

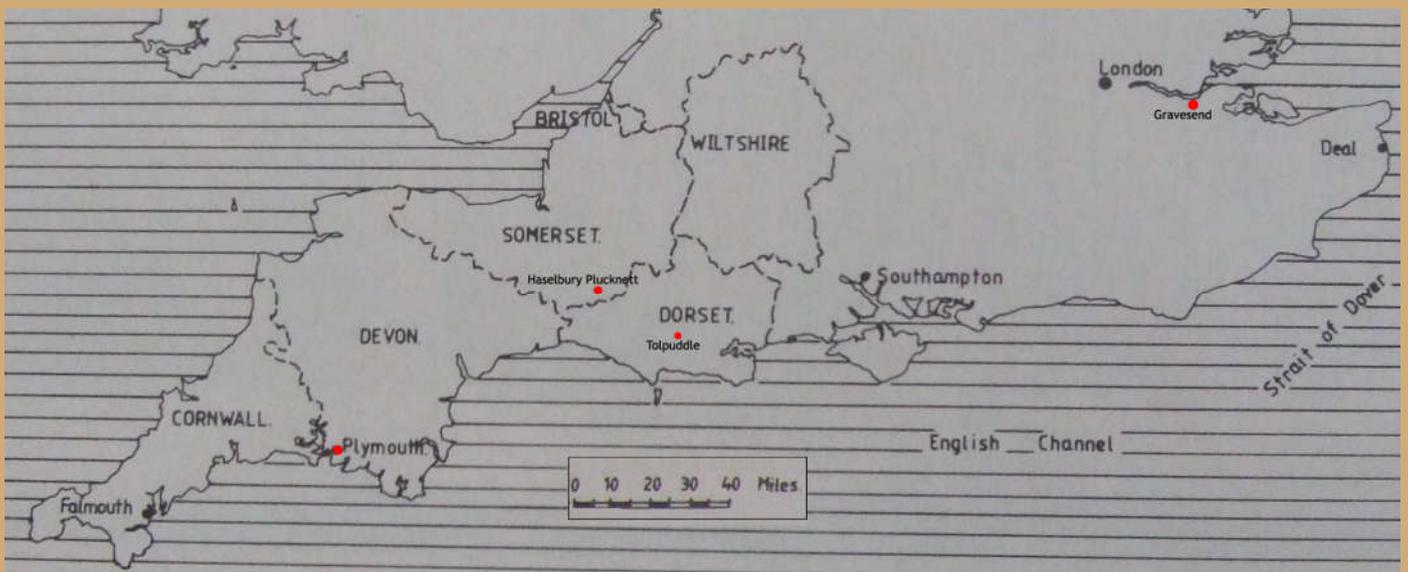
The Early Standfields

In Dorset and Somerset

The earliest Standfield in our line is Robert Standfield who was born around 1708 and lived in Tolpuddle, Dorset. He was married to Katherine Jones, they had seven children. Something of his life is learnt from his will that was published in a book on early Tolpuddle.

He was a carpenter by trade but also a licensed Alehouse Operator. When making his will he lived at the King's Arms in Tolpuddle which he leased. He mentions a stock of beer so it must have operated as a hotel. He also had leases on two other houses. After his death an inventory of his assets lists the three houses and 18 hogsheads (barrels) of beer amongst many other items. He had £89 in money in the house at the time. The inventory suggests Robert was quite well off.

Only one son and two daughters seem to have made it into adulthood. The son Thomas Standfield (1728-?) was also a carpenter; he married Anne Hunt in Tolpuddle in 1759.



Thomas and Anne had ten children, all born in Tolpuddle. Of the children we are mainly interested in two of them. Firstly Robert Standfield (1761-1832). Robert married Elizabeth Baker in Tolpuddle in 1787. They went on to have eleven children one of whom was Thomas Standfield (1789-1865) one of the Tolpuddle Martyrs.

The other son of direct interest was Richard Standfield (1774-1817). Richard married Elizabeth Loverage in 1801 in Haselbury Plucknett some 25 miles north west of Tolpuddle in the neighbouring county of Somerset. It seems that Tolpuddle could not support all of the Standfields, some began to move to other villages in Dorset and Somerset. Richard was an innkeeper at in Haselbury Plucknett (great name for a village). The inn was the Whitehorse Inn and still operates as a pub in Haselbury Plucknett. Haselbury Plucknett, was a village between the market-towns of Yeovil and Crewkerne, The village lies in a valley watered by the River Parrett, a couple of miles east of Crewkerne. At that time it was rather a straggling village, consisting mainly of two long streets, which met at an angle on

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the turnpike road. About a third of the people were farm workers, the rest worked in manufacture or were tradesmen.

