



The University of Newcastle

History Club

Department of History

STUDENT RESEARCH PAPERS
IN
AUSTRALIAN HISTORY

No 4

1979

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THE UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE

HISTORY CLUB

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PREFACE

This issue continues the practice, begun in 1976, of publishing the best original research papers done in the Australian History course. The series is now well established as a useful contribution, particularly to the history of Newcastle and its environs. Students are encouraged to work with primary sources from the University Archives, the City Archives, local collections up and down the Hunter Valley and private documentation that may surface during their searches.

This year students were offered a three-fold choice: to find their own primary research topic, to use a given set of primary documentation (e.g. The Bigge Report, the Newcastle Morning Herald) to answer a specific question, or to do a conventional assignment based largely on secondary sources. The four papers offered this year are from the first two categories. They represent some, though not all of the most original and best presented studies. Other papers which we did not have room to publish, but which deserve special mention were:

Susan Bentley	The Life and Times of 'Mona Vale'
Cathy Berecny	The Effectiveness of Newcastle as a Place of Punishment and Rehabilitation
Doug Cassidy	The Fight to Survive: The Great Depression in Newcastle 1930-33
Mark Clement	Socialism in Newcastle: The Elections of 1885 and 1895
Stephen Dunn	The Impact of the 1843 Depression on Hunter Valley Living Standards: An Examination of the <u>Maitland Mercury</u> .
Toni Flanagan	The Coal Monopolies held by the Crown and the A.A. Company in New South Wales
Eva Higgs	Security and Newcastle in the War of 1914-1918
Leonard Notaras	The Effectiveness of Newcastle as a Place of Punishment and Rehabilitation
Anne Pill	Cooks Hill: Its Contribution to the Development of Newcastle
Janelle Redmond	Beginnings of a Town: Life in the Cessnock District 1900-1906
Kim Tait	The Decline of the Lake Macquarie Aborigines in the early Nineteenth Century
Mark Watchorn	Camden Haven 1870-1930

All the local history papers, as with those of previous years, are available for public perusal in the Local History Collection of the Newcastle Public Library.

John Turner, Margaret Henry, Peter Hempenstall

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THE CONVICT BUSHRANGING ERA IN THE HUNTER VALLEY

BY

PAT HAMPTON

SYNOPSIS

Bushranging began in the Hunter Valley shortly after its early settlement, the earliest bushrangers being runaways from the penal settlement at Newcastle. Many assigned servants also absconded and joined the ranks of the bushrangers. Most of the runaways who took to the bush were forced to take up bushranging in order to survive. Over the years numerous gangs formed and harassed the Valley settlers but their careers were short-lived. Most were captured or killed; a few managed to evade pursuit and escape into other districts. The only gang which was at large for an extended period of time was the 'Jewboy' Davis gang that terrorised the Valley in 1839 and 1840. John Shea, a member of this gang, was responsible for the only known case of murder during the early convict bushranging era in the Hunter Valley, that of John Graham at Scone in December, 1840. Shea and five other members of the 'Jewboy' gang were captured within twenty four hours of Graham's murder and all six were later hanged in March, 1841. After the capture of this gang, large-scale bushranging ceased in the Hunter Valley for many years, until the rise of the new 'breed' of bushrangers, the 'wild colonial boys' of the Gold Rush days.

There were two major bushranging eras in the colony of New South Wales, the first of which began during the early years of the colony¹ and lasted until the 1840s, the second spanning the period from the Gold Rushes to the 1870s. There were significant differences between these two eras. In the earlier period the great majority of bushrangers were convicts who had taken to the bush to escape the harsh discipline and conditions of penal settlements or assigned service. Having cut themselves off from other means of subsistence, many of these escapees were forced to take up bushranging in order to survive. Those of the second period, on the other hand, were mostly 'wild colonial boys' lured into bushranging by the prospect of easy gains, in a later, more affluent period in the colony.

