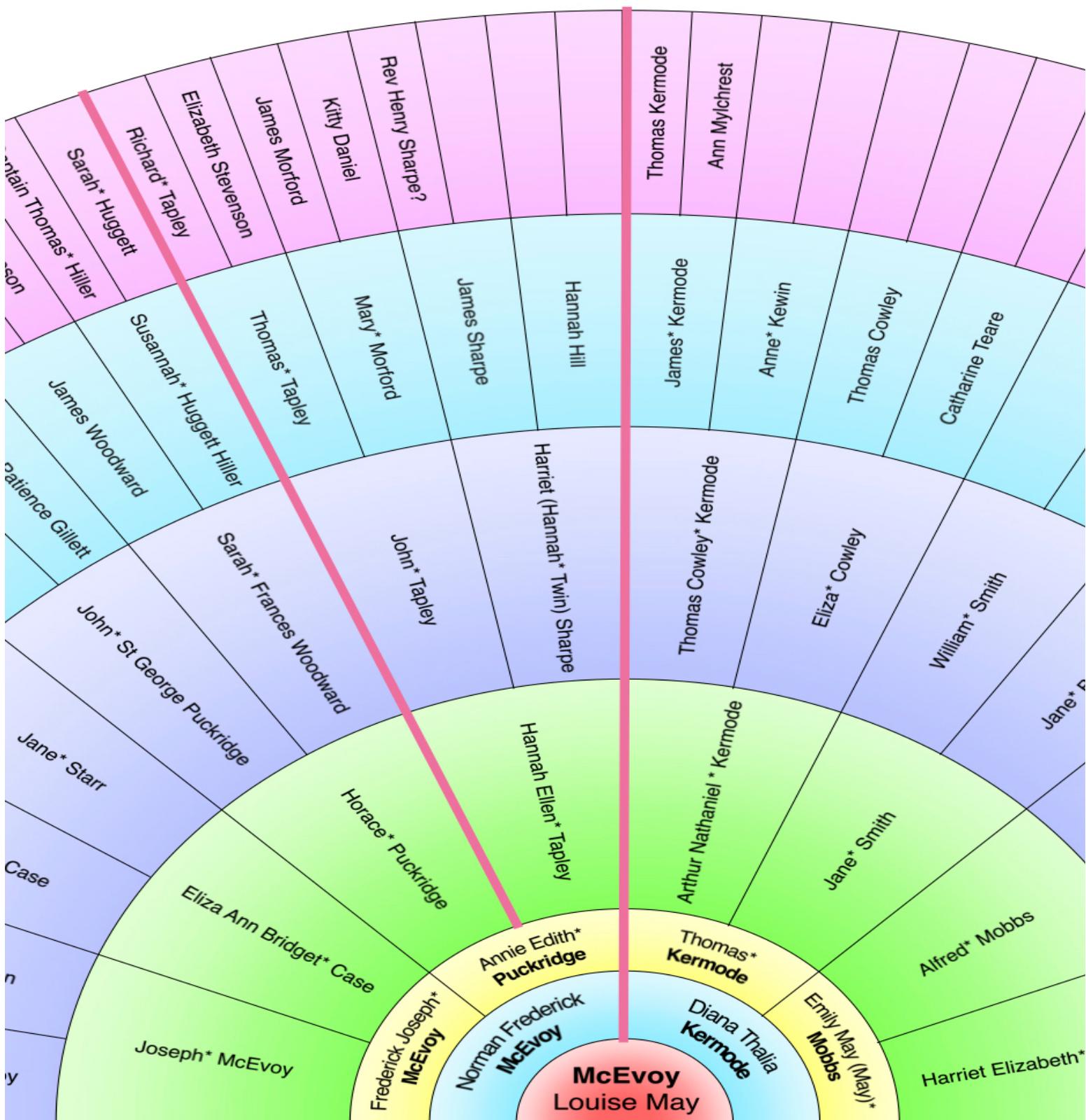


TAPLEY FAMILY BACKGROUND FOR THE 80th BIRTHDAYS OF BARRY AND DEAN TAPLEY

1. My name is Louise, maiden name McEvoy. I am related to most of you because my GG grandparents were John Tapley and Hannah Sharpe of Wartaka Station between Pt Augusta and Iron Knob. You can see that relationship on the fan chart (between the pink lines.)



2. I first started doing McEvoy family history because relatives had done a lot of research and I thought it needed to be shared on the internet. I had my own web site so made McEvoy Family History pages and put them up there too. (<http://www.louisenordestgaard.com/McEvoy-SA.html>)

3. Unfortunately we haven't been able to find where GG Grandfather, Dennis McEvoy, who came to S. Australia in 1840, came from in Ireland, or any details about his parents, so I decided to look at the female sides of the McEvoy family, which is how we came to the fascinating Tapley family history.

