

Appendix Five: Timeline

Date	Australian Legislation	Aboriginal & Australian Events	Indian & Mauritian Events
200 AD			Christianity arrived in Southern India in the first centuries after Christ's life when Christians from Palestine founded a community in Kerala. They became known as St Thomas Christians and later as Syrian Christians.
734 AD			Islam arrived on the coast of Southern India when Arab traders and seafarers came within the lifetime of Mohammed himself.
1710 to 1810			Mauritius was under French control.
1810			The British took over control of Mauritius during the Napoleonic War because the island was on a strategic sea route.
Approx 1829		Harry Karrakom Gorrakkum born at Majorca near Maryborough.	

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1832			James Peersaib/ Peersahib born in Madras 1832 approx. Mother knows Koran. Father is believed to be Hafiz. (Ref: Abdool Cader Kalla).
1834 to 1912			Indentured Labourers being transported from India to Mauritius and elsewhere
Jan 1842		School attendance record for Harry Karkour (is this Harry Karrakum?).	
1842		Mt Franklin Medical Report August 1842 noted Judy Tigorook age 12.	
1845		Medical record Mt Franklin for Harry Norrageen age 15 bc 1830. Same person?	First Anglo-Sikh war
10-2-1846			Battle of Sobroan (First Anglo Sikh war, with the latter well defeated).
1850			St Thomas Church at Beau Bassin is established in Mauritius. James attending Christian school in Madras
Up to 1854			James is a school monitor in a Christian School.

Date	Australian Legislation	Aboriginal & Australian Events	Indian & Mauritian Events
1854			2–4–1854 James arrived in Mauritius on the ship John Brightman as an indentured labourer from Madras. Is having a hard time at Black River – as indentured labourer. ID no: 132719
1854			Cholera outbreak in Mauritius 1854.
14–12–1855			James Peersaib wanders into Bishop Ryan’s vestry.
Early 1856			James Peersaib is baptised into Christianity and becomes a catechist.
Approx 1855		Grandfather Henry Harmony Nelson born at Majorca near Maryborough. Parents: Harry Karrakom Gorrakkum Nelson and Judy Mary Tigarook. Both members of the Loddon River Dja Dja Wurrung tribe. Henry Harmony lived at Newstead on the Loddon in the vicinity of Cairn Curran Reservoir until 1866 when his name is recorded on the Corranderrk records as a resident there. (11 year old then).	2–1–1855 Lokheea arrived in Mauritius on the ship Thomas Hamlin with her mother Rajcoowary. She was only 3yrs old. Married James 16–3–1878. ID no: 159681
1856		‘Governor’ Rice arrives at Moira Lakes and establishes the Moira Lakes Fishing Co.	
1857			The Indian Mutiny – Indians of all regions of India rose against the British.

Date	Australian Legislation	Aboriginal & Australian Events	Indian & Mauritian Events
14-7-1857			The Thomas family leave Madras for India on the ship Beernah as indentured labourers. Thomas ID: 179091 Elizabeth ID: 178254 and five children.
1858			India is under the formal control of the British Raj.
23-10-1858			James and Esther are married in Rose Hill Mauritius. Marriage Certificate: Photo 755
1-2-1859			James Peersaib formally starts work as Interpreter with Magistrate Court at Plaines Wilhem. But has been working for him for some time previously.
1-9-1859			Thomas Shadrach James born in Mauritius as Thomas Shadrach Peersahib.
24-9-1859			Thomas the father of Esther Thomas died in Mauritius.

Date	Australian Legislation	Aboriginal & Australian Events	Indian & Mauritian Events
9-7-1861			Records show that a boy Samson Peersahib is born to James Peersahib (interpreter) and Esther Peersahib (nee Thomas) both of Moka. See Birth Certificate. Photo: 751, 446.
1864	Neglected & Criminal Children's Act		
6-3-1865			James and Esther Peersahib own Property at Plaines Wilhems Mauritius. (48 toises – size)
1866		Record of Harry Karrakom Gorakkum Loddon tribe age 37 born c.1829. (Museum Victoria and Bendigo) Karrakom, Karkom, Karkour, Karakum, Gorakkum and Norragen all considered phonetically similar.	
1868			Major Cyclone hits Mauritius. Family home is destroyed including all belongings and family documents and photos. According to the book Diocese of Mauritius (Curtis 1975) one Mrs M Thomas (Miriam) is injured badly in Cyclone at Plaisance Orphanage. Is this Grandmother?