Bushranging began in the Hunter Valley shortly after settlement of the Wallis and Paterson Plains districts, and the first bushrangers were convicts who absconded from the Newcastle penal settlement. Unfortunately little information concerning these earliest bushrangers has survived. Some are known to have existed for months in the bush on the meat of kangaroos killed by dogs stolen from the Hunter River settlers. However, survival became much more difficult when the Newcastle commandant, Major Morisset, ordered all kangaroo dogs in the Valley killed, in order to discourage escape attempts.² Other runaways were killed by aborigines; some undoubtedly starved to death; many were forced to give themselves up after suffering dreadful hardships.³ One surviving fragment of evidence which gives some indication of the privations and misery endured by many of these early bushrangers is a letter written in 1819 by John Slater to his wife in England. Slater, a former Norwich silk weaver who was a convict at Newcastle, wrote:

"A man by the name of Creig actually asserts that when he made a similar effort to extricate himself from this state of bondage he came to a spot where he beheld, leaning against a tree, the skeleton of a man with a musket by his side, also against the tree, and which he supposed to be a 'bush ranger' like himself. Many are compelled from hunger to give themselves up, and frequently so starved (are they) that they can scarce crawl upon their hands and knees to the happy spot of a dungeon".⁴

Apparently the likely fate that awaited them failed to deter the convicts from taking to the bush and Major Morisset continued to be plagued by runaways. In 1819 he complained of numerous escapes, including one party of seven who absconded from the limeburners' camp on the 7th February, 1819 and began to harass the settlers at Paterson's Plains.⁵ Pursuing soldiers eventually caught up with this group and in the skirmish that followed one escapee was killed and four others recaptured.⁶ Escapes became even more numerous after the discovery of the inland route to the north and the Hunter Valley through Boottee (Putty) and the Parsons Road (the track through Wollombi). In 1821 Morisset reported increasing numbers of desertions⁷ and complained that "the military and bush constables at Newcastle have had a great deal of extra duty in the bush, following runaways and bushrangers".⁸

By 1825 numerous bands of bushrangers were at large in the Valley and their numbers now included runaways from the new penal settlement at Port Macquarie and also assigned servants who had deserted their posts. Men from Captain Pike's and Commander Ogilvie's Upper Hunter properties joined the bushrangers and large armed parties began to terrorise the settlements, robbing and ill-treating the settlers and burning their homes.⁹

One particularly daring gang was 'Jacob's Mob', shepherd Patrick Reily (or Reiby) and two other escapees from Mr. Vicars Jacob's property near Luskintyre, who were said to have been later joined by five assigned servants from Mr. Boughton's farm at Paterson's Plains, one from Mr. Cobb's and another from Newcastle.¹⁰ Using horses stolen from James Reid of

Rosebrook by Reily, the three Jacobs men robbed a hut on their employer's farm, then went on to plunder other Upper Hunter properties.¹¹ Four of the gang, Lawrence Cleary, Aaron Price, Patrick Clinch and Patrick Reily, all Jacobs men, were captured in August, 1825 but escaped again, still handcuffed, from the Wallis Plains lock-up, accompanied by one of James Mudie's men and a runaway from Newcastle.¹² After reprovisioning themselves with horses and muskets stolen from settlers at Wallis Plains, the gang continued its activities for some weeks,¹³ evading various pursuing groups, until October, 1825 when James Reid and two soldiers trapped the gang in a hut at Hexham. During the encounter that followed Reily was shot dead and Price surrendered. Cleary and Clinch escaped but were captured the next day, together with another gang member by the name of Cassidy.¹⁴ All were tried in the Supreme Court on 26th November, 1825 and sentenced to death.¹⁵

Things were quiet in the Valley for a couple of years after the capture of 'Jacobs Mob', but early in 1828 the Australian newspaper reported that a great number of bushrangers were again at large in the Hunter district. However, the crimes committed by these bushrangers, according to the newspaper, were only petty offences, mainly confined to attempts to obtain firearms.¹⁶ In 1829 six men were sentenced to death for bushranging offences¹⁷ at the First Court of Quarter Sessions at Maitland in August, 1829 and hanged at Stockade Hill, East Maitland.¹⁸

Bushranging outrages became widespread right throughout the colony in 1830, including the Hunter Valley. The situation became so serious that the Governor and the Council passed the extremely punitive Bushrangers Act in April, 1830 which allowed any resident (with or without a warrant) to arrest any person suspected of being an escaped felon or of carrying illegal firearms. Any person so arrested was then obliged to prove his or her innocence. The Act stipulated the death penalty for any felon

convicted of robbery or housebreaking and directed that this sentence should be carried out within forty eight hours of sentence.¹⁹

