

# The South Australian GENEALOGIST



# About Genealogy SA

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**The South Australian Genealogy & Heraldry Society Inc.** Founded in 1973

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*Member of the Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations Inc.*

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# The South Australian Genealogist

Journal of the South Australian Genealogy & Heraldry Society Inc.



**Front cover:** In this Journal Heather Thoday and Joy Window tell the journey of their shoemaking ancestors from Cornwall, England to start a new life in South Australia. Heather and Joy discover that

their ancestor worked as a cordwainer, a shoemaker who made new shoes from new leather. Cordwainers were distinct from cobblers, who were restricted by law to repairing shoes. The term cordwainer first appeared in England in 1100, with London shoemakers later forming the guild of the Worshipful Company of Cordwainers. Today the term is considered obsolete except where it is part of a name of a trade-guild or company, or otherwise employed by trade unions.



**Back cover:** An image of Lady Mary Colton is featured in the Photographic Collection. Born Mary Cutting in 1822 in England, she came to South Australia with her father, sister and brother. In 1844 she

married John Colton, who went on to become Lord Mayor of Adelaide and Premier of South Australia. Mary devoted herself to helping women and children improve their lives. She was a founder of the Adelaide Children's Hospital (now the Women's and Children's Hospital) that opened in North Adelaide in 1879, serving on its board until her death. In 1884 she co-founded a club with a Christian focus for working girls, which later became a branch of the Young Women's Christian Association. In 1892 Mary became President of the Women's Suffrage League. Two years later South Australia would allow women the right to vote and stand for election. Mary continued her work with charitable organisations until her death in 1898, aged 76 years. She is buried in the West Terrace Cemetery.

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## Future Issue Deadlines

### November 2024

Submissions by 27 September 2024

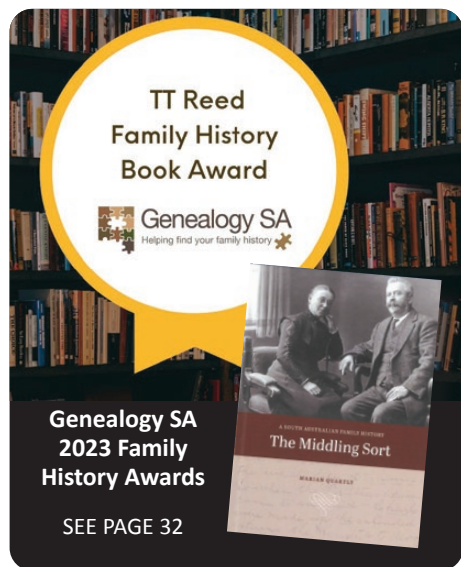
### February 2025

Submissions by 27 December 2024

Submissions may be emailed to:

[saghs.editor@saghs.org.au](mailto:saghs.editor@saghs.org.au).

*Please note the guidelines in 'Notice to Contributors and Advertisers' on page 56.*



# A Message from the President

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by Robert Blair



## The benefits of membership

With the increase in subscription rates effective from 1 September, it is a good time to remind members of what the benefits of membership are.

## Online databases

Our online databases are the main benefit of membership with over eight and a half million records in 19 datasets covering births, deaths, marriages, schools, hospitals and asylums, migration and a vast array of miscellaneous records. Updates are planned well into the future as we catch up on hundreds of thousands of records which have been processed through the many projects of the Research and Development Committee. No other website covers events in South Australia with the same range of events or size of database.

## Library access

Members get free access to the Society Library and its vast collection. The online databases provide a lot of information, but there is much more in the library. While the South Australian birth, death and marriage certificates, which can provide more information than is included in the online databases, is the most significant collection, there are also records on microfiche that are not included in the online databases

– church records, hospital and asylum records, school records, migration records and more. There are also records relating to other states and overseas. Full details of the microform collection can be viewed on the Society’s website by going to the Collection link under Resources.

Then there is the large book collection including the sections for family histories and local histories. The Library’s Catalogue is accessible through the website through the Society Library link under Resources so it can be accessed from home.

No other library in South Australia has such a large collection of reference works on genealogy and related subjects so easily accessible. Many of the books in the library are available for loan to members.

## Research services

The Society provides a research service with special rates for members. The service includes certificate transcriptions which can be ordered through the online databases. Lookups from other datasets can also be ordered through the online databases and general research.

Research assistance can be provided to members using not only the resources of the Society Library but also through accessing records in other repositories such as State Records. Members living more than 100 kilometres from Adelaide are entitled to two hours free general research each year from our experienced research team.

## Special Interest Groups

The Society has eight Special Interest Groups for the benefit of members relating to England, Irish, Scotland, Germanic and



Continental Europe, Genealogy Computer Users, Family Historian Software, DNA in Family History, and Family History Writers. All members can participate in these groups as meetings are currently held through Zoom.

Most groups meet monthly except January. Most groups have segments or sessions for questions from members relating to their area of interest, so if you have research problems and want help then a Special Interest Group meeting is a potential source of help. To attend simply register for a meeting through the Events Calendar on the Society website, and then join by clicking on the link in the email following registration.

### **Talks and workshops**

The Society holds monthly talks alternating between the first Wednesday of the month at 1:00 pm and the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm. Attendance at these talks is either in person or through Zoom. For members it is free. Members are also able to view recordings of these talks online if they are unable to attend on the day. To register for a talk go to the Events Calendar and click on the Register Now link for the relevant talk.

The Marketing and Promotions Committee is planning workshops and seminars on topics ranging from beginning your research through to the use of DNA in family history research. While these events will have a charge for attendance, members will have a special members' rate. These events are designed to help members with their research and are advertised on the Events Calendar.

### **My Heritage**

Members have free access to the Library edition of My Heritage through a link in the Members Only Pages on the Society website. This provides the viewing of records on My Heritage but does not include the ability to create or edit a family

tree, or do DNA testing. My Heritage has billions of records relating to Australia and overseas.

### **South Australian Genealogist**

Members receive the Society journal four times a year, accessible in digital format through the Members Only Pages of the Society website or available in print, filled with many interesting articles and helpful hints contributed by members.

### **Affiliate rights with AFFHO**

As the Society is a member of AFFHO (Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations) members of the Society are able to visit the libraries of the major genealogical societies interstate and also of many smaller societies that are also members of AFFHO, without having to pay a visitor fee.

All these benefits, and more, are available to members. While some can only be enjoyed through physical access to the Society Library many are available to all members regardless of where they live. For South Australian research they are unbeatable value for money, and when considering research into other countries, the benefit of the My Heritage access can save hundreds of dollars on taking out a subscription oneself. Overall for \$121 a Society subscription is an investment that cannot be matched elsewhere.

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# From the Editor

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by Kathy Ahwan



SA Genealogy's Family History Awards, comprising the TT Reed Family History Award and the Article of the Year Award, were held on 30 June.

The TT Reed Family History Award acknowledges the best book on family history published by a South Australian, or about a substantially South Australian family. The winner of the 2023 TT Reed Family History Award is Marian Quartly for her book *The Middling Sort: A South Australian Family History*, which tells how her family came to South Australia and how they fared in their new lives.

I am pleased that in this Journal Marian has provided an extract from her book about her Auntie Ruby's tea-set. Marian's article highlights what many of us researching our family history may be confronted with at times – what is fact and what is fiction? Stories passed down through the generations can often be embellished to make the past seem better than it was, or to give an air of mystery to times past. Our job as family researchers is to try and validate these 'stories'; a task that is not always possible.

All books entered for the 2023 TT Reed Family History Award are now available in the Genealogy SA Library. Books for previous years are also available, so if you are considering publishing your family

history but are not sure how to present it, come into Library and have a browse through these books.

The Article of the Year Award is presented to the author of the most outstanding article published by in *The South Australian Genealogist*. The winner of the 2023 Article of the Year Award is Bernadette Thakur for her article in the May 2023 Journal: *An Abandoned Church Evokes the Spirit of My Dempsey Ancestors*. Bernadette told the story of the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Dawson, a small town in South Australia's mid-north and its relationship to her ancestors.

Congratulations to Marian and Bernadette. Further details on the Family History Awards can be found in separate articles in this Journal.

Also in this issue three authors share stories about their relatives, each of whom came to South Australia in search of a better life.

Fiona Errington writes about her great-great-grandmother, Mary Martin. Sometimes when researching our ancestors all we can find is information from primary sources which only provide a timeline of their lives. We do not know much more than this, although we can imagine how they may have lived by exploring local histories. A memorial has now been erected in the West Terrace Cemetery on Mary's grave, providing information about Mary and her granddaughters. This not only recognises Mary and her family, but also provides a resource for other family history researchers.

