

/
 NOTE: one of their children died young before 1911 and five more tragically (in quick succession) during the great spanish flu epidemic of 1918/19; In Ireland this was known as "black flu"; These five were Thomas, Margaret & three of of John, Ellen, Mary & Arthur)

/
 NOTE: Catherine Shanahan's sister Margaret Bridget Shanahan left Kerry for Kimberley, Cape Province, South Africa; M.B.S. m. Adolphus Crumplin of Essex, England; their daughter Roma Crumplin m. Arthur Dickens whose sis. (Mary) Muriel Dickens m. Wing Commander Richard "Dick" Blennerhassett (p.G 44); Arthur Dickens & Roma Crumplin had a daughter Margaret Dickens
FAMILY RESEARCHER

/
 NOTE: Catherine & Margaret Bridget Shanahan are not sisters of John Shanahan (S 14) who m. Thomas Blennerhassett's sister, Hannah Blennerhassett

NOTE:

Civil birth registration has him born at Caherleheen, a townland adjacent to Skahanagh (Skahanagh & Caherleheen were used interchangeably as the address for family home)

>> Arthur Blennerhassett (alias Blenner Hassett, alias B. Hassett, alias Hassett) b.24.2.1876 Skahanagh (Schihanig), Tralee (Civil Reg. has b.4.4.1876 in error); bapt.26.2.1876 St John (RC) Tralee (sponsors Daniel & Mary Hassett); of Skaganagh/Clahane/Caherleheen near Tralee; Draper at Dublin until 1902; at Livingstone, Northern Rhodesia, he was known as "Paddy Hassett"

/
emig. to Cape Colony (from 1910 called Cape Province) South Africa; sailing on SS "German", departing Southampton 23.8.1902 for Capetown; worked a miner in the Kimberley diamond mines (but not for de Beers); at Kimberley met a fellow Kerryman William Hugh (W.H.) O'Connor who became a friend and future brother-in-law (W.H.O'Connor worked for de Beers as mining engineer at Kimberley/Beaconsfield); in 1903, when Arthur's sister Julia (S 16) came to South Africa to visit him following the death of their father, she was met off the ship by W.H. who escorted her to Kimberley; they later married, at Beaconsfield in 1905

/
Arthur was in England 1912/13, returning to South Africa on Union Castle Line SS "Walmer Castle", departing Southampton 1.2.1913 for Capetown; During WWI 1914-18 he joined the army in South Africa, saw active service in France (medal) and was "for a short while in England 1918-1919"; Returning to South Africa, he travelled to Northern Rhodesia where he was a miner in the copper belt of Rhodesia; he married there c1919 (no issue); his health failed, he and his wife settled at Livingstone, Northern Rhodesia (now Zambia) on a small pension from the Mining Board; Arthur died "end of July/start of August" 1944 at Livingstone Hospital, Livingstone, Northern Rhodesia (now Zambia); funeral at St Therese' Ch., Livingstone; bur. Livingstone Cem. plot No.304; his grave was marked by the plot number only until a headstone erected on his grave in 1982 by his nephew Sean O'Connor (S 23) of Castleisland, son of W.H. (NOTE: the headstone inscription has Arthur d.1943)

NOTE: The township of Benoni, now a suburb of Johannesburg, was established in 1906, the inhabitants being mostly British miners working in the gold fields

/
m.c1919 Africa to <??> who was b.c1872, in England, of Irish parents (RC), this was her 2nd marriage; her mother was from Fermoy, Co.Cork

/
her 1st marriage had been in England to <??> (D) by whom she had 2 daughters and 1 son (2 born in England, one born in Africa); she was still at Livingstone 1946; her 3 children all married and lived at Benoni, near Johannesburg, SA 1946; both daughters were widows by 1946

days, from 14.10.99 to 15.2.1900; "Cape Mounted Police" were present during the siege & one of their officers, Lieut. Philip Salkeld, was killed, but W.H. is said to have been stationed in Rhodesia, away from the conflict

After the war, work was difficult to obtain in South Africa, so W.H. returned to Kerry in 1902; Arriving home on a wet, dreary January evening he found the wide empty main street of Castleisland depressing and after a few months he became restless; before the end of the year had returned to Kimberley

At Kimberley he had three jobs and for a time worked all three together, 20 hours a day; Firstly, for lack of other employment, he worked for a builder, learning bricklaying & building skills; then employed by "de Beers Consolidated Mines Ltd" as a "truck labourer" from 8.6.1903 until he resigned 13.3.1907 (re-employed 4.4.1909, resigned again 26.7.1909); With limited experience of mechanical engineering his first task at de Beers was installing a pumping engine & equipment at one of the diamond mines, located in what had been separate but adjoining townships Kimberley, Belgravia & Beaconsfield; This may have been the "de Beers Mine" at Belgravia, where W.H. lived, but more probably was the "Kimberley Mine", a man-made pit 215m deep in the centre of the town, for good reason known as the "Big Hole" (this closed in 1914 but is still to be seen, a feature of the town); W.H. made enough money from these activities to go into business on his own as a builder, houses being in great demand for mine workers; In the words of his brother Michael, he acted as "...his own architect, clerk of works, overseer & manager...", purchasing land in Belgravia & building a number of bungalows for sale or rent to miners; starting with a single house, then building two more, then four more, each house sold financed the building of others; W.H. lived at four addresses in Belgravia; first at Milner Street, then Elsmere Road, Belgrave Road and 5 Foley St., one of these last two being a larger house he built for himself, with veranda surrounding; The homes he built were close to the junction of Belgrave Road and Foley Street; he named them "Emerald Villas", but this name is no longer in use

