

Charles DENNIS (1836-1910)



Charles was aged 21, single and a ploughman from Eriswell, Suffolk when migrating to Tasmania on the 'Trade Wind' in 1858. He was accompanied by his parents: James (1812-1888) and Frances nee Spinks (1811-1868) and four siblings: Thomas (1840-1920), Maria (1842-1917), Alfred (1845-1927), Benjamin (1848-1927). They came from Eriswell in West Suffolk, England. Eriswell is a small village set in the heart of a farming community, located 14 miles from Bury St Edmunds. Eriswell has a rich history; about forty scattered archaeological finds have been made there, including Bronze Age battle axes, palstaves, and rapiers.

The Dennis family were discharged from the Quarantine Station at Impression Bay to their sponsor, Henry Howe of Launceston, on 7 May 1858. Henry Howe (1803-1878) was a well-known and much respected auctioneer in Launceston. He was initially in partnership with Mr WT Bell and subsequently by himself. Due to ill health, he relinquished the business and moved to Victoria.

Charles married another passenger who migrated on the 'Trade Wind', Elizabeth Tyler or Tayler (1836-1881). Elizabeth was born in Suffolk, a cook and dairymaid, who was sponsored by J F Sharland of Hobart Town. After being released from the Quarantine Station at Impression Bay on 7 May 1858 she travelled to Launceston with the Dennis family.

Charles and Elizabeth Tyler were married at the Perth Parish Church on 12 October 1859. Witnesses to the marriage were William and Maria Dennis. Charles and Elizabeth had ten children, two died in infancy. Elizabeth died, aged 44, on 22 February 1881. Charles remarried Margaret Buchanan on 4 November 1894 at Longford. Margaret was born about 1844 in Glasgow, Scotland.

Charles died at Perth on 8 January 1910. Margaret died at her late residence, Scone Street, Perth in November 1934. Charles, Elizabeth and Margaret were all buried at the Perth St Andrews Anglican Cemetery.

For further information contact bettypilgrim@hotmail.com.