In contrast, sometimes families are fortunate to have physical items which they can use to find out more about our ancestors. Diane Field and Mandy Whitrod tell the story of

George Lockett. George's sea chest, dating back to the 1890s and thought lost in a shipwreck, but found 19 years later, is still held by the family. With a small family George enlists for service for the Boxer Rebellion and the Boer War, before rejoining his family to work as a lighthouse keeper. When war is declared in 1914 George's wife and seven children hoped that at 47 years of age George would resist the call-up. What happens? You will need to read the conclusion of the story in the next Journal!

The article by Heather Thoday and Joy Window tells the story of their ancestors, Charles and Martha Courtis. Heather and Joy learn about their ancestors through items passed down through the generations, including a pair of handcrafted shoes. These shoes, made by Martha's father, journey with the family from Cornwall, England to South Australia. Martha and her sister also worked in the shoemaking industry, something that may have been considered an unusual occupation for women during the first half of the 19th century.

Lastly, in 'Archiving for the Future' Gary Crafter looks at the best mediums and practices to store our genealogical data. We all know that we should back-up our family history research but what do we use

to do this? Reading Gary's article I realised how quickly technology can, and has, passed us by: remember video and cassette tapes, floppy disks and compact discs? Preserving our family history is important if we wish the 'family story' to be continued by future generations.

Alternatively, you may decide that you want to publish the events and experiences uncovered during your family history research. I hope that reading the articles published in *The South Australian Genealogist*, or browsing through the books entered in the TT Reed Family History Award, may inspire you to tell your story, and that we may see you at a future Family History Awards.

*Happy Reading*  
*Kathy*



## Genealogy Websites

Did you know that as a Genealogy SA member you have home access to My Heritage through the Members Only Page on the website?

In the Library you can access Ancestry, The Genealogist, FindMyPast, Emerald Ancestors, My Heritage and The British Newspaper Archive\*.

\* Members need to register via The British Newspaper Archive website before accessing it in the Library.



# Big History and Little History: Auntie Ruby's Tea-set

by Marian Quartly

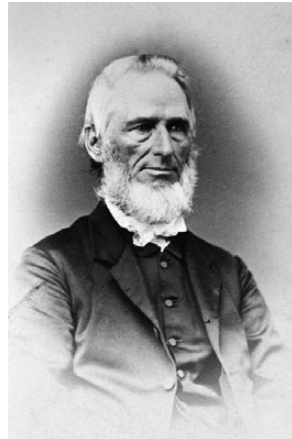
This article explains how I came to learn that I was part of Australian History.

It was July 1957, and we were visiting my Dad's aunt Ruby. On weekend afternoons we kids were sometimes packed into the back seat of the car and taken out visiting. There was a ritual to the start of these drives. Mum used to get us all, including Dad, presentable and out of the house by willpower alone, with hardly a word spoken. As Dad backed the car out of the garage she sat rigid with purpose. Then as the car swung onto the street she would open her handbag and take out an apple and a small knife. She peeled and quartered the apple and divided it amongst us, and as we ate the sweet/tart fruit the tension would dissolve.

Mostly we visited Mum's relatives, or Dad's on his mother's side. Dad had no time for his uncles and aunts on his father's side, but for some reason Ruby QUARTLY was exempt. She lived in Seacliff, then the furthest beachside suburb from Adelaide. Her little cottage was indeed set on a sunny, windy cliff-top high above the bay, but inside the rooms were dark with velvet drapes and crowded with heavy cedar furniture.

Great-Aunt Ruby served us tea in dainty cups that came with matching saucers and plates, patterned with flowers. My sister and I sat awkwardly balancing fruit-cake laden plates on our knees, trying to match our mother's easy poise. Grateful for being treated as an adult, I attempted polite conversation. I asked my great-aunt about the tea and coffee set prominently displayed in her glass-fronted cabinet. It was made of heavy cream coloured china and patterned with black and white etchings, not as pretty as the cups we were using. But it had pride of place in the cabinet.

Ruby was delighted to be asked. The tea set had belonged, she said, to Charles HALL, her grandfather and my great-great-grandfather. And it had been given to him by Sir John FRANKLIN.

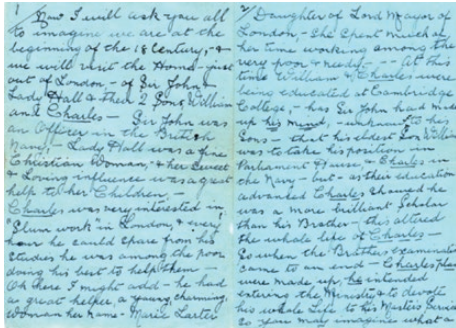


Charles HALL, c. 1875 (Image courtesy of the State Library of South Australia, B 62666)

I knew about Sir John FRANKLIN. At school we learnt nothing about the Australian past; History happened in faraway England. The historical novels I borrowed from the Children's Library were as distant from me in place as they were in time. But I had read GV PORTUS's *Australia since 1606: A history for young Australians*, and I knew that Sir John FRANKLIN was a famous explorer who had been a governor of Tasmania. And here was a concrete link to that past, that march of events enshrined in the printed word. My family was part of History, and so was I.

.....

A few days after our visit to Seacliff a small blue envelope arrived for me in the mail. It contained 19 matching sheets of blue note-paper, closely written and peppered with underlining, exclamation marks and scattered capital letters.



Letter to Marian QUARTLY from Aunt Ruby  
(Image courtesy of the author)

Ruby wrote:

*Now I will ask you all to imagine that we are at the beginning of the 18 Century, – & we will visit the Home – just out of London, – of Sir John & Lady Hall & Their 2 Sons, William and Charles – Sir John was an Officer in the British Navy, – Lady Hall was a fine Christian woman, – & her sweet & Loving influence was a great help to her Children, – Charles was very interested in “Slum work” in London, & every hour he could spare from his studies he was among the poor doing his best to help them –*

*Oh here I might add – he had a great helper, a young, charming woman her name – Marie Larter – Daughter of the Lord Mayor of London, – she spent much of her time working among the very poor & needy.*

Any reader of 19th century romance will know what happens next. Charles is disinherited for refusing his father’s command to take up a parliamentary career:

*when Charles told his Father what he intended to do – as he expected – his Father was very angry & commanded him to obey him, – as he had not any sympathy with his Son’s plans \_ but*

*Charles took a firm stand, & said he felt he had been Called to do his Master’s Work and intended to follow his Master where ever He lead – his Father became very angry indeed & ordered Charles to leave his House & never to return & the old English Custom – after such a heart breaking scene – handed his Son one shilling & opened his front door ...*

A few years later ‘we find Charles a happy ordained minister in an Independent Church (Congregational)’. He marries Maria LARTER and they decide to go to Australia to help the poor convicts.

Next comes settlement in Tasmania, and the story of the tea-set. Ruby explained that it was presented to Charles HALL by Governor John FRANKLIN, as a token of his esteem – an esteem aroused when HALL, the ‘Post Master General’ as well as ‘Government Chaplain’, refused the governor’s ungodly orders to sort the mail on a Sunday. HALL’s principled stand restored the governor to a proper appreciation of the holiness of the Sabbath.

*Looking round his beautiful drawing room, he said, – I would like to give you something to mark my great appreciation of your loving loyalty to your God, – Church, – & the Sabbath. His eyes rested upon this Tea & Coffee Service which he valued very highly being the Gift of his Dear Friends in England, which they presented to him when he left for Tasmania – Sir John Franklin then presented this China to Rev Charles Hall.*

Ruby’s conclusion recognised the value of the ‘China’ in terms both of family history and ‘English History’.

*My Grand Parents left this Tea & Coffee Service to my Mother who was born in Tasmania about the time this China was given to her Father. – my Mother left it to*

*me – I being her only Daughter & knowing I would value it for her Sake, as well as for my Grandparents who were Loved & honoured by all their Grand children, & we also know from English History Sir J. Franklin was a fine noble Christian Gentleman who's [sic] expression of appreciation of Rev Hall's Christian Principals [sic] are cherished by us all.*

I don't remember how I felt about Reverend Charles HALL as a hero of family history. My parents had raised me as a sceptic about Christianity and God in general. And at fourteen years, I was already a reader of 19th century romance, and I could probably recognise a dalliance in the slums with the daughter of the Lord Mayor of London as the romantic cliché that it was. But with Auntie Ruby I wanted to believe in Charles HALL as a hero in Australian History.

.....