Date	Australian Legislation	Aboriginal & Australian Events	Indian & Mauritian Events
1861	Regulations Governing Aborigines were gazetted.		
1872		Grandfather Henry Harmony Nelson and his tribe travel to Mt Beauty for Bogong Moth festival. He meets Granny Maggie Stone McDonald.	
1873/4	Neglected and Criminal Children's Act Amended.	Maloga Mission established.	
1-11-1874		Four canoes arrived at Maloga from O'Shannassy's station with Maria (Mariah), Granny Kitty, her children Ada and Jacky in one; Aaron, Louisa, Willie (William) and Bobby in another, bringing the children back to school at Maloga. (Daniel Matthews Annual reports and diaries)	
31-1-1875			Records show that young Samson Peersahib died on this date at Rose Hill. An area where James and Esther had a home.
3-5-1875			James and Esther Peersahib own Property at Plaines Wilhems Mauritius. (100 toises – size)
10-2-1877			Grandmother Esther Peersahib (nee Thomas) died.
16-3-1878			James married Lokheea. (She came to Mauritius on the Thomas Hamlin ship on 2-11-1855 aged three).

Date	Australian Legislation	Aboriginal & Australian Events	Indian & Mauritian Events
1879		Charles Crosby takes over the Melbourne branch of William Crosby and Co after his father's death.	
1879		First Report of the Maloga Mission School that year lists Granny Kitty Cooper as 'full blood 45 years of age'.	
2-5-1879		My Great-Great-Great-Grandmother Maria (Mariah) passed away. She was at the time the oldest in the camp. And had been one of the 'bitterest opponents of the mission'. (Daniel Matthews Diary and Reports)	
23-8-1879		Grampa Thomas James applies for teaching job in Hobart Tasmania. Stated on application he had been in the colony nine months. Records do not show that he took up the teaching post.	
Late 1879		Charles Crosby Esquire takes over family business in Melbourne, including Merchandising store and warehouse. Did Grampa travel with Charles to Melbourne and become stable hand as some family stories go? Grampa studying Medicine at Melbourne University (No evidence found to support this family belief; however some university records were said to be destroyed in fire long ago). Grampa contracted typhoid fever and ordered by doctor to take five years leave from studies (Letter Number 8, GBRN Collection)	
31-7-1880			Jahangeerbee Peersahib born to Lokheea and James on 31-7-1880. It is believed that this is Ruth Peersahib, Grandmother of Sydney and Arlette Purahoo.
15-9-1880		Henry (25 years old) and Maggie Nelson (20 years old) married at Coranderrk.	
3-1-1881		41 residents of Maloga go to Brighton Beach for Revival Camp with Daniel Matthews.	

Date	Australian Legislation	Aboriginal & Australian Events	Indian & Mauritian Events
3-1-1881		Grampa Thomas Shadrach James meets Maloga mob and returns to Maloga with them. He would have been 22 years old.	
1881	Corranderrk Inquiry	Henry Harmony gave evidence at Grandma Mary Jane's inquest. He would have been 26 years old.	
1-10-1883		Grandpa Thomas James took charge of Maloga School.	
1883	The NSW Government took over all church run missions when established the APB.		Blue book records not James Peersahib is 52 years old as of 31 December 1881.
14-5-1885		Thomas and Ada marry at Maloga Mission in a double wedding with Annabella and Edward Rivers (Joachim).	
21-9-1885		My Great-Great-Granny Kitty Cooper is reported to be very ill, with 'her lungs bleeding profusely'. (Daniel Matthews Diary and Report)	
end 1885		Granny Kitty Cooper died from tuberculosis. (Daniel Matthews Diary and Report)	
1886ish		Aunty Miriam James born as oldest child.	
1886-90	Aborigines Protection Act		
1887	Neglected Children's Act		
1888	Cummera-gunga established.	Priscilla James (Nanny Pris) born at Maloga Mission.	

Date	Australian Legislation	Aboriginal & Australian Events	Indian & Mauritian Events
1888	APB allocated farm blocks to individual families on Cummera.	Bellenger is made the Manager by the APB. Aboriginal men offered farm blocks at Cummeragunga. Maloga buildings are being torn down forcing Aboriginal people to move to Cummera. Some went. Some remained loyal to Matthews. Bellenger forbade Matthews from having contact with the Cummera based people. Grampa had to move to the new site to continue on with his teaching position. (Ref: Our Aim: Journal of the Aborigines Inland Mission, Alick Russell)	
2-11-1888		Grampa given the key to the school building at Cummeragunga. (Letter 24 GBRN Collection)	
14-12-1888		Grampa took 60 residents from Cummera to Brighton Beach, to the site where he originally met the Maloga mob. A typhoid epidemic began at Brighton Beach spreading through the group including Grampa (a second bout). This continued on at Cummera on their return. Many residents lost their lives from this including Uncle William Cooper's wife Annie and their baby son Bartlett who died on 22 January 1889. (Ref: Our Aim: Journal of the Aborigines Inland Mission, Alick Russell)	
1888/89		The Cummeragunga Cricket team won the Echuca District Cricket Challenge Cup in the season 1888/9. The team gave Grampa the Challenge Cup to keep, as a thankyou to their coach.	
1889		Henry Harmony Nelson co-signed a letter to the Standard Newspaper in Warrnambool. Group was asking for the paper's support in their request to the Vic Gov for land to work for themselves. (Doc 47) Framlingham Petition for Land (Doc 46)	
1-10-89		Dirty Books – Grampa made to answer. (Letter 6 GBRN Collection)	
1890	Neglected Children's Act consolidation.		