This Act was rigidly and often unfairly enforced and there were many instances of victimisation by overzealous constables and citizens. Alexander Harris, a free immigrant who spent sixteen years in various districts of New South Wales, described many such incidents in his reminiscences, including his own arrest on the Great North Road which was followed by four days' confinement at Wallis Plains lock-up. Harris also cited the case of a young Australian born lad who was arrested on an Upper Hunter farm and transported 250 miles to Sydney in handcuffs when he could not prove that he was not a bushranger.²⁰

In 1833 the punitive provisions of the Bushrangers Act were harshly enforced against six assigned servants who had rebelled against the dreadful conditions and vicious treatment they had been forced to endure at the Castle Forbes property of the infamous Captain James Mudie at Patrick's Plains. On the 4th August, 1833 three men, John Poole, James Ryan and James Riley, assigned servants of Mudie's son-in-law John Larnack, took to the bush. The next day the three men and John Perry, an earlier escapee, forced a constable to release three other assigned men, Anthony Hitchcock, Samuel Parrott (or Powell) and David Jones, who were being escorted to Maitland to serve a twelve month sentence on the iron gang for insubordination. The men (except Parrott) then attacked the Larnack home, threatened Mrs. Larnack and stole arms and provisions, after which they fled again into the bush. A day later they confronted Larnack himself and fired several shots at him (all of which missed), then made off again. However they were soon captured at Lamb's Valley and charged with robbery and housebreaking under the Bushrangers Act.²¹

At their trial the Court refused to accept the pleas of mitigating circumstances offered by their Council, Mr. Roger Therry,²² nor would it take into account the prisoners' evidence of the appalling treatment they had received, or their previous good characters. Even Hitchcock's impassioned plea from the dock for an inquiry into the conditions at Castle Forbes failed to influence the Court. Five of the men, Hitchcock, Perry, Poole, Ryan and Riley were sentenced to death and Jones was sent to Norfolk Island for life. Hitchcock and Poole were hanged at Maitland on 19th December, 1833 and Riley, Perry and Ryan in Sydney two days later.²³ All went to their deaths with the "same expressions of complaint" on their lips.

In true official fashion the authorities instituted an enquiry into conditions at Castle Forbes after the men had been hanged and this resulted in strong condemnation of the treatment of convicts by Mudie and Larnack. Mudie was dismissed from the magistracy, but, as Mr. Therry pointed out "whatever may have been the report, the five principal complainants who had made the charge at the time of the inquiry, were (already) in ignominious graves".²⁴

Unfortunately the Bushrangers Act seems to have claimed more innocent victims than bushrangers, whose outrages continued to increase. In the latter part of 1830 a large, well-mounted group of between twelve and fifteen began to harass Hunter Valley settlers. Two of the gang were wounded and captured by police in August, 1830 but were later rescued by other gang members. A third man by the name of Daly was killed by a shepherd at Gummin Plains²⁵ but the remainder of the gang escaped into the Bathurst area where they continued to evade mounted police and plunder the settlers in that district.²⁶

Bushranging continued to increase in the Hunter Valley and in July, 1833 an angry correspondent in the Sydney Herald reported that the Hunter district was overrun by bushrangers who were committing robberies daily.

This writer then went on to complain bitterly about the inefficiency of the police in the district and the numerous escapes of captured bushrangers from the Patricks Plains and Merton lock-ups.²⁷ Although this complainant undoubtedly had good reason to condemn the less than effective performance of the district police, they nevertheless had an extremely difficult task. Not only did they have an extremely large area to protect but they were also badly hampered by an insufficiency of men and inadequate facilities. Even after the removal of the district headquarters of the Hunter River Mounted Police to Jerrys Plains in March, 1833,²⁸ the police still faced great problems in dealing with bushrangers. Even those captured were difficult to hold because most constables were either badly armed or not armed at all. Captain Williams of the N.S.W. Mounted Police complained that one bushranger named Beard had made repeated escapes from the same lock-up at Merton.²⁹

Early in 1833 another gang of fifteen bushrangers plundered the stations of Messrs. Wyndham, Blaxland, Bettington, Jones and others³⁰ and in May two men robbed the properties of Messrs. Harper, McLeod and Dutton and that of Mrs. Hunt (Molly Morgan) at Anvil Creek. This indignant lady complained bitterly that by the time the police arrived on the scene, the bushrangers had had time to get well away "whether to the north, south, east or west she left it to their better judgment to determine".³¹ On the 10th December, 1833 Mr. Leslie Duguid and two mounted policemen did manage to capture three bushrangers who had attempted to rob Mr. Duguid's property at Lochinvar, but the Sydney Herald's report on this incident went on to advise that "reports from Hunter's River state that numbers of runaways are prowling about in every direction in search of plunder".³²

