

*Maitland and District Historical Society Inc.*

# **Bulletin of Maitland and District Historical Society Inc.**

(Established March 1977)

Affiliated with Royal Australian Historical Society and  
Museum and Galleries Hunter Chapter



**Clara Ann Clift**

**Volume 29, Number 2**

**May 2022**

*The Aims of the Society are to  
Discover, Record, Preserve, Advise on and Teach the History of Maitland and the  
District*

## *Maitland and District Historical Society Inc.*

**Cover:** The photograph of Clara Ann Clift was supplied by Tony Clift.

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**Email :** maitlandhistorical@gmail.com

**Website :** <http://www.maitlandhistorical.org>

**Location:** 3 Cathedral Street Maitland (opposite Bishop's House)

**Lecture meetings** are held on the first Tuesday of each month from 5:30-7.00pm as a forum for lectures, talks and presentations.

**Committee meetings** are held on the third Tuesday of even months from 5:30-7.00pm.

**General meetings** are held on the third Tuesday of odd months from 5:30-7.00pm.  
Members are invited to attend all monthly meetings.

Meetings are held at the Society's rooms, 3 Cathedral Street Maitland.

Membership fees : \$25 (single) and \$35 (double / family)

**COVID 19 update: The rooms are open between 11 and 3 on Wednesdays and Saturdays to members and the public who have been immunized. The wearing of a face mask is optional. We follow current government guidelines.**

**Patron:** Dr AC Archer AM

### **Current Office Bearers :**

**President :** Kevin Short

**Vice President :** Allan Thomas

**Treasurer :** Jennifer Buffier

**Secretary:** Steve Bone

**Bulletin Editor :** Lisa Thomas

**Consultant Editor :** Kevin Short

**Bulletin contributions** are being sought. Please contact the Society via email  
[maitlandhistorical@gmail.com](mailto:maitlandhistorical@gmail.com)

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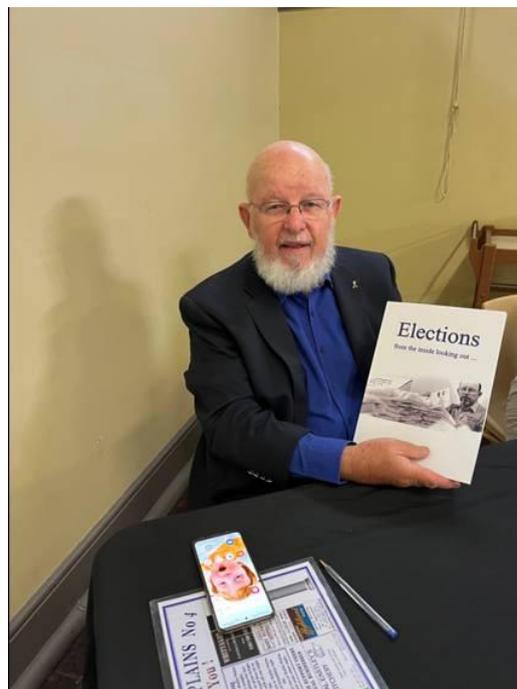
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**Editor's Notes:**

This edition contains an expanded version of an article which I had written on Lochinvar's Trinity House, and which had previously appeared in the *Maitland Mercury* in 2021. The cover photograph of Trinity House's designer Mrs Milton Capp, when she was still a young Clara Ann Clift, was recently made available to me by Queenslander Tony Clift.

In the February Bulletin we presented Part 1 of an article which Val Rudkin had written on Guglielmo Enrico (William Henry) Lardelli, whose memory, and in particular his Maitland connection, has been largely forgotten in the local community. In this edition we present Part 2, which focuses on Signor Lardelli's family and on his compositions, Included is the sheet music of Signor Lardelli's 'Douce Plainte' which has been sourced from the National Library of Australia.

In April our president Kevin Short launched his book 'Elections' at a function held at the Masonic Hall. Joel Fitzgibbon was the principal speaker and the event was attended by many politicians past and present. Kevin's book illuminates the intricacies of Australian elections. it is available for purchase.



Kevin Short at the launch of his book

Also in April the website *Maitland: our Place, our Stories*, was launched at a function held in our rooms. This website had been in development for two years

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and is a history of Maitland from the earliest days. The site contains many articles written by our members that have appeared in the *Maitland Mercury*, and it is anticipated that many more articles will be added. The website may be accessed from the Society's home page.



Chas Keys at the website launch

Finally, it should be noted that 2022 marks the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Maitland and District Historical Society. It seems almost inconceivable that five years have passed since the wonderful luncheon when we celebrated the Society's fortieth.

We reproduce here the 1977 words of June Vile, who was the Society's first president.

