

JOHN HASTWELL – A FAMILY FOUNDER

(4 April 1847 – 16 June 1932)

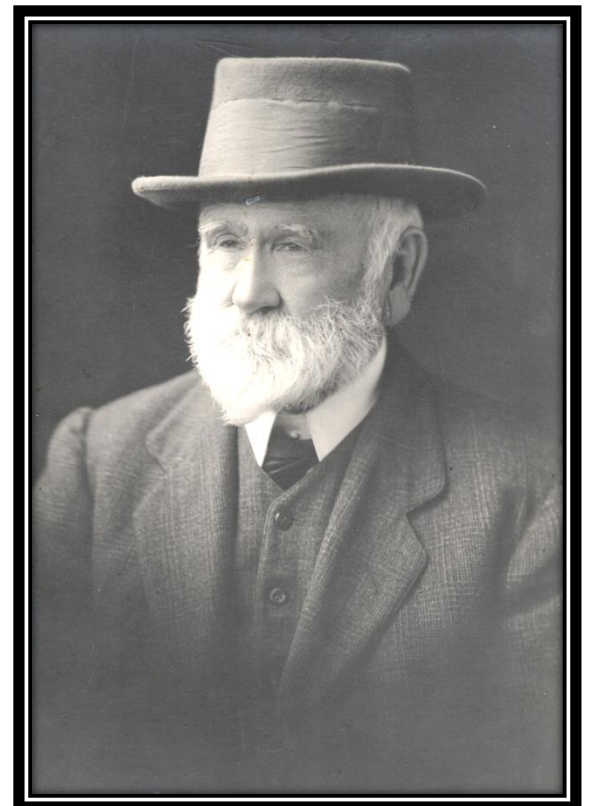
THIRD SON OF JAMES & MARY ANNE HASTWELL

By Wendy Baker 2023©



*John aged 18, James, Ebenezer and William
with parents Mary Anne and James Hastwell*

John Hastwell in his 70's



Showing JOHN HASTWELL's immediate ancestors and descendants

James Hastwell
 11 Mar 1818 - London, England
 2 Apr 1886 - Hoyleton, SA

Marriage: 28 Feb 1843

Spouse
 Mary Ann Adshead
 28 Mar 1814 - England
 20 Jun 1891 - Yorketown, SA

Parents

James Hastwell
 26 Sep 1796 - England
 Dec 1878 -

Elizabeth Aitken
 Abt 1795 -
 13 Feb 1846 - 69 Broadwall

Children

| | Born | Parent Link |
|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1 James Hastwell | 17 Dec 1843 | |
| 2 Ebenezer Hastwell | 25 May 1845 | |
| 3 John Hastwell | 4 Apr 1847 | |
| 4 Edward Hastwell | 25 May 1850 | |
| 5 Mary Ann HASTWELL | 23 Mar 1852 | |
| 6 Mary Ann Hastwell | 21 Jan 1854 | |
| 7 William Henry Hastwell | 29 Jan 1855 | |

Above: James & Mary Ann Hastwell (nee Adshead) emigrated from UK on *Cotfield* in 1853

John Hastwell
 4 Apr 1847 - Hatfield St Blackfriars Rd London
 16 Jun 1932 - Fullarton SA

Marriage: 17 Mar 1868

Spouse
 Ann Elizabeth Wheatley
 6 Dec 1839 - East London, London, Middlesex, England
 3 Mar 1883 - Penfield South Australia

Parents

James Hastwell
 11 Mar 1818 - London, England
 2 Apr 1886 - Hoyleton, SA

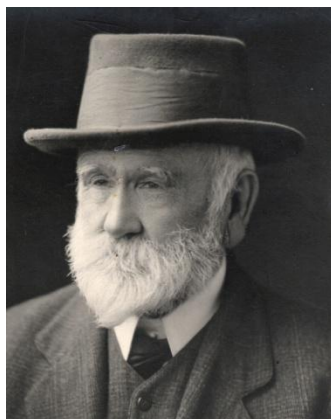
Mary Ann Adshead
 28 Mar 1814 - England
 20 Jun 1891 - Yorketown, SA

Children

| | Born | Parent Link |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1 Edith Belinda Hastwell | 9 Feb 1869 | |
| 2 John Rupert Hastwell | 15 Oct 1870 | |
| 3 Maud Priscilla Hastwell | 20 May 1872 | |
| 4 Annie Hastwell | 8 Jun 1874 | |
| 5 Lilly Madeline Hastwell | 1 Jan 1878 | |
| 6 Alfred Ernest Hastwell | 20 Jan 1881 | |

Above: Third son of James & Mary Ann – John Hastwell b.1847 (born in UK) & children

JOHN HASTWELL – A FAMILY FOUNDER



Among the multitude of great-grand uncles I am fortunate to have in my past, John Hastwell is just one – but I feel his story is one that should be recorded. John’s grandson, Sydney John Hastwell, wrote a brief history of his grandfather in 1993, and his great-grandson Graeme Cecil Hastwell is also incorporating John’s story into a book. Although it’s perhaps a little cheeky of me, a mere “sideways” relative, to do this, I just feel drawn to write John’s somewhat poignant story as best I can.