Date	Australian Legislation	Aboriginal & Australian Events	Indian & Mauritian Events
	Infant Life Protection Act Aborigines Act		
2-3-1890		Grampa sick leave – fever. (Letter 15 GBRN Collection)	
12-3-1890		Sick leave extension. (Letter 16)	
25-3-1890		Grampa sick leave – fever. (Letter 17 GBRN Collection)	
15-5-1890		Uncle Shadrach ‘Shady’ James born.	
20-12-1890		Clergymen visit. Comments re poor conditions in school. Phthisis. (Letter 25 GBRN Collection)	
8-4-1891		Overcrowding in Cummera School. (Letter 14 GBRN Collection)	
28-8-1891		Promotion request by Grampa, teaching scholars ‘leading and writing’. (Letter 1 GBRN Collection)	
2-9-1891		Report on Grampa’s performance. (Letter 46 GBRN Collection)	
30-11-1891		Grampa seeks leave WITH pay, to go to Mauritius, requesting that Granny Ada receive his pay while he is away. Leave is granted without pay. (Ten years service). (Letter 3 GBRN Collection)	
3-12-1891		Baker offers to replace Grampa while his on leave. (Letter 47 GBRN Collection)	
30-12-1891		Grampa’s request that Granny receive his pay while his in Mauritius. (Letter 32 GBRN Collection)	
18-1-1892		Teacher Cavan protesting at being placed at Cummera with blacks. (Letter 48 GBRN Collection)	
25-1-1892		Chief Inspectors response to Letter 48 above. (Letter 49 GBRN Collection)	
5-2-1892		Cavan’s sick leave until Grampa returns from leave. (Letter 50 GBRN Collection)	
23-2-1892		Grampa’s letter from Mauritius worried about leave and getting home. (Letter 4 GBRN Collection)	

Date	Australian Legislation	Aboriginal & Australian Events	Indian & Mauritian Events
1892		Henry and Maggie's son George Edward Nelson born.	11 Jan to at least 23 Feb 1892: Grandpa Thomas Shadrach travels home to Mauritius to see his father. (see letter to education) Grampa quotes in his leave request to Education department 30 November 1891, that it has been nearly 15 years since he has seen his father. This would mean he left Mauritius in 1876. Major cyclone hits Mauritius on 29 April 1892.
23-9-1893		Grampa notes in a letter to Inspector that he had typhoid three years earlier, during the outbreak at Cummeragunga.	
21-10-1893		Too much work for one teacher. Need a pupil teacher. (Letter 56 GBRN Collection)	
30-10-1893		Measles outbreak. Only four students in school. (Letter 55 GBRN Collection)	
13-11-1893		Measles continues. (Letter 57 GBRN Collection)	
1894ish		Rebecca James born.	
1895		Uncle Bob Nelson born at Swan Hill. (Henry and Maggie's first child).	
10-10-1895		Grampa requests promotion, noting it has now been ten yrs. He was due to be promoted then. Promotion declined. Told to wait.	
30-11-1895		Grampa very ill due to dysentery and bowel infection.	
4-9-1896		Grampa's request for promotion. Argued it was his only form of promotion available to him, given he had abandoned his medical studies due to typhoid fever years earlier. Approved. (Letter 9 GBRN Collection)	

