

## **The Bounty Ships Scheme to Australia**

### **Voyage of the *Brilliant* from Tobermory, Isle of Mull, to Sydney 1837-38**

The *Brilliant*, a copper-sheathed wooden-hulled ship of 428 tons, was built in Montreal, Canada, in 1834. It made at least two voyages to Australia, the first as a Bounty Scheme ship under the command of Captain Gilkison departing from Tobermory, Isle of Mull, on 27<sup>th</sup> September 1837 and arriving in Sydney on 20<sup>th</sup> January 1838. In a [letter](#) to Sir Richard Bourke, Governor of the Colony of New South Wales, Lord Glenelg explained that the original intention had been to send the *Brilliant* to Van Dieman's Land (i.e. Tasmania), but because of reports of poor prospects for immigrants there the ship had been sent to Sydney instead. The departure of the *Brilliant* from Tobermory was reported in some detail in an [article](#) in the *Inverness Courier*, and after its arrival in Sydney a committee of passengers wrote a [letter of thanks](#) to Captain Gilkison.

**To download the complete passenger list, [click here](#).**

For more details about passengers on the *Brilliant*, go to the RootsWeb Isle of Mull Mailing List Archives at <https://lists.rootsweb.com/hyperkitty/list/sct-isleofmull.rootsweb.com/2010/1/>.