After many years of family history research I can report that most of the detail in Auntie Ruby's story is untrue. Charles HALL was not the son of a wealthy admiral; his father was probably an excise officer. Maria LARTER's father was not the Lord Mayor of London. Charles HALL was not an ordained minister when he left London, rather a school teacher. In Tasmania he was neither Post Master General nor Government Chaplain. The tea-set was not presented to Charles HALL by Governor FRANKLIN as a token of his appreciation, though it may have been part of the Governor's kitchen equipment, distributed to humbler neighbours in New Norfolk when the FRANKLINS returned to England.

Ruby Emma Minlaton QUARTLY was born in 1886 in the village of Minlaton on the South Australian Yorke Peninsula, the youngest child of storekeeper and auctioneer William Henry QUARTLY and his wife Lillie Emma HALL. I am a little sad to realise that through my family history

research I know Ruby better now than I did in 1957. She lived at home as her mother's companion until Lillie's death in 1917. Lillie was to put it bluntly a snob. She imagined an illustrious past for the HALL family, and made it concrete in the stories she told. It was from Lillie that Ruby learnt the family myths that she passed on to me.



Lillie HALL,  
c. 1870  
(Image  
courtesy of  
the author)

I am grateful to Aunt Ruby for the sense of belonging to Australian History that she gave me as a teenager. The discovery that her stories were part-fiction – beautiful lies – has not destroyed that sense of belonging. Big History today is different from History as Ruby understood it. It includes women as well as men, followers as well as leaders, first nations people as well as invaders, family life as well as politics. It takes affection and fear and religious experience and family violence seriously as historical phenomena. All of these are part of my family history. My family helped make Australian History, even if it wasn't in quite the way that Ruby imagined.

NOTE: This article draws on Marian Quartly's recently published history of the Quartly, Hall, Andrews, Tyler, Kurl, and Lawson families, *The Middling Sort: A South Australian Family History*, winner of Genealogy SA's 2023 TT Reed Family History Book Award. It is available to borrow from the Genealogy SA Library, and can be bought at [www.themiddlingsort.com](http://www.themiddlingsort.com).

# Mary Martin

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by Fiona Errington

One hundred and seventy-five years ago the *Roman Emperor* arrived at Port Adelaide, South Australia. By then the colony of South Australia had been established for 12 years.

The colony had a population of around 40,000, about the same size as the current population of the City of Unley. This included German settlers, who had established the first winery in the Barossa Valley. Adelaide had a police force, a hospital, a parliamentary building of sorts, a gaol and three newspapers. Copper had been discovered at Burra and the local economy was booming. The colony was exporting flour, livestock, and copper. The Newmarket Hotel already stood on the corner of North Terrace and Port Road in the city.

The local Indigenous Kurna people, who had numbered about 300 prior to colonisation, had been forced into a 'native camp' north of the River Torrens and were being decimated by new diseases, alcohol, and the loss of their land and their way of life. The colony's chief (and only) judge was Charles COOPER, who believed that Aboriginal people should not be subject to British law in respect of disputes with other Aboriginal people.

The *Roman Emperor* left Plymouth on 27 June 1848, taking 91 days to reach Port Adelaide on 23 October 1848. It carried 219 Irish Famine orphan girls selected from workhouses in the northern part of Ireland, around Monaghan and Derry. The potato famine had been raging there for three years. Before the famine was over, more than one million people would die of starvation or disease, and another million would emigrate.

One of the passengers on the *Roman Emperor* was Mary MARTIN, aged 14 years. We do not know what town she came from, or how she had survived the famine. We know only that she was Catholic, and her father's name was Michael. Prior to embarking on the *Roman Emperor*, she was given clothing including six shifts, two flannel petticoats, six pairs of socks, two pair of shoes, and two gowns, plus some eating utensils and a bible, all stored in a lockable wooden box. That is all that she brought with her. She served as a 'constable' on the ship, for which she was paid a small gratuity.

She was my maternal grandmother's maternal grandmother. She would live another 63 years in South Australia. We do not know a great deal about her life. She was illiterate and worked as a domestic servant at various times. She spent some time in the Destitute Asylum, but, as best as I can tell, never went to gaol. She met her first husband at the Destitute Asylum after the birth of her first daughter, and they then moved to live near Kapunda, where three more daughters were born; they and her husband were baptised in the Catholic Church.

After her husband drowned crossing a creek a few years later, Mary and her four daughters returned to Adelaide, and shortly afterwards she gave birth to a stillborn child. She had another relationship, and another daughter. On her second marriage certificate, she gave her age as 32 years, although she was probably 37, and her husband was 26. She had a son, who died when eight months old. Her five daughters lived to adulthood, and gave her 29 grandchildren, 24 of whom lived past the age of five years.

We have no photographs of her.



When Mary died in 1911 she was widowed and living in Frost Street, Brompton Park. Her grandson, John MURPHY, a successful storekeeper, lived on one side and her daughter, Alice and her husband James BROOKS, lived on the other side. Another daughter, Florence MURPHY and family, mother of John and 10 others, lived on the corner of Coglin Street and Third Avenue, a two minute walk away.

Florence was my great-grandmother; my grandmother, her eighth child, would have been 10 when her grandmother died. I know that my grandmother remembered her, because when I was a child, she would sit on my bed and tell me their names, making me recite them back to make sure I knew the names of her mother, father and grandparents.

Mary Martin Bilsborough TUCKER died of senile decay. She was 77 years old. She had outlived two husbands, an adult daughter, a baby son, at least five of her grandchildren and the Great Famine. She was buried in the West Terrace Cemetery, Adelaide in a grave that already held two of her infant granddaughters, Esther and Lilian, children of Florence. Later, two more of Florence's adult daughters, Mary Ann and Ellen, were also buried in this grave.

Until last year, the only headstone on the grave was a small, curved stone for Esther, who was the first occupant buried in the site. But now there is a marker listing all of the occupants, their dates of death and ages at death. It starts, of course, with Mary. It is a small memorial to a life of great strength, based on faith and family, which deserves to be remembered.



Gravesite of Mary Martin, West Terrace Cemetery, Adelaide, South Australia (Image courtesy of the author)



# George Ernest Lockett (1869-1943): An Occasional Hero. Part One

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by Diane Field and Mandy Whitrod

*What do you call a man who won a peace-time medal for bravery, volunteered for three wars, and turned up to 'do his bit' –at 70 years of age–for a fourth? A successful soldier, sailor and lighthouse keeper, but a failure as a farmer? Is 'hero' an enduring title, or a temporarily conferred status dependent upon the holder's future behaviour?*

George Ernest LUCKETT was born on 12 June 1869 in Balsall Heath, then in the county of Worcestershire, but now part of Birmingham, Warwickshire, and was christened at St Bartholomew's, Edgbaston on 4 July 1869. He was the eldest of three children born to his father George and his second wife, Mary Ann FULFORD, although he had a much older half-brother, Thomas, from his father's first marriage to Sarah BEARDS.

George senior was already 41 and had been a gun finisher in one of Birmingham's most prominent industries in the 1851 census; a retail brewer at the White Hart Inn in the 1861 census; and a retired publican in the 1871 census. On George Ernest's birth certificate in 1869, his father declared in the rank or profession column that he was a gentleman. From numerous newspaper articles over the years, it would have been more accurate to declare his true profession as a bookmaker. His parents could afford to send young George for a time to the Ash Furlong Classical School in Sutton Coldfield, where he is shown as an 11-year-old student in the 1881 census. A work colleague in later years described him as well educated.

In 1884, the year before his father died, 15-year-old George was apprenticed for four

years to the shipping company McIlwraith McEacharn & Co in London. This was an interesting choice of career for someone whose family lived far from the sea and had no sea-going tradition. Perhaps it was a deliberate attempt to steer him as far away as possible from the seamier side of life amongst Birmingham's bookmaking fraternity. A life at sea would have been a stark contrast to one lived in a huge, smoky industrial metropolis.

After selling up the substantial contents of their home on Bristol Road, Edgbaston, George's widowed mother became the licensee of the Regent Inn at Small Heath on the south-eastern fringe of Birmingham. However, she too died less than a year after her husband, in May 1886, leaving an estate worth nearly 900 pounds, a large amount for the time. George's share was 25 pounds, in addition to a double-cased gold watch, a diamond ring, a turquoise and pearl scarf pin, a meerschaum cigar holder and a pair of portraits of his parents. The balance of the estate was left to his two younger sisters Lilly and Mary Maud, since his two brothers were already deceased, Thomas in 1877 and an infant Thomas Leslie in 1880.<sup>1</sup>

## Arrival and life in South Australia

Following previous voyages to Australia and Adelaide, George eventually arrived in South Australia once more in November 1887 as a sailor on the *Scottish Hero*. He was either very keen to stay in Australia, or unable to endure conditions on the ship for the remaining few months of his apprenticeship, because he was not on board when the

*Scottish Hero* sailed and was listed as a deserter. The *South Australian Police Gazette* of 1887 describes him as '18 years of age, 5ft. 7in. high, fair complexion, light hair, good-looking; an apprentice'.<sup>2</sup>

George and another deserter from the same ship went into hiding inland at Morgan and spent some time on the Murray River. A shipmate in later years, Engineer MCKILLOP from the steamship *You Yangs*, described George's story as 'pathetic and interesting' but did not share further details.<sup>3</sup>

Presumably after a safe period, George returned to the sea and was for a time on the crew of the *Governor Musgrave*, a small steamship built to service South Australian lighthouses and other navigational aids. During this time he met Jessie LEWIS, whose father William LEWIS was also a sailor.