The Lake Macquarie district also had its share of problems with bushrangers. It was a wild and lawless area, frequented by unruly cedar cutters and cattle thieves. Runaway convicts also made their way into the district,

where they formed gangs which preyed on settlers and travellers. In 1828 Mr. Percy Simpson of Kourumbung captured two bushrangers in the Mamaring Creek area after a two day chase but while Mr. Simpson was away another armed man appeared at his home, held up his wife and then escaped because the servants refused to take him into custody.³³ In 1834 two gangs under the leadership of Marshall and Macdonald were at large in the Lake Macquarie area.³⁴ In June, 1834 Macdonald and another convict were taken into custody by Constable Robert Chitty but escaped again near Kourumbung. Macdonald then rejoined his gang and continued to harass the settlers.³⁵

By far the most notorious and longest surviving gang of bushrangers in the Hunter Valley was the one led by 'Teddy the Jewboy' Davis, which was very active in the Brisbane Water and Hunter areas in 1839 and 1840. The leader, Edward Davis (alias George Wilkinson), was a young convict who had arrived in New South Wales in 1833 to serve a seven year sentence for stealing. Davis was assigned to Mr. Edward Sparke of Hexham in 1836 but soon absconded. He was recaptured and returned to Sydney, only to abscond again.³⁶ This time Davis stayed at large and some months later he emerged as the leader of a gang of convict bushrangers which became known as the 'Jewboy' gang. Gang membership varied between six and fifteen during the period of their 'reign'. All were excellent riders and were both well-mounted and well-armed. From their hideouts at Pilchers Mountain, four and a half miles out of Dungog³⁷ and Doughboy Hollow (Ardglen) near Murrurundi they made raids all over the Valley and menaced travellers on the roads. The gang started its career in the Brisbane Water district, but police pursuit drove its members northwards, where they robbed Mr. Biddington's servant on a Namoi River property below Tamworth on 12th January, 1839.³⁸

In April, 1839 the Sydney Gazette reported that "the country between Patrick's Plains and Maitland has lately been the scene of numerous outrages by bushrangers. A party of runaway convicts, armed and mounted, have been scouring the roads in all directions. In one week they robbed no less than seven teams on the Wollombi road, taking away everything portable".³⁹

A great number of other robberies occurred in the Maitland, Upper Hunter and Paterson districts and on the 9th June, 1838 Lieutenant Caswell's home was robbed of £400. The gang then stationed itself on the Greenhills/Maitland road for a whole day, "bailing up" all passers-by. The next day Mr. Michael Henderson and Mr. Crotham were knocked down and robbed at Maitland and the gang then fled northwards to escape a posse of mounted police, only to run into an ambush by Mr. Fleming and his men. Four gang members were captured, including Thomas Maguire who was said to be a free man.

Early in 1840 the bushrangers were again on the rampage. Horses were stolen from several stations in the Wollombi area and the gang took to holding up the roads for a day at a time, robbing every traveller who passed. According to George Boxall "it was said that any man riding along the road near Murrurundi or Quirindi, or between these places and Tamworth, was almost certain to lose his horse and whatever property he might have about him". It was even claimed that the gang numbered the Chief Constable of the district and a party of his men amongst its victims. These worthy representatives of the law were "yarded like a mob of cattle" and robbed of their horses, arms and money.⁴⁰

All of these outrages were attributed to the 'Jewboy' gang. In fact they were thought to be responsible for virtually every robbery which occurred during the period that they were at large in the Valley, and so many tales have been woven around the activities of this gang that it is difficult to separate fact from legend. Undoubtedly they did carry out many of the robberies which occurred in 1839 and 1840 but it is impossible

to establish with any certainty whether they were in fact responsible for all of the outrages that occurred during this period. It was not until late 1840 that the contemporary press began to publish any detailed accounts of the gang's activities.⁴¹ In December, 1840 the Sydney Herald published the following report from its Williams River correspondent:

