

John William DOCKING (aka William - 1843-1916)

John William Docking was aged 22, single, literate and a sawyer from Norfolk when migrating on the 'Trade Wind' in 1858 with his mother and siblings. The 'Trade Wind' destination list records his age as 14. This is more likely to be correct. John William Docking was baptised on 11 February 1844 at South Lynn All Saints, Norfolk which supports his age as being 14 when migrating to Tasmania, rather than 22.

John was sponsored by Henry Howe of Launceston. He was discharged from the Quarantine Station at Impression Bay to Henry Howe of Launceston on the mail coach on 7 May 1858.

From public records available online it is not known for certain what happened to John. There is a record of a John William Docking, aged 30 [born about 1841], being found guilty of being idle and disorderly in 1871 in Penquite. He was described as "a silly looking man about 28 years [born about 1843] of age, who had been deprived of what intelligence he ever had by being 'hoccussed' in some low public house." He was imprisoned to three months hard labour and was discharged from the Launceston prison during the week ending 26 July 1871. He was charged again in 1873 with being idle and disorderly and was once again imprisoned.

A William Docking, born 1843, died on 22 January 1916 and was buried at Cornelian Bay, Hobart, aged 73. His last residence was at New Town. According to a record at Libraries Tasmania William Docking, aged 72, was admitted with paralysis to the New Town Charitable Institute between 6 February 1915 until his death on 21 January 1916. His ship to the colony was 'Trade Wind'. He was from the New Norfolk District, born Norfolk, England, a groom and general labourer, Church of England. He had no relations. He was buried on 22 January 1916 in Hobart. This person was probably John William Docking.