Date	Australian Legislation	Aboriginal & Australian Events	Indian & Mauritian Events
1896ish		Louisa James born.	
1-10-1896		Public Education denied Grampa's promotion. Not good enough to go to level 2B.	
????		58 students and no assistant teacher. Grampa requesting help.	
23-3-1897		Scarlattina outbreak on Cummera.	
2-4-97		Cummera school finally closed due to scarlattina outbreak.	
27-9-1897		Grampa writes letter to Mr R.H. Mathews listing all tribe members now located at Cummera. (Image 76, Numbered Letter 35 in GBRN Collection)	James Peersahib receiving govt pension in 1897 at the age of 60. 1600 rupees granted.
3-12-1897		Grampa writes letter to Mr R.H. Mathews providing information about local customs as requested. (Letter 40 GBRN Collection)	
30-9-1898		APB writes school inadequate, needs extensions. (Letter 39 GBRN Collection)	
28-10-1898		Grampa requests for school repairs.	
18-1-1899		Chanter letter to board noting teacher's accommodation and school building are appalling, in need of renovations. (Letter 26 GBRN Collection)	
9-6-1899		Grampa sick leave, very unwell.	
6-11-1899		Influenza outbreak. Leave request. Grampa, Miss Falconer and 30 kids all with flu. (Letter 37 GBRN Collection)	
1900		Garfield James born.	
31-8-1900		Miss Falconer's request for living allowance. (Letter 21 GBRN Collection)	
3-9-1900		Request for living allowance for Grampa and assistant. Declined then reconsidered. (Letter 18 GBRN Collection) Request not to leave Cummera. (Letter 18 GBRN Collection)	
1-11-1900		Living Allowance 12 months backpay approved. (Letter 19 GBRN Collection)	

Date	Australian Legislation	Aboriginal & Australian Events	Indian & Mauritian Events
1900s		Soup Angels: Grandfather Henry and Granny Mag during the influenza outbreak at Cummera. Feeding soup to community members.	
1901	Constitution Act	Excluded Aboriginal people and left Aboriginal Affairs power to the states.	
2-1-1901		Miss Falconer request for living allowance. (Letter 22 GBRN Collection)	
19-11-1901		Grampa sick leave and illness in the family. Grampa quite ill. Advised to go to the seaside for a break. (Letter 36)	
19-11-1901		Grampa insomnia, medical certificate. (Letter 58 GBRN Collection)	
1902	Franchise Act, gave women the vote.	Ivy James born.	
29-8-1902		Grampa sick leave for influenza. Request to close school. (Letter 111 GBRN Collection)	
30-8-1902		Outbreak of flu, whooping cough and croup. (Letter 42 GBRN Collection)	
8-9-1902		No children in school due to epidemic. (Letter 60 GBRN Collection)	
13-9-1902		NSW Education Department seeking more information regarding epidemic status. (Letter 59 GBRN Collection)	
19-9-1902		School kept open although no children attending. Grampa eventually closed it and reopened on 26-9-1902.	
26-9-1902		Epidemic easing. (Letter 61 GBRN Collection)	
30-10-1902		Grampa finally received answer from Dept of Public Education approving closure of school from 29/8 – 13-9-1902. Too late, time had passed.	
20-11-1902		Miss Falconer teaching asst ill and weak from pneumonia. Doctor told her to go to cooler climate for one month.	
24-11-1902		Grampa desperate: six classes to teach alone, with Miss Falconer away. Trying weather. Requests daughter Miriam to be employed as assistant.	
22-9-1903		Grampa subpoenaed to give evidence at Deniliquin court for an Indian man. 9-10-03 back to court again. (Letter 79 GBRN Collection)	

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17-10-1903			James and Lokheea Peersahib own Property at Plaines Wilhems Mauritius. (100 toises – size)
23-10-1903		Riverine Herald Echuca: article on the Glee Club – Cummeragunga Concert in Temperance Hall Echuca to raise money for Cummera cricket team.	
30-1-1904		Daughter Miriam formally applies for teaching role with Grampa.	
7-3-1904		Daughter Miriam appointed Teaching Assistant to Grampa. (Letter 31 GBRN Collection)	
1905	APB Policy Change	Cummeragunga was the first hit by the new policy allowing the removal of Aboriginal children from their parents. (Invasion to Embassy, Goodall)	5-3-1905 James Peersaib died at the age of 68, in what is believed to be another of his properties at 15 Queen Victoria St, Rose Hill.
1906	Children's Court Act		
Sept 1906		Mr Dawson Chief Inspector provides commendation for Grampa, recognising his good work.	
29-8-1907		Grampa's complaint to Public Education about the quality of the school room, size, unbearable heat for so many kids in one room.	
1908		Farms were taken away from Aboriginal men on Cummera. (Invasion to Embassy, Goodall)	
1908		Carey James Snr born. (Birth Certificate)	
10-2-1908		Request from some white parents for a white school for white kids. (Letter 62 GBRN Collection)	
15-2-1908		Letter 62 above was referred on to the office of NSW Education Department, by Chief Inspectors, supporting the white parents request for a white school. (Letter 64 GBRN Collection)	