In 1907 Julia returned to Kerry, initially on holiday to introduce baby Nellie to the family but staying, living with W.H.'s family at Coolnageragh; W.H. resigned from de Beers 13.3.1907 and also returned to Kerry, to be with his family; When W.H.'s father Hugh William O'Connor died on 3.12.1905 he left half the farm at Coolnageragh to his son Michael O'Connor, but in June 1905 Michael had joined the Presentation Brothers as Brother Francis, so by family agreement his half of the farm was sold to W.H.; On the half of the farm he had purchased, W.H. built a new house in which he installed his wife & dau. then in 1909 returned to SA a third time (on Union Castle Line SS "German", departing 8.1.1909 London to Capetown) to sell his house & property at Kimberley and settle his affairs; while doing this he once again worked as a "truck labourer" for de Beers, from 4.4.1909 to 26.7.1909; in 1911 W.H. and Julia were living with their children Eileen, Hugh, Maureen & Kathleen on their farm at Coolnageragh, Scartaglin; The other half of the family farm at Coolnageragh was inherited by his brother Con; W.H.'s half of the Coolnageragh farm was later sold to Mr. Breen, whose family still farm there

W.H. purchased "The Fountain Warehouse" on Lower Main Street in Castleisland, a house & business inc. drapery shop & "The Fountain Bar", opposite the old market house & drinking water fountain; As a fluent Irish speaker, his business "The Fountain Warehouse" displayed his name outside in Irish; While Julia managed that business, W.H. started milling grain, of any variety he could find, using very primitive equipment in the shed (still standing) at the rear of the yard behind the house; the animal feed produced found a ready market among a farming community experiencing feed shortage

On 17.9.1918 W.H. purchased the Castleisland flour mill, a derelict watermill built in 1846 by Lord Ventry on the River Maine at Tonbwee, with the land attached to it; the mill's original function having been to grind maize into "Indian Meal"; In 1919 he founded "W.H. O'Connor" as "millers, merchants, drapers, outfitters & importers" in Castleisland; W.H., with James Tangney the carpenter, worked hard to repair buildings & machinery, restarting the old water wheel; In 1926 the old mill at Tonbwee, renamed as "Rhyno Mills", started producing animal feed in quantity, "Rhyno Balanced Rations" quickly gaining repute among Munster farmers as products of the highest quality; The name "Rhyno" may have come from W.H.'s African experience, although it has been also suggested it was taken from the old english word meaning "money"; The mill converted to electricity in 1939, the water wheel being removed, millstream & weir filled in (such a shame...); The business became a limited company, W.H. O'Connor Ltd, c1940

The railway into Castleisland town was for many years kept open for passengers solely by the need to bring in large quantities of raw material for Rhyno Mills; W.H. purchased the Craageens, rich grazing land close to the mill fields already his; also a farm at Ballygree, off Powell's Road in Castleisland, which provided a part of the grain used at the mill; In 1935 he purchased another farm at Commeen House in Carrigaline, Co.Cork; Another branch of the business was fattening pigs for market, using Rhyno dry rations, which took place on a large scale

A republican by inclination, in 1914 W.H. O'Connor became Chairman of the "Castleisland Volunteers" and was prominently identified with the Sinn Fein movement of that time; When Sinn Fein set up courts to dispense their own justice in opposition to that of the British administration, W.H. became one of the first local judges of the Republican "Castleisland Arbitration Court"; He took no part in the Civil War that occurred after the treaty of 1922; W.H. is mentioned in "Kerry's Fighting Story 1916-1921" (published 1947 by "The Kerryman" newspaper of Tralee) and in "Tans, Terror an Troubles: Kerry's

Real Fighting Story 1913-23" by T. Ryle Dwyer (published 2001 by Mercier Press, Cork & Dublin)

On 8.5.1921 two RIC officers were shot outside Castleisland RC church in Church St., as they left after Sunday Mass, by two IRA men on motorcycles wearing trenchcoats; the shooting witnessed by Julia O'Connor and her daughter Peggy, then aged eight years, who were in the crowd leaving the church; One RIC man was killed, the other being saved by his wife who covered him with her body; This killing brought "Black & Tans" from Tralee out in force and, as reprisal for the murder, four republican owned buildings in the town were burned; One of these was "The Fountain Warehouse", W.H.'s connection with Sinn Fein being known to the authorities & he at the time being "on the run" as a fugitive in hiding from the British authorities, wanted for taking an active part in the conflict; at one time WH hid in a water-filled dyke while the Black & Tans were looked for him above; Dan Russell hid in the Fountain Warehouse, in an alcove behind hanging coats, Black & Tans searching the house but not finding him; W.H.'s brother Michael (Rev. Bro. Francis) saw the smoking ruins of the house; two photographs of the ruins survive (photographer unknown, but perhaps Bro. Francis); The irony of this sad episode is that the RIC officer who died was a friend of Julia O'Connor, yet her house was one of those burnt as reprisal for his murder; He left a widow & two young boys, the widow leaving Castleisland and initially placing her sons at the boys' school run by Brother Francis at the Presentation Brothers in Cork, although when their identity became widely known within that school they were moved elsewhere

