|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Husband** | **Richard Shumack** | |  |
| Birth | Dec. 22, 1816 | Kilfinane, County Limerick, Ireland |
| Baptism | Dec. 22, 1816 | Church of Ireland, Parish of Kilfinane, County Limerick, Ireland |
| Marriage | Oct. 13, 1840 | Rathkeale, County Limerick, Ireland |
| Immigration | Aug. 31, 1856 | Sydney, NSW, Australia  aboard "Bermondsey" |
| Death | Oct. 9, 1887 | "Round Hill Farm" Parish of Weetangera, (now ACT), Australia  late of Round Hill Farm, Weetangera. see Sydney Morning Herald 2 Jan 1888 |
| Burial | Oct. 11, 1887 | St John's Church of England churchyard, Reid, ACT, Australia. Section D Row 1 Grave 213 |
| Other Wife | **Eastern Jane (Oslem J in marriage index) Shumack [Armstrong]** | |
| Parents | **Peter Shoemaker** (**Jacob**3, **John**2, **Bartholomew**1) and **Elizabeth Shoemaker [Fitzelle]** | |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Wife** | **Anne Shumack [Shoemaker]** | |  |
| Birth | 1821 | Rathkeale, County Limerick, Ireland |
| Immigration | Aug. 31, 1856 | Sydney, NSW, Australia  aboard "Bermondsey" |
| Death | May 30, 1873 | "Springvale" Parish of Weetangera, (now ACT), Australia |
| Burial | Jun. 2, 1873 | St John's Church of England churchyard, Reid, ACT, Australia. Section D Row 1 Grave 214 |
| Other Husbands |  | |
| Parents | **George Shoemaker** (**Daniel**3, **John**2, **Bartholomew**1) and **Catherine Shoemaker [Smeltzer]** (**Peter**1) | |