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1-4-1908		APB writes to Harris ordering him to arrange renovations of teachers residence. (Letter 65 GBRN Collection)	
7-4-1908		APB writes that they believe Mr Harris is just jealous of Grampa. 'Mr James and his daughter are earnest, capable and enthusiastic teachers ... their influence is a good one'. Mr Harris' complaint dropped. (Letter 63 GBRN Collection)	
8-5-1908		Harris' negative response to renovation order above. (Letter 66 GBRN Collection)	
29-6-1908		Grampa sick leave renal colic. (Letter 44 GBRN Collection)	
5-7-1908		Grampa sick leave request renal colic. (Letter 43)	
13-7-1908		Grampa sick leave renal colic. Extension requested 17-7-08. (Letter 4 GBRN Collection 5)	
1909		Aborigines Protection Act NSW gives full control and custody of all Aboriginal children to the APB. This empowers Cummeragunga Manager George Harris.	
7-2-1909		Grampa gives a sermon in which he is accused of inciting Aboriginal people to stand up against removal of their farm blocks.	
10-2-1909		Mrs Harris complaint. She alleges he mentions farm blocks in sermon to insight unrest between Aboriginal people and whites. Mentions Farm Blocks. (Letter 85 GBRN Collection)	
11-2-1909		Harris letter attacking Miriam James.	
1-3-1909		Grampa's response to Mrs Harris' complaint and charges made against him. (Letter 5 GBRN Collection)	
1-3-1909		Letter of support from Aboriginal members who attended Grampa's sermon above. (Letter 7 GBRN Collection)	
13-12-1909		Mr Harris again attacking Miriam James and Shady James.	

Date	Australian Legislation	Aboriginal & Australian Events	Indian & Mauritian Events
15-12-1909		NSW Parliamentary Debates: The Mission Managers were empowered to initiate trespass charges under sections 131 and 133 of the Crown Lands Act. (APB Report 1906, page 2 – Goodall)	
30-12-1909		Mr Harris harassing Grampa's children. Making complaints about them.	
1910	Aborigines Act		
25-2-1910		Nanny Pris applied for teaching role with Grampa. (Letter 11 GBRN Collection)	
26-2-1910		Grampa complaint against Harris. (Letter 34 GBRN Collection)	
26-2-1910		Grampa complaint against Wilkinson. (Letter 73 GBRN Collection)	
16-3-1910		Uncle Shady forced to resign from teaching at Cummera. (Letter 84 GBRN Collection)	
16-3-1910		Miriam Morgan nee James forced to resign from teaching at Cummera. (Letter 87 GBRN Collection)	
16-3-1910		Grampa's letter requesting a urine pit for the girls in the school. Urine pit has been 'overlooked'.	
27-4-1910		Inspector Lynch recommends the work be carried out by Public Instruction because the APB refuses.	
14-6-1910		Riverine Herald article: Empire Day and Opening of the New Public School at Cummeragunga. Mr Maloney gives high praise of Grampa. (Document 637)	
25-7-1910		Grampa's letter to Board of Education Dept, questioning Mr Harris' power to stop white kids attending Cummeragunga school. (Letter 11)	
5-8-1910		Outcome from Grampa's complaints. Harris being sent away. (Letter 67)	
25-9-1910		Riverine Herald article: Presentation to Mr Thomas S. James by Barmah Community on 7-9-1910. (Article 123)	
3-10-1910		Grampa requesting result of inquiry into his complaints re Harris and Wilkinson. (Letter 68)	
10-10-1910		Nanny Pris sick leave. (Letter 70)	

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28-11-1910		Nanny Pris resignation due to phthisis. (Letter 69)	
Dec 1910		Riverine Herald article: Cummeragunja Mission – the Inquiry into Grampa’s complaints about Harris and Wilkinson. (Document 643)	
1911	Expulsion Orders		
5-1-1911		Nanny Pris and Grandfather George marry.	
July 1911		Grampa’s living allowance discontinued with no explanation.	
1-9-1911		My father George Nelson the second was born at Cummera.	
14-10-1911		Grampa subpoenaed as witness at Deniliquin court for Aboriginal man.	
6-12-1911		Disorderly charges against Granny Ada, Shady and Miriam – defending selves from harassment. Shady and Miriam are stood down.	
13-12-1911		Uncle Shady James reappointed as teaching assistant.	
1912		My mother Rebecca ‘Betsy’ Clements is born at Brungle Mission.	
1912	APB Policy	APB Board Member Thomas Garvin recommends the removal of 52 children from Cummeragunga classing them as ‘quadroon and octoroon’. T. Garvin inspection report. Each year they took more and more children. (Invasion to Embassy, Goodall)	
31-1-1912		Grampa requesting promotion. Also asking to stay at Cummeragunga for rest of working life. Promotion denied.	
17-2-1912		Grampa’s response to Chalmers Report. (Letter 72)	
27-2-1912		Granny Ada answering charges of fighting with two women. She was defending her children, who were being harassed. (Letter 75)	
1-3-1912		Shady and Rebecca ordered to resign their teaching positions.	
7-3-1912		Grampa made electoral officer for federal elections.	
9-4-1912		Grampa’s seeking reclassification/ promotion. Denied.	