Our Standfield ancestor was a carpenter. In the 1841 census he is listed as living with his uncle Thomas in nearby Crewkerne. Thomas was a brewer there but eventually took over the Whitehorse Inn in Haselbury Plucknett until his demise in 1852.

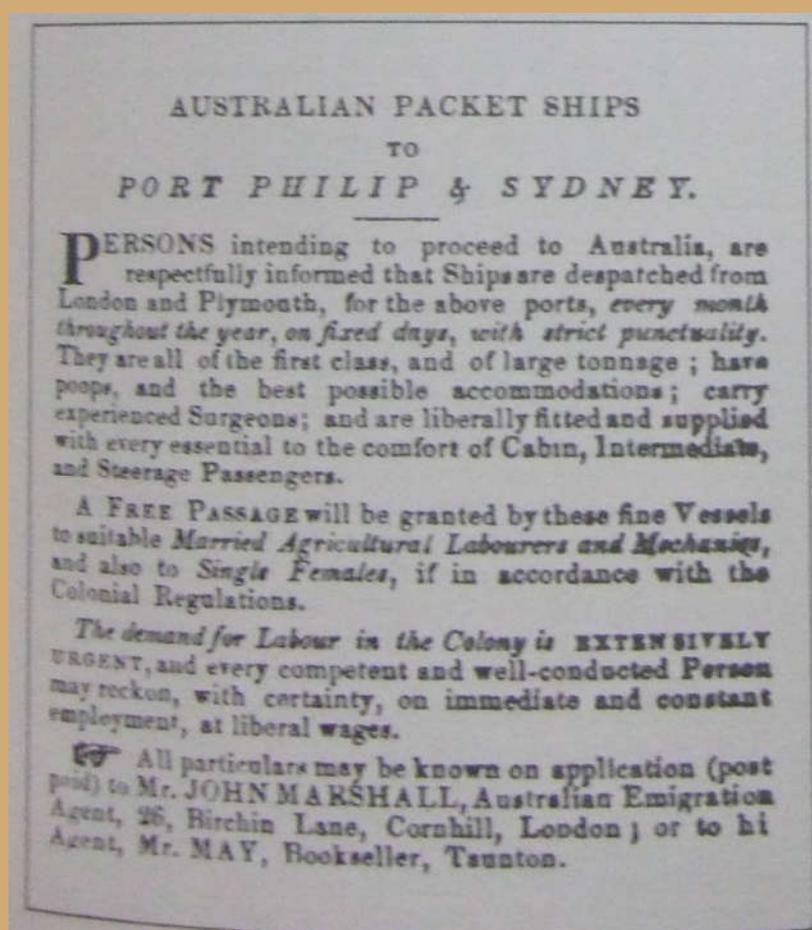
Richard and Elizabeth had six children in Haselbury Plucknett the first being the brewer Innkeeper Thomas and the last child being another Richard Standfield born in 1815. This, our, Richard Standfield came to Australia in 1848 with his wife and two daughters. He had married Jane Harding in 1842 in Bridgewater, Somerset. Bridgewater is about 30 miles northwest of Haselbury Plucknett. She was the daughter of Peter Harding, in one account described as a publican as was Richard's father. Jane was a dressmaker and in the 1841 census was living with her father at Ilchester and whose occupation at that time was a shoemaker. Ilchester is a town between Bridgewater and Haselbury Plucknett.

Coming to Australia

The couple lived in Haselbury Plucknett and had two children there before embarking on their journey to Australia. At the time they would have seen ads like the one shown here advertising for emigrants to Australia. Agents also visited towns and villages looking for prospective emigrants.

They sailed from Plymouth, Devon on the 20th June 1848 on the barque *Blonde* which berthed in Melbourne on October 15 1848. The Emigration agents must have been active in Haselbury Plucknett at the time, as there were four separate parties from Haselbury Plucknett on this voyage, three families and a single woman.