|  |
| --- |
| **Children** |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | **Elizabeth Shumack** | |  |
| Gender | Female | |
| Birth | 1842 | Buttevant, County Cork, Ireland |
| Immigration | Aug. 31, 1856 | Sydney, NSW, Australia  aboard "Bermondsey" |
| Husband |  | |
| Marriage |  |  |
| Death | Dec. 30, 1876 | "Round Hill Farm", Round Hill (now Mt Painter), Parish of Weetangerra (now Cook), ACT, Australia |
| Burial |  | St John's Church of England churchyard, Reid, ACT, Australia. Section D Row 1 Grave 212 |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2 | **Margaret Shumack** | |  |
| Gender | Female | |
| Birth | May 9, 1844 | Buttevant, County Cork, Ireland |
| Immigration | Aug. 31, 1856 | Sydney, NSW, Australia  aboard "Bermondsey" |
| Husband | **Richard Shumack** | |
| Marriage | May 29, 1868 | Christ Church (CofE), Queanbeyan, NSW, Australia  Ref: NSW 3233/1868 Shumack m. Shumack (Cousins) |
| Death | Jul. 19, 1938 | "Tolldale" Ainslie (now Lyneham), ACT, Australia  Ref: ACT 20000366 |
| Burial |  | St John's Church of England churchyard, Reid, ACT, Australia. Section D Row 2 Grave 442 |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 3 | **John Shumack** | |  |
| Gender | Male | |
| Birth | 1847 | Buttevant, County Cork, Ireland. |
| Immigration | Aug. 31, 1856 | Sydney, NSW, Australia  aboard "Bermondsey" |
| Wife | **Mary Maria Shumack [Read]** | |
| Marriage | Mar. 15, 1882 | St. John's Church of England, Reid, ACT, Australia |
| Death | May 25, 1896 | Round Hill (now Mt Painter), Parish of Weetangerra (now Cook), ACT, Australia |
| Burial |  | St. John's Church of England churchyard, Reid, ACT, Australia. Section D Row 2 Grave 183 |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 4 | **Samuel Shumack** | |  |
| Gender | Male | |
| Birth | Jul. 18, 1850 | Mallow, County Cork, Ireland |
| Education |  | Apart from a little tuition, he did not attend school until he was 14 years old. In 1865 he attended Ginninderra School for 6 weeks. Up until then he could not write but could read well. |
| Immigration | Aug. 31, 1856 | Sydney, NSW, Australia  aboard "Bermondsey" departed Ireland 29 May 1856 |
| Author |  | An autobiography; or tales and legends of Canberra pioneers, ANU Press, 1967 |
| Residence | 1893 | "Springvale" parish of Weetangerra (now Cook, ACT, Australia) |
| Residence |  | "Rangaweeta" Ravensworth (near Singleton), NSW, Australia |
| Wife | **Sarah Shumack [Winter]** | |
| Marriage | Jun. 14, 1893 | St John's Church of England, Duntroon, NSW (now Reid, ACT), Australia |
| Death | Apr. 5, 1940 | "Springdale" Isaac Street, Peakhurst, NSW, Australia in home of his daughter Jemima (Mrs Frank Barnes) |
| Obituary | Apr. 10, 1940 | Canberra Times |
| Burial |  | St John's Church of England churchyard, Reid, ACT, Australia. Section D Row 1 Grave 212a |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 5 | **Peter Shumack** | |  |
| Gender | Male | |
| Wife |  | |
| Marriage |  |  |
| Death | 1853 | Doneraile, County Cork, Ireland  Deceased infant |
| Birth | Sep. 26, 1853 | Doneraile, County Cork, Ireland |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 6 | **Phoebe Anna Blundell [Shumack]** | |  |
| Gender | Female | |
| Birth | Dec. 4, 1857 | "Duntroon", NSW (now ACT), Australia.  Ref: NSW 10659/1857 |
| Baptism | Dec. 27, 1857 | St John's Church of England, Reid, ACT, Australia |
| Husband | **Abraham Blundell** | |
| Marriage | Aug. 22, 1877 | St. John's Church of England, Canberra, ACT, Australia.  Ref: NSW 4198/1877 |
| Husband |  | |
| Widowed |  |  |
| Husband | **John Blundell** | |
| Marriage |  |  |
| Death | Apr. 1, 1943 | Tumut and District Hospital, NSW, Australia  Ref: NSW 13525/1943 |
| Burial |  | Tumut General Cemetery, NSW, Australia |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 7 | **Emily Blundell [Shumack]** | |  |
| Gender | Female | |
| Birth | Jun. 11, 1860 | "Emu Bank" (now Belconnen, ACT), Australia  Ref: NSW 11517/1860 current location: forecourt of Belconnen Library |
| Alternate Birth | Nov. 1860 |  |
| Baptism | Dec. 23, 1860 | St John's Church of England, Reid, ACT, Australia |
| Husband | **Isaac Blundell** | |
| Marriage | Oct. 20, 1882 | St John's Church of England, Reid, ACT, Australia |
| Death | Mar. 25, 1927 | Surveyor Street, Queanbeyan, NSW, Australia (at home)  Ref: NSW 4327/1927 |
| Burial | Mar. 26, 1927 | St John's Church of England churchyard, Reid, ACT, Australia. Section A Row 9 Grave 347 |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 8 | **George Edward Shumack** | |  |
| Gender | Male | |
| Birth | Apr. 23, 1863 | "Emu Bank" Belconnen, ACT, Australia  Ref: NSW 12774/1863 |
| Baptism | Jun. 14, 1863 | St John's Church of England, Reid, ACT, Australia |
| Wife | **Isabella (Bella) Shumack [Winter], II** | |
| Marriage | Feb. 1888 | St John's Church of England, Reid, ACT, Australia  Ref: NSW 7109/1888 |
| Residence | May 10, 1919 | "Kenilworth" Yass River Road, Yass, NSW, Australia  bought property from Abraham Patrick Wade |
| Death | Feb. 3, 1937 | "Kenilworth" 261 Kirkton Road, Marchmont, Yass, NSW, Australia  Ref: NSW 3868/1937 at Yass, NSW see Sydney Morning Herald 5 Feb 1937 |
| Burial |  | St John's Church of England churchyard, Reid, ACT, Australia, Section D Row 1 Grave 647 |

