CHARLES HENRY BADDELEY J.P.
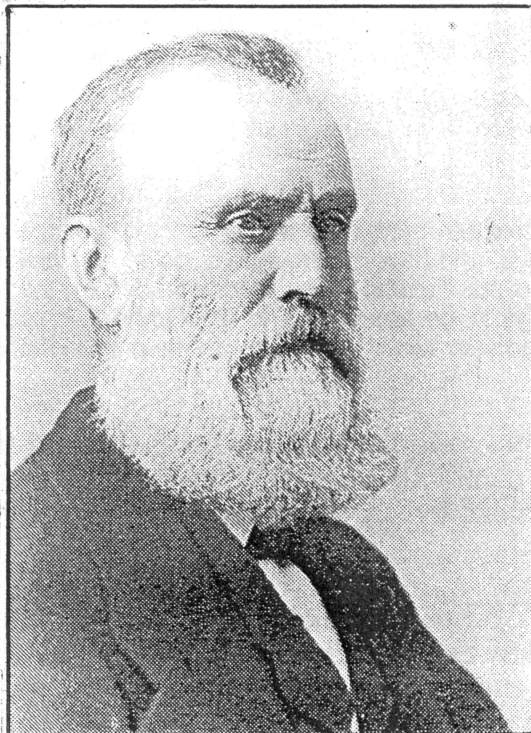## (1810 - 1892)
PIONEER FREEMASON

Charles Henry Baddeley (sometimes spelt Baddely or Badderley in lodge records) was born in Kent, England in 1810 and, at a young age, joined the Royal Navy and, for some five years, was involved in the supression of the slave trade on the coast of Africa.

He decided to emigrate to Australia where he arrived at Port Jackson in the *Asia* in March 1836.*

He became involved in various commercial activities which included trading between Sydney and Van Diemen's Land and overland stock droving. In 1838 he took sheep to Adelaide, which had been founded as a settlement only a few years earlier, and, the following year, he took cattle to Melbourne.

In 1841, Baddeley settled in the Monaro where, centred on Bombala, he pursued, with varied success, a career as a squattor.

It is here that we first meet Bro Baddeley, the Freemason.

FOUNDER OF
LODGE BADDELEY

CHARLES HENRY BADDELEY
1810-1892

* C T Garnock p.27 gives 1831

His was the first of ten signatures on a petition dated 4 March 1861 addressed to the "M W Grand Master of the United Fraternity of Ancient-Free and Accepted Masons of England" praying for a Warrant of Constitution for a lodge to be known as "The Mountain Lodge of Bombala".

The handwritten petition, using the standard wording of the time, was forwarded to the Provincial Grand Secretary for the Province of New South Wales under the United Grand Lodge of England, Bro John A Matthews at New Pitt Street, Sydney.

On 21 May 1861, Bro Matthews forwarded the Petition to the Grand Secretary in London with a recommendation that the Prayer of the Petition be granted and advising that the Provincial Grand Master had issued a dispensation on 27 July 1861 for The Mountain Lodge of Bombala to begin work until the Warrant could be received.

Warrant No 1222 was issued by the United Grand Lodge of England on 23 August 1862.
The Lodge was re-numbered 920 in 1863.

The Foundation Master of The Mountain Lodge of Bombala was Bro Charles Henry Baddeley who had signed the Petition as a Master Mason of The Lodge of Australia No 548.

In 1866, Wor Bro Baddeley left Bombala and moved to Pambula, a town on the far south coast of New South Wales where, in 1857, he had established a tannery business.*

It was here that Charles Henry Baddeley assisted by nine others, signed a Petition for the formation of a lodge to be known as Lodge Baddeley.

In a letter dated 2 March 1892 to Wor Bro Hyam Moses Joseph, who had served with Baddeley as the Foundation Senior Warden of The Mountain Lodge of Bombala thirty-one years earlier and was again serving as Worshipful Master of The Mountain Lodge of Bombala, now No 190 United Grand Lodge of New South Wales, Baddeley wrote:

> I may mention that there are many brethren here desirous of forming a lodge at Pambula, we have had several meetings, and have determined to do so. I observe that .... it is necessary to send our Petition to be recommended by the W Master and Wardens of a regular lodge to be transmitted to the Grand Secretary, will you kindly allow me to ask you, and your two Wardens, to act as our Godfather to the Petition you will receive from us?