Following the burning of their home in Castleisland the family lived 7 years at Artane House, a large old country house with conservatory & orchard, within its own estate off Puckstown Rd (now Collins Avenue) at Donnycarney, Dublin; Julia ran a retail drapery shop, "The Talbot Warehouse Outfitters", selling fashion ware & millinery at 101 & 101A Talbot Street, Dublin (this was and still is a single width property down, double width upstairs); there were four employees, inc. Miss Finn & Miss Maher;

the accountant was T.C. O'Mahony of Castleisland, who lived with the family at Artane House while studying accountancy; W.H. returned to Castleisland, living in spartan conditions at the old mill house, in a single room over the office, until 1927; During this period his daughters Nellie, Maureen & Peggy each in turn lived there with him as housekeeper, while they also attended school at the nearby convent on Mill Road

Julia O'Connor sought, through courts, compensation for the burning of their house, "The Fountain Warehouse"; Compensation was paid by British authorities and a new house built on the same site, a 3 storey 12 bedroom building with drapery and grocery businesses beneath, also a small lounge bar preserving the old name "The Fountain Bar"; Re-building was completed in 1927, W.H. naming his new home the "The 'Kingdom' House", named for the "Kingdom of Kerry"; Julia managed the retail business at their new home & was a director of W.H.O'Connor Ltd

after 1927 Artane House and lands were sold, house later demolished & land developed as the Dublin suburb of "Artane"; The 'dogleg' drive to the house remains as a series of footpaths, with Artane Lodge (the gatehouse for Artane House) still standing in 2004, in a 1/3 acre plot at the end of the drive (on Collins Ave. at Belton Park Rd); the Lodge was for sale in 2004 and since then may have been demolished, replaced by a modern house perhaps(?) demolished; The site of Artane House itself is off Elm Mount Road, at the playing field

The "Kingdom House" was a large home of great character; among its features was the "Crow's Nest", a roofed platform above the house, open at the sides, providing wonderful views of Castleisland town and surrounding countryside; also a flat roof area for leisure and a billiard room, with full size snooker table that rotated on its axis to provide a dining table for special occasions; At the rear were barns, a greenhouse with grapevine & tomatoes lovingly tended by Julia, and a large yard always crowded with chickens, geese & turkeys; Sold out of the family c1984 "The 'Kingdom' House" is now a bed & breakfast hotel, sadly much changed, with shops & yet another "The Fountain Bar" installed beneath; Julia's grapevine flourishes in the garden of her g.son Michael O'Donovan at Castle Connell, Limerick, the snooker table gracing the home of her g.son Liam O'Connor at Killarney

It is recognised in the town that W.H. O'Connor did much for Castleisland, including obtaining a library for the town from the "Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching" (founded in the USA 1905)

Much of this material on the life of W.H. O'Connor is freely borrowed from a 1957 typescript biography, written by his younger brother Michael O'Connor (Brother Francis)

Information on the Pickering family is from notes supplied by Vida Allen, historian of the McGregor Museum at Kimberley, Cape Province, South Africa.

A business & personal history of W.H. O'Connor may also be found at the Rhyno Mills website, created c1999 by his grandson Shaun O'Connor [Rhyno Mills Castleisland website](#)











SPONSORED EMIGRANTS:

In 1884 this John Blennerhassett (b.c1842) at Sydney, NSW nominated his nephew John Blennerhassett "The Moonlighter" (aged 21 years; b.4.2.1863) (S 05) & niece Nora Blennerhassett (b.20.12.1866) (S 07) as sponsored emigrants to NSW, they being children of his bro. Joseph Blennerhassett of Skahanagh & Clahane; The brother & sister sailed from Plymouth, England on S.S. "Gulf of Mexico" departing 27.1.1885, arriving at Sydney, NSW 24.3.1885

His niece Nora Blennerhassett returned to Co.Kerry before 1890 and married there; his nephew John Blennerhassett "The Moonlighter" later moved from NSW to New Zealand

Two other sisters, Ellie & Marianne Blennerhassett, emigrated to N.Zealand at about the same time, Marianne living at Taradale, Meanee Co., Hawkes' Bay, N.Zealand in 1885; Ellie moved from NZ to NSW, Australia bef. 1888 Marianne & her children moved from NZ to Clear Hills, Sydney, NSW, Australia between 1896 & 1902