*Many members have spent years in slow detective work finding out many, perhaps unrelated, facts. We expect it will take a while to put together, but we should eventually have a coherent and continuing history of this district.*

June had an encompassing vision for the future of the Society. Her goals are reflected in our aims, which are to discover, record, preserve, advise on and teach the history of Maitland and the District.

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## **A Unique Building: Trinity House, Lochinvar**

By Lisa Thomas



The building which Lochinvarians know as “Trinity House” turned 100 years old in 2019. The circumstances of its construction and design make it a unique structure within the Hunter region and possibly within New South Wales overall. It was designed by a woman during a time when women were not involved with architecture, and most particularly not church-related architecture.

For its first four decades this single-story brick building was a rectory, that is, a home for the priest and his family while he served the Anglican parish of Lochinvar. It was not the first home for the Lochinvar priests, however.

In 1857/1858 a substantial brick rectory had been constructed on the same spot for the emerging Lochinvar parish. By the end of WWI this older building had degraded and it was decided that a replacement was necessary.

The woman who drew the plans was Mrs Milton Capp. In 1858 she had been born Clara Ann Clift in Lochinvar at “Clifton”. Her family was wealthy, socially prominent, and great friends of the Anglican church.

Her uncle Samuel Clift Jr was an important financial advisor to the Newcastle Diocese. Her father Joseph Clift had borne much of the construction costs of the 1892 Lochinvar Holy Trinity Church, for which her mother Elizabeth had laid the foundation stone.

In 1882 Clara Ann Clift married Charles George Milton Capp, a son of Charles Solomon Capp of “Windermere”. By her marriage she linked two of the grand families in the Lochinvar area.

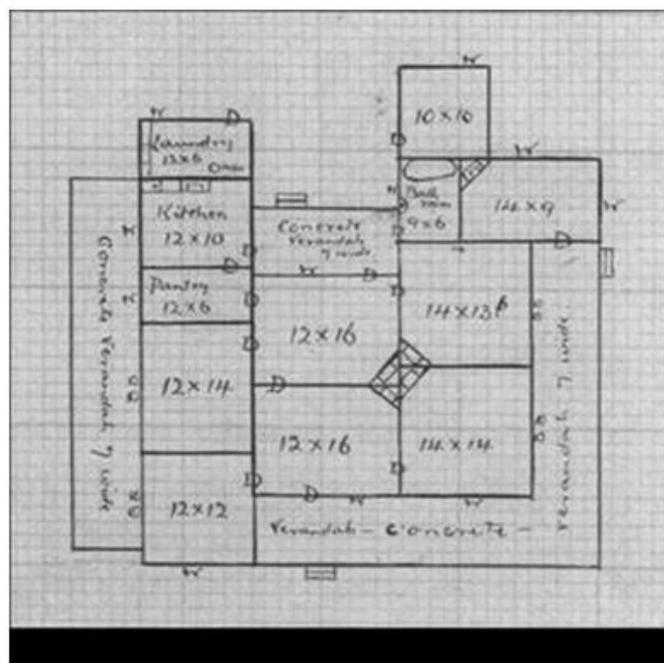
In light of her family’s extensive involvement with the Anglican church, permitting Clara Ann Capp to design the new Lochinvar rectory was very likely simply because she had been born a Clift. It is also possible that she personally

wished to continue the Clift family patronage of the Lochinvar parish.

Clara Ann had no formal architectural training, but she was well qualified in other respects to have designed a domestic dwelling, albeit a dwelling with an ecclesiastical connection. Following her marriage she had run her own home at Allandale known as 'Lancedene'. She would have understood the most efficient layout of family and service rooms and their optimum sizes.

By 1919, as a 61 year old socially well connected woman she would also have been aware of what were then the modern styles of architecture, such as Federation and Arts and Crafts, which was the decorative style she favoured for "Lancedene".

The plan of the new building may be seen in the following illustration, which depicts the 1919 layout and comes from the "Diocese of Newcastle Churches and Rectory Album" in the University of Newcastle's Cultural Collection. This illustration has been edited for space from a larger album page, on which was written simply "the rectory - Lochinvar", "Erected 1919". On this drawing all measurements were given in Imperial units.



The layout of the rectory was in the asymmetrical Federation style with a sectional roof and verandahs. Interestingly, bricks from the 1857/1858 rectory were reused as fill underneath the verandah.

The main door gave entrance directly into a core section of four rooms with a line of rooms, including a kitchen/pantry, on the west and an externally accessed

bath and “curate’s room” towards the rear of the building.

The interior decoration was in the Arts and Crafts style. The ceilings are in panelled wood, and both the ceilings and walls have ornamental raised flat wood bands.



Arts and Craft features (photo by Allan Thomas)

There is an unusual arrangement of four fireplaces which back into each other and share a common chimney. French doors enabled summer cooling.

The eventual cost of the rectory was £1725.