4. On my Tapley web page you can see where I got information.

<http://www.louisenordestgaard.com/Tapleys.html>

I never met Douglas Porter but he did an amazing amount of research. I was sent a copy of his CD by a Tapley relative in New Zealand, Bryan Tichborne. I was also given much family information by Dean.

5. Dean asked me to talk to you about our trips to Europe when we visited 2 places of interest to the Tapley family. As you probably know, 5 Tapley brothers and families emigrated to SA. Our ancestors, Thomas and Mary Tapley, and 9 of their 10 children, being the first, in 1838. Four of the brothers were sailing ship captains while Thomas Tapley was a baker. The parents of the 5 brothers were Richard Tapley and Elizabeth Stevenson of Folkestone in Kent, England. They had 14 children in all, 4 dying in infancy. They were all born and bred in Folkestone just near Dover. It was a busy sea port.



(I'm aware that in the chart below there are 16 children listed. I have probably picked up a couple on Ancestry.com which are incorrect but until I have time to go through all the records I will leave them there)

Richard* Tapley
b. 8 Jan 1764, Folkestone, Kent England
d. Dec 1824, Folkestone Kent
& Elizabeth Stevenson
b. abt 1770, Folkestone, Kent, England
d. 1854, Elham, Kent
m. 22 Jun 1789, Folkestone, Kent, England

Thomas* Tapley
b. 22 Jun 1789, Folkestone, Kent England
d. 14 Jun 1856, At His Residence, South Tce, Adelaide
& Mary* Morford
b. 10 Aug 1790, Folkestone Kent
d. 20 Jan 1867, Adelaide, SA
m. 26 Feb 1811, Folkestone Parish Church, Kent, England

Margaret Ann Tapley
b. 18 May 1791
d. 1871, Elham, Kent

Sarah† Tapley
b. 21 May 1793, Folkestone, Kent England
d. 24 Jun 1794, Folkestone, Kent England

Sarah†(Twin) Tapley
b. 10 Apr 1795, Folkestone, Kent England
d. 31 Jul 1798, Folkestone, Kent England

Elizabeth†(Twin) Tapley
b. 10 Apr 1795, Folkestone, Kent England
d. 1795, Folkestone, Kent England

Richard† Tapley
b. 17 Apr 1797, Folkestone, Kent England
d. 1798, Folkestone, Kent England

Hannah Tapley
b. 6 Apr 1799
& Jacob Squire
b. abt 1797, Newington, Kent, England

Capt Richard Tapley
b. 18 Oct 1801, Folkestone Kent
d. 1874, Caversham (Dist. Hindmarsh) SA
& Margaret Tapley
b. 1800, First Cousins
d. 6 Dec 1852, Albert Town, SA
m. 17 Feb 1827, Folkestone Kent

Jamest Tapley
b. 4 Jan 1804
d. 3 Feb 1807

Jane Tapley
b. 12 Feb 1806, Folkestone, Kent England
d. 1853

Edward Tapley
b. 30 Dec 1807, Folkestone, Kent England
d. abt 1869

Capt John Tapley
b. 11 Oct 1809, Folkestone, Kent England
d. 23 Jan 1869, Sudden Death, Cape Willoughby Lighthouse, Kangaroo Island
& Elizabeth Moffett

(Capt) William Stevenson Tapley
b. 11 Jul 1813, Folkestone Kent
d. 20 Mar 1867, Gulf St Vincent, Troubridge Lighthouse
& Henrietta Cranston
b. 20 Nov 1842, County Wicklow, Ireland
d. 1883
m. 8 Apr 1862, St John Church, Adelaide

