

George BLIZZARD Jnr. (1846-1931)

George migrated to Tasmania on the 'Trade Wind' along with his parents, George (1811-1890) and Phoebe nee Blake (1814-1897), and nine of his siblings: Frances (1836-1902), Louisa (1839-1907), David (1841-1933), Eliza (1848-1875), Harriet (1850-1934), William (1843-1895), Charles (1852-1931), James (1854-1932) and Catherine (1856-1941). His oldest brother, John (1833-1900), remained in England with his wife, Elizabeth nee Smith (1831-1902) and their two children: Robert and George.

George was aged 13 and could read when migrating to Tasmania. He was born on 8 August 1845 and baptised 28 December the same year in Euston in Suffolk, England. George was a farmer at Black River, a small rural community in the Circular Head area in the North-West region of Tasmania. It is located about 46 kilometres north-west of the town of Wynyard. Bass Strait forms most of the northern boundary, while the stream named 'Black River' forms the western boundary.

George, firstly married Elizabeth Atkins (1849-1886) on 18 January 1870 at Horton. Elizabeth was the daughter of Samuel (1808-1884) and Jane nee Ayers (1813-1885). Elizabeth's parents and four siblings arrived at Stanley on 19 December 1841 as indentured servants per 'Emu'. George and Elizabeth had seven children. A son, Charles (1874-1929), was kicked by a horse and as a result he had broken ribs and a rupture of the aorta, or main artery near the heart, which caused his death. Although George said he was able to read, he signed with his mark on the death of his wife. Elizabeth died on 13 May 1886 at Black River at the age of 37. She died with phthisis, an archaic word for tuberculosis (TB).



George remarried Eliza Ann Smedley (1864-1921) on 7 June 1888 in Black River. Eliza was the daughter of William (1840-1908) and Selina Mary nee Whitbread (1848-1894). George and Eliza had 12 children making a total of 19 children being born to George.

George died on 9 October 1913 in Forest, aged 68. His obituary noted he had died after a long illness. He was one of the charter members of the Loyal Wellington Lodge IOOF and was an ardent worker for Oddfellowship. Eliza died on 22 February 1921 in Forest at the age of 56.

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