The foundation stone for the new rectory was laid on 31 October 1919;

The following account of the laying of the foundation stone, which was printed in the *Maitland Daily Mercury* on Saturday 1 November 1919, has been edited from the longer newspaper article.

### **Lochinvar Parish**

#### *Laying Foundation Stone of New Rectory*

*The foundation stone of the new rectory of Holy Trinity Church, Lochinvar, was laid yesterday afternoon, the ceremony being performed by Miss Doyle, of Kaludah. Although the weather was very hot, there was a good gathering, including residents from all parts of the parish. The service was conducted by the rector, the Rev. G. M. Brown, and he was assisted by Rev. H. H. Hobart, of Branxton parish, and Rev. B. Hobart, of Homeville-East Greta parish. Apologies were received for the absence of Ven. Archdeacon Regg, Revs. Arnold Conolly and Merton Brown.*

*Mrs. Onus presented a silver trowel to Miss Doyle, and asked her to set the stone in position.*

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## **A Talented Immigrant ~ Signor Guglielmo Enrico Lardelli (1857-1910) and his Important Connection with Maitland Part 2**

By Val Rudkin



W.H. Lardelli in Brighton, 1897

Part One ended with the death of Guglielmo Lardelli at Charters Towers on 7 July 1910 aged 53 years. Part Two will list some of his compositions and introduce his four children. This also includes references.

### *Lardelli as Composer*

The *Sydney Morning Herald*, Mon 4 Apr 1881 / page 6 / New Music

*We have received from Signor Lardelli, a young musician recently arrived in the colony with the object of pursuing the practice of his profession here, three pieces of music composed by him.*

- 1. Romance In A flat major, a short phrase prettily treated, changes key and subject, a recurrence to the original, make a sympathetic little salon piece.*
- 2. "Estelle," Valse de Concert, in E flat major, is, in three divisions, the second the most original.*
- 3. "Rosa Bianca" Valse Sympalics, in D flat major, is melodious and effective. All show the composer to be a capable writer, and one familiar with the requirements of pianoforte music, endowal with sufficient creative power to produce agreeable music, and with the knowledge to express those ideas correctly. The tendency to frequent modulations, and the keys in which the compositions are written give them an appearance of difficulty greater than they really possess.*

Annette (music Gavotte) composed by Lardelli in honour of his daughter 1894  
(online, sound)

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Bedside the Sea - Bib ID 3705177 NLA digitised item Paling & Co 1890's

Hush ye my bairnie (music); song / words by Stuart Thornton; music by G. Lardelli Bib Id 5087487

Was "Dedicated to the Highland Society of N.S.W. Sung with great success by Miss Rosina Buckmann" Publication date Feb 15 1908 Subjects: Songs with piano | Australian

Shine Silver Moon, in E-flat (music): a Venetian song / words by Alfred H. Hyatt, music by Guglielmo Lardelli

A Song of Parting (music) / words by E.J. Brady; music by G. Lardelli

Hindoo Love Song (music) / words by Alfred J. Hyatt; music by G. Lardelli

A Russian Love Song (music; ( across the Steppes) / words by Alfred H. Hyatt; music by G. Lardelli

Katherine: (opera) – Bib ID 7328202 (Music, Online) [notated music, volume] Lardelli, Guglielmo, composer [NLA digitised item]

Scherzo from 1st suite for orchestra [music] by Guglielmo Lardelli

Lardelli is credited with over 80 pieces so the above is only a sample. His "Russian Love Song" was part of the BBC programme for the Proms 54 in 1904 broadcast from the Queens Hall, London. His music is appreciated and played today and can be enjoyed on the following links:

Toccatina- Guglielmo Lardelli: John Paradowski, Organist – St Matthews Musical Moment (1 yr ago)

Appreciate on <https://vimeo.com/464224080>

Mina Valse <http://nla.gov.au/nla.mus-vn4820115> Synthetic recording dedicated to the Elliot family. Elmo was British born to Italian parents,... (please make allowances for the Synthetic sound...)

Annette Gavotte 1894 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=91GlceC5gBE>

### *Lardelli's Family*

An attempt to summarise his life would be difficult and perhaps unkind to this talented man. In his 53 years he spent the first 18 years in Brighton concentrating on his studies. He then made a brief visit to Melbourne, Australia where he was soon duped into a union with a pregnant woman. He was mature enough to return to Brighton in 1876 to continue his studies and after 5 years of hard work this was achieved. Being an honourable young man he then returned to Melbourne in 1881 to renew his

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relationship with his wife. This did not eventuate and Lardelli moved to Sydney and filed for divorce.

From 1881 to 1895 he lived in Australia, and having obtained his divorce was able to marry again in 1882. He travelled with wife Edith and baby Annette to England to see his family, returning on the steamer Orizaba in November 1886. In 1895 he left again for Brighton, accompanied by Edith, daughter Annette and sons Mario and Luigi. Lardelli continued his studies and performed in a number of concerts in Brighton. Edith was able to continue her musical studies, and also gave birth to another son, Noel.