By 1890 George was one of the 21 crew working on the *You Yangs* carrying cargo between Australian ports. On the stormy night of 19 June 1890, the *You Yangs* struck a reef five miles off the southern coast of Kangaroo Island and rapidly began taking water. The crew escaped in three small boats, but spent two days in rough conditions trying to find a safe place to land.

When the captain's boat, with George on board, tried to land near Cape Willoughby, it capsized in the breakers and all its occupants were thrown into the water. After making their difficult way to the shore, it was discovered that the captain, unable to swim and in some distress, was still clinging to the upturned boat. George immediately went back into the water and swam out to rescue him. For this heroic act, he was later awarded a bronze medal by the Royal Humane Society.

The splintered remains of the *You Yangs* eventually washed up west of Kangaroo Island's Cape Gantheaume. Unable to save

any of his possessions, George later said that his greatest regret was losing the irreplaceable family photographs which had been in his sea chest. However, four weeks after the event, a letter from his sweetheart Jessie, containing a lock of her hair, was forwarded to him—it had been found amongst the wreckage on the shore.

The following year, on 28 September 1891, George married Jessie LEWIS at the Port Adelaide Registry Office. Jessie was the second daughter of William Henry LEWIS, a ship's engineer, and his wife Jessie BURGOYNE. William LEWIS is known to have held parties for young sailing officers who came into Port Adelaide, perhaps with the intention of finding maritime husbands for his daughters. Three of his daughters married sailors and his son-in-law Captain William MCCOLM, master of the *Mount Stewart*, recounted in an interview given in Port Moresby in 1971, that he had met his wife—Jessie's sister Adelaide—at one such party.

Less than two months later, on 14 November 1891, George was presented with his bronze medal at a lavish Government House garden party. Reports of this event in local and even Scottish newspapers included the details of George's heroic act.<sup>4</sup>

At some stage after the *You Yangs* catastrophe, George re-entered the employment of the Marine and Harbours Board, on the *Governor Musgrave* as she carried out her services around the South Australian coast. He was also a member of the South Australian Naval Reserve, recruited after the Russian scare of the late 19th century.<sup>5</sup> They spent a month in training each year, and George was captured in a photograph of the large group in about 1893. He became a skilled marksman with the rifle and adept in the cutlass drills which were still considered a necessary part of naval warfare.

In the early years of their marriage, George and Jessie lived in the Port Adelaide area at Birkenhead, where their first three children were born—George Alexander Lewis (Alec) on 13 February 1893, Roderick Fulford on 21 February 1895, and Lalla on 8 January 1898.

In July 1892 they were joined by George's sister Lilly and her husband Joseph GOTHARD, who had married earlier that year. They brought sad news. George and Lilly's 14-year-old sister Mary Maud (known as Maud) who had set out with them, died of epilepsy on 22 June 1892 off the Spanish Cape Trafalgar. She was buried the same day on the island of Gibraltar.

It is not known whether the GOTHARDs had intended to make their permanent home in South Australia, but they stayed for only three-and-a-half years. Lilly gave birth at Birkenhead, to a daughter, Lillian, in April 1893, and a son, Joseph, in August 1894. In January 1896 they left to return to Birmingham.

By 1899, George and Jessie had moved to Port Pirie, where Douglas was born in Solomontown on 19 November 1899.

### **Service during the Boxer Rebellion**

In 1900, the South Australian Government offered its gunboat, HMCS *Protector*, to the Imperial Government for service in China as part of the Colonial Naval Forces raised to rescue foreign legations in Peking during the Boxer Rebellion. The ship was purchased in 1884 by the South Australian Government but had little active use apart from training duties. Able Seaman George LUCKETT was part of the crew which left Adelaide on 6 August 1900 for a month-long voyage.

The captain ensured that the crew were thoroughly drilled in all aspects of both their routine and prospective combat duties, thus giving them the opportunity for promotion along the way. By the time they crossed the equator on 29 August 1900, George had become a Petty Officer, which we learn from a newspaper account of his role in the initiation activities of King Neptune and his court upon those crossing the line for the first time<sup>6</sup>. An elaborately staged and costumed ceremony involving many officers and men included George as the doctor charged with administering either a 'terribly nauseous' walnut-sized pill, or a dose of an 'especially nasty' concoction of medicine. The victim was then subjected to various other indignities.

When the *Protector* finally steamed into Chinese waters, they found that the emergency was already over. After some surveying and despatch-carrying duties, they eventually left Hong Kong on 24 November 1900 to return home. They arrived in Sydney in time to take part in ceremonies inaugurating the Commonwealth of Australia (Federation) on 1 January 1901, and were welcomed back to Port Adelaide on 6 January 1901. George and the rest of the crew were awarded the China War Medal 1900 in recognition of their service.

### **Service during the Boer War**

Possibly disappointed by the lack of action in China, George and a number of others from the Naval Reserve immediately signed up as members of the 5th (South Australian Imperial Bushmen) Contingent heading for the Boer War. Just a month after returning from China, Sergeant LUCKETT left on the *Ormazan* for South Africa on 9 February 1901.



George Ernest LUCKETT with other sergeants of the 5th contingent, 1901 (Image from *The Critic*, 9 February 1901)

A month into their voyage, George had a prominent role in the ancient mariners' rite of 'burying the dead horse'. Sailors were customarily given a month's pay in advance at the beginning of a voyage, to pay off any debts incurred while waiting for work, and to equip themselves for their new job. They were not paid again until this advance was worked off, their debt being referred to as the dead horse.

An effigy was made from available materials such as a barrel, canvas stuffed with straw, and frayed hemp for hair. A cast of characters in fancy dress was assembled for the funeral service, with much mock weeping and wailing, and a noisy procession, led by Sergeant LUCKETT, made its way around the deck to the accompaniment of the dead horse sea shanty. One of the officers, dressed up as a Zulu, pranced about with a club and prodded the horse with his spear. After a

comically heart-rending funeral service, a rifle salute was fired, the Last Post was played by the trumpeters, and the dead horse was finally slid over the side.<sup>7</sup>

The *Ormazan* arrived in Cape Town, South Africa on 19 March 1901, but was refused landing permission because of the prevalence of plague. They were deferred to Port Elizabeth on the east coast of Africa, and landed there on 23 March 1901. Then followed a long, slow rail journey, on continuous watch for Boer snipers or commando attack, before finally making camp on 27 March 1901. They set off in a large column for their first real engagement in an evening attack on some ammunition wagons on 5 April 1901.

An Australian War Memorial article describes the typical role of the Australian forces:

*After September 1900, by which time the war had become mainly a guerrilla conflict, Australian troops were deployed in sweeping the countryside and enforcing the British policy of cutting the Boer guerrillas off from the support of their farms and families. This meant the destruction of Boer farms, the confiscation of horses, cattle and wagons, and the rounding up of the inhabitants, usually women and children.*

*These civilian captives were taken to concentration camps where, weakened by malnutrition, thousands died of contagious diseases. By mid-1901 the war for the Australians was characterised by long rides, often at night, followed by an attack on a Boer farmhouse or encampment (laager) at dawn. The skirmishes were often minor, involving small Boer forces quickly overwhelmed by superior numbers.<sup>8</sup>*

### **Return to South Australia**

After his 12-month tour of duty, in which his regiment officially trekked 3,890 miles, George returned on the *Manchester Merchant* to a warm welcome in Adelaide on 27 April 1902. He rejoined his family in Port Pirie, where his two eldest sons were enrolled in the local school. A newspaper report in December of that year tells us that George contributed to one of the highlights of the annual concert.

*A number of boys received hearty applause for a display of dumb-bell exercises; and the performance of cutlass drill by the senior boys fairly brought down the house. The lads received their orders from Mr. Melbourne, who was instructed by Sergeant-Major Luckett of the Naval Reserve. The pupils showed great aptitude and precision in their exercises and entered heartily into the spirit of the work.<sup>9</sup>*

The following year the family was back in the Port Adelaide district where Donald was born at Exeter on 17 April 1903 and Jacqueline Henrietta (Jock) was born at Birkenhead on 7 September 1905.