>> John Joseph Blennerhassett >>>>> >>>>
 (alias John B. Hassett);
 b.6.1.1891 Barmedman, NSW

of 35 Cooper's Road, Birrong,
 NSW 1955;
 moved to Victoria with parents
 c1896, later moved back to NSW

/
 as "J.B. Hassett" he selected (as
 his father had done before him)
 land at Cunninghame, where the
 Victoria government had earlier
 opened up bush blocks for sale

/
 d.1942 at Coledale Hospital,
 Uralla, NSW

/
 m.2.4.1913 Concord, NSW;
 Bertha Taylor
 b.1891 South Yarra, Victoria;
 d.16.6.1964 Regent Park, NSW

>> Daniel "Dan" Blennerhassett
 b.30.9.1893 Barmedman, NSW;
 moved to Victoria with parents
 c1896

/
 d.23.5.1903 aged 9 years,
 drowned at Lake Bunga,
 near Cunninghame, Victoria
 (renamed Lakes Entrance 1915);
 is possible that Daniel is buried
 with his father John BH at Lakes
 Entrance Cem. but there is no
 inscription for Daniel on John
 Blennerhassett's headstone

>> Ellen "Nell" Blennerhassett >>>>> >>>>
 b.3.1.1895 W.Wyalong, NSW;
 his parents (?) perhaps still
 residing at Barmedman 1895

/
 moved to Victoria with parents
 c1896, later married and settled
 at Sydney NSW;
 d.29.8.1955

/
 m. Leo Hall

>> Thomas "Tom" Blennerhassett
 (alias Blenner-Hassett, alias Hassett)
 b.c1897/9 Cunninghame
 (renamed Lakes Entrance 1915),
 Victoria

/
 as "T. Hassett" he selected (as
 his father had done before him)
 land at Cunninghame, where the
 Victoria government had earlier
 opened up bush blocks for sale

/
 moved to Sydney, NSW;
 d.25.5.1963 "aged 64 yrs"

/
 m. Olive "Ollie" Cooke;
 b. Cootamundra, NSW
 (no issue)

**NEW ZEALAND &
VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA**

b.c 11.5.1849 Clahane, nr Tralee, Co.Kerry;
bapt.11.5.1849 St John (RC) Tralee;
of Skahanagh & Clahane (aka Cloghane) near Tralee;

some sources name her Mary Jane Blennerhassett
but that is incorrect; this was the result of another family
historian's honest error that was copied by others

housekeeper; her 1st husband Edward James O'Neill left
Kerry for NZ without her c1874;
Mary followed him to NZ (also c1874); having no sisters,
she left her infant dau. Mariah at home in Kerry with a
sister-in-law Mariah Bennett (nee O'Neill) at Ballyheigue,
Co.Kerry (the sister of Edward & Arthur O'Neill and dau.
of farmer James O'Neill of Ballymalis & wife Jane Giles)

Edward died in New Zealand five months after their 2nd
child James was born; Mary then remarried in NZ to
Edward's brother Arthur James O'Neill; her eldest dau.
Mariah was not sent to follow her to New Zealand, so
Mary Blennerhassett O'Neill did not see Mariah grow up

Mary later moved with her 2nd husband Arthur James
O'Neill from NZ to Victoria (via Tasmania) c1889/90;
settling at Cunninghame (renamed Lakes Entrance 1915)
as did her bro. John BH, the two families each purchasing
farms and obtaining adjoining selections of land

when Arthur James O'Neill left 2nd wife Mary BH O'Neill
& their large family to go to Brisbane, QLD (see below);
Mary remained at Lakes Entrance until she grew old,
living at North Arm, near her son Tom, eventually going
to live with dau. Liz Read at Trafalgar, Vict. (S 26)

she d.26.4.1929 Trafalgar, Victoria; bur.28.4.1929 Lakes
Entrance Cem., where the O'Neill's have a large family plot;
her body transported from Trafalgar to LE in a lead coffin

**Mary Blennerhassett m.1st
(a mixed marriage, two ceremonies being held)**

on 7.12.1870 at St John (RC) Tralee
(witnesses Patrick Collins & Michael Collins);
on 8.12.1870 at Aglish parish church (C.o.I.)
(witnesses Edward O'Neill & John Leslie)

to Edward James O'Neill (Neill)

b.c1846/9 Ballymalis, Kilbonane, Killarney, Co.Kerry
(C.o.I.); farmer; of Ballymalis
(son of farmer James O'Neill of Ballymalis & Jane Giles)
emig. to New Zealand c1874;
he d.26.8.1875 Camside, Kaiapoi, New Zealand;
bur.29.8.1875 Rangiora Cem., Rangiora, Christchurch NZ

**as a widow Mary Blennerhassett
m.2nd 15.5.1877 New Zealand
to her late husband's brother Arthur James O'Neill**

NOTE: this marriage registration has not been found;
the 15.5.1877 date comes from the birth certificate of his
daughter Elizabeth Ann O'Neill (b.14.7.1881 Melbourne);

NOTE: Marian Gargan (1894-1985) after moving to
Australia 1921 was told that AJO, to marry Mary BH, had
to obtain special permission to marry his brother's widow