In a book, *The Somerset Years*, published here in Victoria by Florence Chuk, There is a description of the voyage to Australia of the *Blonde*. This trip was its maiden voyage



A new vessel, the Blonde was built in Nova Scotia in 1847 of birch, spruce and pine, and was sheathed with yellow metal shortly before leaving on her first voyage to Port Phillip. She belonged to the shipping firm of Lidgett of London, was said to be lofty and roomy between decks for those days and had a four years A1 classification from Lloyds. After her cargo was loaded at the East India Export Docks, she moved down the river to Gravesend to take on her passengers. All told, 241 emigrants embarked at London and Plymouth, as well as several cabin passengers.

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The Blonde was towed out from Gravesend in fine warm weather. A southerly wind had brought true midsummer days of almost 70°, and these continued until the vessel left Plymouth ten days later. During the voyage passengers enjoyed good health, provisions were said to be good, and the water kept fresh and sweet. There were two births at sea, and only two deaths during the passage. Before the officers began any meal, the Master would enquire of the Surgeon if any ailing emigrant would enjoy a serving of the food cooked for themselves and the cabin passengers, the patient always receiving the first serving.

Before any voyage, several suitable emigrants were engaged for shipboard duties: Matron, Schoolmaster, Hospital Attendants, and Constables. For this work they received a gratuity on arrival: the Matron and Schoolmaster would each receive £5, Hospital Attendants £3, and Constables £2. The Matron selected for the Blonde was a grave disappointment. After only three weeks, she began to neglect her duties. The Surgeon later reported that she and the single females under her surveillance could not be made to get out of their beds at the proper hours, their apartment became quite dirty, so some little delicacies such as raisins were withheld from them for a time.

Apart from the problem with the matron it would appear the couple had a pleasant passage to Victoria. Richard's occupation on the ship's records is given as Carpenter and he and Jane could both read and write. Thomas, aged 5 could read. Richard and Jane had three more children in Victoria.

A study of their birth places shows the family moved around Victoria. Richard worked as a carpenter and also worked as a manager on Mr Armytage senior's station. This would have been George Armytage a wealthy farmer and pastoralist who had many properties in Victoria including one at Mt Sturgeon on the Wannon River. Note Elizabeth Standfield was born at Wannon. This was possibly Richard's first job after landing in Victoria. The next two children's births were registered at Drysdale and Indented Head, both towns on the Bellarine Peninsula. Richard was a farmer at Portarlington, a nearby town.

The Children of Richard and Jane Standfield

Richard Standfield, b. 18 Feb 1815 at Plucknett, SOM, ENG, d. 10 May 1854 at Indented Head, VIC, AUS

+**Jane Harding**, b. c1822 at SOM, ENG, m. 3 May 1842 at Bridgewater, SOM, ENG, d. 26 Mar 1900 at Ararat, VIC, AUS

— **Thomas Standfield**, b. 7 Feb 1843 at Plucknett, SOM,

— **Mary Standfield**, b. circa 1844 at Plucknett, SOM

— **Elizabeth Standfield**, b. 1849 at Wannon, VIC, AUS,

— **William Robert Standfield**, b. 9 May 1851 at Drysdale, VIC

— **Rebecca Standfield**, b. Oct 1853 at Indented Head, VIC

Richard Standfield died on 9 May 1854 at Indented Head. His death certificate states he died of dysentery after an illness of 9 days. At the same time his 6 month old daughter Rebecca also died. Father and daughter were both interred at the Eastern Cemetery, Geelong on 12th May 1854. Richard was just 38 years old.

It is not clear what happened next. Quite possibly Jane was able to continue at the farm. Her children would have been, 11, 10, 5, and 3. A few years on her eldest son Thomas and her daughter Elizabeth were married at Creswick, near Daylesford (both married in 1866). Thomas and his wife Susannah Wiffin remained in the Daylesford area and raised a large family there. The other daughter, Mary also married in 1866, but in Geelong. William Robert their other son married Victoria Huxtable in Portarlington in 1880.

In 1882, their mother Jane married again to Moss Elefson. Not much is known of her after her second marriage. It is believed she moved to a farm at Mt Cole near Ararat. She died there on 26

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Mar 1900. Her death was registered as Jane Standfield but it appears there are no details of her parents or spouse on the death certificate.