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11-4-1912		Inquiry into complaints regarding Grampa, Granny Ada, Shady, Becky and Miriam.	
11-4-1912		Public Education and APB orders that a white teaching assistant be employed at Cummera school but 'too hard to get white teachers for such an immoral community'.	
30-4-1912		Denied Grampa's reclassification/promotion. (Letter 77)	
16-6-1912		Rebecca James forced to resign her teaching assistant role for barracking at the football. (Letter 76)	
8-4-1913		Grampa and Granny Ada have a still born baby.	
25-6-1913		Grampa letter – half the kids away from whooping cough.	
26-6-1913		Grampa letter – prevalence of whooping cough at Cummeragunga.	
8-7-1913		Attendance falling due to epidemic.	
9-7-1913		Grampa letter – only three kids at school, please advise what to do.	
14-7-1913		Grampa letter reporting on whooping cough epidemic in school.	
16-7-1913 to 8-7-1913		Miss Holden assistant teacher on leave due to epidemic. Grampa takes her class over.	
16-7-1913 to 1-8-1913		Miss Brucinda Ferguson sick leave due to epidemic. Grampa takes her class over.	
15-12-1913		Riverine Herald article: 'Social at Cummeragunga: T. S. James Honoured – A Happy Gathering'. (Document 75 - Numbered 634 in full GBRN Collection)	
1913-1914		Grampa returns to Mauritius for holiday. Six months leave.	
1914			WWI started: Aboriginal men enlist. However do not enjoy the same rewards on their return home, e.g. land, pensions, nor mention in honour rolls.

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20-5-1914		Grampa requests house repairs. Denied.	
26-11-1914		Pop Hurtle Muckray enlists in the 3rd Light Horse Regiment in South Australia.	
1915	Children's Neglect Act		
1915		Pop Hurtle Muckray (Lighthorseman) fighting at Kantara Egypt and Gallipoli.	
7-6-1915		Grampa requests working allowance for Granny Ada, teaching girls about sewing, cooking etc.	
28-8-1916		Pop Hurtle Muckray transferred to the Australian Imperial Force.	
Approx 1917		Uncle Garfield 'Garchi' James dies in horse fall at age of approx 17.	
1918			WWI ended.
1919	Children's maintenance Act	Influenza epidemic on Cummera. Grandfather Henry and Granny Maggie Nelson are named the 'Soup Angels' feeding sick families with their home made soup delivered door to door.	
15-5-1919		Pop Hurtle Muckray (Light Horseman) returned to Australia.	
11-8-1919		Pop Hurtle Muckray discharged from service. 12-8-1919 Tailem Bend Committee honour him and two other returned servicemen with a parade and medal presentation.	
1919		Cummera population had decreased significantly due to expulsion orders. (APB Minutes)	
1920s		Yorta Yorta Leaders (Grampa's students/scholars) stepping out onto Australia's political stage.	
1920s		Granny Magg's shop opened.	
1920		George Nelson critically injured working at Torrumbarry Weir. (Document 36)	
Jan 1921		Sacking of another manager – name unknown. (Goodall)	

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August 1921		Despite Grampa's efforts to keep the peace the APB acted against him, calling him a troublemaker and moved to end his employment as teacher on the grounds that it was 'not in the best interests of the Aborigines for him to stay'.	
Dec 1921		Cummera population was now reduced by 51.8 per cent of its 1908 total population.	
Dec 1921 to March 1922		A police station established on Cummera so the mission was ruled by a resident police officer.	
December 1922			
1922		Grandpa James forced to retire and is moved to Barmah. Dept of Education gave him a house there. He then bought block each, for every child he had, situated alongside his own.	
1922–1928		APB Records of Wards did not show any Aboriginal children had been taken from Cummera from 1922–28.	
1922/23		Grampa and Granny move to Melbourne.	
21–11–1923		Grandfather George Nelson (the first) died at Echuca Hospital following horrific accident working on construction of Torrumbarry weir six months earlier.	
1922/23		Grandfather Henry Harmony and Granny Maggie Nelson travel by horse and cart to Majorca, back to Grandfather's birth place for a visit. He died there and had to be brought back by Granny Mag. Probably why no death certificate can be found. He was buried at Cummera on their return. (He died very near to when his son George also passed, but unsure which was first; I am inclined to think he died soon after his son.)	
1923/24		Priscilla and seven kids moved to Melbourne with Grandpa James and Granny Ada after Grandfather George died in 1922.	
1927		Cummeragunga Footy Club are Premiers.	