The third son of James and Mary Ann Hastwell (nee Adshead), John was born at home at 54 Hatfield Street, Christchurch, in the County of Surrey, England on 3rd April, 1847. His brother Ebenezer was two years old and the young James was four. His birth was registered at St. Saviour Southwark.

Page 79 CERTIFICATE OF BIRTH.

1847 Birth in the District of Christ Church in the County of Surrey

| No. | When Born. | Name (if any). | Sex. | Name and Surname of Father. | Name and Maiden Surname of Mother. | Rank or Profession of Father. | Signature, Description, and Residence of Informant. | When Registered. | Signature of Registrar. | Diplomatic Name, if added after Registration of Birth. |
|-----|----------------------------|----------------|------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|------------------|----------------------------|--|
| 391 | 3 rd April 1847 | John | Male | James Adshead | Mary Ann Hastwell formerly Adshead | Glass Cutter | M. A. Hastwell Mother 54 Hatfield Street Christchurch | April 1847 | Henry John White Registrar | |

I CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE WRITTEN IS A TRUE COPY OF AN ENTRY IN THE REGISTER BOOK OF BIRTHS IN THE DISTRICT OF Christ Church

Book, No. 11 Extracted this 4th day of May 1853

James A. Blakely Superintendent Registrar. 24



St. Saviour, Southwark.



Heirloom cut-glass (Photo courtesy Peter K. Hastwell)

John's father was a glass-cutter at No. 69 Broadwall, Christchurch, Surrey – the last of several generations of Hastwell glasscutters. Just less than a year after his baby's birth, James' partnership in the business was dissolved, evidently forestalling an impending bankruptcy, and directory records of the time show that James became a commercial traveller.

John was supplanted as the baby of the family when his brother Edward was born on the 25th May, 1850. The 1851 Census had no record of their father James – as he was a commercial traveller, it is possible that he was away on business that night, although his name does not appear to have popped up at any other address. There was a servant, Emma Brown listed at the address – whether she was in Hastwell's employ, or whether she was merely a visitor, is unknown, but more likely that it was the former.

Their first daughter – Mary Anne – was born at Lambeth on the 23rd March, 1852, bringing the number of children to five.

In April, 1853, James wrote in his journal: *“I & Mary Ann Hastwell having been engaged as traveller for Mr Farmer for 5 years and the same Farmer giving up the business we concluded to emigrate to South Australia, and consequently engaged with Messrs. Fobbin and Son to proceed in the “Cotfield” for Welland commanded by Capt. Waite.”*

Australia was so, so far away and James perhaps had already weighed up the risks in taking his wife and young family, along with his 23 year old single brother, Edward John Hastwell, to a 17 year old colony nearly 15,000 miles from England. But James seems to have adapted well to his career change from glass-cutting to merchandising, was not afraid of hard work and possibly felt that golden opportunities beckoned for himself and his family.

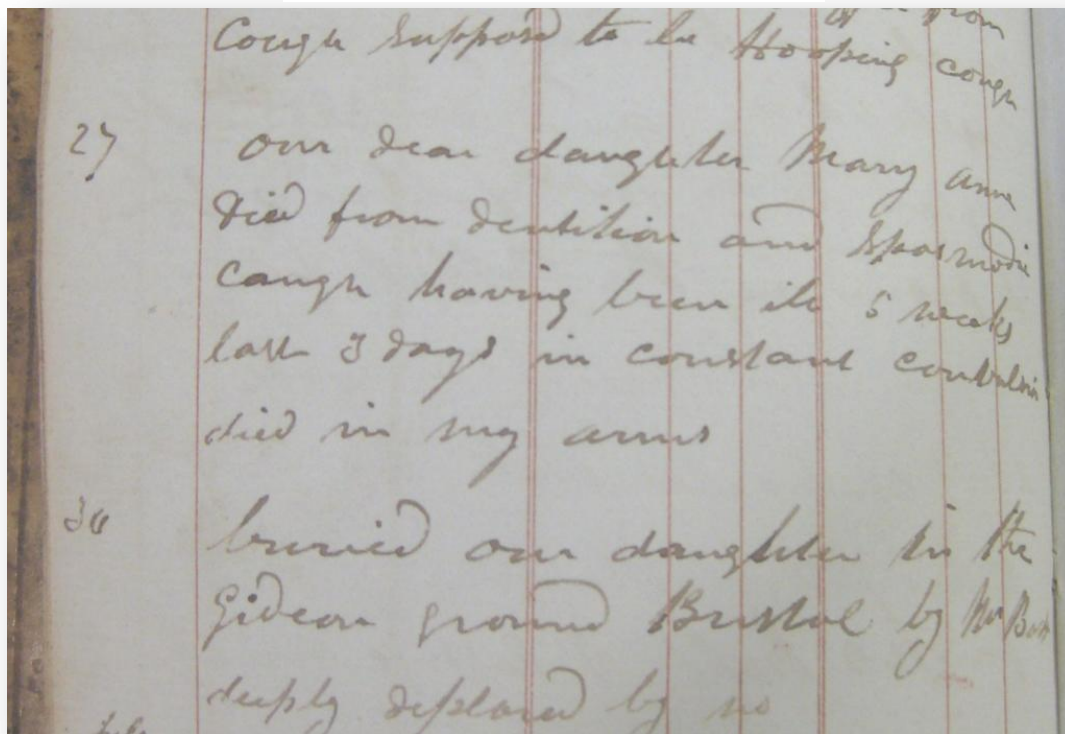
Was Mary Anne enthusiastic and excited at the prospect? I cannot put today's values on a woman 170 years ago – all I know is that, like so many before her and since, she simply gathered up her household to follow her husband to Bristol in 1853 where the family would board the *Cotfield* to begin their voyage to South Australia. A month before their embarkation, however, the children all became ill with whooping cough.