William Robert Standfield may have taken on the farm at Portarlington but one of his grandsons (Noel) had a copy of William's Certificate of Competency as Master in the River Service, given under the Seal of the Board at Melbourne, dated 29th July, 1878. It seemed he did work as a boat master or captain as he was referred to as Captain Bob. He must have worked



William Robert Standfield
1851 - 1919



Victoria Standfield nee Huxtable
1861 - 1936

from Portarlington as nine of he and Victoria's children had their births registered at Bellarine (Portarlington). The other two were registered at Meeniyan in Gippsland. I understand birth certificates have the place of birth of the last two children as Buffalo which is just outside Fish Creek.

The move to Gippsland to take up a farm at Fish Creek must have occurred during 1896/97. The name of the property was Amber Vale. William died in 1919 and his probate documents show the farm to be a dairy farm on 524 acres. At the time of his death he was milking 45 cows but also had 2 bulls, 17 steers and 20 calves.

The Family of William Robert Standfield and Victoria Huxtable

William Robert Standfield, b. 9 May 1851 at Drysdale, VIC, AUS, d. 30 Jul 1919 at Fish Creek, VIC, AUS
+Victoria Huxtable, b. 10 Jan 1861 at Indented Head, VIC, AUS, m. 27 May 1880 at Portarlington, VIC, AUS, d. 17 Oct 1936 at Fish Creek, VIC, AUS

- **William Robert Standfield**, b. 26 Dec 1880 at Bellarine, VIC, AUS, d. 29 Mar 1949 at Kooweerup, VIC, AUS
- **Albert Edward Standfield**, b. 8 Dec 1882 at Bellarine, VIC, AUS, d. 26 Feb 1889 at Bellarine, VIC, AUS
- **Ethel Amanda Standfield**, b. 5 Feb 1885 at Bellarine, VIC, AUS, d. 12 Sep 1960 at Geelong, VIC, AUS
- **Richard Lionel Standfield**, b. 18 Mar 1887 at Bellarine, VIC, AUS, d. 10 Apr 1916 at Kingaroy, QLD, AUS
- **Edgar Standfield**, b. 16 Feb 1890 at Bellarine East, VIC, AUS, d. 20 Feb 1966 at St Albans, VIC, AUS
- **Edwin Standfield**, b. 16 Feb 1890 at Bellarine East, VIC, AUS, d. 23 Aug 1918 in France
- **Bertram Standfield**, b. 13 Mar 1892 at Bellarine East, VIC, AUS, d. 7 May 1944 at Yarram, VIC, AUS
- **Thomas Oswald Standfield**, b. 12 Apr 1894 at Bellarine, VIC, AUS, d. 9 Sep 1952 at Yarragon, VIC, AUS
- **Francis Moyle Standfield**, b. 9 Feb 1896 at Bellarine East, VIC, AUS, d. 24 Apr 1975 at Boort, VIC, AUS
- **Wilfred Victor Standfield**, b. 23 Nov 1897 at Meeniyan, VIC, AUS, d. 18 Oct 1948 at Fish Creek, VIC, AUS
- **Alan Herbert Standfield**, b. 17 Apr 1900 at Meeniyan, VIC, AUS, d. 11 Oct 1986 at Foster, VIC, AUS

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William Robert Standfield junior (1880-1949)

William, our direct ancestor, was the first born child of William Robert senior and Victoria, also named William Robert Standfield. Born on Boxing Day 1880, he would have been about sixteen when the family relocated to Fish Creek. He may have worked in Kooweerup because in 1915, his marriage to Olga Mortensen was reported in a long article in the Kooweerup Guardian. The article also included a long list of presents given to the couple. It also identifies all the members of the wedding party. The article also tells us the couple began their married life living in Kooweerup.

We know William spent time as a fisherman at Port Welshpool. Olga's father's will mentions him as living at Port Welshpool as a fisherman in 1921 when it was written. William was named as an executor of William (Wilhelm) Mortensen's estate; the other executor was William Mortensen's son, also William (Wilhelm).

William Mortensen changed William Standfield as an executor in 1924 and his son-in-law William Eason was named instead. Eason was a school teacher in Kooweerup and had married Ruby Mortensen the year before. Possibly having both executors living in Kooweerup was seen as more convenient.

Wedding.

STANDFIELD—MORTENSEN.