**Notes on Richard Shumack**

Richard Shumack was born in Kilfinane, Limerick in 1816, the son of Peter Shumacher and Elizabeth (nee Fitzelle). He married his cousin Anne Shoemaker in Rathkeale, Limerick in 1840. They travelled to Australia as bounty migrants with their children in 1856 aboard the Bermondsey. He first worked for the Campbells at Duntroon before moving across to a position at Palmerville estate for William Davis (junior), where they lived at Emu Bank (in modern Belconnen Town Centre, close to the Belconnen Public Library). Emu Bank was one a number of 'outstations' on the extensive Ginninderra estate. With his son Samuel he eventually selected land at Weetangerra, where they built Springvale homestead. Samuel and John would work for William Davis during the day, then get on with building there future home Samuel later recorded: William Davis - who was father’s employer and the squatter on whose land we selected - has 20,000 acres, excluding some thousands of acres of Crown land for which he paid very little, yet he resented our efforts to strike out for ourselves and laughed at what he derisively called ‘Shumack’s Folly’. ‘Three years’, he said, ‘will see Shumack and his family sadder and wiser, for shortage of water will drive them out.’ His prophecy miscarried! Although the area was in the grip of drought they found the property had a waterhole that never went dry, and through hard work they transformed Springvale into a flourishing farm. Despite droughts and flooding rains they grew wheat, raised cattle and pigs, and were able to expand their holding. It was not until 1881 that farmers built dams in this region to store water. At Easter 1869 William Davis gave the Shumacks notice to quit Emu Bank, and the family from then on lived together at Springvale. Joseph Hall moved into Emu Bank. Anne died in 1873. They had had eight children together. Richard remarried seven years later at Gunning to Eastern Jane Armstrong with whom he was to have another five children. He died in 1887 and is buried at St Johns in Reid. Samuel Shumack married Sarah Winter in 1893. They lived at Springvale Homestead until their land was resumed in 1915, when they moved to the Hunter Valley. Springvale homestead was still standing in 1957. Cook Primary School was later built on Samuel's land. Children playing on the school oval found it became very boggy after rain. Could this be the site of Samuels waterhole? The site of Springvale is marked by a heritage sign on a bike path between Redfern Street and Biffin Street in Cook. The homestead is commemorated in the naming of Springvale Drive, and Richard in the naming of Shumack Street, Weetangera.

Lyall Gillespie notes: Died 9.10.1887 buried 11.10.1887 aged 72 years farmer Weetangera. Burial Register St John’s Church Canberra. SHUMACK, RICHARD Samuel Shumack’s father. With his wife Ann and children, Elizabeth, Margaret, John and Samuel he migrated to Australia in 1856. The family came on the barque Bermondsey arriving Sydney 21.8.1856. Mr George Campbell hired Shumack as a station hand on arrival and the family came to Duntroon. Shumack’s Tales & Legends. Page 1

**Notes on Anne Shumack [Shoemaker]**

Anne was born in Ireland c. 1821. Her parents were George and Catherine Shoemaker. At Rathkeale in Ireland in 1840 she married Richard Shumack. Her new surname, therefore, was a version of her own maiden name, as Shumack is derived from ‘Shoemaker’. They were second cousins. Anne was to have seven children with Richard: three born in the Canberra district after their arrival as bounty migrants on the Bermondsey in August 1856. Her son, Samuel, recorded the events of their arrival in his recollections. We saw the Canberra Plain for the first time … from a point close to where Wells Station homestead now stands … Our journey from Sydney occupied three weary weeks, and we were happy to rest as guests of my Uncle John’s wife and family [in modern-day Reid]. At first the Shumacks worked for the Campbells at Duntroon, before Richard was employed by William Davis (junior) at Palmerville estate. They lived at Emu Bank, but eventually selected their own plot at Weetangerra, which they named Springvale. Samuel reported the tension with Davis concerning their decision to take advantage of the 1861 land reforms and to become free selectors. He wrote: William Davis - who was father’s employer and the squatter on whose land we selected - has 20,000 acres, excluding some thousands of acres of Crown land for which he paid very little, yet he resented our efforts to strike out for ourselves and laughed at what he derisively called ‘Shumack’s Folly’. ‘Three years’, he said, ‘will see Shumack and his family sadder and wiser, for shortage of water will drive them out.’ His prophecy miscarried! Anne died in 1873. Richard remarried seven years later to Eastern Jane Armstrong. He died in 1887.