Health issues began to plague Lardelli and he was advised to spend time in a warmer climate and the family returned to Australia in 1900. He was by then a Professor of Music.

England offered so many more opportunities for Lardelli, so returning to Australia which was a developing country could not offer him the same rewards as his home country. It also meant his children would be denied many aspects of life in England that were not yet available here. His health was without doubt the reason for this decision. With so much talent and energy for composition and performance he must have sought positions which provided him with an outstanding instrument. It may have been his need for perfection which can be appreciated for he was a Fellow of the London Royal College of Organists. His death in 1910 at the age of 53 was a tragedy as he had so much more to achieve. However, those 53 years were not wasted in any way, he is remembered and admired through his music and the written word.

The records for shipping arrival to Australia show that Edith and her son Noel made a trip after Guglielmo's death and returned on the passenger liner Ophir in August 1911.

Edith remained in Queensland with her sons, Mario, Luigi and Noel. Perhaps she felt the need to give them stability by settling into a community. Noel Lardelli was aged 18 when he enlisted on 17 September 1916 and served with the 49th Battalion, 7th Reinforcement. His mother was named as next of kin, residing at Rita Island, Ayr, Qld. Noel also enlisted for service in WW2 at Sydney. Two of Mario's sons, Valentine and Michael Lardelli also served in WW2. Their names are on the Honour Roll of Veterans born in Ayr, Queensland.

Edith Annie Pauline Lardelli nee Gorrick, died 28 September, 1937 at her son's residence, Roseville, Clarence Street, Balgowlah. Widow of the late Signor Lardelli, loving mother of Mario (dec.) Luigi, Annette and Noel. Enid was 77.

Annette Beatrice Lardelli born at West Maitland 14 Jan 1884 married Herbert Clayton Goff of "Harpfields, Upper Beaconsfield, Vic on 24 April 1907 in Western Australia. Herbert was an organist of note and a music teacher. In 1928 whilst teaching at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music he died of heart failure after running to catch his train to work. The couple had three children, Betty Clayton Goff 1908-1999; Ivan Clayton Goff 1910-1999; Peter Clayton Goff 1914-. March 1933 Annette and Peter Goff sailed for Los Angeles on a visit to her daughter and son-in-law Betty and Chester Sticht. Annette Goff studied domestic economy in all its branches and took a course in

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housekeeping to ensure success. In 1938 the *Daily News* Perth reported she was matron of a large school in America. Annette's death was recorded at San Diego, USA on 16 June 1977.

\*Betty Clayton Goff married Chester Sticht at Perth on 24 Sep 1932. The couple settled in the United States. Betty Sticht died in 1991 and Chester in June 1992.

\*Ivan Clayton Goff was a writer and after moving to the USA was employed in the film industry as a screen writer. He formed a partnership with Benjamin Roberts which they retained throughout life. Ivan was married to Muriel Kathleen Davies (1932-1935) and had a child. He was married to actress Natalie Draper (1948-1964) and had three children. Both marriages ended in divorce. Ivan died aged 89 in Santa Monica, California.

\*Peter Clayton Goff having moved to the United States with his mother, enrolled at the Institute of Technology Pasadena, California in an engineering course October 1934. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science & Electrical Engineering degree in July 1938.

Mario Compo Lardelli born 1890 died 30 August 1935 in Queensland. His death announced in the *Johnstone River Advocate and Innisfail News* (30 Aug) stating he was 45 yrs of age, was married, and in addition to his wife, survived by five children. Employed by the Johnstone Shire Council as a foreman, on bitumen works, and held the esteem of both employer and employee. He had married Ethel Maude Peek in 1916.

Luigi Valentino Lardelli born 1892 at Warringah, NSW has left the most colourful history. He married Christina Helena Frings on 31 May 1922 at Queensland. He deserted her and moved to New South Wales and resided with another woman. Christina hired a private detective who discovered the whereabouts of her errant husband and the father of her son which led to their divorce. Luigi was totally unrepentant, treating the episode as a hilarious romp. He changed his name to Barney Lardelly in 1936 and remained in Sydney where he ran a wine bar. His death was registered in Queensland on 5 June 1968 as Barney Lardelly, parents named as Edith Gorrick and William Henry Lardelly.

Luigi wrote "To the Editor of the Herald" *SMH* Saturday 5 January 1935 p.10 in response to a letter published by the paper regarding the opera "Tannhauser". In his letter he acknowledges his knowledge to his parents, saying "I owe my sixth sense of coloured hearing to my parents, and bow my head to the great masters of music, to whom I owe so much, and to my dear father, Signor Lardelli, F.R.C.O."