On the 22nd May, James contracted to proceed and *“Paid 40 pound - half of passage money. Consequently we proceeded packing up and received great professions of regard and kindness from friends Armfield, Easton & Edward Brown who all acted very kind. Spent the time in suspense the children mortally suffering from illness till the 20th June when we proceeded to Bristol as engaged to sail from the above place the children still suffer from cough, supposed to be whooping cough.”*

As family bible records reveal, Mary Anne would have fallen pregnant with their sixth child in May. How difficult it must have been for this woman – less than a month before sailing, all the packing up, facing a long voyage while pregnant, an unknown country and five children under ten ill with whooping cough! It is to be hoped that she was not suffering morning sickness at the same time!

Sadly, James wrote another entry in his journal on the 27th June. “*Our dear daughter Mary Anne died from dentition and spasmodic cough having been ill 5 weeks. Last 3 days in constant convulsion, died in my arms.*” Their little girl, five year old John’s baby sister, was just fifteen months old.

Extract from John's father James Hastwell's diary



Three days later James recorded that “*our daughter*” was buried at Bristol and was “*deeply deplored by us.*” I wondered how “dentition”, an old word for teething, could be a cause of death, but research revealed the horrific fact that mercury was frequently given to young children as an antidote!

I have tried every possible source but have been unable to verify exactly in Bristol where she was buried – the word looks like “Gideon Ground” but enquiries drew a complete blank.

James’ friend Armfield visited the Hastwells on the 10th July and James “*spent a very happy day with him*” before returning to London two days later. Shipping Intelligence reports in Adelaide papers indicate that the barque *Cotfield* left Bristol 1st August, yet James’ journal, written in a ledger he later used in one of his general stores, mentions leaving Bristol on 15th July.

Young John, along with the rest of his family, succumbed to seasickness as the 604-ton ship wallowed down the English Channel, but they were able to go ashore briefly on the isle of Lundy, off the coast of Devon. There was no further mention of seasickness in James' journal, so the family must have found their sea-legs once they left the Channel.

A 3-masted barque, similar to the *Cotfield*



As they headed towards Cape Verde islands off the far-west coast of the African continent the little boy must surely have been excited at seeing the silver flash of flying fish, and dolphins rolling in the sea, which his father recorded in his journal. Towards the end of August the *Cotfield*, having rounded Cape Town to make use of the roaring forties, was battered by howling gales and heavy seas; in September for three days she battled unrelenting winds, rain and violent squalls. In between these episodes the ship was at times almost becalmed.

In early October James noted a broken spinnaker; in the middle of that month, again for several days, the ship was storm-lashed, shipping “*tons of water*” with a stunsail boom broken, a jib and top stunsail torn apart. As the ship weathered the storms, with blown out sails, broken spars and shattered booms, surely the six year old London child hid trembling in his mother's arms. Wind screamed in the rigging, the wooden hull groaned and juddered, and the decks above his head were awash with huge waves.

Young John's mother, by now nearly seven months pregnant, must have suffered stoically for the sake of her children. In late November the *Cotfield* came close to disaster almost at journey's end when she was becalmed and drifted dangerously close to rocks.

The weather could not be helped, but John's father was not impressed, according to his journal entries, with some poor apportioning of provisions and resultant squabbles. He wrote of sailors hiding themselves in the hold and getting riotously drunk, their ringleader having to be clapped in irons. A case of porter was stolen – obviously of some importance to James as his journal was in general tersely written without a waste of words. The first mate, Mr Kerr, had the misfortune to fall overboard and drowned – James wrote this event as being supposed to be the effects of too much liquor, but other eyewitness accounts were less judgemental.

In early November a shark was caught, a welcome addition to the rations, but by the 7th, all the rice, butter, peas, and potatoes were finished. The next day James noted that “*Harry the steward boy fell overboard and last meat gone*”. By the 15th, all the raisins had gone too, and the Captain was, according to James, showing arrogance towards his complaining passengers who were now suffering biscuits and water “*dished up either as biscuit pudding or biscuit soup or otherwise*” as their sole food. Not very appetising – no wonder they complained!

