

## **The Story of John and Mary Hall**

John Hall was born in London circa 1808 (Geoff: 1814??). His death certificate says "parents unknown". He came to the colony of NSW in about 1830 and established a business as a baker in Liverpool NSW. Liverpool Hospital records include bread delivery docketts from John Hall, baker.

Mary Hall was born Mary Chilvers in 1816 at Parramatta. Her mother, Mary Chilvers, was a convict on a seven year sentence, who arrived in the colony on 28 July 1814 on the "Broxbourbury". She worked at the female factory in Parramatta as a mantua maker (dressmaker). She was given a 'ticket of leave' by Governor Macquarie on 7 Aug 1815 and married James Chilvers, probably by Rev. G. A. Middleton, on 3 July 1820 at St John's Church, Parramatta.

At this time Mary Chilvers was about 3 years old. At the 1828 Census, at the age of 12 years, she is listed as being in service to Professor Jno Horder at "Elderslie", Upper Minto.

Mary Chilvers father, James Chilvers, came to the colony on a seven year sentence for receiving stolen goods (4 lengths of mahogany and 11 bed pillars). He arrived in Sydney on the "Indefatigable" on 22 April 1815. He was a carpenter and was in the service of John Macarthur at the time of his death on 25 January 1825. James worked at Elizabeth Farm and helped John Norris build Hambleton Cottage (still existing) at Parramatta.

After her husband's death Mary Chilvers found herself in financial difficulties and she wrote to John Macarthur asking him to buy her husband's tools of trade, which he did for 3 pound 10 shillings.

All the children except for Mary were placed in 1825 in the Orphan School which was residential. Her petition for their placement stated that her husband was killed in service to Mr. Macarthur.

It is a matter of conjecture how John Hall and Mary Chilvers met, but we think that St Luke's Church of England Liverpool may have been the church both attended. She is in the register as a witness to another wedding in 1839 before her own marriage.

John hall and Mary Chilvers were married at St Luke's on 3 April 1839 by Rev. John Duffus. They had 11 children all of whom survived into adulthood, which was unusual for that period.

John Hall died on 25 June 1869 in Liverpool at 61 years of age and was buried in the Church of England Cemetery at Liverpool (now Liverpool pioneer Park).

Mary Hall died on 20 July 1910 at the age of 93 years in the shop/house at 93 Beattie Street, Balmain owned by her son John Job Hall, who was plumber. Her son James, a butcher, was

the informant on her death certificate and lived nearby at 28 Victoria Street, Balmain at that time.

Mary Hall was buried at St Luke's Liverpool, after a service conducted by her grandson, Rev. Frederic Charles Hall.

This information was gathered by some of John and Mary Halls' descendents when there was a family reunion in May 2000 at St Luke's Church and Liverpool Pioneer Park.

There is a headstone in the cemetery which carries the names of John and Mary Hall, their daughter Victoria Mary, a son Frederick Augustus and three of their grandchildren.