrook' near New Norfolk and it is likely George worked on this property.

It is believed George was born at Stanton in Suffolk to William (1804-1878) and Charlotte nee Hubbard (1816-1877). In the 1851 England Census for St John The Baptist, Stanton, Suffolk the family were:

William Bruce, 50, pauper, shepherd, born Bardwell

Charlotte Bruce, 35, born Stanton

George Bruce, 11, errand boy, born Stanton

Thomas Bruce, 9

James Bruce, 8

Anna Bruce, 6

Alfred Bruce, 4

A George Bruce died in Hobart on 12 May 1858, aged 18. If it is the same George Bruce, it is possible he was only in Tasmania for five days before his death. He died at the General Hospital and a notation on the death record shows he was born in Scotland. Although the age fits it is believed he was born in the Thingoe District of Suffolk as shown above in the 1851 Census. If George travelled to New Norfolk it is unlikely he died in Hobart as he probably would have been admitted to the New Norfolk hospital.

George may also have relocated to New Zealand. A George Bruce, born about 1840 in Stanton, Suffolk died, aged 68 years on 19 February 1908 in Hokitka, New Zealand. The age matches the 'Trade Wind' George Bruce.

If a reader has any information about the 'Trade Wind' George Bruce it would be appreciated if they contacted bettypilgrim@hotmail.com.