PRG 280/1/3/241 SLSA- Pt Adelaide c.1860



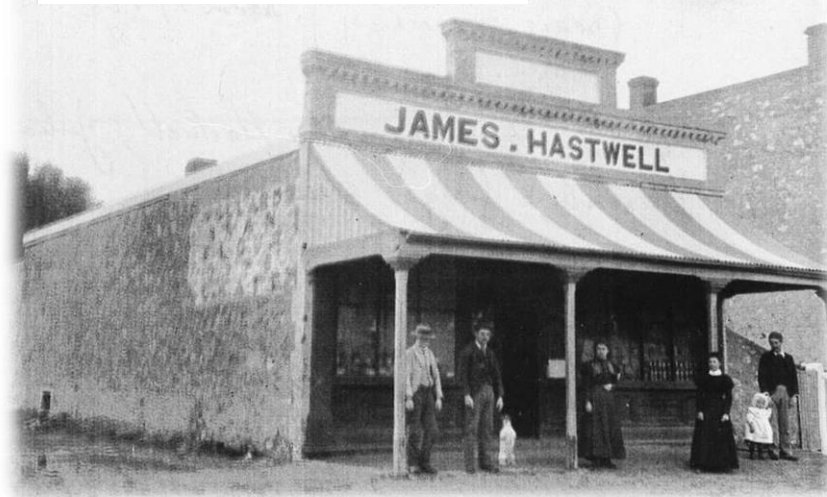
It must have been a great relief for James, but probably a lot more so for his pregnant wife and four boys, to finally arrive at Outer Harbour and cast anchor on the 30th November 1853. The pilot came on board and on the 1st December, towed the *Cotfield* into port after a four month voyage.

The family went with their colleague Mr Lowe to Adelaide from Outer Harbour and rented, on a weekly basis, a house with Lowe at 5 Jerningham St, North Adelaide. But collecting the Hastwells' luggage from the warehouse proved difficult. James sought remuneration from Captain Waite for short provisions on the voyage, to no avail, and the next day consulted a solicitor who considered it

inadvisable to proceed down that route. On the 7th December he again went to the ship, and to the harbour office on the 8th and 9th, without result. On the 12th, he finally obtained his boxes by the port carrier, and tried for a situation as a warehouseman, again without success.

James decided on the 14th December to hawk goods, and mend china and glass. It cost him thirteen shillings to advertise his new venture for one week. He then bought a lot of haberdashery, on easy terms, from a Mr Burns, for five pounds, eight shillings and nine pence. On the 2nd January 1854 he paid Burns the full amount and noted that he was "out of debt". Within a few days he wrote "*feel somewhat perplexed sometimes, not being used to the new business. Omitted to observe that having provided the material, I learned the art of shoemaking on board the Cotfield of a Mr Potts, an old man fellow passenger. Very kind, charging nothing for the same, this afforded amusement and useful employment.*"

Hastwell's general store at Two Wells, SA
(Photo Courtesy Graeme C. Hastwell)



Thus began John Hastwell's father's business enterprises, first operating for several years as a hawker from the house in North Adelaide and later, in the early 1860's, a general storekeeping business at Penfield (now incorporated into the Edinburgh area north of Adelaide) and also at Two Wells.

But what of young John while his father was establishing his businesses?

On the 8th January, 1854, his mother gave birth to a baby daughter, naming her Mary Anne. John's new little sister lived for only a few weeks, dying on the 23rd of January. On 29th January 1855, his baby brother William Henry Hastwell, my great-grandfather, was born. Two years later, on the 23rd December 1857, John lost his seven year old brother Edward. It was a tumultuous time for John's mother, and ten year old John had lost two baby sisters and a brother, but had a new sibling in baby William.

Standing, L-R, John, James, Ebenezer, William Henry. Mary Anne & James snr. sitting.



Sunday 17th September 1865 was a memorable day for the family. They were all baptised as “adult receivers” – James and Mary Anne, and John 18, Ebenezer 20, and the eldest, James, 22 - at the Lord's New Church, Carrington Street, Adelaide, South Australia. William Henry aged 10 yrs was baptised as a child receiver. The Rev. E.G. Day was the celebrant.

Such an occasion warranted a studio photograph, in which 18 year old John is seen on the left at the back, behind his mother. He appears to resemble his mother's looks more than his father's. The studio portrait seems to embody a stilted British pride as well as hope for the future of their four surviving sons.

| | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| Name: | John Hastwell |
| Marriage Date: | 17 Mar 1868 |
| Registration Place: | Adelaide, South Australia, Australia |
| Father: | James Hastwell |
| Spouse: | Ann Wheatley |
| Spouse Father: | Edward Wheatley |
| Page number: | 383 |
| Volume Number: | 1 |
| Household Members: | Name John Hastwell |
| Source Citation: <i>South Australia-Marriages 1842-1916</i> | |

Three years later, 21 year old John married 28 year old Ann Wheatley on the 17th March 1868 at the Registry Office in Adelaide, and their marriage was then consecrated at New Church, Carrington Street, in Adelaide. (Ann was one of twins, but her twin had died in infancy.) The marriage celebrant was again, the Rev. Edward George Day, who also



happened to be the father-in-law of Edward John Hastwell, who had previously married Day's daughter Elizabeth. Edward was the bachelor brother who had emigrated along with John and his parents.