Noel Lardelli born at Brighton, England in 1897 was a soprano of note, winning the Boys Under 16 category of the 1910 Townsville Eisteddfod at age 13. His war service possibly defined his life. The electoral rolls for 1925 gave his place of residence as Herbert, Qld; 1935;1936;1937 Warringah NSW; 1949 Mackellar NSW; 1954 Lyne NSW; 1958 & 1963 Cowper NSW. His death recorded 4 September 1966 at R G H Concord, late of "Greentrees" Valla Beach via Nambucca. Noel's wife, Sarah Alice died at Macksville 4 August 1977, late of Valla Beach

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Who do you think you are? If asked of the Lardelli children, it appears that only Annette followed a music career, but branched in another direction whilst living in America. Mario, Luigi and Noel seem as though they were fish out of water. Given musical training in their early years and performing at Eisteddfods was in stark contrast to life in Australia. The Lardelli family were always struggling to make ends meet, and moving from place to place would have been costly. Each son made their own way in life, and with the exception of Luigi married and had families. You could do that in Australia.

### *Gorrick family*

Edith Lardelli's family should not be overlooked as they were influential in the development of West Maitland. Edith's uncle, Isaac Gorrick built up a reputation as a Stock and Station Agent of repute and his untiring voluntary work with Maitland Hospital received many mentions in the Mercury. Her father, Jacob Gorrick was a partner in the firm of Wolfe and Gorrick and their building still stands on High Street, though today it presents many faces and the original façade does not carry through as one, it is just a number of shops. The photo below shows the complete building. Hills Chambers now stands on the left which was "the yard and access to the rear store."



Edith's brother Gordon Gorrick made news in the *Maitland Mercury* on 8 August 1878 when he was in England to study his chosen profession of medicine and to become an oculist. Dr Gordon B Gorrick (1857-1913) was the sixth child and twin of Eva Ida Gorrick (1857-1946). Gordon did not marry, his sister Eva married Laurence Henderson at West Maitland in 1887. Joseph Albert Gorrick (1843-1921) was the first child and became a Solicitor. He also became a Member of the NSW Legislative Assembly on 12 December 1882 as the Member for Wollombi and served until 7 Oct 1885, a total of 2 years 9 months 26 days. Joseph married Cecilia Catherine Hillcoat at St Mary's Church, West Maitland in 1868.

Their sisters, Emily May Gorrick (1847-1922) married Joseph William Birkenhead at St Mary's West Maitland 1871 and

Jane Ada Gorrick (1850-1940) married Henry Samuel Pritchett at Maitland 1877

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Guglielmo's brother

Guglielmo Lardelli was the fifth of eight children born to Mauricio and Louisa Lardelli. His siblings were as follow: Maurizio Phillip Iganzio Lardelli b. 1849; Tommaso Francesco Lardelli b. 1851; Frederico Allessandro Lardelli b. 1852; Lugia Maria Lardelli b. 1853; then Guglielmo; Victor Strachan Lardelli b. 1859; Annetta Isabella Mariann b. 1861; Constance Emma b. 1864.

Research online often finds connecting items and others that are a total surprise. So finding Victor Strachan Lardelli, the younger brother of Guglielmo had settled in New Zealand was a surprise. His name also appeared on the list of passengers (1852-1923) held in Victorian Government Records available online.

Victor Strachan Lardelli came to Australia in November 1879 on the Shannon when he was aged 20. He possibly returned to the United Kingdom as he made a second voyage in November 1889 aged 30 on the ship Austral.

A lovely new monument has been installed on his grave in the Gisborne District Council Makaraka cemetery New Zealand where he was buried on 31 January 1915. The details on the memorial are: Lardelli /Victor Strachan/ 1859-1915/ son of Maurizio & Louisa / beloved husband of Apikara Leach/ loving father of / William / Henry / Frederick Maurice / Francis Richard (Dick) / Marie /James Hiki / Rest in Peace

The website also includes some stories of the people buried there: Victor Lardelli was an early Waimata settler who bought Kowhai Station from the NZ Native Land Settlement Company. He married Apikara Putiput Leach of Whangara and one of their grandchildren is Derek Lardelli, awarded an Order of New Zealand Medal for his services to Maori arts in 2008. Sir Derek Lardelli (b. 1961) has an educational background in teaching, fine arts and classical Maori literature. He is a principal tutor and Associate Professor at Gisborne's Eastland Institute of Technology. Another Lardelli who may be connected to this family is New Zealand Classical Guitarist & Composer, Dylan Lardelli.

References:

\* Lardelli: The Changing Fortunes of a Wandering Signor. Author Richard Ward. Published in the Australian Variety Theatre Archive. Provided the background material used and Lardelli photo.

