

Lydia WOOD nee BROWN (1812-1879)

Lydia was born on 5 January 1812 in St Andrew, Hertfordshire. Her parents were John (1764-1833) and Elizabeth nee Stamp (1767-). Her father was a shopkeeper at Hertford. Lydia was aged 44 when migrating to Tasmania on the 'Trade Wind' in 1858 with her husband, William (1811-1879) and four children. The eldest daughter, Anna, died at sea on the 'Trade Wind' in 1856, aged 13. Lydia, along with her husband, was sponsored by GW Walker of Hobart Town as a governess.

Mr Loch, the Immigration Agent reported William Wood and his wife acted as teachers on the 'Trade Wind' for about six weeks having consented to do so at Mr Drake's request. Mr and Mrs Wood supplied some stationery at the commencement of the journey. The school was discontinued for a variety of reasons including it being held in the small single women's compartment, causing much inconvenience especially to those who were in bad health.

Lydia advertised in Hobart newspapers in 1859 as follows:

Superior Education for 12 pupils above the age of 10 years. Mrs Lydia Wood being now engaged in instructing two young ladies and her own daughter, will be happy to receive an addition. Mrs Wood has had large experience in tuition in England, where the systems pursued by her gave great satisfaction. Boarders £60 per annum. Daily pupils £16 per annum. Respectable references given and required. Prospectuses on application at 99 Liverpool street.

Lydia predeceased her husband by approximately seven months. She died on 14 February 1879 in Norwood, South Australia, aged 67.

See further details about the Wood family under the entry for William Wood or contact bettypilgrim@hotmail.com.