John and Ann began their married life in the village of Penfield, now in the City of Playford. Wikipedia (June 2023) states *“In the early years, the village had two general stores, a police station, the church and the hotel. Penfield Post Office opened around 1856 and closed in 1951.”*

John and Ann's first child was Edith Belinda, born on 9th February 1869 at Penfield. Edith never married, and died 82 years later at Northfield. She was interred in the West Tce. Cemetery, Adelaide.

When Edith was an 18 month old toddler, young John Rupert was born on 15th Oct 1870, also at Penfield. He grew up to marry Frances Lloyd in 1897, and together they had eight children – Elsie, Olive, Leslie, Edith, Doris, Reginald, Gracie, and Claude. Such a big family gave John and Ann many grandchildren.

Maud Priscilla Hastwell was born at Penfield on the 8th June, 1872. Maud, like her elder sister, never married. But as a young woman she must have been well aware of the burgeoning women's rights movement, as that era of struggle for recognition was finally rewarded on 18th December 1894 when women in South Australia were able not only to vote, but to stand for Parliament. An article printed on 9th September 1898 in the Pioneer newspaper (Yorketown 1898-1954), under the heading *“House of Assembly – To Vote at Yorketown”* included the name of *Maud Priscilla Hastwell*. She was 26 years old.

Sadly, we do not know why, on 28th January 1901, Maud Priscilla needed to be admitted to the Parkside Lunatic Asylum (renamed Parkside Mental Hospital in 1913). The patient register records show that she was not discharged, but died only a couple of weeks after admission, on St Valentine's Day, 1901. She was interred in the Marryatville Cemetery on 16th March after a service at St Matthews Church. Was it a young woman's life wasted without the benefit of modern medical treatment?



When Maud was a two year old, her mother Ann gave birth to another daughter, little Annie, on the 8th June, 1874. Annie became a teacher but her resignation from that profession was recorded. I was shocked to discover that she was the second daughter of John and Ann Hastwell

to have been admitted to Parkside Mental Hospital. Annie was 36 on admission in 1945 and was not discharged until eleven years later. Her last known residence, according to death records, was “Northfield”, where she died aged eighty years. Annie was buried in the West Terrace cemetery, Adelaide, on Christmas Eve, 1954. What a family tragedy.

Meanwhile, John Hastwell had been taken into partnership with brothers James and Ebenezer, and his father James, “*carrying on business as storekeepers, Penfield, Two Wells, and Mallala, under the style or firm of James Hastwell & Sons*”, but business partnerships do not last forever.

South Australian Register (Adelaide, SA: 1839 - 1900), Saturday 21 April 1877, page 2

DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Partnership hitherto existing between JAMES HASTWELL, Senior, JAMES HASTWELL, Junior, EBENEZER HASTWELL, and JOHN HASTWELL, carrying on business as STOREKEEPERS, PENFIELD, TWO WELLS, and MALLALA, under the style or firm of James Hastwell & Sons, was DISSOLVED by mutual consent on the twentieth of March last past, so far as concerns John Hastwell. All Debts due to the firm at Penfield are to be paid to the said John Hastwell; those at Two Wells and Mallala are to be paid to James Hastwell, Senior, James Hastwell, Junior, and Ebenezer Hastwell, who will carry on business at the two last-named places under the firm of James Hastwell & Sons, and by whom all liabilities of the late firm will be discharged.

Dated this 18th day of April, 1877.

JAMES HASTWELL, Sen.

JAMES HASTWELL, Jnr.

EBENEZER HASTWELL.;

JOHN HASTWELL.

Witness to the signatures of James Hastwell,

Sen., James Hastwell, Jun., Ebenezer Hastwell,

and John Hastwell — H. W. Phillips.

The following year John and Ann’s gift for New Year’s Day of 1878 was another daughter, Lily Madeline.

In early December 1878, a South Australian Advertiser article reported “... *Two residents of this township had a very narrow escape from drowning on a Sunday evening two or three weeks since, in a large and deep creek at St Kilda Beach. If it had not been for the prompt exertions and presence of mind of Mr John Hastwell of Penfield both men would no doubt have been downed, as they had both sunk several times before Mr Hastwell rescued them from their perilous*

position. Mr Hastwell is certainly deserving of the Humane Society's medal for his brave conduct. Both men were unable to swim, and it appears that one jumped in to save the other."

I can imagine the pride and relief of John's parents as James and Mary Ann wrote the following letter to their son John on 13th December 1878. "Dear John, Yours to hand this morning was welcome it gave both mother and Self great pleasure to find that you had been the means of saving life and in doing so, you shewed great presence of mind. We think with the writer of the Newspaper Article that you should obtain the medal from the Humane Society. Glad to find you were all well as this leaves us and we remain yours affectionately M & J Hastwell."

However, as John's grandson Sydney Hastwell noted in his "Hastwell Family History" (1993), "Unfortunately there is no record of any award being given by either Royal Humane Society or the Royal Life Savings Society."



A few weeks after John's heroic rescue episode, he and Ann lost baby Lily on 9th January 1879. She was just twelve months and eight days old.

This photo of Ann, (courtesy Graeme C. Hastwell) although a very poor copy, shows her expression to be wistful or sad, and her clothing and headgear appears to be black. Was she in mourning for her lost child?