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1928	Aborigines Act	Uncle Shady moved from Melbourne to Mooroopna.	
1928	Children's Welfare Act	Aboriginal Conference Day of Mourning. Aborigines Only.	
1928	Adoption Act	My father started wood cutting in Barmah Forest.	
Easter 1928		Uncle Lynch Cooper won the Stawell Gift.	
1929		Uncle Lynch Cooper becomes the World Sprint Champion.	
1926–1928		Uncle Lynch Cooper wins the Bendigo and Warracknabeal Gifts during this period.	
1930	National Aborigines Advancement League established.		
1931	National Native Welfare Conference		
1932		George Nelson II and Rebecca 'Betsy' Clements marry at Moonacullah.	
1932		Eddie Briggs won Warracknabeal Gift and came second in Stawell Gift.	
1933	Children's Welfare Act amended.		
23–10–1933		Uncle William Cooper Petition to King George V. (Document 93)	
25–9–1933		I am born George Nelson III at Cummeragunga, delivered by Aunty Norah Charles.	
1933		Uncle William Cooper moves to Melbourne.	
19–3–1934		Uncle William Cooper: together with other Elders various letters sent to various state governments. (Document 93) Aborigines Advancement League Established.	
5–3–1935		My wife Brenda Morgan was born at Cummeragunga, delivered by Aunty Norah Charles.	
1935		My brother Keith was born at Cummeragunga.	

Date	Australian Legislation	Aboriginal & Australian Events	Indian & Mauritian Events
8-4-1935		Uncle William Cooper: Petition 2000 signatures Australia wide to Mr Paterson, Minister for Interior.	
1936		Jack Patten co-founder of Aborigines Progressive Association NSW.	
22-7-1936		Uncle William Cooper as the Secretary Australian Aborigine's League. Letter to the PM.	
26-10-1937		Uncle William Cooper to PM on AAL stationary with motto: 'A fair deal for the dark race'. Letter to thank for response to last letter. (Document 93)	
Circa 1938/38		Grampa and Granny Ada James' home in Mooroopna burnt down and most belongings were lost.	
26-1-1938		National Day of Mourning I started school at Mooroopna Primary School.	
26-1-1938		Jack Patten wrote the words in the Aborigines Claim Citizen Rights leaflet.	
25-9-1938		My fifth birthday party at Mooroopna in Nanny Pris' home. My darling Mum the organiser and Nanny the main director.	
1939		Cummeragunga Walk-off	
4-7-1939		A Pettitt (Chief Inspector) letter explaining his view of the Cummera Walk-off, that only a few had left, and most had now returned. (Letter 82)	
1939		Jack Patten arrested after Cummera Walk-off.	
1939		Uncle Shady writes letter to Federal government about the need for an Aboriginal person in Federal House. Letter referred to in Document 76.	
1-9-1939		Uncle Bob Nelson enlisted at the age of 46 years. George II and his brother Keith also enlisted. I, George III was with them that day aged seven at Mooroopna Mechanics Hall.	WWII started: Aboriginal men enlist. However do not enjoy the same rewards on their return home, e.g. land, pensions, nor mention in honour rolls.

Date	Australian Legislation	Aboriginal & Australian Events	Indian & Mauritian Events
13–10–1939		Victorian Department of Education responded to a letter requesting education for Aboriginal children living in Barmah, following the Cummeragunga Walk-off. Diverting responsibility back to NSW recommending that the children receive instructions to return to Cummera school.	
1939		My twin sisters Mary and Dawn are born, and die ten hours and 3 days after birth.	
1940		My brother Brien Nelson was born at Mooroopna.	
1941		Uncle William Cooper died.	
3–10–1942		Granny Ada James (nee Cooper) died in Shepparton. (Death Certificate)	
1944		My baby sister Carmel was born at Mooroopna.	
1945		Ben Chifley becomes Prime Minister of Australia.	WWII ended.
27–8–1945		<p>Uncle Shadrach James (as Honorary Secretary of the Aborigines Progressive Association of Victoria), wrote a letter to PM Ben Chifley seeking better conditions and opportunities for Aboriginal people in Australia. (Letter 92)</p> <p>Memorandum to the Secretary Prime Minister's Dept Canberra from Director General Coombs 1945 re a letter they received from Uncle Shady James in 27–8–1945.</p>	
27–9–45		Letter from Sgd HC Coombs to the Secretary Prime Minister's Department about Uncle Shady's letter dated 27–8–46, in which Coombs agrees some points are urgent and sound.	
19–1–1946		Grampa Thomas Shadrach James dies at age of 86 at the home of his daughter Rebecca Murray, in Clive St, Shepparton. He is buried at Cummeragunga.	
August 1946		<p>Riverine Herald article: 'Cummeragunga Mission: Story of its Early Days – Tribute to Teacher'. By Rev J.K. Matthews (Daniel and Janet's son). (Document 638)</p>	

