

COOPER, Alfred

Variations :

Alias :

Ship	Date arrived (Sydney)
Phoenix	13 July 1828

Shipping indent(s)

Fiche	Page	Reel	Shelf	Type
669	94		4/4013	Bound

Trial (place, date)	Prev conv	Offence	Sentence
Oxford	2	Picking pockets	life
Notes: Source = bound indent			

Age	Marr/S	Child'n	Relig	Educ	Native place	Country
19	S		Prot	R & W	Oxford	England
Notes: Source = bound indent						

Trade or calling	Height	Complexion	Hair	Eyes
Mason's labourer	5' 8 hlf	Ruddy freckled	Dark sandy	Dark brown
Tattoos: Anchor and WC on right arm, anchor and AC on left				
Other features:				
Notes: Source = bound indent				
Other arrival info (eg ships musters & papers):				

Assignment

On arrival to JP Webber, Marford, HR.	
Oct – Dec 1834, transferred to C&F Wilson, purchasers of Tocal (see 'other' below)	
At Tocal: 1828-36	Tocal occupation: servant

Freedom (year, details)

T.O.L.	36/1487 , Paterson 16 August 1836, 4/4106 [reel 925] 40/1898 Dungog 3 September 1840, 4/4143 [reel 937]. Issued in lieu of 36/1487 16 August 1836 deposed to be lost. Notation: 'Cancelled per Ltre from Col Sec No 41/5 dated 6 th January 1841 for being present at robberies committed in Dungog and not making any effort to resist or secure the bushrangers'. 42/2049 Raymond Terrace, 4/4166 [reel 945]
C.P.	47/246, 10 April 1847, 4/4450 [reel 783]

Colonial crime & secondary punishment

Date	Offence	In service of	Punishment
1840 Nov	Allowing himself to be robbed	JD Walker	TOL withdrawn, sent to Pinchgut Is
Sources: see TOL above and Col Sec below.			

Colonial Secretary's correspondence

<p>15 March 1838 CSIL 38/2717 in 4/2420.1, from Police Office, Paterson. James Caroline, Mangles 1828, holding TOL for this district, was committed by the Bench here 22nd last month for stabbing Alfred Cooper with intent to murder.</p> <p>17 December 1840 CSIL 40/12813 in 4/2505.7, from Police Magistrate, Dungog. [despatch contains the following letter from JD Walker to Thos Cook Esq, PM Dungog, as follows...] the following were present on 30th November when my house was robbed by four armed bushrangers... (long list including) two TOL holders: Alfred Cooper and John Lenon. 'These two men offered to follow me if I would command the attack in capturing them, but unfortunately had no fire arms, therefore I did not think it judicious or safe to commence'. 'I have no complaint to make against one of the men in my service as they only wanted my</p>

sanction to attack those robbers which I consider would be highly imprudent of me without fire arms to risk the lives of those men committed to my care also that which interested me most my wife and children'.

[The above was forwarded to the Col Sec with a covering note from the Police Magistrate at Dungog, with the following comment:

'if it please his Excellency to make an example it will... make the Prisoners and Ticket of Leave men interested in the Peace of the Colony, and Bushranging will speedily cease'.

[The Governor, George Gipps annotated the correspondence as follows:]

'Let the Tickets of Leave be cancelled of Alfred Cooper and John Lenon and let the undermentioned assigned servants be withdrawn [six of them] ... and the whole of them (including the Ticket of Leave holders) be sent to Pinchgut Island.'

(signed) G.G. Dec 25.

[note: the armed bushrangers were the Jewboy gang, and the incident took place at the Union Inn at Brookfield near Dungog. For further information see 'An Organised Banditti – the story behind the Jewboy Bushranger Gang' by Colin Roope and Patricia Gregson.]

NSW Census/musters

1828	Age 19, Protestant, servant to JP Webber, Markham [Tocal] Patersons Plains
1837	(not found)

Colonial marriage

Date	Place	To whom	BDM index reference
1840	Paterson	Johannah KEILLY/KELLY	V1840 657 24B
Permission to marry: yes, he was TOL & wife was bond			

Death

Date	Place	Age	BDM index reference

Timeline

Date	Event
1828 July	Arrived Sydney and assigned to J Webber, Marford H.R. as per indent
1828 Nov	Servant with James Webber at Markham [Tocal]
1834 Oct	Transferred to C&F Wilson, purchasers of Tocal from Webber
1836 Aug	TOL Paterson, then Dungog
1840	Married Johannah Keilly at Paterson
1840 Nov	TOL withdrawn for allowing himself to be robbed by Jewboy bushranger Gang, sent to Pinchgut Island in Sydney
1842	TOL Raymond Terrace
1847 Apr	CP

Other (source, details)

NSW GG 3 June 1835 p394. Between October and December 1834 transferred from JP Webber to C&F Wilson [transferred convicts were listed by occupation rather than surname, enabling identification of some individuals. Cooper can be identified as the only 'mason's labourer' among the Tocal convicts].

SR, Newcastle Gaol Entrance Book 1841-45, 2/2008 [reel 756]. Alfred Cooper, Phoenix 1828, from Oxford, Protestant, labourer, #35 admitted to Newcastle Gaol 30 January 1841 for '2nd class gang on Pinchgut Island'. Disposed 'other stations, HM Gaol Sydney' 1 February 1841.

SR, Sydney and Darlinghurst Gaol Entrance Books 1839-1841, 4/6439 [reel 853]. Admitted (#220) 1 February 1841 from Dungog for 7 days Pinchgut Island. Disposed by interior to Pinchgut Island 3 February 1841.

SR, Sydney and Darlinghurst Gaol Entrance Books 1842-1844, 4/6440 [reel 854]. Admitted (#386) 2 March 1842 from Hyde Park Barracks for Probationary Gang Parramatta. Disposed via interior to Parramatta 4 March 1842.

Keywords

Hyde Park Barracks, probationary gang

General information

Research on Tocal's convicts was undertaken by Brian Walsh. Please do not email or upload this document without acknowledgement.

For further information see the book *Voices from Tocal –Convict Life on a Rural Estate* by Brian Walsh, available from www.tocal.com

For contact details see www.tocal.com

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