

Robert FAKES (1835-1914)

Robert migrated to Tasmania on the 'Trade Wind' in 1858. He was described as aged 24, single, no education, belonged to the Church of England religion, a groom and coachman from Suffolk. He was sponsored by Robert Officer of Hobart Town and discharged from the Quarantine Station at Impression Bay on 4 April 1858 to Dr Officer. There was another Robert Fakes who arrived on the 'Trade Wind'. He was aged 23, single, could read and a farm labourer from Suffolk. He was sponsored by John A Moore of Hobart Town. No further trace could be found for the Robert Fakes, aged 23.

Robert was baptised at Bardwell, Suffolk on 1 February 1835. It is probable his parents were Henry and Harriet Fakes. A researcher (nickleaton) on *ancestry.com* shows Robert's parents as William Feakes (1801-1878) and Mary Ann nee Blizard (1802-1886). Another researcher (glenyshunt1) on the same site has Robert's parents as James Fakes (1808-1884) and Mary Jefferey (1815-1880).

The 1841 England Census for Bardwell records the names of Feakes. Henry was aged 35, an agricultural labourer and Harriot was aged 40. Robert was aged six and born at Bardwell. The 1851 England Census for the same family, although now spelt Fakes, records Robert as being aged 16, farm labourer, born Bardwell in 1835.

Soon after Robert's arrival in Tasmania he married, on 23 December 1858, another 'Trade Wind' passenger, Emma Willis (1837-1917), at the Tamar Street Independent Chapel in Launceston. Emma had travelled with her parents, George (1813-1895) and Mary (1809-1860) Willis and siblings on the 'Trade Wind'. They too were from Bardwell; it is more than likely both Robert and Emma were acquainted before setting sail for Tasmania. Witnesses to their marriage were two other 'Trade Wind' passengers Robert (1831-1906) and Elizabeth Docking (nee Thurkettle – 1836-1892).

Number.	When married, and where.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Rank.	Signature and Description of Parties.	Name of Clergyman, Officiating Minister, or Deputy Registrar.	When registered.	Signature of Deputy Registrar or Officiating Minister.
274	23 Dec 1858 Independent Chapel, Launceston	Robert Fakes Emma Willis	adult adult	Labourer {	Robert Fakes mark Emma Willis mark	Chas Price {	23 Dec 1858	Chas Price Independent Minister
<p>Married in the Independent Chapel according to the Rites and Ceremonies of Independents by Licence by Chas Price</p> <p>This Marriage was solemnized between us } Robert Fakes mark { In the Presence of } Elizabeth Docking Independently Emma Willis mark Robert Docking Minister.</p>								

A letter addressed to Robert Fakes at the Cressy Stores, Cressy in 1859 was withheld from delivery at the Launceston Post Office due to being insufficiently stamped. A daughter, Alice, was born at the 'Meadfield' at Bothwell in 1859 and a son, John, was born at 'Pleasant Banks', Evandale in 1860. Another son, William was born about 1863 in Bardwell, Suffolk. It is likely the family returned to England about 1862. There was no record for them in the 1861 England Census nor in shipping records departing Victoria for England.

Robert Fakes, aged 31 (born about 1831), married, arrived in Melbourne, Victoria in January 1862 per 'Royal Shepherd' from Launceston. He was accompanied by his wife, Emma nee Willis, aged 27 (born about 1835). There was no record of their two children, Alice and John

on the shipping list. This was probably due to the children not requiring a ticket because of their ages. The shipping list provided Emma's siblings as also being on the 'Royal Shepherd': Robert Willis, 30; Maria Willis, 27; James Willis (?), 21; and George Willis, 19. Maria, James and George remained in Victoria. A record for James could not be found.

Name	Age
Robert Willis	30
Emma Willis	27
Robert Willis	21
Maria Willis	19
James Willis	19
George Willis	17
John Howard	31
Emma Carter	31
Mr O. Niel	31
Mr O. Niel	31
Mr O. Niel	31
Mr O. Niel	31
Mr O. Niel	31
Mr O. Niel	31

The 1871 England Census for Little Livermore, Ixworth, Suffolk recorded Robert Fakes, aged 40, game keeper, born Bardwell; Emma, 33, born East Harling; Alice, 11, born Meadfield Estate, Bothwell, Australia; John, born Pleasant Banks, Australia, aged 10 and William, aged 8, born Bardwell, Suffolk. They continued living at this location. The 1911 England Census recorded 53 Great Livermere and Little Livermere, Suffolk (near Bury St Edmunds) of Robert Fakes, 80, retired gamekeeper, born Bardwell, Suffolk and Emma, 78, born East Harling, Norfolk. They had three children born alive and three children were living.

Robert Fakes of Great Livermere, Suffolk, retired game-keeper died on 1 February 1914. Probate was granted at Bury St Edmunds on 21 May 1914 to Emma Fakes, widow, and John Gepp Scotcher, gunsmith. Effects were valued at £1080 11s 5d. Emma died at Barton Mills, Suffolk on 31 July 1917. John Fakes, son, gamekeeper administered her estate of £316 15s 1d.