\* A tribute to Lardelli was made by the author of The History of St. Paul's Church, Charters Towers

A second notable organist who resided for a time in the region was Guglielmo Enrico Lardelli (1857-1910) a much travelled musician who had arrived in 1875 at the age of 18. He was organist at St Mary's, West Maitland (1881-1885), and later at St Mary's, Waverley, NSW (c.1887-1894), Christ Church Cathedral, Grafton (1901), St Stephen's Presbyterian Church, Bathurst (1902-03) and Wesley Church, Perth (1903-1906). He

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moved to North Queensland in 1908 for health reasons, and died at Charters Towers in 1910 aged 53.

\*A Chronicle History of Australian Composers and Their Compositions Since Federation  
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Author: Stephen Pleskun

1904 – pp 94 to 101

Guglielmo Lardelli: [p 97]

CHANSON D'AMOUR; and DOUCE PLAINTE (both for piano) are Published. AIR DE BALLET is performed in Her Majesty's Theatre, Kalgoorlie, W.A. by the Hannans Orchestral Society\* conducted by T. G. McShane on 16th December. A RUSSIAN LOVE SONG (of 1902) is performed at the Esplanade Hotel, Perth by F. L. Robertson and the composer on 15th July. HINDOO LOVE SONG (of 1903) is performed in Brookman's Buildings, Perth by Richard Hawley and the composer on 9th April. IF LOVE WERE O'ER for voice and piano is performed in the Queen's Hall, Perth by F. C. Hay and the composer accompanies himself in his THE STILETTO (Spurr) for voice and piano. The latter, along with his ADVANCE & RETREAT; EVERYBODY KNOWS BUT ME; and MY SWEETHEART OF LONG AGO (all for voice and piano) and performed in the venue above by the composer accompanying himself on 22nd November. NOCTURNE (of 1901) is performed on the organ in Albert Hall, Launceston by W. W. Thornwaite (the city organist) on 15th November. THE GAY ZINGARA (of 1903) is performed in the Queen's Hall, Perth by Edith Legge and the composer on 4th April during a concert at which the composer plays his THE QUEEN'S HALL MARCH (of 1903)

\*Official records are often only as factual as the information provided! Victorian Birth Registration Record No 8422/1880 for Constance Adeline Lilian Maude Lardelli, gives the name of the father as William Henry Lardelli. Lardelli was in England from 1876-1881 and could not have fathered a child in Australia at that time. Details provided by the child's mother, Louisa Lardelli.

\*The S S Aconcagua was an Iron Screw Steamer built by John Elder and Co., of Glasgow in 1872 and part of the Pacific S.N.Co. (Orient Steam Navigation Co. Ltd.) She was sold in 1895 and broken up in 1896. (Source: Aconcagua | Passengers in History - Historical Vessel. Website: [passengers.history.sa.gov.au](http://passengers.history.sa.gov.au) (node 918913)

\*The SS Orizaba, Orient Company's Royal Mail Steamer was built at Barrow Shipbuilding Co. in 1886

\*The SS Barbarosa was launched on 5 September 1896, she was an Iron Screw Steamer built by Biohm & Voss.

\*The SS Ophir was a passenger vessel built in Glasgow for the Orient Steam Navigation Co. She was the first Orient Liner to completely dispense with canvas and was an early twin screw mail liner. She was converted to a Royal Yacht for the Duke

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and Duchess of York's visit to Australia to open the first federal parliament in May 1901. The ship returned to normal service after the Royal Voyage. Records show departure from London on 20 July 1911, arrival at Fremantle, Western Australia on 22 August 1911, Port Adelaide, South Australia 25 August 1911. Passengers boarded in Fremantle and other Australian ports.

\*St Mary's Church, Maitland. The Willis organ of 1881 has been rebuilt or modified in 1933, 1962, 1981 and 1996. (Ref: Richard Ward author of "Lardelli: The Changing Fortunes of a Wandering Signor.")

\*St Mary's Anglican Church – 68 Church Street, Maitland  
(online: [ohta.org.au/organs/organs/StMarysMaitland.html](http://ohta.org.au/organs/organs/StMarysMaitland.html))

The first organ in St Mary's was an instrument built in 1855 by J W Walker, London for W J Johnson. The organ had one manual and pedals, seven stops and one coupler. It was sold to St Luke's Anglican Church, Wallsend in 1881 for £100 where it remains at present.

In February 1881 a Willis organ was installed on the west wall. In 1933 it was rebuilt by Charles Leggo and again in 1962 by S T Noad & Son who disposed of the Willis casework except for the posts and divided the organ on either side of the gallery on the west wall. The console was also expanded to three manuals and the action electrified.

Peter Jewkes brought the organ back to two manuals in 1981 and also returned the Willis stops to their original locations on the Great. A new console was made and installed in 1996 by Ian and Jennifer Brown.

Specification given online as well as 6 photos of the church interior.

