

# No(r)ster Family History

Place: Adelaide, South Australia, Australia

---

Norster, Samuel (\*? - †1863)

2

# Samuel Norster

\*? - †13 Nov 1863

---

Father: Francis Nossiter (\*? - †1833)

Mother: Jane Byatt (\*1764 - †1851)

Siblings: Abraham Noster (\*? - †1835)  
Jane Noster (\*? - †?)  
Francis Noster (\*? - †?)  
John Norster (\*? - †1835)  
Henry Norseter (\*? - †?)  
Frances Norster (\*? - †?)  
Jane Norster (\*? - †1861)  
Francis Noster (\*? - †?)  
Richard Norster (\*1797 - †1856)

Wives: Joan Gibbs (\*? - †?)  
Sarah Brewer (\*1799 - †1860)

Children: William Gibbs Norster (\*? - †?)  
Francis Norster (\*? - †1870)  
Christopher Gibbs Norster (\*? - †1841)  
Samuel Norster (\*1827 - †1913)

Baptism: 5 Jan 1800  
Parish Church, Portland, Dorset

Wedding: 17 Sep 1826  
Parish Church, Portland, Dorset  
(Joan Gibbs)

Wedding: 30 Sep 1850  
St Pauls, Port Adelaide, South Australia, Australia  
(Sarah Brewer)

Death: 13 Nov 1863  
Lunatic Asylum, Adelaide, South Australia, Australia  
Cause of death: Diarrhea

Funeral: 13 Nov 1863  
Adelaide, South Australia, Australia

---

Notes: <sup>a)</sup> BIOGRAPHY: 5' 6", brown hair, light hazel eyes, light complexion, dimple chin.n-nSmall handwritten note in Portland Museum. December 21st 1834.n'William Pearce's house was robbed Sunday evening while they were at Chapel and suspicion fell upon Samuel Noster who was committed to Dorchester Jail and at March 12 Assizes he was convicted for the offence with his brother Abraham. Transported for life May 4th at 1 O'clock in the morning went away to join the convict ship lying at Portsmouth for New South Wales'.n-nREPORT FROM DORCHESTER COUNTY CHRONICLE, 19TH MARCH 1835;nSamuel Norster (35), Joan Norster, his wife (25), and Abraham Norster (32), were indicted for having broken into the dwelling-house of Wm. Pearce, in Portland, and stealing money therefrom to the amount upwards of £60, his property, on the 21st Dec. last. Mr. Hodges, with whom was Mr. Horsford, addresses the Jury for the prosecution, stating the facts of the case: and the following witnesses were called.nWm. Pearce: I am a shopkeeper living in Portland, on the evening of 21st Dec. I and my family went to chapel, about six o'clock, fastening up the house. On our return, about eight, I found the yard door had been unlocked, and the window of the dwelling-house broken. I went upstairs and found one drawer in a chest taken out, and a hole cut through the bottom of one over it, and that

