

## GENERATION 1

Jeremiah Downing was born on 24<sup>th</sup> March 1809 in Wakefield, Sheffield, England. He died on 13<sup>th</sup> May 1868 in Kangaroo Flat, Vic, Australia. He married Margaret Brennand on 14<sup>th</sup> October 1847 in Holy Trinity Church, Nth Adelaide, SA. She was born in 1824 in Shoreditch, London. She died on 1 January 1881 in Talbot, Victoria.

Jeremiah was a convict sent to Australia. According to the indictment books of the West Riding of Yorkshire Quarter Sessions a Jeremiah Downing was, before 1826 twice convicted by the county magistrates. On the first occasion, at the Doncaster Session 23 January 1822, he was sentenced to twelve calendar months, in the House of Correction, for the theft in Sheffield on the 7<sup>th</sup> November of two linen shirts (value 6d) and one linen sheet (value 4d) from John Sheldon, and two other linen shirts of the same value from Joseph Pigot.

At the Rotherham session 6<sup>th</sup> August 1823, he was sentenced to two months hard labour for the theft, undertaken with three accomplices. The crime involved stealing “one hempen bag commonly called a wallet.” (value 2d), one pound of soap, and one pound of sugar (worth 2d each), two ounces of tobacco, 2 ounces of varnish, one glass bottle, and five pounds of wire (each item valued at 1d) belonging to Jacob Manton of Ecclesfield near Sheffield.

In both indictments, Downing is described as being “late of Wakefield Labourer”, rather than as of Sheffield, but according to the calendars of prisoners he was aged 12 and 14 at the time of his respective sentences.

Taken from the Archives of New South Wales:

Arrived Port Jackson 26<sup>th</sup> July 1829 aboard the “Bulfsorah Merchant” aged 19 single

Education – Nil

Religion – Nil

Native Place – Sheffield

Native Place – Sheffield

Calling – labourer

Offence – Stealing from persons tried – York 18<sup>th</sup> July 1827

Sentence – 7 years

Former Convictions – Three

Physical description – 5ft 6ins, dark sallow complexion, brown hair, chestnut eyes.

How disposed of – H. Parsons, South Creek. This area is around Richmond and Windsor (NSW) an area of small settlers.

The Certificate of Freedom Information – Butt No 34/1037 dated 16-8-1834. Year of Birth 1809.

General Remarks “scar on right side of upper lip. Scar on Back of forefinger of left hand. Several small blue dots betwixt same and thumb.

Mark of inoculation on left arm.

From the Archives of South Australia (Adelaide)

On October 14<sup>th</sup> at Holy Trinity Church, North Terrace, Adelaide Jeremiah Downing, Labourer aged 35 (actually 38) married Margaret Brennand, Spinster, aged 23 years.

Jeremiah Downing and Margaret Brennand had the following children:

- i. George Downing was born on 6<sup>th</sup> November 1843 in Adelaide, SA. He died on 25<sup>th</sup> August 1908 in Broad Arrow WA. He married Catherine Walls on 19<sup>th</sup> August 1867 in St Michael’s, Talbot, Vic., daughter of Francis Walls and Mary Dolin. She was born in 1847 in Sydney. She died on 19 March 1934 in Perth WA.
- ii. Ann Downing was born in April 1846 in New Tiers, SA. She died on 1<sup>st</sup> January 1900 in Nugetty Gully, Talbot, VIC. She married William Baker in 1862 in Victoria. He was about 1835 in Whitton, Suffolk, England. He died in 1907 in Talbot, VIC.
- iii. Sarah Downing was born in 1847 in Adelaide SA.
- iv. John Downing was born on 14<sup>th</sup> June 1848 in Gawler SA. He died on 2<sup>nd</sup> January 1939 in Mildura VIC. He married Louisa Angelina Susannah Tonkin in 1890 in Avoca, VIC. Daughter of William Tonkin and Louisa Beer. She was born on 11<sup>th</sup> March 1856 in Adelaide SA. She died on 7<sup>th</sup> May 1916 in Avoca, VIC.