On the 24th November, at the Church of England, Kooweerup, by the Rev. H. de Putron Hitchcock, Mr Robert Standfield, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Robert Standfield, of "Amber Vale," Fish Creek, was married to Miss Olga Mortensen, second daughter of Mr and Mrs W. Mortensen, of Kooweerup.

The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a handsome gown of white silk embroidered voile, with a handsome silk net veil, embroidered in each corner with horse shoe and true lover's knots. A wreath of orange blossom encircled the head, and she carried a bouquet of pure white roses and asparagus fern tied with white streamers. The bridesmaids, Misses Ruby and Queenie Mortensen, sisters of the bride, wore white embroidered voile, and carried posies of pink La France roses tied with pink streamers. Mr Edgar Standfield acted as best man, and Mr W. Mortensen as groomsman. After the ceremony a reception was held at the residence of the bride's parents, where a wedding tea was served, and the relatives of the contracting parties had an enjoyable time. The newly married couple left by motor amid showers of rice and confetti for a trip to Healesville. The presents from bridegroom to bridesmaids were pretty gold bangles. The happy couple have taken up their residence at Kooweerup, and everyone wishes them a happy and prosperous future.



William and Olga's Wedding Party

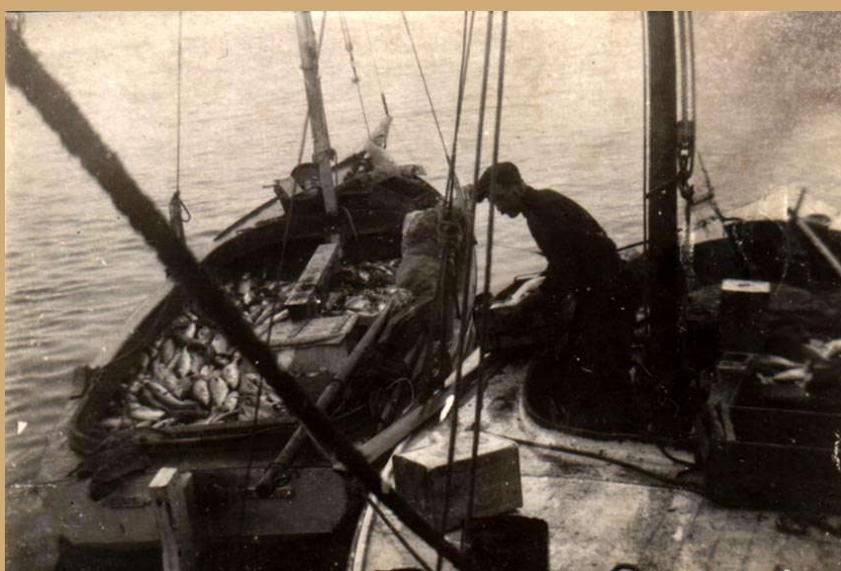
From left, Edgar Standfield, Ruby Mortensen, William Standfield, Olga Standfield nee Mortensen, William Mortensen, Queenie Mortensen

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We are not sure how long William Standfield spent at Port Welshpool. We know that it was an important time in shaping their son Ted's lifelong passion for fishing and his love of Port Welshpool. The photos here shows William on his boat at Port Welshpool, the young boy in the boat is probably his son Ted. Ted had a lifelong love of Port Welshpool, family Sunday drives with Ted and Lil almost invariably ended up at Port Welshpool.



In 1929 Olga's father Wilhelm died. He had three farm properties in Kooweerup, the largest farm, 45 acres was left to his son Wilhelm, and another farm of 34 acres was left jointly to Olga and Queenie. Ruby was left the other farm. It was probably at this period that William Standfield returned to Kooweerup and he and Olga fanned the property bequeathed to her. Family memories are very much based around the farm at Kooweerup.



William and Olga were to have six children; all of them seem to have been born at Kooweerup some of them during the period William and Olga were at Port Welshpool. Possibly she returned to her

parents place for the births, she would have had access to the Kooweerup Hospital.

Lil's photo collection included these handsome portraits of Olga and William.



Joy's memory of her grandfather was of him being sick and confined to his bed. He died at Kooweerup on 29th March 1949.

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Olga continued at the farm for some time but it was to come to a close after a farm yard accident. Olga was chopping wood when a chip flew into her eye and she lost the site of it. She had a congenital complaint that gave her very little site in one eye. Unfortunately it was her good eye that was damaged in

the accident. It was at this point she went to live with her daughter Thelma and her husband Andy

Garbellini who also farmed at Kooweerup.