>>> Mary Blennerhassett >>>> >>> Mary "Mariah" O'Neill >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>

(alias Hassett);
perhaps(?) correctly
named Mary Anne, but
always known as Mary

b.13.12.1873 Tralee; of Skahanagh
& Clahane, near Tralee, Co.Kerry

/
when her mother left Tralee c1874,
following her father to New
Zealand, Mariah remained in Kerry
with her aunt Mariah O'Neill
(dau. of farmer James O'Neill
of Ballymalis, & Jane Giles)

/
who had at Tralee married a
Mr. Bennett and lived at
Ballyheigue, Co.Kerry with no
children of their own to care for

/
d.19.11.1894 Tralee, Co.Kerry
(the poor girl died in childbirth)

/
m.est.c1893
Patrick "Pat" Joseph O'Regan;
baker, of Rock Street, Tralee

/
He raced greyhounds, and when
courting Mariah would walk with
his dogs to visit her at the
Blennerhassett home farm
at Skahanagh/Clahane
d.c1930

>>> James "Jim" "Jimmy" Edward >>>> >>>>

O'Neill
b.20.3.1875 at Wood End, NZ;
bapt. Rangiora, New Zealand

/
his father died when Jimmy was
about five months of age;
raised by his mother who remarried
to his uncle Arthur James O'Neill

/
James was called "Jimmy" to
distinguish him from his namesake
James Edward O'Neill (b.27.5.1868),
son of uncle Arthur James O'Neill

/
moved from N.Zealand to Victoria
(via Hobart, Tasmania) c1889/90;

/
c1896 he moved with his family
to Cunninghame, Victoria
(renamed Lakes Entrance)
and remained there

/
farmer, having a selection of land
in his own name at North Arm,
Lakes Entrance; he also shared a
land selection with half-brothers
Tom & Edward O'Neill, and step
brother William "Little Bill" O'Neill
from his stepfather's first family*

/
d.21.4.1917 Orbost Hospital, Orbost;
bur. Lakes Entrance Cemetery
d.21.4.1917 Orbost Hospital, Orbost;
bur. Lakes Entrance Cemetery

/
p. Violet Ostler
b. Tabberabbera, Victoria;
sister of *Elsie Edith Ostler & (Ellen)
Florence "Florrie" Ida Ostler (S 34)*

NOTE:
when Mary Blennerhassett
m.1st in 1870 her father
John BH was still living

Arthur James O'Neill >>> >>> Margaret "Maggie" O'Neill >>>>>> >>>

b.c1836/40/42 Ballymalis, Kilbonane, nr Killarney, Kerry (bapt. C.o I.); these dates from: 1836 shipping manifest; 1840 from death certificate; 1842 from marriage certificate

brother of Mary BH's 1st husband, Edward James O'Neill (sons of James O'Neill of Ballymalis, Co.Kerry & Jane Giles of Lissataggle, Co.Kerry)

AJO emig. to Victoria, Australia on S.S. "British Trident", departing Liverpool, arriving Melbourne 9.1.1860; Mary O'Neill (not his sister, perhaps a cousin) travelled with him

Mary Blennerhassett was Arthur James O'Neill's 2nd wife

**Arthur James O'Neill's
1st MARRIAGE 1864**

AJO m.1st 8.10.1864 Presbyterian Ch., E.Melbourne; (Catherine) Mary Smythe (or Smith)
b.c1840 Co.Kerry; dau. of Arthur Smith (RIC constable) & Catherine Shea; emig. from Ireland to Melbourne; AJO was "cabman"; living at Gertrude St., Collingwood

about 18 months after their marriage (i.e. c1866) they moved to NZ, perhaps sailing on SS "Omeo" from Melbourne to Hokitika, NZ, departing 20.9.1866 (but this date does not match the dob of their first child Mary Jane O'Neill b.14.8.1866 Invercargill, NZ)

AJO worked at various jobs including road contractor; AJO & Mary Smythe (Smith) had 4 children born in NZ, 3 of whom later (c1889/90) moved with AJO & 2nd wife Mary BH from NZ to Victoria (via Hobart, Tasmania)

**The children of AJO's
1st marriage were:**

- (Mary) Jane O'Neill b.14.8.1866 Invercargill, NZ;** moved to Victoria with her family c1889/90; this poor unfortunate girl was blinded in 2 accidents, losing one eye from it being poked with an old style steel pen knib; the other when she ran into the corner of a mantlepiece; MJO did not move from Melbourne to Lakes Entrance with her father & bro. William, but instead lived at the Blind Institute in Melbourne, where they made baskets, brooms, brushes etc; she trained as a brush maker; d. at Melbourne;
She m.24.3.1911 Alexander "Alec" Munro who also worked at the institute, as a basket maker (no issue), after her m. living in small house on Andrew Street, close to the institute;

NOTE: his nephew and namesake James Edward O'Neill (b.1875) when young was called "Jimmy" to distinguish him from uncle James (b.1868)