- v. Joseph Downing was born on 1<sup>st</sup> June 1850 in Gawler, SA.
- vi. Susan Downing was born in 1854 in Talbot, VIC. She died on 9<sup>th</sup> September 1923 in Kyneton, VIC. She married John Robert Boxwell Leared in 1876 in Talbot, VIC. Son of John Robert Leared and Mary McNamara. He was born in 1856 in Maitland East VIC. He died on 10<sup>th</sup> December 1934 in Kyneton VIC.
- vii. Sarah Downing was born in 1856 in Amherst VIC. She died in 1908 in Richmond VIC. She married George Boyce in 1886 in Kangaroo Flat VIC, son of Henry Boyce and Rosa Ann Hill. He was born about 1864. He died in 1931 in Northcote VIC.
- viii. Jeremy Downing was born in 1858 in Amherst VIC. He died on 13<sup>th</sup> November 1921 in Victoria. He married (1) Christina Maria Morrow in 1882. She was born in 1863 in Amherst VIC. She died on 4<sup>th</sup> April 1905 Sunbury VIC. He married (2) Mary Ann Beck in 1909 in Victoria.
- ix. Alfred Downing was born in 1861 in Amherst VIC. He died on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 1922 in Kalgoorlie WA. He married Jane Ann Knuckey in 1890 in Talbot VIC. Daughter of William Knuckey and Jane Boyd.
- x. William Downing was born in 1863 in Amherst VIC. He died in 1945 in Maryborough, VIC.
- xi. Thomas Frederick Downing was born in 1865 in Talbot, VIC. He died on 4<sup>th</sup> May 1927 in Maryborough, VIC. He married Lillian Hayden in 1891 in Victoria, daughter of William Hayden and Louisa Roberts. She was born in 1870 in Amherst VIC. She died on 14<sup>th</sup> May 1948 in Maryborough VIC.

## GENERATION 2

### Next Generation – Children of George Downing and Catherine Walls

- i. Francis George Downing was born in 1843 in Amherst VIC. He died on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1939 in Swanbourne WA. He married Elizabeth Maud Mary Trevena in August 1867 in Talbot VIC daughter of John Trevena and Emily Hocking. She was born on 9<sup>th</sup> November 1872 in Clunes, VIC. She died on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 1946 in Perth WA.
- ii. Alfred Ernest Downing was born in 1869 in Amherst VIC. He died on 20<sup>th</sup> July 1910 in Broad Arrow WA. He married Eliza Nichols in 1903.
- iii. Arthur Walls Downing was born in 1871 in Amherst VIC. He died on 15<sup>th</sup> February 1956 in Wagin, WA.
- iv. Elsie Maud Downing was born in 1873 in Amherst VIC. She died on 10<sup>th</sup> February 1966 in Claremont WA. She married John McInnes on 26<sup>th</sup> January 1910 in Perth. He died on 1<sup>st</sup> July 1952 in Subiaco, WA.
- v. Robert William Downing was born on 10<sup>th</sup> April 1876 in Amherst VIC. He died in 1960 in Melbourne. He married Martha Bowbear Hawks in April 1906 in Coolgardie WA. She was born about 1876. She died on 20<sup>th</sup> April 1947 in Subiaco, WA.
- vi. Ethel May Downing was born in 1878 in Amherst VIC. She died on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 1964 in Perth WA. She married Cyril Percy Williams in 1915 in Perth. He died on 11<sup>th</sup> February 1953.
- vii. Katie Ellen Downing was born in 1882 in Talbot VIC. She died on 20<sup>th</sup> December 1957 in Kalgoorlie WA.
- viii. Charles Leonard Downing was born in 1884 in Talbot, VIC. He died on 20<sup>th</sup> December 1957 in Kalgoorlie WA. He married Grace Victoria Evans in 1908 in Coolgardie WA. She died on 30<sup>th</sup> January 1969 in East Coolgardie, WA.