Date	Australian Legislation	Aboriginal & Australian Events	Indian & Mauritian Events
25-9-1946		My mother Rebecca 'Betsy' Nelson loses her battle with cancer at Mooroopna Hospital.	
1948	Nationality & Citizenship Act		
19-6-1948		Riverine Herald article: Back to Cumeroogunga. (Document 645)	
10-1-1949		Reference letter supporting Uncle Shady's application for the Legislative Assembly.	
24-5-1949		Uncle Shady James deputation of Aboriginal Progressive Association of Vic at Canberra. (Document ??)	
1947-1956		Uncle Shady James was the Secretary of the Aboriginal Progressive Association from his home in Mooroopna.	
3-5-1952		Brenda Morgan and I married at Church of Christ in Shepparton.	
Late 1952		I started working at the Echuca flour mill.	
1952		My father-in-law Ronald Morgan published the book: Reminscences of the Aboriginal station at Cummeragunga and its Aboriginal People.	
1952		Granny Maggie Stone died at Echuca hospital from pneumonia and alzheimers. Aged 92. (Document 36)	
1953		Cummeragunga is closed by the NSW Welfare Board.	
1954		I started my professional running career.	
8-3-1954		Uncle Shadrach James invited to attend a reception for the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh in Melbourne.	
1956-58		I was Boundary Umpire for Bendigo Football League, in Victoria.	
1956	Children's Court Act		
1957	McLean Report – Review of Aboriginal Policy.	Victorian government established the Welfare board to help Aboriginal people take their place in the community as 'equal citizens'. No reference for this document.	

Date	Australian Legislation	Aboriginal & Australian Events	Indian & Mauritian Events
1957	Aborigines Act		
March 1957	Aborigines Welfare Board	I won the Bendigo Mile.	
1957	Victorian Aborigines Advancement League established.		
Australia Day 1958		My father-in-law writes an article in Riverine Herald. (Document 511)	
1958		The Aboriginal Welfare board and Housing Commission established transitional housing at Rumbalara to house Aborigines who moved from Cummeragunga to the Flat at Mooroopna.	
1959		I won the 880 yards at Wangaratta Victoria.	
1961		I won the Stawell 220 yards, running the same time of 20.5 secs in the heat, semi and final.	
1961		I won the double in the Yarroweyah Gift and 75 yard sprint.	
1962		Voting rights of Aboriginal Australia are formalised.	
1963		I won the Maryborough Gift.	
1964		I trained Noel Hussey to win the Stawell Easter Gift.	
1966		I won the 880 yards at Yarroweyah. My final win.	
1966		Pop Hurtle Muckray (Mackray) died in South Australia.	
1967	Australian Referendum	Australian constitution amended to include Aboriginal people as Australian citizens, human beings and counted in the census. No longer part of the Flora and Fauna Act.	
1967	Aboriginal Affairs Act		
1970	Social Welfare Act		
1971		Pastor Doug Nicholls retired (Document 80)	

Date	Australian Legislation	Aboriginal & Australian Events	Indian & Mauritian Events
1–6–1972		My Dad George Nelson (second) passed away from emphysema at Echuca Hospital. (Death Certificate)	
1972		Pastor Doug Nicholls is Knighted in England by the Queen. (Document 80)	
1982		Shepparton News Article: 'Mooroopna Personality's Death at Age of 95' Nanny Priscilla Mackray. (Document 639)	
1984	Adoption Act		
1988		Pastor Doug died at Grutzner House Nursing home at Mooroopna Hospital. (Document 80)	
1988		Day of Mourning. Aboriginal protest against British sovereignty.	
26–1–1988		50,000 people rallied in the March for Justice across Sydney Harbour Bridge.	
1992	Mabo Decision		
1993	Native Title Act		
1995–2001		Yorta Yorta Native Title Claim lodged, heard, denied and then High Court decision in 2001 to uphold the denial. Judge Olney: 'The tide of history has wiped away your connection to your land'.	
1997		Bringing Them Home report.	
2008		The Apology by Kevin Rudd.	
2010		My wife Brenda Nelson (nee Morgan) passed away here at home with my daughter Robynne and I.	
9–8–2013		My sister Carmel Barry passed away.	
25–9–2013		My 80th birthday.	
2014		This journey is now complete.	