more than £60 had been taken from it. There was a guinea, sixty sovereigns, several crowns and half crowns. I also lost some keys. I obtained a warrant from the Rev. Mr. Dade at Broadway, in consequence of some suspicion, and the prisoners were apprehended. Robert Pearce: I am a constable of Portland; I obtained a warrant on Tuesday evening, the 23rd Dec., and went on the following morning to search the house of the prisoners who live together. The men were at home. When the woman returned, she asked what was the matter? I said I had apprehended her husband and Abraham Norster on suspicion of stealing money. She said there was no money in the house; and that she was so poor that yesterday she borrowed 6d. from her brother's wife, for she had not a penny to buy some castor oil. This was in the presence of her husband. Wm. Way and Wm. Pearce, other constables, were with me. We searched the house, but found nothing while I was there. Wm. Pearce: I am a constable of Portland, and went with a search warrant to take the prisoners into custody, with the last witness. Samuel Norster took 4s. 4d. From his pocket and said that was all the money he had. On searching him I found four sovereigns in his waistcoat pocket. He said he had five sovereigns given him the day before by a gentleman at Weymouth; but he did not know the gentleman's name, nor where he lived. Joan Norster, after a search, and with much hesitation, produced a small purse, with a sovereign, seventeen shillings, and a sixpence. Wm. Way: I accompanied last witness to the house of Abraham Norster, Joan Norster's brother's wife, and the sister of Joan were there. There are two rooms up stairs divided by a partition. The male prisoners were apprehended and taken away before I got there. I went up stairs, and searched in a dark closet; and put my hand on a parcel, which I gave to Benjamin Pearce. It contained one pound four shillings and sixpence in silver. I went again the day following and searched in a dark room down stairs, and found £6. 10s. 6d. all in silver; wrapped in a handkerchief, and buried in the dirt. I gave it to Robert Pearce. All the prisoners lived in the house. Benjamin Pearce: I am a constable of Portland, and went to the dwelling house of the prisoners, with the two Pearces, constables. I was there also with Wm. Way, when he found some money, all in silver. Jas. Joyeaux Glenister: I am clerk to the County gaol. The prisoners were brought in custody on 24th Dec. As is customary, I asked them whether they had any money. They said they had none. On searching Samuel Norster, I found a guinea, some sovereigns, and some silver. The guinea was produced, and put into the hands of the prosecutor, who said it was of the same coinage as that he had lost, and appeared the same in every respect. George Cull: Clerk to the Magistrates' Clerk for Dorchester Division. The prisoners were brought before the Magistrates on the 27th Dec. the examination of Samuel Norster, now produced, was then taking in writing. The examination was read, it was a statement of Samuel Norster, that he had been given £5 by a gentleman of Weymouth whom he did not know. His wife had said she would not take it unless she knew who gave it, and he had, to pacify her, said it was given by Mr. Roper Weston. John Randall: Overseer of Melcombe Regis in 1833. From Sept. 7, 1833, to Jan 1, 1834, Samuel Norster, received parochial relief. John Dyne: Overseer of Portland. The prisoner Abraham, had received parochial relief in November last; and on the 4th of Dec, when witness gave him an order for 3 loaves of bread. Samuel Norster declined saying anything in his defence; and Abraham said he was merely a lodger in his brother's house; and knew nothing about the money. The learned Judge, in summing up, said there was no evidence at all against the female; and explained the law on the subject as affecting women. The two male prisoners were found guilty, and the female prisoner acquitted. -----Sentence of Death Recorded; and the learned Judge intimated that they would be transported for life. TRIAL: Dorset Assizes, 12th March 1835. SENTENCE: Transportation for Life. TRANSPORT SHIP: Bardaster sailed from Portsmouth 16th September 1835; arrived Hobart Town, Tasmania, 13th January 1836. MASTER: Alexander McDonald. SURGEON: Joseph Street. The Bardaster carried 240 male convicts and there were 5 deaths on board. CONDUCT RECORD: (384) Transported for Burglary. GAOL RECORD: Habits of Life bad, convicted before of smuggling. HULK RECORD: Good, married with 4 children. SURGEONS REPORT: Good, very useful. NATIVE PLACE: Portland. Stated this offence, 'Burglary at Native Place, (property?) of William Pearce; twice for smuggling, 3 months and 6 months; one brother, Abraham transported with me, died on Board; married with 4 children, wife Joan.' CON27 Appropriation lists of convicts (1 January 1822 - 31 December 1846) - Appropriation lists were created for recording a convict's trade and how a convict's skills were used. The records may also include the name of the settler to whom a convict was assigned or the government department/group taking on the convict. Additional details may also be provided, such as age, native place, or sentence. The lists are arranged alphabetically by first letter of the last name. In column headed 'How Appropriated' it has 'Manic Dep'. 13 January 1838 Public Works/Misdemeanor - reprimanded. 31 January 1838 Absconded and escaped from the Colony and remained illegally at large until he returned to the Colony by the ship Layton 3. TRANSPORT SHIP: Layton-- sailed from Portsmouth 13th July 1839; arrived Hobart Town 7th December 1839. MASTER: Simon Cuddy. SURGEON: Isaac Noott. The Layton carried 263 male convicts, 3 were relanded and 4 died on the voyage. CONDUCT RECORD: (496) (384 Bardaster) Transported for Burglary. GAOL RECORD: A returned convict from Van Diemen's Land, habits of life bad, convicted before. HULK RECORD: Good; married with 4 children. Stated this offence, 'Transported and came out on the Bardaster. I was cockswain of the York Boat, George Town, stowed away on a schooner at the night, do not know her name, was 9 days stowed away arriving the cattle, and went to South Australia and landed in the night, no one knew I was on board, remained there about a week and shipped on board the Royal Admiral as a seaman and went to Valperiso, and then shipped on board the Visper. I was identified by a Countryman and was taken by the London Police; married and 4 children, wife Johanna at Portland. SURGEONS REPORT: Very well conducted'. (REF:AOTAS CON31/32 p209) 23 December 1839 to be kept to hard labour in chains 2 years and recommended to be removed to Port Arthur, Port Arthur Chain Gang - conduct to be