### GENERATION 3

#### Next Generation – Children of Francis George Downing and Elizabeth Maud Mary Trevena

- i. Francis Arthur Downing was born on 16<sup>th</sup> January 1893 in Talbot VIC. He died on 6<sup>th</sup> July 1958 in St Mary Le Bone, London. He married Lily Cookson on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 1917 in Stretford, Lancaster, England, daughter of George Cookson and Lena UNKNOWN. She was born on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 1896 in Manchester, England. She died on 17<sup>th</sup> April 1972 in West Perth WA.
- ii. Dulcie Araluen Downing was born in 1895 in Talbot VIC. She died on 16<sup>th</sup> May 1977 in Cannington WA. She married (1) Richard Alexander Oswald Gilmour in 1920 in WA, son of Arthur Gilmour and UNKNOWN. She married (2) Albert Edward Cowdrey in 1953, son of William Cowdrey and Louisa. He was born on 29<sup>th</sup> November 1893 in Chelmsworth, England. He died on 17<sup>th</sup> December 1971 in Cannington WA.
- iii. Talbot Albert Walls Downing was born on 9<sup>th</sup> November 1900 in Talbot, VIC. He died on 11<sup>th</sup> June 1984 in Albany WA. He married (1) Mary Frances Leonard in 1925 in Perth, daughter of William Westbrook Leonard and Mary Jane Boulton. She was born on 31<sup>st</sup> July 1902 in Mt Morgan WA. She died on 26<sup>th</sup> June 1970 in Claremont WA. He married (2) Rosina Crease Hoffman on unknown date, daughter of Frederick John Crease and Agnes Louise UNKNOWN. She was born in 1903. She died in 1980 in Albany WA.
- iv. Dorothy Trevena Downing was born in 1904 in Bendigo VIC. She died on 20<sup>th</sup> August 1992 in Nedlands WA. She married John Harryss Oldfield in 1947 in Floreat Park WA, son of Arthur Francis Oldfield and Hester Annie Jenkins. He was born on 31<sup>st</sup> January 1905 in Kalgoorlie WA.

## GENERATION 4

### Next Generation – Children of Talbot Albert Walls Downing and Mary Frances Leonard

#### Notes for Talbot Albert Walls Downing

Talbot was a school teacher and avid fisherman. At the age of 6 he moved with his parents from his native Talbot to the WA goldfields. He was a foundation student of the Eastern Goldfields High School. After High School he trained at the WA Teacher's College and the University of WA, graduating with a BA in Math, and was awarded the Sanderson Prize in Philosophy. He was appointed Maths Master and Sports Master at Perth Modern School from 1923, specialising in tennis and cricket. (His eldest son, Donald, was named after Sir Donald Bradman, Australia's ace cricket batsman). With Jim McDonald, Talbot was co-founder of the WA Athletics Association in 1924. Talbot was Mathematics Master at Bunbury High School from 1935 to 1939, when he enlisted in The Royal Australian Air Force on the first day of WWII. Talbot was an instructor in navigation for pilots and navigators throughout the war, rising to the rank of Squadron Leader #293801. After the war, he returned to Bunbury High School as First Master, and subsequently was Head Master at Collie, Northam and Albany High Schools. From 1960 to 1965 Talbot was Foundation Head Master of Dragon School in Kuching, Sarawak, a secondary school set up under the Columbo Plan to educate the children of Dyacks from jungle villages and Chinese children from local families. Talbot remained at Dragon School until the first class of students had graduated. Seeking a valid measure of his students' development he arranged for the graduating class to sit for the Cambridge (UK) University entrance exam, and 80% of the students passed! After returning to Australia, Talbot was Head Master of Perth Modern School for 2 years before he moved to the position of WA secondary school inspector until his retirement in 1972.

#### Notes for Mary Frances Leonard:

Mary was a child of the outback, where her father was an accountant, gold assayer, and mining manager at mines throughout the WA goldfields. She trained as a nurse, retiring from that when Donald was born. While her

husband was Head Master of High Schools in WA and Sarawak, Mary served as matron for the girl's hostels for students who were away from home. Mary was a hard-working mother and grandmother, using her nursing knowledge to good effect. She died 1980 in Perth WA.