Lyall Gillespie notes: Anne Shumack wife of Richard Shumack (Springvale) died 30.5.1873 aged 52 years. Buried 2.6.1873 at St John’s Cemetery Rev PG Smith officiating. Address: Ginninderra.   
Burials Register St John’s Church Canberra.

**Notes on Elizabeth Shumack**

Lyall Gillespie notes: Elizabeth Shumack daughter of Richard and Ann Shumack died 29.12.1876 (burning) aged 33 years. Buried St John’s Cemetery Canberra Rev PG Smith officiating.   
Register of Deaths Registrar’s Office Queanbeyan

**Notes on Margaret Shumack**

Lyall Gillespie notes:

The death occurred on Sunday of Mrs Margaret Shumack widow of the late Richard Shumack at her home ‘Tolldale’ Ainslie whence she went as a bride seventy years ago. Mrs Shumack is survived by three sons and three daughters, Richard John (Harden), Samuel Charles (Sydney), and Arthur (Ainslie) being the sons and Nina (Mrs D Blyton Cooma), Stella (Mrs LS Blyton Cooma), and Miss Edina the daughters. Two daughters, Mesdames Piratta and Hamilton predeceased their mother.   
Queanbeyan Age 21.6.1938

The death occurred on Sunday of Mrs Margaret Shumack widow of the late Richard Shumack at her residence ‘Tolldale’ Ainslie where she went as a bride seventy years ago. A native of County Cork Ireland Mrs Shumack came to Australia in 1856 with her parents and settled at Duntroon. The late Mrs Shumack had attained the great age of 94. Her husband died in 1931 three years after the celebration of their diamond wedding. Mr and Mrs Shumack were second cousins and their marriage took place in May 1868 at Christ Church Queanbeyan, the marriage being solemnised by Rev AD Soares then rector of Queanbeyan.   
  
It was in 1865 that Richard Shumack selected a farm at Ainslie and by his own labour he erected the home to which he brought his bride in 1868 though actually it was a cabin of one room that the bride came to share with her husband…Mr Shumack added to the cabin to make it a small but comfortable cottage and in that home Mrs Shumack lived until her death even though a modern cottage was built on the property some years ago…   
Mrs Shumack is survived by three sons and three daughters, Richard John (Harden), Samuel Charles (Sydney), and Arthur (Ainslie) being the sons and Nina (Mrs D Blyton Cooma), Stella (Mrs LS Blyton Cooma), and Miss Edina the daughters. Her unmarried children Arthur and Miss Edina devoted themselves to their mother in her declining years. Two daughters, Mesdames Piratta and Hamilton predeceased their mother. Twenty two grandchildren and fourteen great grandchildren also survive. Mrs PA Blundell of Tumut and Mr Sam Shumack of Peakhurst are a sister and brother of Mrs Shumack. Archdeacon Robertson conducted the funeral service in St John’s Church and at the graveside.   
Queanbeyan Age 21.6.1938

**Notes on John Shumack**

John Shumack was the son of Richard Shumack and Ann (nee Shoemaker). He was born in Ireland in 1847. Aged nine, he migrated with his parents as bounty migrants on the Bermondsey in August 1856. The Shumacks eventually worked at Palmerville estate and resided at Emu Bank, before settling on their own selection at ‘Springvale’ in Weetangerra. John’s brother was the early historian of the region, Samuel Shumack, whose recollections preserve a number of stories in which John appears with his brother. In his youth he worked as a shearer throughout NSW. In 1882 John married Mary Maria Read, the daughter of Hugh Read and Eliza (nee Shumack) of Tallagandra. She appears to have been his first cousin, once removed, as Mary was the granddaughter of his uncle John Shumack and Margaret (nee O’Toole), who had settled on land near St Johns, Reid. John and Mary had six children together. At first, they boarded with John’s brother, Samuel, but eventually contracted a builder named Parker to construct their own timber house at Weetangerra. He was an innovative farmer. In 1891 he sowed a patch of Farrer’s new wheat and helped Farrer prove that his strain was rust-free. Tragedy soon struck the young family of Shumacks. His brother recalled: Their daughter Sophia, who was three years of age, fell into a tub of boiling water and died within a few hours. In February 1891 twins were born - Marian and Henry. Henry died on 20 November 1891, and the mother six days later. Thus in three months three members of the family passed away. Mary had died aged only 28 years. John’s death was also premature. He died in 1896 at the age of 49 from pneumonia contracted, it is said, after getting wet when ploughing.