It is about this time that George began his career as a lighthouse keeper. His first posting was at Cape Borda on Kangaroo Island, where he was third keeper. He is featured in a 1906 newspaper article on the history of the Rocky River area of Kangaroo Island, which also described some of the adventures of his older sons.<sup>10</sup>

In 1907 he was second keeper at Cape Northumberland, the southernmost point of the South Australian coastline. Being less than two miles from Port MacDonnell meant that the older LUCKETT children were able to attend the local school, and the family was less isolated than at other lighthouse postings. A newspaper notice from this period announces the birth of Sheila Edna LUCKETT on 27 November 1907, at 'Mrs. Johncock's residence, Edithburgh'<sup>11</sup>, although her parents' home address was Cape Northumberland. One wonders what circumstances led to a birth so far from home.

In June 1909 George was appointed second keeper at the newly-built lighthouse at Cape du Couedic, on the south-western tip of Kangaroo Island. While visiting a neighbouring farm, he noticed a familiar sea-chest in the front room, and said, 'Mr May, I believe that chest used to belong to me.' 'Oh no, mate,' replied the farmer, 'that chest came from the wreck of the You Yangs.' 'I thought I wasn't mistaken,' said George, 'I was on the You Yangs when she was wrecked.' George agreed to provide a replacement chest for Mr MAY, and was able to rescue his own, after being parted from it for 19 years.<sup>12</sup>



The prodigal chest came home but soon returned to the high seas with George's sons, Alec and Donald, as each in turn took to the sea. It finally settled on shore when Donald received his Master's certificate and decided he needed a new chest fit for a captain and so the battered chest became the 'glory box' for George's youngest daughter, Jessie. It has been retained and used by family members ever since.



George LUCKETT's sea chest  
(Image courtesy of the authors)

On 9 March 1910 George and Jessie's last child, Jessie McColm Lewis LUCKETT was born at Birkenhead. By now George and his young family were back on the mainland with George working at the shore-based Semaphore Signal Station. The family did not live on shore; but in the large, corrugated iron former customs building at the end of the Largs Bay jetty. Their living conditions were a challenge to Jessie and her young family as the jetty was also equipped with a train line and station buildings, and the end to the jetty was often crowded with fishermen and sightseers.

By now it seemed that George's seafaring days were over—but there is always another war to be fought.

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# These Shoes Were Made for Walking: Charles and Martha Courtis

by Heather Thoday and Joy Window

*Handcrafted shoes, family bibles, photographs of the COURTIS family, an 1800s postcard of Bonython Manor House, newspaper cuttings, letters ... these are just some of the items that comprise the collections curated by their descendants, Heather THODAY and Joy WINDOW. With no documentation about their COURTIS ancestors' exploits and stories, Heather and Joy began researching and writing. This fascinating journey led them back to Cornwall, where the shoemaking skills of the SKEWES family began to permeate the COURTIS family.*

Charles's and Martha's beginnings in Cornwall were threaded through Breage, Church Town, Cross Lanes, Cury, Mawgan, Mullion, Nantithet, Bonython House and Penzance. At least some of the SKEWES family were in residence as servants at Bonython Manor House at the time of their employment and marriage.<sup>1</sup>

Charles COURTIS and Martha SKEWES were both 21 years old when they married on 27 November 1864 at Nantithet, a small village near Cury, Cornwall. They were a striking pair – Charles's height of six feet (182 cm) contrasted to Martha's five feet (150 cm).<sup>2</sup>

Their first child, Helena Ada COURTIS, known as Lena, was born on 14 May 1865 in Penzance, Cornwall. Martha was chronically ill postpartum and was advised to emigrate to Australia in hope of survival.<sup>3</sup> Charles quickly organised their passage to Australia, and the little family of three set sail from Plymouth on *Atalanta* on 23 January 1866.<sup>4</sup>



Shoes made by Martha's father, Edward SKEWES, cordwainer (Image courtesy of Joy Window)

## A new life in South Australia

Charles, along with 14 other men, was listed on *Atalanta's* shipping list as a ploughman. Charles may have decided to choose South Australia as his destination, in response to the request for ploughmen in the 1860s. The attractions of South Australia as opposed to other colonies had been advertised in Cornwall since the 1830s.<sup>5</sup> It is also likely that Charles and Martha were influenced by Martha's cousin, Samuel SKEWES, who lived in South Australia at Sandy Creek, as well as other Cornish families in the Gawler and Barossa areas.

After 81 days at sea, *Atalanta* arrived in Port Adelaide on 15 April 1866. Both Martha and baby Lena survived the journey, whereas nine other infants 'succumbed to the damp cold weather experienced while running down the easting in the Southern latitudes'.<sup>7</sup> Lena's resilience in extreme weather conditions would later enable her to survive her parents' adventures in South Australia's pioneering years.



Charles COURTIS, leading fireman, second from the right (Image courtesy of Rod Roach)

Now settled in South Australia, Martha's health improved, with 10 more COURTIS babies born from 1867 through to 1887, eight of whom survived to become adults and parents.

In October 1868 there were reports of gold discoveries near Samuel SKEWES's property, and Charles and Martha moved to the Barossa Goldfields where Charles tried his luck with panning or digging for gold through the late 1860s and early 1870s.<sup>8</sup> According to family stories, he was reasonably successful.<sup>9</sup> With the viability of the Barossa Goldfields declining during the next decade, Charles returned to his familiar adolescent occupation of farm labouring. He took his family, which now included six children, to Yorke Peninsula, purchasing land with funds saved from the gold diggings, and cleared it for farming.

After leaving Yorke Peninsula, Charles and his family returned to the friendships and connections that they had previously made in the Gawler area. Charles gained employment with the Corporation of Gawler as a fireman. In the 1880s the family, which now included nine children, settled to live in a house provided for the leading fireman, adjacent to the fire station on the corner of Union Street and Lyndoch Road.<sup>10</sup> In 1891, having accumulated enough capital to purchase their own house in Blanch Street, the next parallel street on the eastern edge

of Gawler, the COURTIS family moved out of the fire station house. Charles continued to serve as a fireman for the next six years.<sup>11</sup>

Throughout their years in Gawler, Charles was dedicated to his pursuit of home gardening, as was evident by his prize-winning produce and small livestock at the Gawler Agricultural Shows. His passion for growing things also extended to assisting primary school students with planting trees on Arbor Day in 1896.<sup>12</sup> Charles's husbandry remained a visible legacy in most of his children's backyards as well, throughout the 20th century.<sup>13</sup>



Elizabeth Martha COURTIS (nee SKEWES) born in Cornwall about 1843, died in Norwood, Adelaide in May 1929 (Image courtesy of the authors)

## Work in the shoemaking industry

Martha's shoemaking heritage permeated her SKEWES family. Her father, Edward SKEWES, was 'a farmer of 8 acres and cordwainer employing 1 man and 5 boys' as detailed in the 1861 Cornwall Census.<sup>14</sup> Martha was part of a burgeoning movement within the shoemaking industry in regional areas whereby women and girls were employed by a cordwainer. The head of the household would ensure that the diverse tasks of shoemaking were completed and would have several apprentices and employees to complete part of the tasks:

*Shoemakers were not slow in discovering that, under the new system, the labor of the women and children in the family could be utilized by giving them the uppers to be stitched and bound in the home, and then returned to the shop to have the soles put on by the men. "Stitching and binding" thus came to be exclusively women's work during the first half of the nineteenth century. Work in the shops was confined to cutting, bottoming, finishing, and packing to send to market ...<sup>15</sup>*

Edward boarded three boys and possibly also apprenticed two of his young sons. According to the census, his 17-year-old daughter Martha was employed solely in the stitching and binding processes. Her employment would have fitted between her household tasks in the family home. Similarly, Martha's 19-year-old sister Loveday also worked as a 'shoebinder at home' presumably when there was a higher volume of work to be done, since Loveday was also employed as a 'house servant' elsewhere, perhaps at Bonython House.<sup>16</sup>

## Family life

Martha's strength and independence were evident through her journey as a dangerously ill passenger to South Australia, followed by the lifestyle inherent in the itinerant nature

of Charles's employment. Martha nurtured their children through Charles's engagement in mining at the Barossa Goldfields, followed by living under canvas on Yorke Peninsula in the late 1870s and early 1880s.

Among the joy and adventure of Charles's and Martha's life, there were heart-wrenching moments. One of the baby girls was born under an umbrella as rain fell, according to a letter written by Mercy, Martha's niece, about 70 years later. During the piercing cold winter months of 1874, two of their children died. The youngest, Charles Edward COURTIS died just days before his fourth birthday, and, several months later in 1874, Edith Martha COURTIS died at three months.<sup>18</sup> This might have signalled that the COURTIS family had worn out their thirst for being local to the Barossa Goldfields, as they relocated and lived closer to the Gawler township by 1874, where the family settled to live for about 30 years in their last house in Gawler.

