

William Redfern

CHRONOLOGY

- 1775 William Redfern is born in Nova Scotia Canada to Robert and Margaret Redfern
- 1785 The Redfern family: Thomas 22, Robert 16, William 10, Joseph 1 returned to Trowbridge Wiltshire
- 1785 Thomas Redfern studies to be a surgeon and opens an apothecary with John Dodd
- 1790 William completes school. and starts apprenticeship with Thomas as a surgeon
- 1791 Parents Robert and Margaret move to Belfast; open a saddler on Castle Street
- 1792 William's sister Margaret is born
- 1796 William's sister Eliza is born
- May 25 William visited Porto Portugal on the *Hibernia*
- 1797 Jan 19 William was accredited by the Company of Surgeons in London
- Jan 21 William received a warrant from the Sick and Hurt Board to be a Surgeon's First Mate on HMS *Standard*
- Jan 23 William boarded HMS *Standard* in Yarmouth harbor captained by Thomas Parr; Surgeon was Robert Kirkwood
- May 12 Crew took control of HMS *Sandwich* - flagship of the North Sea fleet on the Nore sandbank of the Thames
- May 28 Crew took control of HMS *Standard* in Yarmouth and sailed for the Nore; William was aboard
- May 31 HMS *Standard* arrived at the Nore and joined the mutiny fleet of 26 warships
- Jun 7 The surgeon of HMS *Standard* was dismissed and Redfern put in charge; he submits his resignation
- Jun 12 Crew of HMS *Standard* surrenders to RN marines
- Jun 14 Redfern is discharged at Gravesend and imprisoned on a charge of mutiny
- Jun 26 President of Delegates on HMS *Sandwich* Richard Parker found guilty of mutiny and hanged
- Aug 22 Redfern faced a court martial with five other crew of HMS *Standard*
- Aug 25 Redfern found guilty of mutiny and sentenced to death
- Sep 4 Redfern's sentence commuted to 1 yr solitary confinement followed by transportation to NSW
- Sep 23 Redfern sent to solitary confinement in *Coldbath Fields* prison, Clerkenwell London
- 1799 Mar Parliamentary Select Committee enquires into the conditions at *Coldbath Fields* prison
- 1800 Nov 14 Redfern's name is listed for transportation to NSW
- Nov 25 Order for Redfern to be transferred to a Portsmouth prison hulk
- Sep 25 Philip Gidley King installed as 3rd Governor of New South Wales**
- 1801 Jan Redfern taken by wagon to Portsmouth and placed on a prison hulk in the harbour
- Mar Redfern transferred to a hospital hulk *La Fortunée*
- Jun 6 Redfern transferred to the transportation ship *Canada* at the spithead
- Jun 9 Inspector-General Fitzpatrick inspects the *Canada*; Redfern told he will assist surgeon John Kelly
- Jun 21 the convict transports *Canada*, *Minorca* and *Nile* depart Portsmouth for NSW
- Aug 28 the three convict transports reach Rio Janeiro
- Sep 26 the flotilla departs Rio Janeiro for Port Jackson NSW
- Dec 15 the *Canada*, *Minorca* and *Nile* transports dock in Sydney Cove
- Dec 30 Redfern and other convicts board the *Harrington* bound for Norfolk Island; Sarah McHenry also boards
- 1802 Jan 8 Redfern lands in Norfolk Island administered by Joseph Foveaux; assigned to work at the hospital
- Mar 12 Hospital surgeon James Mileham returns to Sydney; replaced by assistant surgeon Thomas Roberts
- Jun Thomas Roberts drowns returning from HMS *Porpoise*; Redfern made temporary replacement surgeon
- Jul 9 Redfern buys 48 acres of farmland on Norfolk Island for £140
- Nov 21 Lt Governor Foveaux grants Redfern a *conditional* pardon
- 1803 Jun 19 *The Sydney Gazette* announced that William Redfern had been granted an *absolute* pardon
- Sep 23 Foveaux suffering asthma sails on the *Dart* for Sydney accompanied by his personal doctor Redfern
- 1804 Jan 3 Governor King appoints D'Arcy Wentworth as main hospital surgeon at Norfolk Island
- Jan 19 Foveaux and Redfern return to Norfolk Island on the *Union*
- May 5 Foveaux ordered to relocate willing island residents to Port Dalrymple
- May 12 D'Arcy Wentworth arrives on Norfolk Island to take up the main hospital surgeon post
