



Bound for South Australia – Life Onboard

Testing Times for a Pioneering Woman

Jane Weymouth was born in England in 1829 and came to South Australia with her mother, father, four sisters and a brother in the *Pestonjee Bomanjee* in 1838. Jane's father John was a master stone mason and helped build many houses in and around Adelaide.

Jane spent forty years in Adelaide, Coromandel Valley and Clarendon.

In 1845 Jane married her first husband John Kemble, who died at a young age in Victoria, perhaps working in the goldfields. They had two sons – John and George, and three daughters Jane, Mary Anne and Adeline.

In 1863 Jane married her second husband William Motherall, a graduate from Oxford University in Medicine and Surgery. He practised medicine in Clarendon, Coromandel Valley, Point McLeay Mission and Port Elliot. They had three children, Henry, Louise and Fanny Elizabeth. Jane had ten children altogether, but two did not survive. William died in 1875 at Port Elliot aged 64 years.

In 1878 Jane married her third husband Philip Gibbons/Gibbins, and moved east of Burra to a property at Baldina where a gold mine was nearby, with her eight children. No children have been recorded for Jane and Philip. Philip died in 1887.

It would have been a very different lifestyle to what she had in Adelaide, as it was very isolated. She walked six miles each Sunday to Douglas Church which was probably her only contact with other families for most weeks. Burra was 13 miles away and the only place for any type of shopping. There would have been home-grown meat and vegetables, as the houses all had underground tanks built very close to the building. Dams were also dug nearby. The tanks were square holes dug into the ground and cemented and an iron roof over the top. The water came from the house and shed rooves. A hand pump was used to extract the water and it was clean and cool. Naturally, only horse-drawn vehicles were available.

Jane lived on the property except for the last few years when she lived with her daughter Mary Anne in Quarry Street, Burra. Jane died at the age of 88 at Burra, and was buried in the Burra cemetery.

Three of her daughters married the three Kellock brothers, who were successful graziers. All lived reasonably close by, which would have been a great comfort to her in her 30 years of widowhood.

From information provided by Lyn Whimpress
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Jane WEYMOUTH [1829-1916]

Married

[1] John KEMBLE in 1845

&

[2] William MOTHERALL in 1863

&

[3] Philip GIBBONS in 1878

Departed 29 May 1838 from London
Arrived 12 October 1838 at Pt Adelaide on the

Pestonjee Bomanjee

Children of Jane & John:

John (?-?) m Sarah TRIGG

George (c1828-?) m Elizabeth JENKIN

Jane (c1845-?) m William WOOD

Mary Anne (1857-1945) m William KELLOCK

Adeline (c1849-?) m [1] Henry SUGARS

[2] John KELLOCK

Children of Jane & William:

Henry (1868-1929) m Mary Ann MORGAN

Louisa (1866-1921) m William HOLMAN

Fanny (c1863-1945) m George KELLOCK