

William Laity MORRIS 1807 – 1897

William was born in Penzance, Cornwall, in 1807, and married Honor LOWRY at the young age of 21 years, in 1828. By the 1841 census, they had seven children, but three were to die before the remaining family set off for Adelaide, Australia, in 1847. Although they lived in a mining area, William is listed as a wheelwright, blacksmith and coach-builder, all skills vital to the mining industry. Three more children were born to this couple in Adelaide, but what brought them here? This family stayed in Adelaide, rather than moving to a mining town.

William was born in Penzance (Cornwall - 1) and married in Gulval (2) where his wife Honor LAWRY was born.



It is difficult to be sure about William's parents. They are James and Elizabeth MORRIS, but I can find no marriage nor definite birth records for them. Elizabeth is probably Elizabeth LAITY as her supposed LAITY surname was included as a middle name in several descendants.

The MORRIS families were very prolific and produced large families in South Australia, so I have many cousins in Adelaide, although I know very few.

We can be sure that William Laity MORRIS married Honor LAWRY in Gulval, Cornwall, in 1828, and he was recorded in the 1841 census as living in Gulval, Cornwall with his wife and six children. They lost two more children in 1842, before they left the old country. The family of mum, dad and five children arrived in Adelaide on 14 August 1847 on the ship 'Cressy', to start a new life. Three more children were born in South Australia. Their eldest child was also William Laity MORRIS, born 1828 in Gulval, Cornwall.

William senior worked in Adelaide as wheelwright initially, before setting up his own business in King William Street south. He was well regarded as a waggon builder in Adelaide for many years. He lived to the age of 90 years, a great age for his generation.

His eldest child, also William Laity, married Ann TRELOAR in 1853, in Adelaide, and together, they brought ten children into the world. The first, Ann MORRIS, was born in 1854, in Adelaide, and the next six children were born in Kapunda. William lived to the age of 80 years, and died at Queenstown in 1908.

Anne MORRIS married William RUNDLE in 1876 in Moonta. William and Ann were my great grandparents. You can continue this family story through my RUNDLE grandparents to the SQUIRE family, my parents. These two narratives have been written and published previously.

Related Surnames Through Marriage

Anne TRELOAR

Anne TRELOAR married William Laity MORRIS (the son of) in 1853, in St John's Church, Adelaide. They both arrived in Adelaide in 1847, just a month apart. Both families came from the village of Wendron, in Cornwall, so the voyage would probably have been jointly organised, even though they were on different ships.

Honor LAWRY

Honor LAWRY married William Laity MORRIS (senior) in 1828, in Gulval, Cornwall. She was born in 1808 to John LAWRY and Elizabeth JORY. There are two candidates for John's parents, but we cannot be certain which one.

Elizabeth LAITY ?

Elizabeth is possibly a LAITY, and married James MORRIS according to the baptism record of their son William Laity MORRIS. Records are scarce for Elizabeth without knowing her surname.

Facebook Summary

William Laity MORRIS was born in Penzance, Cornwall, in 1807, and married Honor LOWRY at the young age of 21 years, in 1828. By the 1841 census, they had seven children, but three were to die before the remaining family set off for Adelaide, Australia, in 1847. Although they lived in a mining area, William is listed as a wheelwright, blacksmith and coach-builder, all skills vital to the mining industry. However, they stayed in Adelaide, where three more children were born. But what brought them here, and why did they not move to a mining town like Moonta, Kapunda or Burra?

William Laity MORRIS was my (Jan SQUIRE's) great grandfather. The family relationships are as follows:

Constance Maude RUNDLE was Jan's mother. She was born in 1920, and married Kenneth John SQUIRE in 1944.

Edwin Morris RUNDLE was Jan's grandfather. He was born in 1887, and married Maude Holbrook RANN in 1914.

Ann MORRIS was Jan's great grandmother. She was born in 1854, and married William RUNDLE in 1876.

William Laity MORRIS was Jan's great great grandfather. He was born in 1828, and married Ann TRELOAR in 1853.

William Laity MORRIS (senior) was Jan's great great great grandfather. He was born in 1807, and married Honor LAWRY in 1828.

James MORRIS was Jan's great x 4 grandfather. Not sure when he was born, but he did marry Elizabeth.

William Laity MORRIS

♂ 1807 - 1897 (90 years)

Generation: 1

[More detail](#)

1. William Laity MORRIS was born in 1807 in Penzance, Cornwall, England; was christened on 06 Dec 1807 in Penzance, Cornwall, England (son of [James MORRIS](#) and [Elizabeth ?](#)); died on 10 Feb 1897 in Edwardstown, South Australia, Australia; was buried in West Terrace cemetery, Adelaide, South Australia, Australia.

William married [Honor LOWRY](#) on 24 May 1828 in Gulval, Cornwall, England. Honor (daughter of [John LOWRY](#) and [Elizabeth JORY](#)) was born in 1808 in Gulval, Cornwall, England; was christened on 19 Jun 1808 in Gulval, Cornwall, England; died on 04 Apr 1888 in Edwardstown, SA, Australia; was buried in West Terrace cemetery, Adelaide, South Australia, Australia. [[Group Sheet](#)]

Children:

- William Laity MORRIS was born in 1828 in Gulval, Cornwall, England; was christened on 7 Sep 1828 in Gulval, Cornwall, England; died on 22 Jul 1908 in Old Port Road, Queenstown, South Australia, Australia.
- [Thomas MORRIS](#) was born in 1830 in Gulval, Cornwall, England; was christened on 24 Oct 1830 in Gulval, Cornwall, England; died on 27 Oct 1834.
- [Honour Lawry MORRIS](#) was born in 1833 in Gulval, Cornwall, England; was christened on 17 Feb 1833 in Gulval, Cornwall, England; died on 25 May 1859 in Adelaide, South Australia, Australia.
- [Thomas MORRIS](#) was born in 1835 in Gulval, Cornwall, England; was christened on 21 Jun 1835 in Gulval, Cornwall, England; died on 29 Sep 1917.
- [John MORRIS](#) was born in 1837 in Gulval, Cornwall, England; died on 16 Nov 1842.
- [Richard MORRIS](#) was born on 10 Nov 1839 in Gulval, Cornwall, England; died on 17 Apr 1907 in Willaston, SA, Australia; was buried in Willaston Cemetery, SA, Australia.
- [Job MORRIS](#) was born on 18 Apr 1841 in Gulval, Cornwall, England; died on 26 Dec 1842 in Gulval, Cornwall, England.
- [Elizabeth MORRIS](#) was born in 1846; died on 28 Jun 1905.
- [Jane MORRIS](#) was born in 1848.
- [Job MORRIS](#) was born on 05 Feb 1850 in Adelaide, South Australia, Australia.
- [Martha MORRIS](#) was born on 12 Jan 1852 in Adelaide, South Australia, Australia; died on 07 Dec 1940 in Unley, South Australia, Australia.

Generation: 2

2. James MORRIS

James married [Elizabeth ?](#). Elizabeth was born in 1789; died on 18 Oct 1848. [[Group Sheet](#)]

3. [Elizabeth ?](#) was born in 1789; died on 18 Oct 1848.

Children:

1. [William Laity MORRIS](#) was born in 1807 in Penzance, Cornwall, England; was christened on 06 Dec 1807 in Penzance, Cornwall, England; died on 10 Feb 1897 in Edwardstown, South Australia, Australia; was buried in West Terrace cemetery, Adelaide, South Australia, Australia.

Maintained by [Jan Squire](#).
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