reported vide Lieut Governors decision 27 December 1839.<sup>n4</sup> January 1840 Absconding himself from his Gang without cause and showing suspicion of conspiring at the absconding of a fellow Prisoner - 5 days solitary confinement on Bread and Water.<sup>n30</sup> May 1841 Gross misconduct in being in company with an absentee boy from Point Puer and having a quantity of Tobacco .... in possession - 17 days solitary.<sup>n19</sup> July 1841 Gross misconduct - 6 months in chains recommended to be performed at Port Arthur.<sup>n29</sup> March 1844 3rd Class<sup>n17</sup> February 1846 Ticket of Leave.<sup>n(REF:PRO HO11/10; AOTAS CON31/33 p73)n-nBIOGRAPHY: Hobart Town Gazette 1844</sup><sup>nSamuel is listed among the Third Class Probation Pass-holders issued 27th March 1844.</sup><sup>n8th November 1844, Samuel is listed in Engagements of Pass-holders in private service, with J M Matson, Deloraine for 3 months from 25th October 1844.</sup><sup>nnBIOGRAPHY: Passed from Van Dieman's Land to Adelaide by the schooner Captain Cook August 29th 1848.</sup><sup>n(REF:https://stors.tas.gov.au/POL220/1/1 p24)nBIOGRAPHY: Victorian Government Gazette 1857</sup><sup>nList of unclaimed ship letters.</sup><sup>n-nBIOGRAPHY: Samuel was admitted at age 50 on Nov 13th 1858 to the Adelaide Lunatic Asylum. He died there 5 years later on Nov 13th 1863. His diagnosis was recurrent mania as a consequence of epilepsy and cause of death : diarrhoea. It is unlikely with his age as 55 and cause of death being as stated that the coroner would have been involved.</sup><sup>nDavid Buob, President, Glenside Hospital Historical Societyn-nBIOGRAPHY: nROYAL ADMIRAL - 1800</sup><sup>n(Red Book - Shipowners)nMaster: Captain W. Wilson</sup><sup>nRigging: Ship; 3 decks; sheathed in copper 1793</sup><sup>nTonnage: 923 tons</sup><sup>nConstruction: 1777, River; almost rebuilt in 1794; 6 6-pounds & 18 9-pounds guns</sup><sup>nOwners: Gillett & Co.</sup><sup>nDraught under load: 21 feet</sup><sup>nPort of survey: London</sup><sup>nVoyage: sailed for Botany Bay</sup><sup>n(Green Book - Underwriters)nMaster: Captain W. Wilson</sup><sup>nRigging: Ship; 2 decks; sheathed in copper; fastened with iron bolts</sup><sup>nTonnage: 923 tons</sup><sup>nConstruction: River; vessel 23 years old; good repairs 1792; thorough repairs in 1799;</sup><sup>n6 x 6-pounds guns & 18 x 18-pounds caron</sup><sup>nadenOwners: Gillett & Co.</sup><sup>nDraught under load: 21 feet</sup><sup>nPort of survey: London</sup><sup>nVoyage: sailed for Botany Bay</sup><sup>nnOCCUPATION: 1827 Seaman</sup><sup>n1829 Seaman</sup><sup>n1831 Seaman</sup><sup>n1834 Quarryman</sup><sup>n1852 Mariner</sup><sup>nnSN 1nSamuel Norster 12 Mar 1835 7 Sep 1835 Bardaster Dorset, England</sup><sup>nPartner Information Australian Convict Transportation Registers - Other Fleets & Ships, 1791-1868 Record for Samuel Norster</sup><sup>nnSourceAncestry.com. Australian Convict Transportation Registers - Other Fleets & Ships, 1791-1868 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2007.</sup><sup>nOriginal data: Home Office: Convict Transportation Registers; (The National Archives Microfilm Publication HO11); The National Archives of the UK (TNA), Kew, Surrey, England.</sup><sup>nnSN 2nSamuel Norster 12 Mar 1835 9 Jul 1839 Layton Dorset, England</sup><sup>nAustralian Convict Transportation Registers - Other Fleets & Ships, 1791-1868 Record for Samuel Norster</sup><sup>nnSourceAncestry.com. Australian Convict Transportation Registers - Other Fleets & Ships, 1791-1868 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2007.</sup><sup>nOriginal data: Home Office: Convict Transportation Registers; (The National Archives Microfilm Publication HO11); The National Archives of the UK (TNA), Kew, Surrey, England.