"The bushrangers who were at Newcastle lately and more recently at Pilchers Farm on the Hunter have paid us a visit... and now...have left the district for a bold dash elsewhere. On 29th November Dr. McKinlay was bailed up... The leader was formerly an assigned servant to Edward Sparke Esq. and another (named Shea) an assigned servant to Mr. Coad; the third, I believe a Jew named Davis,⁴² a very wary, determined fellow. They "bailed up" Mr Chapman and his men but they took only two saddles, saddle bags, bridles, tea, sugar, brandy etc and they caught two mares when Robert Chitty, one of Mr Chapman's men joined them... They then went on robbing people on the highway...they met a man of Mr Lord's of whom they took a horse and 11 shillings. Then they met a Mr Harrison from Namoi whose horse they took. They then proceeded to Mr Walker's at Brookfield, from whom they took £37...After robbing the station of Mr Timothy Nolan, on whom they had a great "down", they fixed a saddle on his back, flogged him and took £5, a horse and a gold watch...The Dungog postman chancing to come along they "ailed him up"... They then made for the Patterson and in the afternoon robbed Mr Jones' Settlers Arms...They then crossed the river and have not since been heard of."⁴³

Other newspaper reports followed, containing accounts of many other robberies in the district. Mr. Henry Cohen of the Black Creek Inn, Mr. Close's stockman, Mr. Crawford of Brown Muir, Mr. and Mrs. Davis of Glenmore together with Mr. David Dunlop, the police magistrate, who was a visitor at the time and the Prendegast Public House were all robbed on the same day and the gang also flogged a Mr. Macdougall who was present at the Prendegast Inn because "he had been very fond of flogging whilst overseer of a chain gang". The gang then went on to plunder the Red House Inn on the Maitland Road and Mr. Garrett's station; on the following morning Captain Horsley was robbed at Woodbery near Hexham. On the afternoon of the same day the gang were sighted near the township of Scone and by 6 a.m. the next day they had carried out yet another robbery at Mr. Dangar's property at Duranville and had entered the village of Scone.⁴⁴

These reports give some indication of the speed with which the gang could and obviously did move and the robberies appear to have followed a similar pattern to many of those earlier attributed to the Jewboy gang, which would tend to suggest that this gang were in fact responsible for many of the earlier offences.

The career of the 'Jewboy' gang, now consisting of seven members, Edward Davis, John Shea, James (Ruggy) Everett, Robert Chitty, John Marshall, Richard Glanvill and Robert Bryant, was, however, rapidly drawing to a close. After entering Scone the gang split into two groups. Davis, Everett and Glanvill went off to rob Mr. Chivers' (Cheevers) St. Aubin Arms while Shea, Marshall, Chitty and Bryant plundered the store of Mr. Thomas Dangar. Dangar's clerk, John Graham, grabbed a pistol and fired at the retreating bushrangers; Shea returned his fire, discharging two shots which mortally wounded Graham, who died less than an hour later. The gang fled hastily from the town, but strangely, although obviously agitated by the murder of Graham, committed three further robberies, at the farms of Mr. Patterson and Mr. Norris and at the Page River Inn, before returning to their hideout at Doughboy Hollow.⁴⁵

The gang were obviously unaware of the proximity of a pursuing party of mounted police under the leadership of Captain Edward Denny Day, who reached the hideout just as the gang were settling down for the night. In the desperate battle which followed, Davis, Marshall and Shea were wounded. These three men, together with Everett and Chitty, surrendered, but Glanvill and Bryant escaped. Glanvill was captured the next day but the seventh man, Bryant, made his escape into the 'bush. Various accounts have stated that Bryant was also captured and brought to trial with the other men, but this was not the case. Only the other six men stood trial, Shea for the murder of Graham and the other five as accessories to that murder.⁴⁶ All six were found guilty and hanged in Sydney on 16th March, 1841.⁴⁷

The long reign of the 'Jewboy' gang owed much to the friendship and assistance of many assigned servants and ticket-of-leave men in the Hunter Valley. The gang members' flamboyant dress and behaviour, their habit of meting out floggings to those who had ill-treated convicts, their light-hearted tilting at authority and their habit of sharing the 'spoils' made them heroes in the eyes of many of their fellow convicts who gave them a great deal of help and kept them posted concerning police movements. The degree of friendship and understanding between the gang and many of the twenty six men, mostly convicts, who were present during the robbery of Cohen's Black Creek Inn was so obvious that Mr. E.D. Day later cancelled the tickets-of-leave of two of these spectators.⁴⁸