Two of Martha's siblings also emigrated to Australia. One of these was her older sister Loveday Hendy (nee SKEWES) CROWLE. Loveday and Martha had shared their wedding day on 27 November 1864 at Nantithet, Cornwall. Loveday emigrated to Australia after her husband John Penrose CROWLE died in Cornwall about 1900. She travelled with her daughter Bessie Skewes CROWLE. Loveday and Bessie may have lived in Gawler for a short time before moving to Glenelg. Loveday lived her final days while taking respite in the Adelaide Hills. Martha's niece, Bessie CROWLE, was a dress designer and developed a strong friendship with her uncle Alfred's wife, Min COURTIS.<sup>19</sup>

Loveday and her daughter have headstones in St Jude's Anglican Cemetery in Brighton, South Australia, where her nephew (Alfred James COURTIS), her nephew's wife (Emily Minnie Mary COURTIS), and her nephew's daughter (Bessie DEALY, nee COURTIS) have also been laid to rest.<sup>20</sup>



Following Charles's death in 1923, Martha lived with her daughter Claudia and her son-in-law Dr William Carrick Turk UPTON in Norwood until her death at 86 years of age in 1929, leaving a legacy of five generations.<sup>21</sup> Both Charles and Martha are memorialised on their combined gravestone at the Willaston Cemetery, Gawler.



Gravestone at Willaston Cemetery, Gawler: Charles COURTIS and Martha COURTIS (Image courtesy of Heather Thoday)

### The Courtis children

Charles's and Martha's children who lived to adulthood were as follows:

Helena Ada COURTIS, known as Lena, was the only child born in Cornwall. Lena died just a few days' short of her 72nd birthday on 6 May 1937, and was buried at the Willaston Cemetery, along with her husband Thomas SWANN, who died in 1948.<sup>22</sup>

Annie COURTIS, born on 21 April 1867, was Charles's and Martha's first child to be born in Australia. Annie married John, known as

Jack, POTTS on 27 October 1887 at the Wesleyan Church in Pirie Street, Adelaide. Annie died as an inpatient of the Hutchinson Hospital in Gawler a few weeks before her 42nd birthday on 24 March 1902. They did not have any children.<sup>23</sup> Following John's death on 14 June 1915, his will directed that a trust be established. 'The Potts Trust ... [provided] income ... which was to be divided equally between the Hutchinson Hospital and the Children's Hospital at North Adelaide [now the Women's and Children's Hospital]'.<sup>24</sup>

Claudia COURTIS, born on 14 June 1868, married William UPTON and lived in Balaklava from 1891 to 1922. Following Claudia's and William's move from Balaklava to Norwood, Claudia's mother, Martha COURTIS, moved in with the UPTON family, and remained with them until her death in 1929. Claudia continued to live in Norwood until her death at 90 years of age on 31 December 1958.<sup>25</sup>

Mary COURTIS was born on 13 June 1872 in Uley on southern Eyre Peninsula. Mary was almost 30 years old when she married widower Frederick PAYNE on 21 March 1902 at the Mill Cottage, Gawler South.<sup>26</sup> Mary was a fluent storyteller, recalling stories of the COURTIS family in the 1870s and 1880s. Fortunately, Mercy's cousin Bessie COURTIS retained a selection of these letters and cards. Mercy continued to write these stories in her letters through to the 1990s until she died in 1997, enabling these COURTIS stories to be told and re-told, with a few extra flourishes, for over a century. Bessie's daughters, Nancy and Jenny, have been the recipients of these, which provide a valuable primary source of family stories today. Mary died at Northfield on 2 April 1949 and shared a plot and headstone with Frederick PAYNE who died in 1925, memorialised in the Willaston Cemetery, Gawler.<sup>27</sup>



Charles Edward COURTIS was born on 1 August 1875 in Gawler. Charles's active involvement in the Gawler community and later in the Western Australia Goldfields has ensured that there are many remnants and stories to tell. He married Sarah Jane CHENEY on 17 October 1900 in Mr CHENEY's residence in Kalgoorlie. Charles's death on 30 August 1926 is marked by a small gravestone in Kalgoorlie Cemetery.<sup>28</sup> Two of his children and his wife, Sarah COURTIS returned to South Australia. Sarah COURTIS died at the age of 93 years on 23 July 1972 in Salisbury, at the home of one of her children.

William George COURTIS, known as George, was born in Gawler on 7 March 1878. Joy's grandfather, George married Elsie May GREAVES on 3 April 1912.



George with daughter Daphne at Mannum, about 1925 (Image courtesy of Joy Window)

George set up a shoe repair business at home when he returned to Willaston, carrying on the SKEWES shoemaking tradition. George died on 4 August 1959. Both George and Elsie are memorialised in a combined headstone at the Willaston Cemetery.<sup>29</sup>

Alfred James COURTIS, colloquially known as Dick, was born on 13 July 1880 in Ardrossan.

Heather's great-grandfather celebrated his 24th birthday in 1904 by marrying 22-year-old Emily Minnie Mary ELLIOTT, known as Min, at Boulder on the Western Australian Goldfields. Charles's wife and Min were also from the Gawler, Reedbeds, and Mannum regions. Alfred successfully mined a small amount of gold at Boulder; it was used to form his daughter Bessie's wedding ring.



Alfred James COURTIS and Emily Minnie Mary (nee ELLIOTT) as parents seated, with their children standing (left to right) Frank Alfred, Bessie, Norman Elliott, about 1926 (Image courtesy of Heather Thoday)

Alfred died on 26 July 1960 at the age of 80 years. Alfred and Min share a combined headstone at St Jude's Anglican Cemetery in Brighton.<sup>30</sup>

Walter Thomas COURTIS, known as Bob, was born on 8 May 1883 in Gawler. Only weeks after his 20th birthday, he married Alice Annie BOWMAN on 18 July 1903. Bob and Annie were a significant part of the railway town of Peterborough.<sup>31</sup> Bob died at the home of his son, Cecil, with his death recorded at Woodville Gardens on 25 March 1958, aged

74. He was buried at the North Brighton Cemetery, and later shared a headstone with his wife, Annie.<sup>32</sup> Alice Annie COURTIS died in July 1969 at the Norwood home of their daughter, Annie BODGER (nee COURTIS), aged 91 years.<sup>33</sup>

Edith Mabel COURTIS was born on 12 August 1887 in Gawler. May, as she was known, was the youngest of Charles's and Martha's children, born just after two of her elder sisters were married in the COURTIS family home. She would have grown up in the company of her nieces and nephews at Blanch Street, just as her older siblings were heading off to Port Adelaide, Birkenhead, Adelaide, and on to Western Australian gold prospecting adventures. May was 18 years old when she married Charles Henry MODRA of Kangaroo Flat on 12 April 1906, following the oft-repeated COURTIS practice of marrying at her parents' home.<sup>34</sup> May was 71 years of age when she died, pre-deceasing Henry by 16 years. She shares a plot with Henry at the Willaston Cemetery, having died on 10 December 1958, just three weeks before her eldest living sister Claudia.<sup>35</sup>

### Postscript



These shoes were made for walking: shoes made by Martha's father, Edward SKEWES (Image courtesy of Joy Window)

Whichever COURTIS ancestors wore these shoes, they were undoubtedly worn by one or more of the COURTIS women, perhaps by Martha or by her daughters. With the soles of these shoes ingrained with the soils of Cornwall before traversing the seas to South Australia, these shoes were made for walking, with courage, determination, and an adventuring spirit. With many questions about Charles's and Martha's life still to be

answered, we trust that this narrative will inspire others in the family or who knew the family to share them further, as these stories are part of the fabric of our present day and future identity.