Mary Tapley
b. Oct 1814

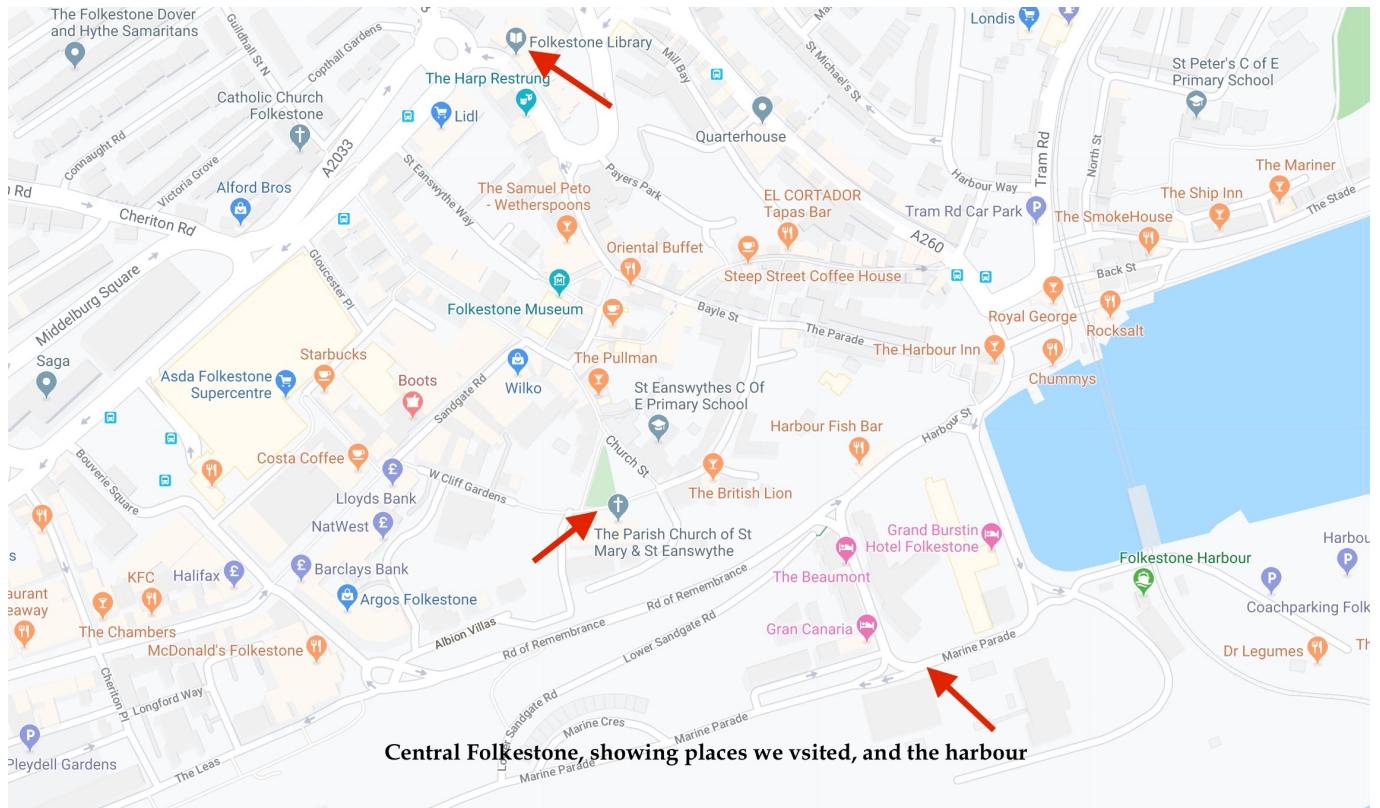
Captain Daniel Tapley
b. 21 Jun 1815, Folkestone, Kent England
d. 27 Feb 1881, Caversham, Woodville, SA
& Mary Jane Kinsman
b. 4 Feb 1825, Truro, Cornwall, Eng
d. 3 May 1866, Ivy Cottage, Worth, Kent Of Heart Disease
m. 12 Jun 1841, St Matthew's Church, Moulmein, Burma

Rebecca Tapley
b. Feb 1818

**The 14
children of
Richard
Tapley and
Elizabeth
Stevenson, all
born in
Folkestone.
5 brothers
emigrated to
SA.**

**Thomas
Tapley, the
first child,
was our
ancestor**

6. We visited Folkestone in 2012. The town looked tired and run down, as though it might have been a nice seaside resort in the late 1800s. The houses are densely built but a few streets in the old part of town have been done up for tourists. Every street was packed with cars and it was almost impossible to find a park in the public area of town. When we finally did, we hiked through winding streets to the tourist bureau which was piled high with maps & brochures but had been closed for months. At the library, which I'd contacted in advance about our interest in Tapley history, they reluctantly showed us to an upstairs family history room and left. It was all a bit disappointing and we didn't find anything interesting while quickly looking at their records.



Old street in Folkestone



7. We eventually made our way to the Folkestone parish church where most of the Tapleys had been christened and married and even buried. It was difficult to find as we only had a bad map from the library, having failed to get anything from the non-existent tourist bureau. It is the church of St Mary and Saint Eanswythe and is very beautiful, originating around 1138 AD but largely rebuilt in the Victorian era. It was hidden in a maze of streets with rebuilding going on everywhere. Saint's Eanswythe's bones are enshrined in the church.