- Aug 10 D Wentworth and Redfern vaccinate island children against smallpox; but the vaccine was inactive
- Sep 7 Foveaux, with Ann Sherwin and daughter, depart for England on the *Albion*; replaced by John Piper
- 1805 July At D Wentworth's advice, Redfern begins trading in local farm produce
- 1806 Mar 30 D Wentworth ordered back to Sydney; Redfern put in charge of the island hospital
- Aug 6 William Bligh arrives on the *Sinclair* to be the 4th Governor of NSW**
- 1807 Apr 15 D Wentworth put in charge of Parramatta hospital
- Jul 18 D Wentworth in court for illegally using convict patients on his farm
- 1808 Jan 26 Governor Bligh is arrested by the NSW Corps; the start of the *Rum Rebellion***
- Apr Redfern has a major dispute with John Piper, who banished him from the island
- May 19 William Redfern and Sarah McHenry depart on the *Estramina* for Hobart Town
- Jun 7 The *Estramina* docks in Hobart but Redfern and McHenry do not disembark

- Jun 21 The *Estramina* arrives in Sydney and D Wentworth has already arranged entry papers for Redfern
 Jul 28 Lt. Col. Joseph Foveaux arrives back in Sydney and takes charge of rebel government
 Sep 1 Redfern sits a medical qualifications examination set by surgeons Jamison, Harris and Bohan
 Sep 13 Foveaux appoints Redfern as an assistant government surgeon in the Sydney George Street hospital
 1809 Jan 1 Col. Patterson arrives from Launceston to take charge of the rebel government
 Feb 13 William Bligh presents Dr Redfern with a book for care given while imprisoned
 Mar 17 Bligh departs Sydney on HMS Porpoise and sails to Hobart
 Mar 29 Bligh arrives in Hobart, David Collins refuses to help and HMS Porpoise blocks harbour
 Oct 16 Redfern reports successful application of new smallpox vaccination to Sydney residents
Dec 28 Lt. Col. Macquarie arrives on the *Dromedary* to be the 5th Governor of NSW
 1810 Jan 17 William Bligh returns to Sydney on HMS Porpoise
 Mar 18 Foveaux, with Ann Sherwin and daughter, depart for England on the *Experiment*
 Apr 30 Macquarie writes to Colonial Office about emancipist discrimination, and invites them to Govt. house
 Nov 6 D Wentworth, Riley and Blaxcell awarded contract to build a new hospital on Macquarie Street
 Nov 6 Macquarie set out, with Dr Redfern and others, to survey the western NSW rural properties
 1811 Mar 4 William Redfern weds Sarah Wills at St Philips CofE church
 Redfern introduces a new inspection regime for incoming transportation ships and convicts
 May Redfern granted 800 acres at Airds, Bow Bowing Bunbury Curran Creek; called farm *Campbellfield*
 1812 Feb 1 George III grants Redfern a Royal Commission as Assistant Surgeon; Wentworth made Principal Surgeon
 Oct 5 Sarah Redfern's mother Sarah Wills is remarried to George Howe
 1814 Mar 28 Redfern attends childbirth of Elizabeth Macquarie and delivers son (to be named Lachlan)
 May *Three Bees* ship disaster in Sydney Cove
 Sep 30 Redfern submits to Macquarie new health requirements on board convict transports
 Nov 8 Redfern's medical apprentice James Sheers dies
 1815 Feb 18 Redfern informs Wentworth that he wishes to resign his surgeon post at the hospital
 Apr 25 Redfern joins Macquarie touring party to take the new road across the Blue Mountains
 Jun 4 Redfern concussed when coach horses panic at *Campbellfield*; he quickly recovers
 1816 Apr 8 New hospital on Macquarie Street opens; Redferns take up residence. Old George Street hospital closes
 1817 Feb 7 Macquarie creates *The Bank of New South Wales*; Redfern is a shareholder and an elected Director
 Apr 1 Macquarie writes to Bathurst about improving hospital conditions suggest by Wentworth and Redfern
 Apr 8 *The Bank of New South Wales* opens its doors in Sydney
 Dec 1 Macquarie tenders his resignation to the Colonial Office for the second time
 1818 Feb Redfern re-elected to the board of the *Bank of New South Wales*