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- <sup>14</sup> Martha E Skewes, aged 17, recorded as 'shoebinder at home' in the 1861 Cornwall Census, RG 9/1572, p. 9.
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- <sup>19</sup> Notes pencilled by Nancy Hodgetts, eldest daughter of Bessie Courtis (held by Heather Thoday).
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- <sup>26</sup> Marriage certificate for Mary Courtis, Genealogy SA, Book 210/Page 1170.
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- <sup>28</sup> Charles Edward Courtis died on 30 August 1926. His burial records at Kalgoorlie Cemetery indicate that the person responsible for arrangements – probably his son, Charles Eric COURTIS – did not know his date of birth. Records indicate '1876?', denoting uncertainty. The gravestone therefore incorrectly states 'Aged 50 years'. (<https://austcemindex.com/?cemetery=5743&page=10>; [https://austcemindex.com/inscription?id=16189505#im\\_ages](https://austcemindex.com/inscription?id=16189505#im_ages)).
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- <sup>31</sup> 1924 railway picnic, one of many attended between 1918 and 1926, where WT Courtis is listed as Railway Staff, see Country News, *The Register*, 15 October 1924, p. 12 and the Australian Society of Engineers' meeting in February 1922 where WT Courtis is reported as one of the executive officers, see Peterborough, *Recorder*, 3 February 1922, p. 2.
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- <sup>33</sup> Alice Annie Courtis, died in Norwood, buried at North Brighton Cemetery, 1 August 1969, [https://www.genealogysa.org.au/index.php?option=com\\_gsa&view=gsa&layout=esearch&collection\\_id=cemeteries&page\\_no=1&sort\\_by=&sort\\_direction=asc&Surname=courtis&GivenName=alice+annie&year\\_from=&accuracy=&Cemetery=&Notes=&ga=GA1.3.984383430.1694071456&gid=GA1.3.450422859.1695181640&joomla\\_user\\_state=logged\\_in&460d91bb357ec796a344a8803e9548f=eade8d43e3821ca7b22de141538aa0c7&gat\\_UA-145232469-1=1&ga\\_QXKDZTP4JE=GS1.3.1695181640.9.1.1695183754.0.0.0](https://www.genealogysa.org.au/index.php?option=com_gsa&view=gsa&layout=esearch&collection_id=cemeteries&page_no=1&sort_by=&sort_direction=asc&Surname=courtis&GivenName=alice+annie&year_from=&accuracy=&Cemetery=&Notes=&ga=GA1.3.984383430.1694071456&gid=GA1.3.450422859.1695181640&joomla_user_state=logged_in&460d91bb357ec796a344a8803e9548f=eade8d43e3821ca7b22de141538aa0c7&gat_UA-145232469-1=1&ga_QXKDZTP4JE=GS1.3.1695181640.9.1.1695183754.0.0.0).
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- <sup>35</sup> Willaston Cemetery, Gawler, Mabel Edith Modra, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/195801907/mabel-edith-modra> and Charles Henry Modra, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/195801947/charles-henry-modra>.

# Archiving for the Future

by Gary Crafter

How great it would be if our ancestors had kept detailed birth, death and marriage records in the best physical mediums of their day—just for our future benefit? I think it would supply answers to a lot of unanswered questions. I wished they never learnt to use that cryptic cursive writing in official documents—but that is ambitious thinking.

Fast-forward to today; some of us are the current custodians of the genealogical data for our families. We now have the ability to record so much more information than ever before, not just historical documents or stories, but also photos/negatives, audio/video content, DNA data and family tree information.

I know that sometimes the current generation (at least in my family) have absolutely no interest in genealogical things, and cannot see the point of why we are doing all of this. I believe that recording as much as we can is important, saving something for the subsequent generations who might pick up the family tree baton.

I've seen a person's life summarised as 2 Jan 1698–17 Aug 1752. But in doing so we miss the most important part, the '-' in the middle. That dash represents what that person did throughout their entire life.

We live in an ephemeral world, where everything now is digital. Information is no longer stored in a way that is time-honoured to our eyes, ears or hands. Letter writing is going by the wayside, and physical mediums (paper, photos, sound and film) are all moving across to their digital counterparts.

You could excuse future archaeologists for concluding that 21st century people must have lived in the dark ages, as they may find

no evidence of physical writings or imagery—because everything has gone digital. With no physical record of historical events, the past would be unknown. That's a real problem with the digital information age.

This brought to my mind—what are the best physical mediums and practices to store our genealogical data for the future?



Various data and video storage formats: 3.5", 5.25" and 8" floppy disks, Beta/Video Home System (VHS) tapes, and 2.5", 3.5" and 5.25" hard drives (Image courtesy of the author)

## Jump back in time

In the early 1990s I scanned an image which when saved was about 6 megabytes (MB) in size—small by today's standards where we have gigabytes (GB) and terabytes (TB). The problem at the time was that a floppy disk only had a small capacity of 1.44MB. So I had to scan that one file over multiple floppy disks just to back it up. If one of the disks had developed a fault, I would have lost the image.

As technology changed I jumped onto the next available format to take advantage of the increased capacity. I started with floppy disks on to Zip disks (100MB), then CD-R (700MB), DVD-R (4.3GB) and now Blu-Ray (25GB) discs and hard drives (16+TB). As a result, I still have a copy of that digital scan I made over 30 years ago.



In the digital world, there are still no archival formats that reliably last more than 30 years. I have 25-year-old CD-Rs I can still read, 20-year-old DVD-R discs which are accessible and some hard drives that still work after more than 16 years—but these will not last much longer. They have only lasted this long due to good storage practices and paying a bit more for higher quality recordable media. Solid-State Disks (SSD) and USB sticks are not practical for long term off-line storage, as the data corrupts due to internal voltage loss, and all data stored in the 'cloud' is outside the scope of my control, so I do not rely on it as a backup medium. The cloud hosting company may go out of business, lose my data, or suffer a data breach.

There is a 'long-lasting' recordable disc format called Millennial Disc which they say will last 1,000 years. The company that developed it went bankrupt in 2016, but the discs are still made. You could ask the question, will anyone know how to read the disc in even 200 years? Assuming it is kept in good condition, will the knowledge of how to access the information on this disc get passed on? Will a device that can read it even still be functional in 50 years' time?

The problem is that all the devices we use today to access these digital and analogue mediums will eventually become obsolete or fail. Specifications change. If we do manage to store audio, video or images reliably, will the technology we use to access it still work in years to come?

We could go back to stone tablets because they last aeons but unfortunately take up huge amounts of room compared to the volume of information we can record on them, and I'm not sure where I left my chisel.

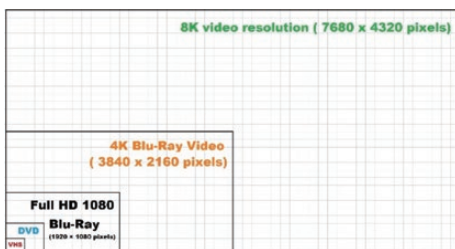
The pace of obsolescence is rapid and hard to predict. If you browse through the following web link <https://obsoletemedia.org/obsolescence-decade/> you will be

surprised how quickly things have aged and become out of date.



Data/Video/Audio/Image storage mediums past and present. Wax Cylinder, Cassette and Digital Audio Tape (DAT), Mini-Disc, CD-R, Mini CD-R, Blu-Ray Disc. Photographic Film. (Image courtesy of the author)

Here is a simple example of how quickly things change. Your Beta/VHS (PAL) tapes equate to roughly 352x288 video pixel resolution. Let's say you were able to digitise a large number of home video tapes at that resolution a few years ago. Using one of the newer 8K resolution TVs, you could theoretically fit 330 of these videos on the screen all at the same time, playing in a 15 high x 22 wide grid. Showing just one of these home movies in full screen on this big television would appear blocky—even with upscaling technology.



Comparing video resolutions of different devices (Image courtesy of the author)

That is the difference in technological changes and resolution improvements in just the last 20 years or so. Imagine the



audio/video/photo resolutions that will exist in the future. I would suggest to always record everything in the highest possible resolution.

### **Time does not heal all wounds**

I have audio recordings that have deteriorated because I did not get around to digitising: the 8mm video camera has stopped working and so too might the over 30-year-old remaining tapes that go with it. A lot of negatives were not stored well and are full of scratches. The dyes used in colour photos are not as stable as black and white ones, so they are fading and have an orange/red tinge. I guess the time to archive any important older stuff was always 10 years ago.

Do not forget to have multiple backups, preferably in different locations. In the last 40 years or more of my time spent around computers I have lost track of the number of times someone has lost data. They 'didn't keep backups'. Storage is so fast and cheap nowadays; it is a shame backing up is an afterthought.

Our genealogical family tree software might work with current operating systems, but might not with future ones, the data may be stored in an incompatible format that you cannot export from, or the company that made the software will no longer exist or release updates. So it is always good to backup (or have the ability to export) to a standard family tree file format. The most common one is a GEDCOM (GED) file. Every family tree application worth their salt can import/export these types of files.

If we are to keep the 'documents' of our time then we must constantly update our digital backups to keep up with the times and transfer them across to the current archival formats, before what we currently use becomes obsolete. At the same time we also need to ensure that we store this

information in a standard way, utilising the highest (lossless) resolution possible, so they can be understood and read in the future.

### **Metadata**

I have family photos over 100 years old, and no idea who they are of, I wished someone had put some written details on the back. Even better if they had recorded all the Ws – the who, what, where, when and why.