8.Richard Tapley, the father of all the 14 children, was a tailor in Dover Street and they lived near the harbour in Folkestone. Thomas Tapley, their first child married Mary Morford in the church in 1811 and they began living in Dover before moving back to Folkestone. Various Tapley family ran hotels or inns in Dover.



9.Just across the sea from Folkestone is the seaport of Vlissingen in the Netherlands and in 1820, Thomas Tapley moved there from Folkestone with Mary and their 4 children. Why, we don't know, but there is a suggestion that he could have been in trouble for smuggling. With 4 sea captains in the family, transport would not have been a problem.

C. Topley on [May 21, 2014 at 4:33 pm](#) said:

....I became interested because the Tapley family of Harrietsham, were close kin of my ancestors and were related by marriage to the Questeds. Some of the Tapleys moved from Harrietsham to Folkestone where many of them became mariners, [some of whom, among them Robert Tapley, were smugglers on Romney Marsh.](#)

Best regards, C. Topley

Suzanne Green on [July 5, 2014 at 10:19 am](#) said:

I was interested to see that you mention about the Tapleys from Harrietsham. I have been, up until now just online, looking for evidence of Tapleys in Harrietsham. I have Richard Tapley marrying Ann Taylor there in 1733. [I have also seen mention of Robert Tapley connected with smuggling.](#) Do you have any BMD's for him as there are a couple Robert Tapleys at that time and also regarding the smuggling where did you access that evidence? Was he ever implicated or even caught and got away with it? [The whole Tapley family is fascinating](#) but then I am biased. I didn't know about the Quested link so another history trail for me to follow.

Regards S Green

C. Topley on [July 7, 2014 at 8:35 am](#) said:

Hi again, Suzanne. Most of the Harrietsham & Hollingbourne [Tapleys moved to Folkestone in the late 18th century.](#) I have a very large amount of data on them all, most of which I got from hours of viewing microfilmed parish registers at Maidstone, Rochester & Canterbury archives. The Harrietsham Tapleys are actually a branch of my family, having inherited their holdings from my direct ancestor John Topley who died in Hothfield in 1514

10. We visited Vlissingen, often known in English as Flushing, in May, 2018. First we hurried to the archives as they were about to close for a long weekend. It was a long process to get in but then, because of various wars, mainly the Napoleonic, there were no records for 1820 to 1829, just the era we were looking at. They suggested that we could try to find records for the English Church in Vlissingen to get a mention of the Tapleys. They showed us information on the computer, which I already had, concerning the 3 children born to Thomas and Mary Tapley during their time in Vlissingen.



11. Packing as much as we could into one day, we next visited the Museum, which was very interesting but modern and quite complicated, mainly about Dutch seafaring history.

12. We were given an armband to visit something we didn't understand across the road. It turned out to be a most fantastic casemate fortification, established in the 1500s but mainly completed under Napoleon in the early 1800s. Napoleon visited Vlissingen 3 times when he was in control of Holland. During the war with Napoleon, the English apparently bombed the town almost to bits and the French withdrew in 1814, leaving the place a wreck. Because it was an army town, the Dutch army moved there and the rebuilding began. They needed all sorts of trades so Thomas Tapley, a baker from nearby Kent, would have been easily able to get a job in 1820.

On display within the casemate fortifications was a whole room devoted to the story of bread. Bread had been baked in that huge vaulted room. A French rat in a film explained that some of the bakers sold the army bread to hungry civilians. None of this information was available elsewhere in town and there were no booklets on sale. I imagine Thomas Tapley might have started baking bread here when he first moved to Vlissingen, before he had his own business.



13. Apparently the Thomas Tapley family with now 6 children lived at Walstraat 14. Several other English people lived nearby. As the town was bombed in WW2, much was destroyed, but much was also rebuilt. We couldn't see the original number 14, of course, but took pictures of the closest building.

14. In 1829 Thomas and Mary and their 6 children moved to Rotterdam where 3 more children were born, including John Tapley. They lived at 115 Wynstraat. Unfortunately we haven't visited Rotterdam but it was totally bombed during WW2 and few old buildings remain. Our son looked up 115 Wynstraat for us when he was there and found a parking garage. The Tapleys headed back home to England in 1837 and to Australia in 1838 and here we all are, at the very hotel that Thomas Tapley and his family built in SA.

15. We really loved visiting the places where family lived and worked and felt a close connection with the towns. It makes a great focus for a holiday and gives it purpose and meaning. 1-2-2020



14 Wallstraat, Vlissingen, Netherlands.