Olga died at Kooweerup on 14th August 1970, she was 77. Another of Lil's clippings from a local paper records her passing.

The image below is the list of wedding presents.



DAUGHTER OF PIONEER PASSES

Mrs. Olga Clarice Stanfield who passed away at Kooweerup North on August 14th., was the daughter of the late William Mortensen, an early settler who came to the Kooweerup area in 1893.

The late Mrs. Standfield passed away at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Thelma Garbellini, with whom she had resided for some years.

Her husband, the late Robert William Standfield, farmed for many years at McDonald's Drain Road.

Sympathy of friends is extended to members of the family — Thelma

(Mrs. Garbellini), Edwin, Oswald, Olive (Mrs. G. Milner), Ruby (Mrs. T. Lia) and Allen. She is also survived by her two sisters, Mrs. Ruby Eason and Mrs. Queenie Loveday.

A Service was held at St. Georges Church of England, Kooweerup, last Tuesday, with a large crowd following the cortege to the Pak- enham Cemetery.

Grandma Standfield's Family

Jeppe Mortensen, b. 1793

+Marie Kirstine Nielsen, b. 1815, m. 10 Aug 1833 at Pedersker, Bornholm, Denmark

└ Wilhelm Mortensen, b. 26 Oct 1852 at Skive, Viborg, Denmark, d. 16 Aug 1929 at Kooweerup, VIC, AUS

+Florinda Collins, b. 9 Nov 1855 at Moss Vale, N.S.W., AUS, m. 1888 at VIC, AUS, d. 16 Dec 1920 at Kooweerup, VIC, AUS

└ William Henry Leisgong (Wilhelm) Mortensen, b. 1889 at South Melbourne, VIC, AUS, d. 16 Jun 1942 at Kooweerup, VIC, AUS

+Alice May Higgins, b. 15 Mar 1895, m. 1917 at VIC, AUS, d. 20 Apr 1968 at Pakenham, VIC, AUS

└ Ruby Florinda Mortensen, b. 1891 at Brunswick, VIC, AUS, d. 1976 at Pakenham, VIC, AUS

+William Eason, m. 1923 at VIC, AUS, d. 1936 at Pakenham, VIC, AUS

└ Olga Clarice Mortensen, b. 10 Jan 1893 at Brunswick, VIC, AUS, d. 14 Aug 1970 at Kooweerup, VIC, AUS

+William Robert Standfield, b. 26 Dec 1880 at Bellarine, VIC, AUS, m. 24 Nov 1915 at Kooweerup, VIC, AUS, d. 29 Mar 1949 at Kooweerup, VIC, AUS

└ Queenie Elvine Mary Mortensen, b. 1900 at Hotham West, VIC, AUS, d. Vic, AUS, 1980.

+Cyril William Loveday, b. 29 Apr 1896 at Batesford, VIC, AUS, m. 1925 at VIC, AUS, d. 1966 at Moonee Ponds, VIC, AUS

The following is a list of presents:
 Bride to bridegroom, gold pendant.
 Bridegroom to bride, marble clock.
 Father of bride, Suite furniture, side-board, and table.
 Mother of bride, household linen.
 Father of groom, cheque.
 Mother of groom, silver teapot and stand.
 Miss Ruby Mortensen, jardiniere, glass ware and fancy work.
 Miss Queenie Mortensen, pretty teapot.
 Mr W. Mortensen, jr., silver cruet.
 Mr Edgar Standfield, silver shell butter dish.
 Mr and Mrs Bert Standfield, silver epergne.
 Mr and Mrs W. Huxtable, ruby and bronze drawingroom lamp.
 Mrs Longmoore, water jug and glasses.
 Mr and Misses O'Riordan, silver and cameo biscuit barrel and butter dish.
 Miss Maggie Colvin, table runners and pin cushions.
 Mr and Mrs J. Colvin, jr., pair sweet dishes, sauce jug and tray cloth.
 Mrs Owen, case of afternoon sea spoons and silver salt collars.
 Miss May Higgins, silver butter dish.
 Mr and Mrs D. McNamara, pair silver butter dishes.
 Misses May, Alice, and Blue McNamara, pair silver mounted pickle jars.
 Mrs J. Davey, cut glass sugar bowl.
 Mr and Mrs J. Gray, jr., salad bowl, sugar basin, cream jug, and butter dish.
 Misses I. and E. McNamara, silver sugar scoop.
 Among the presents was the useful animal, the pig, presented by Mr Ted Standfield.