</sup><sup>nnSN PardonnSamuel Norster Bardaster Dorset</sup><sup>nName: Samuel Norster</sup><sup>nVessel: Bardaster</sup><sup>nPiece: HO 10/60</sup><sup>nProvince: Tasmanian</sup><sup>nTitle: Pardons</sup><sup>nYear(s): 1847-1848</sup><sup>nPlace of Conviction: Dorset</sup><sup>nnNew South Wales and Tasmania, Australia, Convict Pardons, 1834-1859 > Tasmania > Pardons > 1847-1848</sup><sup>nabout Samuel Norster</sup><sup>nnSourceAncestry.com. New South Wales and Tasmania, Australia, Convict Pardons, 1834-1859 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2007.</sup><sup>nOriginal data: Home Office: Settlers and Convicts, New South Wales and Tasmania; (The National Archives Microfilm Publication HO10, Pieces 31, 52-64); The National Archives of the UK (TNA), Kew, Surrey, England.</sup><sup>nnRanked Search Results - New South Wales and Tasmania, Australia Convict Musters, 1806-1849</sup><sup>nnSN 3nName: Samuel Norster</sup><sup>nArrival Date: 1836</sup><sup>nVessel: Bardaster</sup><sup>nPiece: HO 10/38</sup><sup>nProvince: Tasmanian</sup><sup>nTitle: Ledger Returns A-R</sup><sup>nYear(s): 1846</sup><sup>nPlace of Conviction: Dorset</sup><sup>nnSN 4nName: Samuel Norster</sup><sup>nArrival Date: 1836</sup><sup>nVessel: Bardaster</sup><sup>nPiece: HO 10/40</sup><sup>nProvince: Tasmanian</sup><sup>nTitle: Ledger Returns</sup><sup>nYear(s): 1849</sup><sup>nPlace of Conviction: Dorset</sup><sup>nnSN 5nName: Samuel Norster</sup><sup>nArrival Date: 1839</sup><sup>nVessel: Layton</sup><sup>nPiece: HO 10/40</sup><sup>nProvince: Tasmanian</sup><sup>nTitle: Ledger Returns</sup><sup>nYear(s): 1849</sup><sup>nPlace of Conviction: Dorset</sup><sup>nnSN 6nName: Samuel Norster</sup><sup>nVessel: Bardaster</sup><sup>nPiece: HO 10/51</sup><sup>nProvince: Tasmanian</sup><sup>nTitle: List of convicts (incomplete)</sup><sup>nYear(s): 1841</sup><sup>nnnnSN 7nName: Samuel Norster</sup><sup>nVessel: Layton</sup><sup>nPiece: HO 10/51</sup><sup>nProvince: Tasmanian</sup><sup>nTitle: List of convicts (incomplete)</sup><sup>nYear(s): 1841</sup><sup>nnnnSN 8nnEngland & Wales, Criminal Registers, 1791-1892</sup><sup>nabout Samuel Norster</sup><sup>nName: Samuel Norster</sup><sup>nAge: 35</sup><sup>nEstimated birth year: abt 1800</sup><sup>nDate of Trial: 12 Mar 1835</sup><sup>nTrial Year: 1835</sup><sup>nLocation of Trial: Dorset, England</sup><sup>nSentence: Transportation</sup><sup>nnCrime: See Image</sup><sup>nDate of Execution or Release: See Image</sup><sup>nnColonial Times Hobart, Tas. Friday 7 July 1848</sup><sup>nnGOVERNMENT NOTICE.</sup><sup>nnColonial Secretary's Office. 1st July, 1848.</sup><sup>nnIt is hereby notified, that His Excellency has received a Despatch from the Right Honourable the Secretary of State, conveying Her Majesty's approval of Pardons, upon condition that they shall not return to or be found within the Countries in which they were severally convicted during the remaining term of their transportation : nSamuel is listed.</sup><sup>nn20/12/1856 Adelaide Observer:nDESTITUTE BOARD</sup><sup>nSamuel Norster, ill and unable to work, subject to fits, pleaded to be admitted to the Asylum. Had been 20 years in the colony.</sup><sup>nRefused.</sup><sup>nnBURIAL: 13/11/1863 - Road 1 South, Path 26, Aspect W-2ND, Site Number 23 There appears to be 5 people buried in that grave, so probably a paupers grave, but no-one after Samuel until 1905</sup><sup>nFrederick Brocklehurst 17 Aug 1863</sup><sup>nJohn Passmore 15 Aug 1863</sup><sup>nSamuel Norster 13 Nov 1863</sup><sup>nJames Henderson 13 Jun 1905</sup><sup>nMary Henderson 29 Aug 1921</sup>

<sup>b)</sup> Joan Gibbs is mother of: William Gibbs Norster (\*?), Francis Norster (\*?), Christopher Gibbs Norster (\*?) and Samuel Norster (\*1827)