#### Children of Talbot Albert Walls Downing and Mary Frances Leonard

- i. Donald Talbot Downing was born on 11<sup>th</sup> March 1929 in Perth, WA. He married Flora Agnes Drake-Brockman on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 1952 in Perth WA, daughter of Francis Edward Prinsep Brockman and May Elizabeth Dines. She was born in 1930.
- ii. Francis John Leonard Downing was born on 19<sup>th</sup> April 1934 in Nedlands WA. He married (1) Jean Veronica Wiltshire in 1956 in Christ Church Sth Yarra VIC. Daughter of Fred Wiltshire and Helen Wiltshire. She was born in 1930 in Chipping Sudbury, UK. She died on 9<sup>th</sup> December 1966. He married (2) Louise Maree Cashmore on 25<sup>th</sup> January 1969 in St. John's Church, Canberra ACT, daughter of Alec Brooke Cashmore and Daphne Ida Davis.
- iii. Michael Robert William Downing was born on 3<sup>rd</sup> August 1941 in Bunbury WA. He married (1) Carolyn Susanne Sainsbury. She was born on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 1944. He married (2) Jennifer Claire Fleming on 20<sup>th</sup> October 1985.

### GENERATION 5

#### Children of Donald Talbot Downing, Francis John Leonard Downing and Michael Robert William Downing

##### Notes for Donald Downing

Donald attended Northam HS (1941) and Bunbury HS (1942-1946) where he was School Captain. Donald graduated from UWA (St Georges College) BSc (hons) 1951, PhD 1955. He worked on skin lipids at the Chemical Research Labs of CSIRO in Melbourne until 1966 when he was invited to work on human skin lipids at Boston U, Massachusetts, USA. In 1978 he

moved to U Iowa as Professor of Dermatology. His work is accessible online and in textbooks of dermatology (e.g.: Epidermal Lipids, in: Goldsmith Physiology, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology of the Skin, Oxford University Press, 1991 pp 205-236; Lipids of the Epidermis and the Sebaceous Glands in: Fitzpatrick: Dermatology in General Medicine, Fifth Edition. McGraw-Hil, 1 pp 144-155). These studies found that orderly sheets of unique lipids between the outer cells of mammalian epidermis control the loss of water from the skin. Studies on the 3D molecular conformation of specific proteins in the silk glands of silkworms showed that rapid conversion of the protein solution in the glands into silk fibre results from transformation from one molecular conformation of silk protein into another during spinning. Modelling of similar changes in a specific brain protein showed that conformational changes could explain the development Mad Cow Disease and Alzheimer's Disease. Donald retired in 2001 to play bridge and study Astrophysics and family genealogy.

Notes for Flora Downing:

Flora graduated from Northam High School, Northam WA in 1947.

In honour of her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday her children produced a professional brochure and 2-month exhibition in the Iowa City Senior Centre of a collection of the quilts, tapestries and paintings that she has produced during their lifetime. Flora is also widely known for her magnificent garden of Midwestern flowers and trees, featuring a Japanese tea-house, ceremonial gate and collection of hostas.

During her time in Iowa City, Flora has been known for her organising and teaching of Duplicate Bridge as a Certified Director of the American Contract Bridge League.

### Children of Donald Talbot Downing and Flora Agnes Drake-Brockman

- i. Caroline Jane Downing. She married (1) Frederick Parsons Hemans III. She married (2) Joseph Hildreth
- ii. Matthew Francis Downing was born Melbourne VIC.

iii. Mary Louisa Downing was born in Melbourne, VIC. She married Brian Sherman.

iv. Martin John Leonard Downing was born in Ferntree Gully, VIC. He married Kathia

v. Nancy Ruth Downing was born in Ferntree Gully, VIC. Nancy married (1) James Michael Grueskin in Iowa City on 10<sup>th</sup> August 1986, son of Earle and Joann Grueskin. She married (2) Mark Kenyon Reagan in Iowa City on 16<sup>th</sup> August 1996, in Iowa City. Mark is son of Stephen Jerome Reagan and Betty Jane Sanderson. He was born in Elgin, Illinois USA.

vi. William Talbot Downing was born in Newton, MA, USA. He married Nancy Kumi Morris on 31<sup>st</sup> December 1994 in Tucson, AZ, USA, daughter of George Edward Morris Jr and Takeko Matsuda.