Bro Baddeley's comparative masonic inexperience is show here, due, no doubt, to his logdes being far distant from the centre of Masonic activity in Sydney. The word 'Godfather' is never used in Freemasonry. A lodge which sponsors another is always referred to as the 'mother' lodge.

On 1 July 1892, Warrant No 205 for Lodge Baddeley was signed by the Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of New South Wales.

* C T Garnock P.27 states he went to Pambula where since 1866 he has resided

It was a wonderful honour for the old pioneer who had done so much for the community and Freemasonry.

Whilst I am indebted to Wor Bro Charles Tony Garnock and Wor Bro Peter M Rice for information contained in their histories of The Mountain Lodge of Bombala and Lodge Baddeley respectively, I found it strange that neither author included details of where and when Bro Charles Henry Baddeley was made a Mason.

I decided to try to find out. That was three years ago.

Firstly, I was denied access to the first minute book of The Lodge of Australia by the lodge historian who advised that there was no mention of Bro Baddeley (or Baddely).

I then located a register of members and dues book which showed that he had paid fees for his second and third degrees on 13 March 1849.

This led to an attendance book where C M Baddeley had signed on 13 March 1849 as a visitor. After his signature was the word 'Adelaide'. This led me to the Grand Lodge of South Australia who replied that they had no record of Bro Baddeley.

Finally, with the persistent help of Right Wor Bro James T Ruxton, Past Assistant Grand Master and member of the Lodge of Australia, now No 3 on the Register of the United Grand Lodge of New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory, I gained access to the first minute book of the lodge.
The appropriate minute is:

> Lodge of Australia
> Emergent meeting 13 March 1849 held at the Saracen's Head Inn, King and Sussex Streets, Sydney.
> The W M having announced the nature of the emergency summonsed this evening:
> Received and read a communicatiion from Bros Elliott and McDowell - requesting this emergency to be called for the purpose of balloting for Bro Badderley (sic) as a joining member of this lodge and to give him the Second or Fellowcraft degree.
> Proposed by Bro J E Elliott, acting Secretary, seconded by Bro Thos F McDowell, Secretary that Bro Badderley (sic), aged about 36 years - residing in George St., Sydney - grazier, do become a joining member of this lodge.
> The W M postponed the ballot for Bro Badderley (sic) until the next meeting of this lodge.
> Called on to the Second or Fellow Craft's degree when Bro Badderley (sic) was duly passed to that degree and paid the usual fee.
> Signed J E Elliott Actg Secretary
> Isaac Aaron W M.

One down, two to go!

At the Regular Meeting of The Lodge of Australia at the Saracen's Head Inn on 10 April 1849, Bro Baddeley was accepted at ballot as a joining member (affiliate) from United Tradesmen's Lodge No 853 English Constitution, Adelaide.

Later that evening Bro Baddely (sic) was raised to the Third degree of a Master Mason.

Two down, one to go!

I then wrote to a friend in Adelaide, Mrs Elizabeth Bray, a member of the Management Committee of *The South Australian and Northern Territory Freemason*.

She obtained a permit from the Grand Lodge of South Australia to examine the minute book and register of members of the United Tradesmen's Lodge No 853 on the register of the United Grand Lodge of England, which is held in the Mortlock Library in Adelaide.

Eureka!

Mrs Bray wrote to me on 6 June 2003 with the details I had requested:

> FROM THE REGISTER OF DECEMBER 1848
> Mr Charles Henry Baddeley, Stockholder, proposed by I Solomon, seconded by Bro Welsh. No age or place of residence was noted.

> MINUTES OF 6th FEBRUARY, 1849
> The lodge opened in the Ist degree. A ballot was taken and Mr S Ayres, Ships Master, aged 29
> Mr Charles H Baddeley, Stockholder, aged 43
> were respectively declared unconcessionly elected as fit persons to be made Freemasons.
> Proposed by W M Lazar (?), seconded by Bro Welsh, that Bro PGR Mann be received in this lodge as a joining member.
> Afterwhich Messrs Ayres, Baddeley and Allmond were initiated in the secret mysteries of entered apprentice and Freemasons.
> The lodge was then called from labour to refreshment, and back to labour, when the W M explained the Tracing Board of the Ist degree for the benefit of the newly initiated brethren. The fees at this time were 10/6.