- 2 James Edward O'Neill; b.27.5.1868 New Zealand** stayed in New Zealand where he trained horses; d.21.4.1917 NZ, the result of a fall from a horse;
m. Ciss <??>; issue 2 children, these adopted (by their solicitor in NZ) after both parents' died young;
- 3 Arthur James O'Neill jr "young Arthur"**
b.28.8.1870 Adderson, NZ; moved to Victoria with his family c1889/90; settled at Sydney, NSW;
m.20.8.1902 Hobart, Tasmania; Rose Love (no marriage record found); they had a daughter (Catherine/Kathleen) Nancy O'Neill who m.1st <??> Jantzen (swimwear family) (2 children) m.2nd 1936 Albert Bray (no issue);
the whereabouts of AJO Jr after his daughter's birth in 1902 is unknown; perhaps(?) went to Ireland & remarried;
- 4 William "Little Bill" Francis O'Neill b.31.12.1872 NZ;** moved to Victoria with his family c1889/90; raised RC; of Lakes Entrance 1903-1912; later of Melbourne, where he worked on the wharves; then worked at Orbost, Victoria before returning to Lakes Entrance; he worked for Ingrams at Orbost, breaking-in horses; shared a selection of land at LE with his half-brothers*
d.27.12.1947 Bairnsdale Hospital; bur. Lakes Entrance

of Euroa, Victoria & Longwood, Victoria;
b.2.7.1877 Ashburton, Christchurch, New Zealand (one source has b.2.8.1877 in error) moved from NZ to Victoria (via Hobart, Tasmania) c1889/90; worked as a nanny at Euroa; "talented writer of poetry"

d.7.5.1966
bur. Longwood Cemetery

m.26.4.1900 at 422 Queen Street, Melbourne, Victoria;
Mallad "Mal" Berry
b.7.12.1874 Stawell, Victoria; farmer;
d.21.1.1964
bur. Longwood Cemetery

>> John Joseph "Jack-Joh" "John-Jo" O'Neill
b.21.9.1879 Winchmore, New Zealand (birth record not found)

moved from NZ to Victoria (via Hobart, Tasmania) c1889/90

c1896 he moved with his family to Cunninghame, Victoria (renamed Lakes Entrance 1915)

d.15/19.12.1896 unm.; aged 17yrs (drowned in the Mitchell River at Coongulmerang, near Bairnsdale, Victoria)
bur. Lakes Entrance Cemetery;
NOTE: Pam O'Reilly has him d.1.12.1896, need to check this

AJO's 1st wife (Catherine) Mary Smythe O'Neill d.bef.1877 in New Zealand; following her death AJO m.2nd 15.5.1877 (RC) in NZ to Mary Blennerhasset (as above); Arthur James O'Neill remaining in New Zealand building roads until c1889/90 at Gisborne, NZ in 1887 he was declared bankrupt but discharged shortly after;

Arthur James O'Neill and his 2nd wife Mary BH raised her eldest son Jimmy (son of her 1st husband, Edward James O'Neill, AJO's brother) with the four children of AJO's 1st marriage (to Catherine Mary Smythe/Smith) and their own six children, a total of eleven; Mary raised them all as RC, including the children of Arthur James O'Neill's 1st marriage

c1889/90 all but one of the children travelled with them from New Zealand (via Hobart, Tasmania) to Melbourne; in 1891-93 they held the licence for the "Staffordshire Arms Hotel", 23 Blackwood Street (corner of Oxford St.), Haymarket, N. Melbourne (hotel demolished); they may perhaps(?) afterwards run another hotel, in S.Melbourne; c1896 AJO & Mary moved from Melbourne to Cunninghame (renamed Lakes Entrance 1915) with her children and AJO's son Bill O'Neill by his 1st marriage

Arthur James O'Neill and his sons were road contractors, he and his sons building the first road cutting down into Cunninghame from the Orbost - Bairnsdale Road; AJO's g.dau. Marion Russell (S 33) had AJO's contract for this work and his handwritten notebook containing specifications for building roads for which he had the contract

Arthur James O'Neill c1896 purchased Blairs Farm (lot 86) at North Arm of the lakes, Cunninghame (renamed Lakes Entrance 1915); his sons were also farmers and at about the same date his sons "selected" land nearby at Cunninghame, where the Victoria government had opened up bush blocks for sale; these "selections" were cheap, the takers being given three years to clear the land & make it productive before being obliged to pay rates (local taxes); The O'Neill sons all enjoyed horse racing

Mary O'Neill's brother John Blennerhasset at about the same date c1896 purchased R.T. Chapman's farm at Bunga Creek near Cunninghame (lot 135); he also "selected" land nearby, his land selection being "across the road" from the O'Neill son's selections

Arthur James O'Neill's 3rd family from 1909

at some date between 1903-1908 Arthur James O'Neill is said to have experienced problems, he leaving 2nd wife Mary BH O'Neill & their large family to move to Brisbane; his 2nd wife Mary BH O'Neill remained at LE until she grew old, then moving to live with dau. Liz Read at Trafalgar, Victoria (S 26) staying until she d.26.4.1929