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The Mortensens

Wilhelm Mortenson, anglicized to William was born in 1852. Danish records available online provide his christening record which also gives his birth date. He was born on the 26th October 1852 at Skive, in the Viborg region in Denmark. His parents were Jeppe Mortensen and Marie Kirstine Nielson. The town of Skive is located at the mouth of the Karup River and the Skive Fjord on the Jutland Peninsula.

Danish records do provide information on Wilhelm's parents including their marriage certificate. They were married in 1833 at Pedersker on Bornholm Island which is quite some way from Skive. (See map on "Introducing Joy's Family" page). They had three children in the years after their marriage. In 1849 they moved to the Viborg region of Jutland where Skive is situated. Here they were to have four more children including Wilhelm. The records do not provide information on Jeppe's occupation. Pedersker is in a farming area and perhaps Jeppe was a farm worker. There needs to be more research here.

A record of Wilhelm's arrival in Australia has not been found. My feeling is it was in the 1880s. There were Mortensens from Denmark who arrived in 1885, just not Wilhelm as far as I can see.

Grandma Standfield's parents William (Wilhelm) and Florinda were married in 1888 and possibly in South Melbourne. Their first child Wilhem Henry Leisgang's birth was registered there in 1889. Their other children were registered at Brunswick, Ruby and Olga, and Hotham West (North Melbourne), Queenie. Wilhelm and his family must have moved to the Kooweerup area in the early 1900s. Grandma Standfield was married there in 1915.

Descendant chart of William Robert Standfield (1880-1949)

William Robert Standfield, b. 26 Dec 1880 at Bellarine, VIC, AUS, d. 29 Mar 1949 at Kooweerup, VIC, AUS
 +**Olga Clarice Mortensen**, b. 10 Jan 1893 at Brunswick, VIC, AUS, m. 24 Nov 1915 at Kooweerup, VIC, AUS, d. 14 Aug 1970 at Kooweerup, VIC, AUS
 |— **Thelma Florence Victoria Standfield**, b. 21 Oct 1916 at Kooweerup, VIC, AUS, d. 21 Jan 2003 at Hastings, VIC, AUS
 | +**Andrew Herbert Garbellini**, b. circa 1906, m. 30 Jan 1939 at Koo Wee Rup, VIC, AUS, d. 16 Oct 1973 at Kooweerup, VIC, AUS
 |— **Edwin Robert Standfield**, b. 23 Dec 1917 at Kooweerup, VIC, AUS, d. 13 Jan 1981 at Rhyll, VIC, AUS
 | +**Lillian Isobel Don**, b. 21 Oct 1920 at Goulburn, N.S.W., AUS, m. 1 Nov 1941 at Hawthorn, VIC, AUS, d. 1 Dec 1989 at Ringwood, VIC, AUS
 |— **Richard Oswald (Ossie) Standfield**, b. 17 Dec 1924 at Kooweerup, VIC, AUS, d. 7 Mar 1995 at Boronia, VIC, AUS
 | +**Adelaide (Peg) Buchanan**, b. 24 Feb 1925, m. 1958, d. 11 Sep 2007 at Kyabram, VIC, AUS
 |— **Olive Dagmar Standfield**, b. 13 Mar 1927 at VIC, AUS, d. 19 Mar 2006 at Colac, VIC, AUS
 | +**George Thomas Milner**, b. 17 May 1922, m. 22 May 1948, d. 14 Oct 2014 at Colac, VIC, AUS
 |— **Ruby Elvine Patricia Standfield**, b. 5 Nov 1929 at VIC, AUS, d. 18 Jun 2016 at Warragul, VIC, AUS
 | +**Thomas Henry Lia**, b. 1930, m. 22 Jul 1950, d. 26 Jan 2017 at Warragul, VIC, AUS
 |— **Alan Victor Standfield**, b. 21 Sep 1935 at VIC, AUS, d. 12 Jun 2003 at Pakenham, VIC, AUS
 | +**Margaret Joyce (Peg) Griffiths**, b. 1929, d. 5 Jun 2017 at Pakenham, VIC, AUS