> MINUTES OF 28th FEBRUARY, 1849
> Bro Allmond passed to the degree of Fellow Craft Mason.
> No mention of Ayres or Baddeley.

> REGISTER OF 28th DECEMBER, 1849 - 27th DECEMBER, 1850
> It was noted that Charles Henry Baddeley had left the Colony.

The *Pambula Voice* for April-May 1999, published an article: *Baddeley Family Pambula Pioneer* by Angela George.

The article was also published in Volume 12 No 2 of *The Valley Genealogist* published by The Bega Valley Genealogy Society Inc. in Ausust 1999.

After detailing the Baddeley families significant contribution to local affairs, the article stated:

> So too was their contribution to the local Masonic Lodge significent.

> When the petition was raised for the establishment of Pambula's lodge, the petitioners requested that it be named "Lodge Baddeley" in recognition of the efforts of the local organisation's founder, Charles Henry Baddeley.

> When Mr Baddeley had left England, the Grand Lodge of England furnished him with what was known as a roving charter, which gave him the ability to establish a Masonic Lodge wherever he settled under the charter of the Grand Lodge of England.

Although a number of these had been issued, they were not particularly common.

It was through this charter that he was able to form the Mountain Lodge of Bombala, who, in turn, were the sponsors of Pambula's Lodge Baddeley.

We all makes mistakes and it is always a pity to have to correct errors in the work of others.

The article states that Charles Baddeley received a 'roving charter' from the Grand Lodge of England when he had left England.

The United Grand Lodge of England never issued 'roving charters'. The Grand Orient of France was the only Grand body to do so and the first lodges were established in New Zealand and the Hawaiian Islands using a French certificate of authority.

The Grand Lodges of Ireland, Scotland and a number of European countries as well as the United Grand Lodge of England, issued charters to Army Regiments and Ships of the Line for Lodges to be held by masons who were members of the Regiment or Ship's company wherever they might be stationed. These charters became known as Travelling Charters but they did not authorise the members to start new Lodges.

The correct process for doing this under the British Grand Lodges was exactly as Bro Charles Baddeley had done in the case of The Mountain Lodge of Bombala and Lodge Baddeley.

The article correctly states that Lodge Baddeley held its first official meeting on 7 July 1892.

This was for the purpose of the Consecration of the Lodge by Right Wor Bro Nicholas Hopson, Deputy Grand Master and not Grand Master as stated in the article.

The Grand Master who signed the Charter for Lodge Baddeley was His Excellency The Earl of Jersey, Governor of New South Wales.

Wor Bro Baddeley had every reason to be proud.

In Summary:

Charles Henry Baddeley:

Initiated:	6 February, 1849 in United Tradesmen's Lodge No 853, English Constitution, Adelaide.
Passed:	13 March 1849 in The Lodge of Australia then No 548, Sydney.
Raised:	10 April 1849 in The Lodge of Australia then No 548, Sydney.
Installed:	Foundation Master at the Consecration of The Mountain Lodge of Bombala No 1222, English Constitution, Bombala with dispensation to meet from 27 July 1861.
Joined:	7 July 1892, Foundation Member Lodge Baddeley No 205 New South Wales Constitution.

REFERENCES:

C Tony Garnock,   *The Mountain Lodge of Bombala of Free and Accepted or Speculative Masons. Official History,* Privately Published, 1998

Peter M Rice,   *Lodge Baddeley 205.   A Brief Historical Outline to Commemorate One Hundred Years,* Privately Published, 1992.

R F Gould,   *The History of Freemasonry,* Thomas C Jack, London, 1887.

Angela George   *Baddeley Family Pambula Pioneers,*
The Pambula Voice, April/May 1999, Page 5.

Angela George   *The Pioneering Baddeleys of Pambula*
The Valley Genealogist, August 1999, Page 3.