It may be noted from the entry for Henry Willis and Sons (Wikipedia) that Willis and Sons were considered the leading organ builder of the Victorian era. The firm built the Grand Organ installed in the Royal Albert Hall in 1871. Also the Grand Organ at the Cathedral Church of Christ in Liverpool in the period 1923-1926 which is the largest pipe organ in the United Kingdom. Windsor Castle had a Willis that was destroyed by fire in 1992. Blenheim Palace and the Royal Academy of Music also have a Willis. In Australia a 4600 pipe organ now in Brisbane City Hall was built in 1892 and installed in the Brisbane Exhibition Building. Moved to City Hall in 1927.

\*Certificates procured:

Marriage: In the Colony of Victoria, in the District of St. Kilda No 12 October 25 1875 William Henry Lardelli, Batchelor of Brighton, England and Louisa Agnes Emily Cary, Spinster of Armagh, Ireland.

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Death: In the State of Queensland No 8692 7 July 1910 William Lardelli, Professor of Music See page 7

William Henry translates to the Italian Guglielmo Enrico

\*Cottersloe RSL

Goff, Herbert Clayton – 7982 Pte 51s5 Bn ex 27/11th Bn. Enlisted 10 May 1917 age 39, musician. Nok: Annette Beatrice Goff of Leederville and later The Camp, Ocean Road, Cottersloe Beach, WA. Embarked at Melbourne 30 October 1917 per A60 Aneas. Served in France. RTA 12 July 1919. Goff was an organist of note and died from heart failure in Sydney in 1928. Service medals: BWM and VM.

Photo in the *Daily News* 18 Feb 1928 p6 - not included here.

My grateful thanks to Catherine Fairhall for her valuable research assistance with this project.

Valerie Rudkin - November 2021

The illustration on the following page is from *The Sunday Times* (Perth WA) Sunday 24 April 1904 p 9.

**A Master of Music.**



Lardelli's my Latinised name,  
For when classical music's your game,  
With no foreign blood  
Your name would be MUD  
On the glorious annals of lame.

I'll play you Beethoven and Spohr,  
And reel off, from mem'ry or score  
Cavatina's by Raff,  
Or songs from a gaff  
Where they bawl for the balladists' gore.

But fortune towards me has strayed  
Since Sankey and Moody I've played  
On my organist's perch  
In the Wesleyan Church,  
Where Sir George loses money and maid.

National Library of Australia

## *Maitland and District Historical Society Inc.*

The report on the concert of April 1908 given in Sydney demonstrates the expansion of Signor Lardelli's talent and his ability to entertain his audience.

### THE LARDELLI CONCERT

With Signor Lardelli's musical talent, most Sydney people are familiar. It has been demonstrated in various ways, as player and composer. In the latter capacity, his works are heard with delight in the home of the people and on the concert platform, and musical societies are ever ready to acknowledge the value of his services in orchestration. On Tuesday night he appeared at the Centenary Hall, as a monologue entertainer, assisted in his programme by musicians who played and sang his own compositions. So, it was really a "Lardelli night."