 May 5 D'Arcy Wentworth tenders his resignation as Principal Surgeon; Macquarie recommends Redfern for post
 Jul 21 Thomas Wills becomes the secretary and cashier at the *Bank of New South Wales*
 1819 Jan 5 John Bigge appointed by a Select Parliamentary Committee to investigate governance in the NSW colony
 Feb 27 James Bowman is selected by Bathurst as the next Principal Surgeon in NSW
 Jun 27 A son is born to Sarah and William Redfern. He is christened William Lachlan Macquarie Redfern
 Sep 26 Commissioner John Bigge and James Bowman arrive in Sydney on the transport *John Barry*
 Sep 28 James Bowman inspects the Sydney hospital wards without permission
 Oct 18 Redfern tenders his resignation from the hospital to Macquarie
 Oct 24 The Redfern family moves back to their Campbellfield farm
 Oct 26 Macquarie nominates William Redfern as the magistrate of the district of Airds
 Nov 12 *The Sydney Gazette* announces the appointment of Redfern as magistrate
 Dec Dysentery rages in Sydney; Macquarie contracts the disease and is confined to bed for 4 weeks
 1820 Feb 29 Governor Macquarie submits his resignation
 Apr A court ruling in Sydney when Edward Eagar sued Justice Field questioned the legality of colonial pardons
 Jun 26 Redfern is interrogated at the Bigge inquiry
 Jul 5 Sydney is subjected to a flu epidemic and Macquarie contracts the disease
 Jul 18 Bigge provides Redfern with a list of the "charges" against him. Redfern immediately responds in writing
 Dec 31 Ship *Hebe* arrives in Sydney with a letter from the Colonial Office dismissing Redfern as magistrate
 1821 Jan 21 Meeting of Emancipated Colonialists chaired by Redfern. With Edward Eagar, he was elected a delegate
 Feb 3 Redfern receives a copy of the inquiry minutes from his interview
 Feb 14 Commissioner Bigge departs on the *Dromedary* for England; Redfern's responded to 5 of the 40 issues
 Apr 4 Redfern embarks on the *Midas* to accompany Macquarie to Van Diemen's Land; bad weather prevents
 Apr 13 *Midas* departs Port Jackson and arrives in Hobart on Apr 24
 May 11 George Howe dies leaving everything to his son Robert and almost nothing to wife Sarah Howe
 Jul 24 Macquarie touring party returns to Sydney on the *Caroline*
 Oct 25 Redfern family depart for England on the *Duchess of York* heading east around Cape Horn, via Tahiti
Dec 1 Thomas Brisbane becomes 6th Governor of NSW
 1822 Feb 12 Governor Macquarie and family depart for England on the *Surrey*
 Jun 1 Redfern family arrive in London on the *Duchess of York*
 Jun 7 William Redfern and Edward Eagar deliver civil rights petition to Colonial Office on Downing Street

- Jun 19 First Bigge Report is released to public, which cites Redfern's name over 100 times
- July 5 Lachlan and Elizabeth Macquarie arrive in London on the *Surrey*; Bigge's Report tabled in Parliament
- July 27 Details of the 1822 Bigge Report first appear in British newspapers
- Sep William Redfern visits his siblings in Ireland
- Nov William enrolls for the first semester of a pharmacology course at the University of Edinburgh
- Dec 9 Redfern sues John Bigge for defamation in the published inquiry report
- 1823 Feb 7 Sarah Redfern gives birth to a second son at Trowbridge; he is named Robert Joseph Foveaux Redfern
- Feb 21 Second Bigge Report is tabled in British Parliament
- Mar 13 Third Bigge Report is tabled in British Parliament
- Act of 1823 giving emancipists some civil rights passed by British Parliament**
- July Macquarie attempts to rebut slander in the Bigge Report but discouraged to avoid affecting his pension claim
- William Redfern sails to Madeira on the *Advertiser*** to purchase grape vines and enlist a vintner
- 1824 Feb 19 Sarah Redfern and family sail on the *Alfred* for NSW via Madeira to pick up William; W Wentworth also on board
- Apr 2 the *Alfred* picks up William and the Serown vintner family and sails for NSW
- Jul 1 Macquarie dies on the Isle of Mull, aged 62
