

# Thomas DUNN

## Thomas DUNN

( late of Castlereagh St, Sydney )

New South Wales Police Force

Regd. # 47. Sworn in 29/12/1810

**Rank**: Chief Constable

**Stations**: George St, Sydney. Constable.

Sydney 5th District. District Constable.

George St, Sydney. Chief Constable

**Service**: From 1810 to 1827. Resigned due to ill health (on going infirmities)

**Awards**: ?

**Born**: ? ? 1776 in England or Ireland

**Died on**: 6 April 1832, possibly ???

due to ongoing complications as a result of a snake bite in 1827

**Cause**: Infirmities

**Age: 55**

**Funeral date: ?**

**Funeral location: ?**

**Originally Buried at: Devenshire  
Cemetery on 9 April 1832 ( now the site  
of Central Railway Stn, Sydney )**

**Buried at: St. James Anglican, Macquarie  
St, Sydney but other records have him  
reburied at Botany Cemetery.**

**[alert\_blue]THOMAS is NOT mentioned on the Police Wall of  
Remembrance[/alert\_blue] \* NOT JOB RELATED**

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From Kevin Banister:

Dear people. Below is a bit of a story of one of my ancestors Thomas DUNN. NSW Fallen Police does not only mean those who made the ultimate sacrifice, but those that served and lived and, hopefully, had their story told. If you had an ancestor that served, please tell us the story.

Thomas Dunn is a direct ancestor of one of my mothers sister. Something I will add to my 'Mums Memories'. He was a copper, as I was. Mum would not have known of this.

THOMAS DUNN was born in 1776 in England or Ireland. In 1796 he was described as: 5ft 8in, dark complexion, dark hair and dark eyes.

At the age of 19 he was a servant for a brewer in King St, Westminster backing onto the Thames. In Sept 1796, he was

caught stealing money from his employer and was convicted and sentenced at Newgate Prison on 28/10/1796 to 7 years deportation. He was 20 years of age.

After sentencing, he spent a few months at Newgate before being sent to the Hulks in Portsmouth Harbour on 12/3/1797, where he spent the next 21 months. He sailed from Portland Roads on 23/12/1798 on the ship "**Hillsborough**" (764 tons) with 300 male convicts aboard, some of whom had typhus.

The Master of the ship was William Hingston who treated the convicts harshly. It arrived in Sydney, after 212 days, on 26/7/1799 with typhus raging on board.

Ninety five of the 300 convicts had died during the voyage and a further 6 died after they landed, Gov. Hunter describing the survivors as "the most wretched and miserable convicts I have ever beheld, in the most sickly and wretched state". Almost every prisoner required hospital treatment, due to the sickness; the treatment on board where they were kept double ironed and chained together on deck; their bedding which was constantly wet due to the stormy weather; plus being inadequately fed.

After serving his term, Thomas married Rose Bean in 1804. She had arrived in the Colony aboard the ship "Buffalo" in 1799 at the age of 13. She arrived with her parents and siblings as free settlers, her father James Bean having signed up as a builder under a "Terms of Settlement" agreement. James Bean would be contracted to build the Rum Hospital in Macquarie Street in 1811. Rose and her siblings were all born in London.

In 1803, when Rose was 17, she was raped by two Irish convicts who had escaped and attacked the Bean homestead. **Thomas Dunn**, who may have been assigned to the Bean farm at the time, married her the following year at St John's Church, Parramatta. Dunn and Bean were both involved in the quashing of the rebellion of Irish convicts at Castle Hill in 1804,

known as the Battle of Vinegar Hill.

In the 1806 Muster, Thomas was self-employed and renting 30 acres. He had 20 acres under pasture, growing maize and barley.

In **1810** he was appointed a **constable** in Sydney, victualled by the Government. He was also a landholder in Baulkam Hills. In 1814 he received a grant of land.

By **1817**, he was a **District Constable**, paid a salary from the **Police Fund**.

On **Oct 19, 1820**, he was appointed a **Chief Constable** for **Sydney** and was receiving a wage of 150 pound.

In 1824/25 he was granted 600 acres which he sold in 1830 for 125 pounds sterling.

In the **1828** Census, he was a pensioner on 50 pound a year, living in **Cumberland Street**. On his retirement, many praised his "exemplary conduct during his time as Chief Constable."

Thomas **died** on **6/4/1832** aged **55** and was living in **Castlereigh St, Sydney** at the time of his death. Rose had died the year before on 5/11/1831. They had 8 children. Their daughter, Margaret, married Walter Butler (son of convict Laurence Butler), and had two children. Margaret would die at the young age of 31 years.

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# Charles WALTON

## Constable Charles WALTON

Shot

Windsor

**29 November, 1832**

On Thursday night, 29 November, 1832 District Constable Walton and Robert Roberts (presumably also a constable) were attempting to capture bushrangers who they had been told were in their area. Walton had disguised himself and was hoping to tempt the bushrangers to bail him up. Unfortunately two mounted police named Mugglestone and Ferns (who were also in disguise and looking for bushrangers) spotted Walton, and when both parties assumed the other to be bushrangers, a violent struggle ensued. Unfortunately Walton was shot dead and Roberts was wounded in the encounter. An account of the incident appeared in the *Sydney Herald* of Thursday 6 December, 1832.

*On Friday an inquest was held at the Windsor Hotel on the body of Charles Walton, a constable, who met his death the previous night in a struggle with the Horse Police, who were out in search of bushrangers, and both parties being in disguise each took the other for runaways, though the Policeman did declare himself so, yet the constable attempted to fire his piece and ordered his attendant to fire, but both flashed in the pan, but not so with one of the Police " he first wounded one and afterwards shot the other dead while grappling with the other*

*policeman. " Verdict, Justifiable homicide.*

The constable was 36 years old at the time of his death and was District Constable at Upper Nelson (Windsor district). He was replaced at that station by Constable Alexander Cross.

He had arrived in Australia on the ship *Fame* in 1817 and received his Ticket of Leave in 1825. He was appointed as Town Constable at Windsor from 1 November 1828.