Lyall Gillespie notes:   
About 1887 I [Samuel Shumack] assisted brother John to build a house on his land and a man named W Parker constructed the pine ceiling. John and his wife and children, Ann, Elizabeth, Walter and Sophia now moved into their new house, where misfortune fell upon them. Their daughter Sophia who was three years of age fell into a tub of boiling water and died within a few hours. In February 1891 twins were born, Marion and Henry. Henry died on 20 November 1891 and the mother six days later. Thus in three months three members of the family passed away. My sister Margaret now acted as the Good Samaritan and took the four motherless children to her home while John came back to live with me. This continued until June 1893 when I married Sarah Winter daughter of John Winter of Red Hill. John’s children Ann, Eliza and Walter then came to live with their father in my home.   
Shumack’s Tales & Legends page 114

It is my painful duty this week to have to record the death of one of our most respected residents Mr John Shumack of Round Hill after an illness of only five days. It appears that the deceased whilst engaged in ploughing was caught in a shower of rain. Having neglected to change his clothes he took a severe cold which developed into pneumonia, from which he died notwithstanding the efforts of two local doctors. Deceased was a quiet reserved man and well respected. He leaves I believe four children, his wife having died during the influenza epidemic. The funeral of the late Mr Shumack took place on Wednesday last the remains being interred in the grounds of St John’s Church Canberra.   
Queanbeyan Age 30.5.1896

**Notes on Samuel Shumack**

Canberra Times (ACT : 1926 - 1995), Wednesday 10 April 1940, page 3 OBITUARY. .  
Mr. Samuel Shumack The death at Peakhurst on Saturday last of Mr. Samuel Shumack, aged 89 years, removes another link with the pioneering days of the Canberra district, and at the funeral at St. John's Churchyard (Canberra) on Monday, many old identities paid tribute to a man who, by the strength of his character and sterling personality, had been held in high respect by the people of old and new Canberra. Samuel Shumack was born in County Cork, Ireland, in 1850, and arrived at Duntroon with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Shumack, when six years of age. The family travelled from Sydney, in a horse drawn waggon, the journey taking three weeks. After receiving an elementary education at the old St. John's Church school, the buildings of which still stand in the grounds adjoining the church, Samuel Shumack turned his attention to farming. The parents and their seven children established a new home at "Emu Bank," Ginninderra Creek, where Mr. Richard Shumack had taken up a selection. Some years later Mr. Samuel Shumack took up land at "Spring Vale," in the area known as Round Hill at Weetangerra. Here he married Sarah Winter, a daughter of the late Mr and Mrs. John Winter, of Red Hill, Canberra. Eight children, all of whom survive, were born at Weetangerra. They are Jemima (Mrs. F. H. Barnes, of Peakhurst). Ruth (Mrs. McDonald, Bowral ), Clementina, and Eileen, Messrs. Everest (Singleton), David (Sydney), Hebert (Maitland). and Stephen (Sydney). The four sons acted as pall-bearers at the Church. In the early days. Samuel Shumack took a leading part in local cricket, being a member of the famous Gininderra XI. With other members of the team he frequently rode long distances to take part in matches, and was an authority on cricket lore, particularly as regards early-day cricket and cricketers. For many years he was a worshipper at St. John's Church, and acted as a Church Warden. When his land was resumed by the Commonwealth Government in 1915 Samuel Shumack moved to Singleton and of late years had resided with his daughter, Mrs. Barnes, at Peakhurst. The only surviving member of his family of seven brothers and sisters is Mrs. P. A. Blundell, of Tumut district, who, with her husband, established their farm in the little valley on the Canberra-Brindabella road, which to this day is known as Blundell's Orchard. The chief mourners at the funeral were the widow, four sons, and daughter (Mrs. McDonald). The service was conducted by Canon Sherris, who said the late Samuel Shumack was one of a band of pioneers whose monuments would remain in the form of flourishing farms and towns throughout the district. The present generation owed a great debt to the pioneers. Many beautiful floral tributes were placed on the grave.