Their lives moved on, however, and two years later on 20th January 1881 another son was born, Alfred Ernest Hastwell.

Sadly, John's life was again disrupted when he lost his wife Ann. Only 42, she died on 3rd March, 1883, leaving two year old Alfred motherless.

Cusfield Dec 13/78

Dear John
 Yours to hand this morning
 was welcome it gave both mother
 and Self great pleasure to
 find that you had been the
 means of saving life and in
 doing so you shewed great presence
 of mind we think with the
 writer of the newspaper Article
 that you should obtain the
 medal from the Humane Society
 Glad to find you were all
 well as this leaves us
 and remain
 Yours Affectionately
 M & J Hastwell

James & Mary Anne's letter to their son John

Now John was a widower with five children – Edith 14, John Rupert 13, Maud 11, Annie 9 and 2 year old Alfred Ernest, the baby of the family. It appears that between 1880 and 1885 John had looked after the Penfield Store – at that time a significant sixty foot long establishment. Most general goods were stocked, but many farmers only settled their accounts annually, and this caused some liquidity problems.

Three years after losing his wife, John's father James died at Hoyleton on the 2nd April 1886, at the home of his son William Henry Hastwell, who was a saddler in that town until 1888. James was buried in the Auburn Cemetery, in the District Council of Clare and Gilbert Valleys. At the time of his father's death, John had a storekeeping business in Mitcham. In 1887-1888 his eldest brother, James Hastwell, who was then in his mid-forties, was managing a store (which had been bought from Mr. M. Marcus) on Warooka Road, Yorketown, South Australia. Sydney Hastwell believed that after the Penfield Store was sold, each of James (Sr.) Hastwell's four sons was said to have received £3,000.

In 1889 John decided to move from Mitcham to Yorke Peninsula to take over the management of James' Yorketown store. Mary Ann Hastwell, John's widowed mother, went with John and the children to Yorketown, where she lived until she died at the age of 77 on the 20th June, 1891. She was buried in Pink Lake Cemetery, Yorketown, next to her grand-daughter baby Olive. "The Pioneer" (Yorketown) on the 1st August 1930, under the headline "Yorketown Town Council Honour Roll – Compiled From Proclamation 1879 - 1930" showed that in 1888 J. Hastwell was a Councillor – evidently John was public-spirited even before he actually moved there.



This period in the state's economy was bad for both business and farming. After his mother died, John Hastwell, undoubtedly thinking it was a good move, sought to establish a storekeeping business at Jeparit, a little town in the mallee country of Victoria where new farming areas were being opened up.

Unfortunately for John, his business suffered from a cash crisis because he was

obliged to grant extended credit to the new settlers. He had to pay 10% interest on the stock he purchased in Melbourne, but although he sold those goods, they were not paid for, and this of course caused extreme financial difficulties.

John's youngest child, Alfred Ernest, was about eleven years old at this time, and went to school in Jeparit. His other four children would have been past school attendance age.

With business disaster looming, John had no option but to sell up. In the Horsham Times (Victoria 1882-1954) on 8th March 1892, tenders were called for the general store and stock in the "rising town of Jeparit, Lake Hindmarsh. Good situation corner of Roy and Charles streets opposite Carrick's Hotel. Stock quite new, about 200 pounds, as per stock sheets at the Banner office, Dimboola, or at the store, Jeparit." Also for sale were a light spring van and horses, and a first-class Schwechtan piano, to be sold "cheap". The advertisement claimed "Satisfactory reasons given for leaving the district" and was signed by John.

TO COUNTRY STOREKEEPERS and Others.

We have been favoured with instructions from Mr. J. Hastwell, the owner, to **SELL** privately his **BUSINESS** at Jeparit.

The stock consists of general drapery, grocery, ironmongery, &c., valued at £210 7s.; also, allotment of land, with store (in which the business is carried on), with dwelling, stabling, &c., valued at £263 3s.

The railway extension to Mildura will shortly be carried out, and now that the new bridge over the Wimmera at Jeparit is completed the township will be one of the principal depôts from which supplies will be drawn for the Wimmera district.

Stock-sheets and all information at our office.

DANBY, SON, and Co., accountants, 52 Elizabeth-street, Melbourne.

Perhaps there was no satisfactory response to this advertisement, because on the 8th June another was printed in the Argus (Melbourne, Vic: 1848-1956) as follows: "To Country Storekeepers and Others – We have been favoured with instructions from Mr J Hastwell the owner, to sell privately his business at Jeparit. The stock consists of general drapery, grocery, ironmongery etc. valued at £210 7s also allotment of land, with store (in which the business is carried on) with dwelling stabling etc valued at £263 3s. The railway extension to Mildura will shortly be carried out and now that the new bridge over the Wimmera at Jeparit is completed, the township will be one of the principal depots from which supplies will be drawn for the Wimmera district." Stock sheets and all information could be inspected at the office of Danby, Son and