Arthur James O'Neill did not return from Brisbane, where in 1909 he started a 3rd family with his (niece or cousin?) Mary Anne Blennerhasset (alias Hassett) b.25.7.1883 Glenageenty, Rathany, near Castleisland, Co.Kerry; bapt.4.6.1883 (C.o.I.) Ballymacelligott; confirmed 1900; this Mary Anne Blennerhasset (p.G 77) had emig. to Australia from Co.Kerry (date and port of entry unknown)

The children of Arthur James' third family, with Mary Anne Blennerhasset (alias Hassett) (see p.G 77), w

1. **Annie Hassett**; b.23.10.1909 Rocklea, Brisbane, Queensland; d.20.12.1909 Queensland
2. **(Mary) Agnes Hassett**; b.23.10.1911 Groveley (Grovely), Brisbane
3. **Alexander "Sandy" O'Neill**; b.26.11.1914 Groveley (Grovely), Brisbane

Mary Anne Blennerhasset's children were each at birth registered as Hassett; the birth records for Annie & (Mary) Agnes have no father's name recorded, but Alexander's father is recorded as Arthur James O'Neill and the register index, derived from the original records, lists Alexander under both O'Neill and Hassett

at Arthur James O'Neill's death in 1917 the informant, his partner Mary Anne BH is named "Mary Hassett" and is recorded as "no relation" because they were not married

Arthur is said to have returned to Ireland at least twice, one of these journeys c1867-70 made with the intention of claiming his inheritance, only to find that he had been left out of his father's Will

Arthur O'Neill's daughter Lu O'Neill Joiner (S 23) told her dau. Marion Russell (S 25) that Arthur had died at sea outside Brisbane, Queensland while returning from his second trip to Ireland, but this story cannot be true as conflicts with his death record showing he died in 1917 at his home, Samford Road, Groveley (Grovely), Queensland; it also improbable that he would have travelled to Europe by sea "on holiday" during WWI when ships were frequently sunk; it is possible that during a sea voyage from Melbourne or Sydney to Brisbane he became ill, dying a few days after arriving home in Brisbane

Arthur James O'Neill lived at Samford Road, Groveley (Grovely), Queensland, Australia; he d.31.12.1917 at Groveley (Grovely), bur.2.1.1918 Toowong Cem., Brisbane

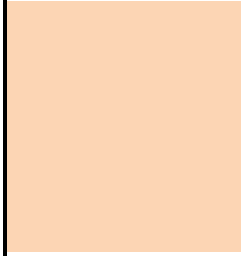
buried RC (although he was originally C.o.I.); this cemetery was closed, the site built on

following death of Arthur James O'Neill in 1917, his widow Mary Anne Blennerhassett O'Neill delivered milk for a dairy run by a RC Convent at Prospect Road, Mitchelton; she m.2nd Frederick William Greensill (p.G 77); he was owner of grocery store at corner of Osborne & Samford Roads, Mitchelton, Brisbane, to which Mary Anne delivered milk; he built a cottage behind the store, later replaced by the family home 527 Samford Road from F.W. Greensill descends Kathleen Javen, **FAMILY RESEARCHER** (p.G 77)

Mary Anne Blennerhassett O'Neill Greensill (b.25.7.1883 Glenageenty)
d.1962 Brisbane; bur. Nudgee Cem., Brisbane







Catherine Hassett >>>>>>> >>> John Murphy
of Tralee | b.c.7.12.1823 Tralee;
/ | bapt.7.12.1823 St John (RC) Tralee
m. Patrick Murphy

Elizabeth Hassett >>>>>>> >>> Ellen Reil (Real)
of Tralee | b.c.26.3.1818 Tralee;
/ | bapt.26.3.1818 St John (RC) Tralee
m. Patrick Reil (Real)
(O'Reilly ?) | >>> Julia Reil (Real)
| b.c.8.10.1820 Tralee;
| bapt.8.10.1820 St John (RC) Tralee
|
| >>> John Reil (Real)
| b.c.16.11.1823 Tralee;
| bapt.16.11.1823 St John (RC) Tralee

Arthur Hassett >>>>>>> >>> Arthur Hassett
of Ballyseedy | b.c.1.11.1861 Tralee;
/ | bapt.1.11.1861
m. Anna Hogan | St John (RC) Tralee

Joseph Blennerhassett >>>> >>>> Francis (Francis?) Mary B. Blennerhassett
(alias Hassett) | b.c.12.3.1825 Killarney
of Tralee | bapt.12.3.1825 Killarney (RC)
/ |
m. Mary Ann Archdeacon | >>> George Blennerhassett
| b.c.10.5.1826 Killarney (twin);
| bapt.10.5.1826 Killarney (RC)
|
| >>> Roland Blennerhassett
| b.c.10.5.1826 Killarney (twin);
| bapt.10.5.1826 Killarney (RC)
|
| >>> Martin Blennerhassett (alias Hassett)
| b.c.10.4.1829 Tralee
| bapt.10.4.1829 St John (RC) Tralee

Joseph Hassett >>>>>>> >>> Michael Hassett
/ | b.c.17.9.1844 Tralee;
m. Mary Spillane | bapt.17.9.1844 St John (RC) Tralee
(O'Sullivan?)