Lyall Gillespie notes:   
The burial took place yesterday afternoon in the cemetery of the Anglican Church of St John the Baptist Canberra of Samuel Shumack one of the oldest pioneers of the district. Born in County Cork in 1850 he arrived at Duntroon with his parents at the age of six the trip from Sydney per horse dray taking three weeks. At an early age Mr Shumack selected land of his own and prospered his home at ‘Spring Vale’ Weetangera being renowned for its hospitality. Gifted with a wonderful memory he contributed many articles to the ‘Age’ on the early days at Canberra under the name of ‘Old Identity’. An omnivorous reader he amassed a library of over 2000 volumes. In 1898 [sic 1893] he married Sarah Winter a daughter of the late Mr and Mrs John Winter of Red Hill, Canberra. There were eight children of the marriage all of whom survive. An enthusiastic cricketer he took a leading part in the game in the Federal Territory until his land was resumed by the Federal Government in 1915 when he moved to Singleton. Of late years he had resided with his daughter Mrs FH Barnes of Peakhurst. A man of strict moral character he was highly respected by all who knew him and a large circle of friends in all walks of life will mourn his passing.

Queanbeyan Age 9.4.1940

Lyall Gillespie notes:   
Advertisement – Clearing out sale Spring Vale Weetangera WE Oldfield has received instruction on 16.10.1915(?) from Samuel Shumack Esq. Queanbeyan Age 15.10.1915

Mr WE Oldfield reports having conducted a most successful sale at Weetangera on Saturday of Mr Shumack’s household furniture and effects farming implements and stock.   
Queanbeyan Age 19.10.1915

**Notes on Phoebe Anna Blundell [Shumack]**

Lyall Gillespie notes: Daughter Phoebe Anna born to Richard Shumack labourer and Anne Shumack of Duntroon on 4.12.1857 and baptised 27.12.1857 by Rev PG Smith.   
Register of Baptisms St John’s Church Canberra.

**Notes on Emily Blundell [Shumack]**

Lyall Gillespie notes: Daughter Emily born to Richard Shumack shepherd and Anne Shumack of Gininderra in November 1860 and baptised 23.12.1860 by Rev PG Smith.   
Register of Baptisms St John’s Church Canberra.

**Notes on George Edward Shumack**

Lyall Gillespie notes: Son George Edward born to Richard Shumack shepherd and Anne Shumack of Gininderra on 23.4.1863 and baptised 14.6.1863 by Rev PG Smith.   
Register of Baptisms St John’s Church Canberra.

Weetangera – We regret to report that Mr GE Shumack of ‘The Apiary’ is seriously ill in Queanbeyan Hospital.   
Queanbeyan Age 12.8.1921

Mr WE Oldfield has received instruction from George Shumack Esq who is leaving the district to sell by public auction at his residence Weetangera on Saturday March 4th at 11 o’clock sharp the whole of his furniture and effects also farming plant and live stock.   
Queanbeyan Age 18.2.1916

A Weetangera correspondent writes:- Mr Geo E Shumack has returned to reside at his old homestead at Weetangera. On the acquisition of his property by the Federal Government our old resident sought fresh fields and pastures new and purchased a property in the Tamworth district. This he has sold and is once more settled among his friends in the district.   
Queanbeyan Age 20.6.1916

SHUMACK GEORGE EDWARD Buried St John’s Cemetery with the Anglican members of his family.   
Lyndsay Gardener’s Witness in Stone page 22

Son in law of John Winter, attended St Ninian’s [Presbyterian] Church occasionally because of the proximity of his holding behind Black Mountain. Remained an Anglican – wife’s name Isabella.   
Lyndsay Gardener’s Witness in Stone pages 24 & 25

Died 1937 aged 73 brother of Samuel and John.   
Lyndsay Gardener’s Witness in Stone page 61