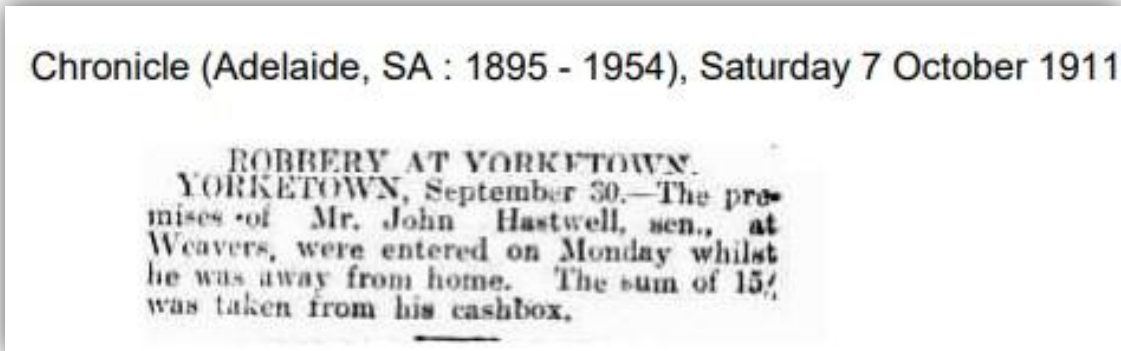


accountants, 53 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne – the authors of the glowing report of John’s business and the town.

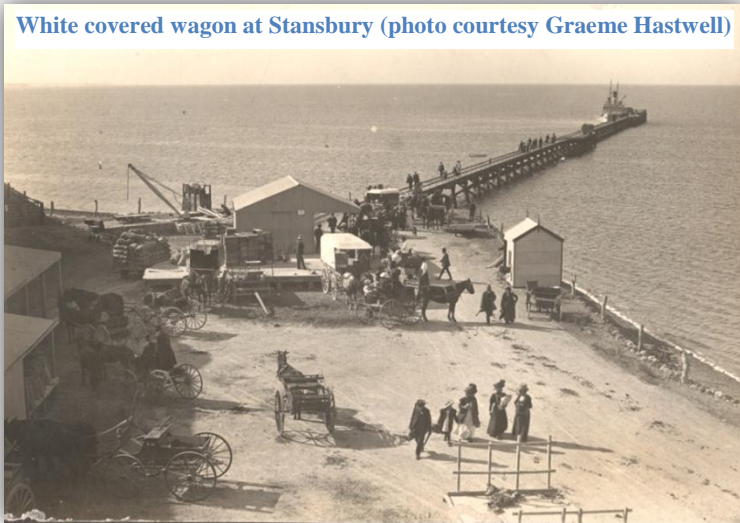
The broader catchment of the city newspaper must have worked, because by 1893, despite that being during the Great Depression, the Jeparit business was finally sold. In March 2022, Graeme Cecil Hastwell, who is John Hastwell’s great-great-grandson, wrote to tell me he had found evidence that the Hastwell store was not sold directly to the Menzies family, as previously thought. The store was first sold to the Rae family, who had a timber yard and hardware business, who then sold it to a Sydney Sampson, who sold it to his brother-in-law James Menzies, father of the late Hon. R. G. Menzies, Prime Minister of Australia from 1949 to 1966. This information was in The Jeparit Leader of Wednesday, March 30, 1955 which ran a series of articles on Jeparit's early history.

After the Jeparit sale John returned to South Australia and for about five years, until 1898, he operated a drapery business from a shop in Ellen Street, Port Pirie. Alfred evidently attended school in that town.

Hastwell then returned to Yorketown where he lived in an old house on farming property owned by his son Alfred Ernest’s father-in-law, Mr. Latty, near Weaver’s Lagoon, eleven kilometres from Yorketown.



In chronicling the many Hastwell histories I have found that apparently a disproportionate number of break-ins, robberies, accidents and frauds have beset the family name over the years, and John was not immune from the problem, as reported in 1911 in the Adelaide Chronicle. I wonder if he ever got his fifteen shillings back!

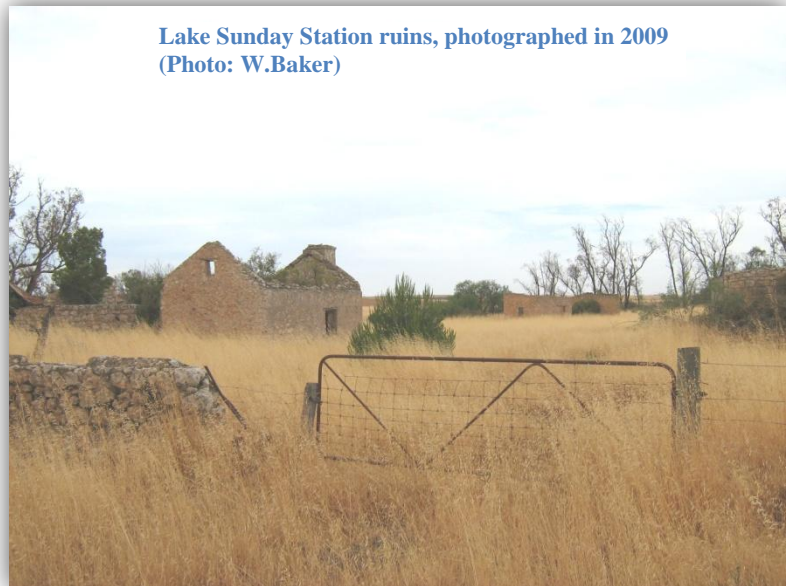


Sydney Hastwell, in ‘The Hastwell Family History in South Australia’, wrote “From this point he (John Hastwell) used to meet the ketches arriving at Stansbury, [Yorke Peninsula] and conduct a fruiterer’s round selling his wares to the farming community from an old covered-in horse-drawn wagon.”