### Francis John Leonard Downing

Educated at Bunbury Primary School, Guildford Grammar (43-44), Bunbury High School, Albany High School. Joined RAAF College, Point Cook 1951 – 1954, graduated Pilot Officer (General Duties pilot) 8<sup>th</sup> December 1954. Resigned in 1977 as Wing Commander. Worked in the Bureau of Air Safety investigation 1977 – 1990. Magazines editor and freelance writer.

### Career highlights

CO No. 2 Squadron Vietnam – awarded DFC and DFC (US), Military Secretary to Governor-General, Director of Air Force Safety

### Children of Francis John Leonard Downing and Jean Veronica Wiltshire

- i. Michael John Adam Downing b. Melbourne VIC
- ii. Wendy Jane Downing b. Ipswich QLD
- iii. Katharine Maree (Mary) Downing b. Ipswich QLD

Child of Francis John Leonard Downing and Louise Maree Cashmore

- i. Kristian John Walls Downing b. Canberra ACT

Michael Robert William Downing

Michael Robert William Downing was born on 3<sup>rd</sup> August 1941 in Bunbury WA. He married (1) Carolyn Susanne Sainsbury. She was born on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 1944. He married (2) Jennifer Claire Fleming on 20<sup>th</sup> October 1985. He died in 201(7)

Children of Michael Robert William Downing and Carolyn Susanne Sainsbury

- i. Christopher Michael Walls Downing was born in North Adelaide SA. He married Tiffany Jo Nelson on 15<sup>th</sup> March 1992.
- ii. Timothy Andrew Walls Downing was born in North Adelaide SA. He married Sally-Jo Anne Cook on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2010 in Kensington, SA. She was born in Rose Park, SA.

GENERATION 6

Caroline Jane Downing

Children of Caroline Jane Downing and Frederick Parsons Hemans III

- i. Frederick Parsons Hemans IV b. in Boston, MA
- ii. Adriana Dorothy Hemans b. in Boston, MA

Child of Caroline Jane Downing and Joseph Hildreth

- i. Kate Hildreth was born in Potsdam NY.

### Mary Louisa Downing

#### Children of Mary Louisa Downing and Brian Sherman

- i. Sarah May Sherman b. in Bubaramunga, Columbia
- ii. Jessica Elizabeth Sherman b. in Bubaramunga, Columbia

### Nancy Ruth Downing

#### Children of Nancy Ruth Downing and James Francis Grueskin

- i. Esack Francis Grueskin was bin Iowa City, Iowa
- ii. Zoe Elizabeth Grueskin was b. in Iowa City, Iowa

#### Child of Nancy Ruth Downing and Mark Kenyon Reagan

- i. Chloe Jane Reagan was b. in Iowa City, Iowa

### William Talbot Downing

#### William Talbot Downing and Nancy Kumi Morris's Children

- i. Talbot Matsuda Morris Downing was b. in Waterloo, IA

ii. Flora Takako Downing was b. in Iowa City,

Michael John Adam Downing

Children of Michael John Adam Downing and Jo-Anne Therese Winkelmuller

- i. Jonathan Luke Walls Downing b.
- ii. Matthew Karl Francis Downing b.
- iii. Kate Olivia b.

Katharine Maree Downing

Children of Katharine Maree Downing and Richard Todd Hayley Webb

- i. Yazmin Hayley Downing-Webb
- ii. Maximilian Todd Downing-Webb b.

Kristian John Walls Downing

Children of Kristian John Walls Downing and Kirsten Lorraine Marshall Gormly

- i. Chelsea Louise Marshall Downing b.
- ii. William James Marshall Downing b.

Christopher Michael Walls Downing

Children of Christopher Michael Walls Downing and Tiffany Jo Nelson

- i. Emily Jo Downing was b. in North Adelaide, SA
- ii. Joshua Michael Downing was b. Bedford Park SA

Timothy Andrew Walls Downing

Children of Timothy Andrew Walls Downing and Sally-Jo Downing

- i. Suki Rose Downing was b. in North Adelaide, SA
- ii. Poppy-Mae Alice Downing was b. in North Adelaide, SA