- Jul 24 Redfern family arrives back in Sydney on the *Alfred*
- Oct 14 William Wentworth and Robert Wardell launch *The Australian* newspaper
- Nov 7 Farewell dinner to Thomas Brisbane partly organised by Redfern
- Nov 29 Thomas Brisbane departs Sydney for England and Scotland
- 1825 Mar 10 William's brother Robert Redfern arrives in Sydney on the *Phoenix*
- Dec 18 **Ralph Darling becomes the 7th Governor of NSW**
- 1826 Jan 2 Redfern on a delegation presenting a rights address to Governor Darling
- Jan Redfern family take up resident in part of Simeon Lord's mansion in Macquarie Place Sydney
- Jun 3 Redfern announces in *The Sydney Gazette* the opening of a private practice in Mrs Waple's, Pitt Street
- Jun 26 James Bowman proposes a free medical dispensary for the poor attended by government surgeons
- Sep Redfern closes his practice and returns to the Campbellfield farm
- 1827 Jan A free publicly-funded medical dispensary for the poor opens on Macquarie Street
- Jan 26 Large public meeting involving Redfern supports new petition to the Crown for further rights
- May Redfern sells part of his Campbellfield livestock for £25,000
- July 7 D'Arcy Wentworth dies of influenza at his Homebush house in Parramatta
- July 27 Redfern re-elected to the board of *The Bank of New South Wales*
- Nov 23 Redfern assaults *The Sydney Gazette* editor Robert Howe over repeated insults in the newspaper
- Nov 26 Redfern charged with assault and given bail
- 1828 Jan 21 Redfern appears before the Court of Quarter Sessions; found guilty of assaulting Howe and fined £50
- Feb 15 A court rules that Horatio Wills must resume his apprenticeship with Robert Howe or go to gaol
- Mar 9 Redfern and son William depart on the *Orelia* for England
- Jul 23 The *Orelia* docks in London and Redfern and son William reside in Grove Street in Camden Town
- Sep William Jr contracts measles and convalesces in London
- Oct Redfern becomes a shareholder in the new University of London
- 1829 Jan Redfern and son William move to Edinburgh and reside in Moray Place
- Jun William Jr starts attending the Royal High School in Edinburgh
- Jun Redfern hears from Sarah that a splinter from an accident has infected her leg, and she cannot travel
- Oct Redfern enrolls for medical course at the University of Edinburgh
- 1830 Feb Redfern and son William move to 18 Lothian Street in Old Edinburgh to be close to the university
- Apr 9 His youngest son Edward dies in Sydney aged 7; hears of his death from a devastated Sarah in late July
- May His brother Joseph's daughter Selina dies in Belfast aged 18
- Oct William Jr leaves the Royal High School and is enrolled at Edinburgh Academy in Henderson Row, New Town
- Dec 9 Edward Wills commits suicide in London after suffering from mental illness
- 1831 Apr Redfern treats his son for an eyeball injury incurred in a school ruckus
- Jul Redfern completes his 2nd year of medical studies at the University of Edinburgh; he stops attending
- 1832 Jul High Court in Sydney reverses ruling that George Howe's will was unaffected by Sarah Wills' prenuptial agreement
- Aug Redfern had a miniature portrait painted by George Maher and he sends it to Sarah
- Oct 31 Redfern responds to Horatio Wills' request for advice (William Redfern's last recorded letter)
- 1833 Mar 10 Sarah Redfern departs on the *Norfolk* for England
- Jul Redfern advised that death was near and he should update his will; he arranges for his own burial
- Jul 17 William Redfern dies at 18 Lothian Street Edinburgh
- Jul 22 The *Norfolk* docks in London and Sarah sails immediately to Edinburgh
- Jul 23 William Redfern is interred at the New Calton Burial Ground
- Jul 25 Sarah Redfern arrives in Edinburgh; she and William Jr visit Redfern's grave
- Dec News of William Redfern's death reaches Sydney
- Dec 26 A tribute to William Redfern by Horatio Wills appears in *The Sydney Gazette*