After the capture of the 'Jewboy' gang, large-scale bushranging in the Hunter Valley virtually ceased for many years. There were some minor incidents within the next couple of years, but nothing on the scale of the Davis gang's activities. Henry Steele and Charles Vaut, assigned servants to Mr. George Furber of Maitland and suspected accomplices of earlier bushrangers, attempted to rob the Reverend and Mrs. John Garvan of Hull Hill near Maitland on 25th February, 1841, but, when the reverend gentleman resisted, they hastily retreated to their quarters where they were arrested the next day, to be later sentenced to penal servitude for life.⁴⁹ In January, 1842 William Gunn and John South, associates of the 'Jewboy' gang, were captured while attempting to rob the Northern Mail near Scone.⁵⁰

The early issues of the Maitland Mercury newspaper in 1843 contained a number of reports concerning bushrangers, but these related only to minor incidents or to the capture of bushrangers, two of whom (Keating and Crow) were apprehended by Constable Moss at Bishop's Bridge on 3rd February, 1843,⁵¹ while another by the name of William McCarthy, an escapee from Edward Sparke's property was brought into Cassilis six days later.⁵²

In February, 1843 several people were robbed on the Maitland/Wollombi road, but Mr. Crawford and his servants, warned of the presence of this bushranger, captured him when he tried to rob Mr. Crawford's gig.⁵³ The bushranger, a convict named Brown (or Bruen) who had only escaped from the Maitland lock-up a week before, was badly wounded during the capture and was conveyed to a miserable, vermin-ridden bark hut at Wollombi, where he died in agony a week later, attended only by a few kind residents.⁵⁴

That the convict bushranging era was virtually over was quite clear from later reports in the Maitland Mercury. In an article concerning a robbery at the Brook Inn, Wollombi by a party of armed bushrangers in April, 1843, the Mercury correspondent reported that the pursuit of this gang by a large party of Wollombi residents was "without further success than establishing, by means of a trial, that parties not usually denominated bushrangers had some participation in this dastardly deed".⁵⁵ In May, 1843, in an article entitled "Dull Times" the Mercury complained that life in the valley had become so dull that "even the policemen complain of having nothing to do, and that time hangs heavy on their hands."⁵⁶ Obviously the day of the convict bushranger in the Hunter Valley was over.

FOOTNOTES

1. The first known bushranger in New South Wales was "Black Caesar", a First Fleet convict who absconded from the Sydney settlement in May, 1789. R. Ward & J. Robertson, Such Was Life, 1969, Sydney, p.225.
2. Bigge, J.T., Report, Evidence, B.T. Box 1, p.480/Quoted in W.A. Wood, Dawn in the Valley, 1972, Sydney, pp.3&311.
3. Wood, op. cit., p.5.
4. Slater, J., "An Account of the Manners and Employment of Convicts", 27th April, 1819, Facsimile Copy, G.E. Ingleton (Ed), True Patriots All, 1965, Sydney, p.81.
5. Colonial Secretary's In-Letters, Bundles 13-15, Newcastle 1819-21, Morisset, 4th January, 1819 et seq./Quoted in Wood, op. cit., pp.5&311.
6. These were probably the four men (William Geary, William Rowlands, Moses Watson and Charles Connor) listed on the Newcastle Punishment Record for 25th March, 1819, who were sentenced to 100 lashes each for running away, plundering and threatening the lives of the settlers and resisting a party sent after them. Bonwick Transcripts Box 12, pp.291-300/Quoted in Turner, J.W., Newcastle as a Convict Settlement: The Evidence Before J.T. Bigge in 1819-1821, 1973, Newcastle, p.234.
7. Colonial Secretary's In-Letters, Bundles 25-27, Newcastle, 1825, 4/1812,/ Quoted in Wood, op. cit., pp.16&311.
8. Bigge, J.T. Report, Evidence, B.T. Box 25, pp.5437-8/Quoted in Wood, op. cit., pp.16&311.
9. Wood, op. cit., p.82.
10. The Australian, 4th August, 1825.
11. Ibid., 21st July, 1825.
12. Ibid., 11th August, 1825.
13. According to E.C. Close the gang committed 8 or 9 house robberies, 1 rape, attacked Dr. Radford's house, burned down Mr. Reid's home, plus committing numerous other acts of destruction during this period.
Sir Thos. Brisbane's Letter Book, Vol.1, pp.195-7/Quoted in Wood, op. cit., pp.84&318.
14. The Australian, 13th October, 1825.
15. Historical Records of Australia, Series 1, Vol.12, 12th December, 1825, p.86.
16. The Australian, 14th March, 1828.
17. Ibid., 26th August, 1829 & 28th April, 1830.