John's son, 22 year old John Rupert Hastwell married Frances Lloyd in 1897 at Yorketown. Over the next fifteen years their family grew. Elsie May, Olive Myrtle, Leslie Rupert, Edith Marjery, Doris Vera Annie, Reginald Gordon, Gracie Irene and Claude Balfour – eight grandchildren for John. Sadly, they lost little Olive Myrtle when she was only six months old. Olive was buried in Pink Lake Cemetery, south of Yorketown.



The place of death was given as “near Lake Sunday”, Yorke Peninsula. The Lake Sunday Station ruins are the closest to the place of her death that I have been able to find.



In mid-February 1915 John's son Alfred enlisted in the Australian Employ Coy for WW1. He gave his age as 34½ years, his trade as “Labourer” and his address as being Penfield Nr. Gawler. On his Attestation Paper he stated his next of kin as his father Mr John Hastwell of Yorketown.

After twenty-odd years working on his fruiterer's round at Stansbury, in 1924 John was suffering from a hemiplegia that affected his voice and throat. This is a muscle weakness, or partial paralysis, on one side of the body that can affect the facial muscles, which must have happened in John's case.

He lived for a year with his son and his wife, Alfred Ernest and Ivy Rachel Hastwell (nee Latty). At this stage, in about 1927, they had three children – Cecil Alfred, about eight years old, Sydney John, about six, and Claudia May, about two. (Their fourth child, Ivy Gwendoline was not born until 1929.)



John's son Alfred Ernest & wife Ivy Rachel Latty, in their older years. (Photo: Courtesy Graeme C. Hastwell)

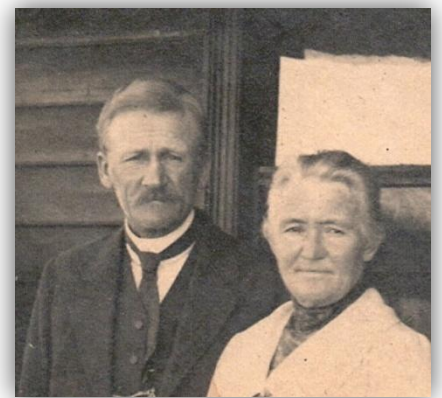
Alfred's elder brother, John Rupert, was listed in 1903 in the S.A. State Directory as "teacher No. 379" at Yorketown. Seven of he and Frances' eight children were born variously at Yorketown, Weaver's Lagoon, and Dalrymple, all on Yorke Peninsula. Their eighth child Claude Balfour was a late arrival, born in 1912 - seven years after Gracie Irene.

Was he born on Yorke Peninsula? – or after the family moved to Broken Hill? The family lived there at 334 Morgan Lane.

In about 1928 John Hastwell sr. moved from Alfred Ernest's home to John Rupert Hastwell's home in Broken Hill. He lived there for a year with John Rupert and Frances (Fanny) and children. By that time at least three of the children were married and had moved away. Fanny's own family were still living at Yorketown.



John Rupert & Fanny (nee Lloyd) c.1914 at Broken Hill. Daughter Edith Marjery on John's left, Claude Balfour (b.1912) & visiting little girl in front. (Photo Courtesy Graeme C. Hastwell)



John's son, John Rupert & wife

Perhaps it was becoming too difficult to care for John with his impending dementia, because by about 1929 he left his son's household and stayed with friends for a while.

Eventually, the ageing John was admitted to the Home for Incurables, forerunner of the old Julia Farr Centre at Fullarton. With the partial paralysis he must have been unable to care for himself.



On the 16th June 1932 John Hastwell passed away, aged 85 years, after spending three or four years at the Home. The cause of death was “Senile Cardiac Vascular Degeneration and old Hemiplegia”.

Sadly, no headstone exists, but he is buried in West Terrace cemetery, Adelaide in the Eyre Section, Path 24, Lot 31E (East Side).

John Hastwell 1847-1932 (Photo aged abt.75.) Courtesy Graham C. Hastwell.

Burial site, West Tce (Photo courtesy Graeme C. Hastwell)



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**Acknowledgements:**

*NLA Trove Newspapers* – Newspaper extracts pages 9, 12 and 13

*Sydney John Hastwell* - “The Hastwell Family History in South Australia” July 1993

*Graeme Cecil Hastwell* – Photos as captioned & colour photos pgs. 7 & 8 of Ann Wheatley & John Hastwell

*SLSA* – Photos PRG 280/1/41/16 and PRG 280/1/3/241

*Peter K. Hastwell* – photograph of cut-glass

*Jeparit and District Historical Society*