

## **Postscript to Article on Old Castle Street Area, Whitechapel**

The following email from Paul Hampton gives further information about one of the inhabitants of Castle Street, Jonas Hampton, and his family. He writes:

*Whilst researching my Tasmanian family I came across your piece on Castle Street and found it interesting and very informative. Thank you for your meticulous work on the living conditions and social makeup of their Whitechapel community.*

*I was particularly focussed on Jonas Hampton at number 28 and it may interest you to know something of his and his family's story.*

*Jonas was born in Epping, Essex. In 1837 his father William Hampton and his older brothers Robert (20) and Richard (16), all farm labourers, were sentenced to transportation for 10 years to Tasmania for sheep stealing. Robert didn't get far. He died on the prison hulk 'Fortitude' at Chatham in May, 1838. Two years later, in 1841, Jonas' mother Maria and three younger siblings were in the Epping Union Workhouse and Jonas, aged 15 was working as a farm labourer at Holyfield Hall, Essex.*

*In 1848 Jonas married Ann Isbell at St Leonards, Shoreditch. In 1851, they were living at 28 Castle Street and he was working as a labourer on the docks. His sister Sarah Ann Hampton was employed as a servant of another family at the same address. A variation on your observation that extended families show up quite often at the same address.*

*In fact, by 1851 many of the remaining family appear to be living in Whitechapel. There were apparently 12 siblings in total but I have so far been able to trace only a few of them. Jonas' mother Maria Hampton was living as a lodger in 12 John Street. Daughter Mary Ann was working as a servant at 15 John St. Younger brother Benjamin was living with his wife in nearby Cannon Street and working as a ship-scraper.*

*Maria Hampton died in 1859 at 58 Back Church Lane with Jonas' wife Ann in attendance. Two years later newly married daughter Sarah Ann gave birth to her first child at the same address.*

*Soon after Maria's death, Jonas and Ann left to join Jonas' brother Richard and father William (now free and with a small grant of land) at Deloraine, Tasmania where they spent the rest of their lives and raised a family. Brother Benjamin also shows up (minus his wife) in Deloraine at around about the same time. Unfortunately he was fatally shot in what appears to have been an unprovoked attack in 1886.*

*Jonas' father, William died in 1875. Ann died in 1897, Jonas in 1907.*

*Sarah Ann also migrated to Australia with her husband Thomas Burke and son Lawrence. They lived in Sydney.*

*I am the great-great grandson of older brother and convict, Richard Hampton. Richard married and had nine children. His son, also Richard, had ten children and his son William (my grandfather) had nine. We have a family gathering in northern Tasmania every March. It's always a big gathering! By the way, recent research shows that convicts in Tasmania from rural backgrounds had much greater success in establishing families. A fact that our family appears to bear out.*

*Paul Hampton, January 2018*