18. Bloomfield, W.A.G., Cessnock, 1824-1954, Cessnock, p.19.
19. Callaghan, T., Acts and Ordinances of the Governor and Council of New South Wales, and Acts of Parliament Enacted for and Applied to the Colony, 1844, Sydney, pp.504-5.
20. Harris, A., (An Emigrant Mechanic), Settlers and Convicts, 1954, Carlton, Victoria, pp.79-81.
21. Boxall, G., The Story of the Australian Bushrangers, 1974, London, pp.52-3.
22. Mr. Therry was retained to defend the prisoners by an anonymous benefactor in Sydney.
Therry, R., Reminiscences of Thirty Years Residence in New South Wales and Victoria, 1863, London, p.167.
23. Sydney Gazette, December, 1833/Quoted in Ingleton, op. cit., pp.149-50.
24. Therry, op. cit., pp.167-9.
25. On his deathbed Daly claimed that the two wounded bushrangers who had been rescued had later died and been buried in the bush by other gang members, Wood, op.cit., p.241.
26. Historical Records of Australia, Series I, Vol.15, 5th October, 1830, pp.769-770.
27. Sydney Herald, 18th July, 1833.
28. Wood, op. cit., p.304.
29. Colonial Secretary's In-Letters, Naval & Military (Mounted Police), Maitland, 1833, 4/2199/2/Quoted in Wood, op. cit., pp.304&335.
30. Sydney Herald, 9th March, 1833.
31. Ibid., 11th May, 1833.
32. Ibid., 6th January, 1834.
33. Colonial Secretary's In-Letters, Simpson 6th August, 1828, Quoted in Clouton, K.H., Reid's Mistake, 1967, Sydney, p.58.
34. It is possible that this was the legendary MacDonald who was the leader of a gang of bushrangers and cattle thieves who operated in the Namoi district between 1832 and 1834. Police search parties had been active in the gang's usual haunts for some time. Macdonald was also an excellent bushman and was known to make frequent trips to the Sydney area. He and another bushranger named Lynch were later killed by two stockmen at Sir John Jamieson's station in the Liverpool Plains district in October or November, 1834, Wood, op. cit., p.224.

35. Clouton, op. cit., p.64.
36. Davis absconded from Sparke's property on 10th January, 1837 and from Sydney after his recapture on 21st July, 1838. Bergman, G.F.J., "Edward Davis, Life and Death of an Australian Bushranger", Journal of Australian Jewish Historical Society, Vol.4, pt.5, p.213.
37. Ibid., p.214.
38. Boxall, op. cit., p.82.
39. Ibid.
40. Ibid., pp.82-85.
41. The earlier press reports made no specific mention of the Jewboy Gang, but carried vaguely worded statements.
e.g. 'a party of runaway convicts', Sydney Gazette, 5th April, 1839
'a party of eight armed bushrangers', Sydney Herald,
22nd January, 1840
Such statements may or may not have referred to the Jewboy Gang.
42. The Sydney Herald correspondent was obviously not aware at the time that Mr. Sparke's assigned servant and Davis were the same man.
43. Sydney Herald, 10th December, 1840.
44. Ibid., 15th December, 1840, 23rd December, 1840, 29th December, 1840.
The Australian, 26th December, 1840.
45. The Australian, 25th February, 1841
46. Ibid., 25th February, 1841.
47. Ibid., 18th March, 1841.
48. Ibid., 15th December, 1840, 23rd December, 1840.
49. Boxall, op.cit., p.88.
50. Ibid., p.91.
51. Maitland Mercury, 11th February, 1843.
52. Ibid., 18th March, 1843.
53. Ibid., 18th February, 1843.
54. Ibid., 25th February, 1843.
55. Ibid., 29th April, 1843.
56. Ibid., 6th May, 1843.

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