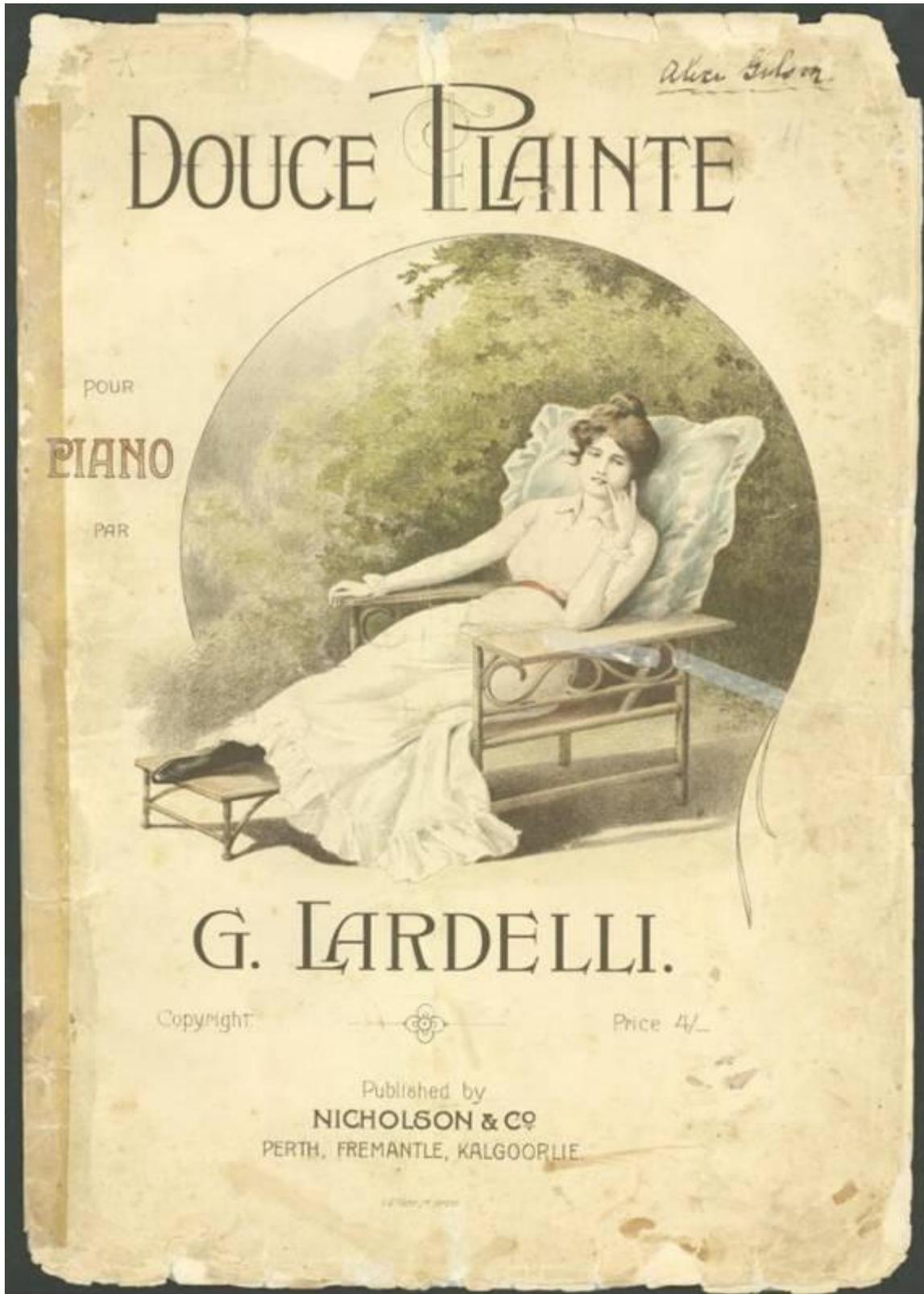
Signor Lardelli appeared in no fewer than 24 humorous songs and musical monologues. In a number of these the subjects or verses were selected from various writers for setting to music and the talent evidenced in this direction must be acknowledged. In similar entertainments in the future, Signor Lardelli's individuality will always be perceived as a musician. He has a faculty for gripping a subject, and directing his thoughts to flow evenly with it, and so have as a result a happy combination. In his humorous pieces he relied upon suggestion, and a natural manner, allied to refinement. What he lacks is verve and dash, the ability to maintain a continuous grip of his audience. And while securing these essentials – they will come to him in time – there is not need to lose the spirit of refinement, which he naturally possesses.

The best of the humorous pieces were "When I Was a Boy at School," "The Stiletto" (a clever burlesque), "Recipes," "The Girl on the Stairs," "The Paying Guest," and the musical monologues included "The Lesson of the Water Mill," "New Society Play," "The Birth of the Opal," "The Vacant Chair," and "Solitude." Signor Lardelli was assisted by Mr. Bryce Carter in 'cello solos', Miss Geraldine Rivers, Mr. Emil Sussmilch, and Mr. Harold Whittle (accompanist). The entertainment was well attended, and the audience spent a delightful Lardelli evening.

Published in the *Evening News* (Sydney, NSW: 1869-1931), Thursday 16 April 1908, page 3 retrieved from the National Library of Australia <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article112967690>

Bryce Morrow Carter (1882-1939) played a prominent part in concert life in Sydney. He was a musician and teacher with Sydney Conservatorium of Music. His brother Norman Carter painted his portrait for the Archibald Prize 1924 titled "The Cellist" is now in the collection of the State Library of NSW.

Harold Whittle (SMH 29 Feb 1908) was reported as recent accompanist to Mme. Melba and due to his success offered the position of permanent accompanist in her future concert tours of the old world.



8

## Douce Plainte.

G. Lardelli.

Andante con molto espressione.  
*La melodia ben cantata.*

PIANO.

111

4

*a tempo*

*rit. molto* *dim. al pp*

**Con fuoco.**  
*mf* *dim. rit.*

*a tempo* *rit.* *molto rit.*

*a tempo cresc.*

101

N. ADISE34  
6-7-2001

5

The image shows a page of handwritten musical notation on aged, yellowed paper. The paper has irregular, torn edges. In the top right corner, there is a handwritten number '5' and a date '6-7-2001' with the identifier 'N. ADISE34'. The music is written in a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and consists of five systems. The first system includes markings for 'rit.', 'rit. molto', 'a tempo', and 'dim. molto'. The second system is marked 'molto rit.'. The third system begins with 'Tempo I.' and 'pp'. The fourth system has no specific markings. The fifth system is marked 'cresc.'. The notation includes various rhythmic values, accidentals, and dynamic markings.

Tempo I.  
pp

cresc.

101