Thomas Hassett >>>>>>>>>>>>>>> >>> Margaret Hassett
of Tralee | b.c.4.12.1785 Tralee;
/ | bapt.4.12.1785 St John (RC) Tralee
m. Mary Mahir (Maher?)

Ellen Hassett >>>>>>>>>>>>>>> >>> Edward Lamb
of Tralee | b.c.20.4.1855 Tralee;
/ | bapt.20.4.1855 St John (RC) Tralee
m.23.7.1854 |
St John (RC) Tralee; | >>> Joanna Lamb
James Lamb | b.c.28.7.1859 Tralee;
| bapt.28.7.1859 St John (RC) Tralee
| *sponsor: William Hassett*

Thomas Hassett >>>>>>>>>>>>> >>> William Hassett
of Tralee | b.c.28.12.1801 Tralee;
/ | bapt.28.12.1801 St John (RC) Tralee
m. Catherine McClure

Catherine Hassett >>>>>>>>>>>>> >>> Catherine Noonan
of Tralee | b.c.17.4.1791 Tralee;
/ | bapt.17.4.1791 St John (RC) Tralee
m. Eugene Noonan | *sponsor: Mary Hassett*

Elizabeth Hassett >>>>>>>>>>>>> >>> Mary O'Finn
of Tralee | b.c.24.9.1828 Tralee;
/ | bapt.24.9.1828 St John (RC) Tralee
m. Michael O'Finn

Catherine Hassett >>>>>>>>>>>>> >>> Thadeus (Timothy) Quille
of Tralee | b.c.30.7.1817 Tralee;
/ | bapt.30.7.1817 St John (RC) Tralee
m. Richard Quille

Mary Hassett >>>>>>>>>>>>>>> >>> Stephen Thompson
of Tralee | b.c.21.12.1862 Tralee;
/ | bapt.21.12.1862 St John (RC) Tralee
m. Robert Thompson

Margaret Blenny >>>>>>>>>>>>>>> >>> Thomas Ginnaw
(perhaps Blennerhassett?) | b.c.18.11.1792 Tralee;
of Tralee | bapt.18.11.1792 St John (RC) Tralee
/ |
m. James Ginnaw

Martin Hassett of Tralee
/
m.28.8.1821 St John (RC) Tralee;
Catherine Haynes

William Hassett of Tralee
/
m.1.2.1799 St John (RC) Tralee;
Julia Shanahan

Mary Hassett of Tralee
/
m.30.9.1833 St John (RC) Tralee;
James O'Hogan
witness: William Hassett

Cornelius Hassett >>>>>>> >>> Catherine Hassett
of Tralee | b.c.15.3.1818 Tralee
/ | bapt.15.3.1818 St John (RC) Tralee; d.young
m.18.2.1817 |
St John (RC) Tralee | >>> Ellen Hassett
Margaret Foley | b.c.28.4.1822 Tralee
| bapt.28.4.1822 St John (RC) Tralee

>>> Thomas Hassett
| b.c.10.5.1827 Tralee
| bapt.10.5.1827 St John (RC) Tralee
|
| >>> Eugene Hassett
| b.c.27.9.1829 Tralee
| bapt.27.9.1829 St John (RC) Tralee
|
| >>> Catherine Hassett
| b.c.9.6.1833 Tralee
| bapt.9.6.1833 St John (RC) Tralee

John Hassett >>>>>>>>>>>>> >>> Johanna Hassett
of Tralee | b.c.14.5.1820 Tralee (twin?)
/ | bapt.14.5.1820 St John (RC) Tralee
m. Margaret Foley | >>> Julia Hassett
| b.c.14.5.1820 Tralee (twin?)
| bapt.14.5.1820 St John (RC) Tralee

Thomas Hassett >>>>>>>>>>>>> >>> Margaret Hassett
of Tralee; | b.c.25.8.1824 Tralee
m. Margaret Foley (Foulue) | bapt.25.8.1824
| St John (RC) Tralee;
| *sponsor Margaret Foley (Foulue)*

Elizabeth Blennerhassett >>>>>>>>>>>>> >>> Bridget Joyce
(or Hassett) | b.c.14.10.1816 Tralee;
/ | bapt.14.10.1816 St John (RC) Tralee
m.1.5.1813 |
St John (RC) Tralee; | >>> John Joyce
John Joyce of Tralee | b.c.25.1.1829 Tralee;
witnesses: | bapt.25.1.1829 St John (RC) Tralee
Richard Blennerhassett |
& Maynard Denny | >>> Redmund Joyce
| b.c.4.6.1834 Tralee;
| bapt.4.6.1834 St John (RC) Tralee
|

>>> Redmund Joyce
| b.c.16.11.1836 Tralee;
| bapt.16.11.1836 St John (RC) Tralee; d.young
|
| >>> Elizabeth Joyce
| b.c.17.7.1839 Tralee;
| bapt.17.7.1839 St John (RC) Tralee; d.young