How do you write on the back of a digital image? Most of the images we take are auto-named IMG\_1234.jpg or similar by our camera, which is not meaningful. One option is to record information inside a plain text file that has the same name as the video/image/audio file. Do not use Word, PDF or RTF file formats—this way it improves the chances it will still be readable by any future system. Even better, change the file name to be more informative.

With some image file formats (e.g. tiff/jpg) you can embed this information within the file, known as metadata in EXIF (EXchangeable Image File format). Some video formats can do this too but store it slightly differently. There are numerous applications to facilitate updating your EXIF data. Usually your digital camera will automatically record some basic information within the photo or video taken, such as resolution, date and time. When you move the file or convert it to another type, it can bring along this embedded information too if it supports it.

The metadata is almost as important as the file itself; without context an image or video might become meaningless. When recording information about a file, think about the video/image/document in the context of someone looking at it in the future who might know absolutely nothing, and provide the relevant information.



Major CLEMENTS (in uniform) greeting Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. His wife Gertrude is to his left. Major Hugh MARKS in mayoral robes is standing next to the Queen, Mount Gambier, South Australia, 26 February 1954 (Image courtesy of the author).

Remember to record dates/names of all people in photos, unless they are famous—future generations will have no idea.

I would suggest that, if you have not already, you bring out your old photos and spend time with your family (or email them asking about unknown photos), go through them whilst they are still with you, and capture as much information and as many memories as you can. There is so much generational knowledge that does not always get passed on. A picture might be worth a thousand words, a video might be worth a thousand pictures—but written stories and information always can convey so much more.

To summarise, constantly update the technology behind digital genealogical

‘Encyclopaedia Britannicas’; maintain multiple backups of all information; and record as much metadata and as many details as possible. Digitise what is important to you. Make sure you leave details on how people can access this information in the future, before it all physically crumbles and degrades into obscurity through the annals of time. If we do all of this, those in the future will not need to make a familiar statement: ‘I wish our ancestors had kept detailed birth, death and marriage records ... .’

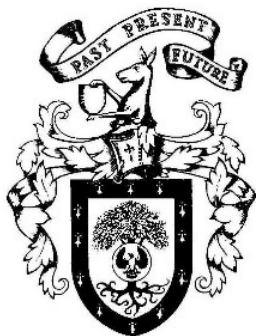


## Library Tours

Have you walked into the Library and felt overwhelmed, not knowing where to start?

Why not join one of our Library tours and learn more about the many resources that we have to help you with your family research.

**Tours are free.** Check our Events Calendar for dates and times at:  
[www.genealogysa.org/whats-on/events-calendar](http://www.genealogysa.org/whats-on/events-calendar)



# South Australian Genealogy & Heraldry Society Inc.

201 Unley Road, Unley, SA 5061  
PO Box 3114, Unley, SA 5061

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

*This insert contains important information about  
the Annual General Meeting, to be held on  
Wednesday 23 October 2024.*



# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the 51st Annual General Meeting of the South Australian Genealogy & Heraldry Society Inc. will be held on Wednesday 23 October 2024 at 7:30 pm in the Society Library, 201 Unley Road, Unley.

## AGENDA\*

1. **Present, Apologies and Proxies**
2. **Minutes of Meetings of Members**
  - AGM 50 of 25 October 2023
3. **Receipt of Annual Reports**
  - President's Report
  - Committee Reports
  - Group Reports
4. **Presentation of Annual Financial Statements**
  - Statement of Income and Expenditure
  - Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet)
  - Statement on behalf of Council
  - Report of the Auditors
5. **Receipt of Reports**
  - Report by Council
6. **Appointment of Auditor**

“that MGI Assurance (SA) Pty Ltd be appointed as auditor for the 2024/2025 financial year”
7. **Election of Council Members**
  - Declaration of Vacancies
  - Election of Council Members
  - Council Members Recess to Elect Office Bearers
8. **Awards**
  - Awards for Service
9. **Close of Meeting**

**Dale Johns**  
Honorary Secretary  
31 July 2024

All proxies must be in the hands of the Secretary by no later than **6:30 pm Tuesday 22 October 2024.**

\*To be ratified by Council





# PROXY VOTING FORM

South Australian Genealogy & Heraldry Society Inc.

201 Unley Road, Unley, SA 5061  
PO Box 3114, Unley, SA 5061

Please print all details except signatures.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ Member No: \_\_\_\_\_  
(FULL NAME)

of \_\_\_\_\_  
(ADDRESS)

being a current financial member of the Society do hereby appoint:

(a) \_\_\_\_\_ Member No: \_\_\_\_\_  
(FULL NAME)

of \_\_\_\_\_  
(ADDRESS)

**OR**

(b) the duly appointed Chairperson of the meeting

*(delete either a or b, whichever is not applicable)*

as my proxy to vote for me and on my behalf at the Annual General Meeting of the South Australian Genealogy & Heraldry Society Inc. to be held on Wednesday, 23 October 2024, and at any adjournment thereof.

† This form is to be used **in favour of** the proposed resolution number/s:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(INSERT THE RESOLUTION NUMBER/S)

† This form is to be used **against** the proposed resolution number/s.:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(INSERT THE RESOLUTION NUMBER/S)

listed in the notice of the meeting. Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

† To be inserted if desired. Unless otherwise instructed, the proxy may vote as thought fit on any issue

*NB: A proxy must be a financial member. This form must be in the hands of the Secretary no later than **6:30 pm Tuesday 22 October 2024.***

A photocopy/print of this form is acceptable.



# ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR COUNCIL

South Australian Genealogy & Heraldry Society Inc.

The following nominations have been received for election to six vacancies of Council:

David Barber

Ann Catford

Fiona Errington

Helen Livingston

Beryl Schahinger

Barbara Woolfitt

As the number of nominations does not exceed the number of vacancies, the nominations received are elected to Council in accordance with the Rules of the Constitution relating to Membership of the Society and to the Council.

The following Councillors' terms of office continue until the 2025 Annual General Meeting:

David Ballinger

Robert Blair

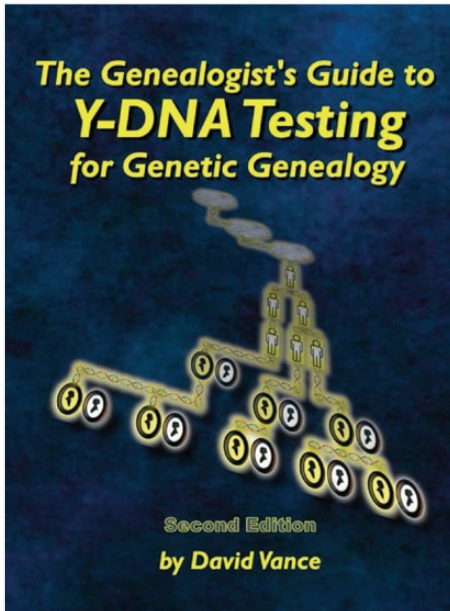
Dale Johns

Phil Lokan

Andrew Peake

MA Stephenson  
Retuning Officer  
31 July 2024

## Book Review



**Vance, David, *The Genealogist's Guide to Y-DNA Testing for Genetic Genealogy*, second edition, 2024.**

David Vance, who has a computing background, has a long interest in family history genetic genealogy. He is also very active in the Family Tree DNA (FTDNA) Group Project administration and the International Society of Genetic Genealogy (ISOGG). With this recent (2024) publication he has put together a comprehensive, well-written and interesting coverage of the Y chromosome, which is the DNA of the male line and is of special interest to societies where surnames are (mostly) passed on from fathers. The book is divided into three sections: 'Introducing Y-DNA', 'Y-DNA Fundamentals' and 'Y-DNA Beyond the Basics' and each of the 17 chapters is prefaced by an indication of the level of understanding required or a Maths/Science Advisory (level) and other chapters that should be read.

The book is well-written and easy to follow with its diagrams and comprehensive discussion of topics. Readers should gain a good understanding of the uses and technicalities of Y-DNA. For many, gaining this understanding is a very steep learning curve. The three introductory chapters cover types of DNA and how it can help the family historian. The second section on Y-DNA fundamentals is more technical, covering short tandem repeats (STRs) and single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs), haplotypes and haplotrees, testing for Y-DNA, test options, interpreting and understanding your first test, and DNA projects. The last mentioned can be helpful to family historians as there are more than 10,000 projects based on topics such as surnames, geographical areas and haplogroups. The third section is more advanced and discusses detailed genetics of STRs and SNPs, the Y chromosome, how DNA can be used to support or disprove genealogical conclusions, time scales and much more.

This book is highly recommended for anyone wishing to build a greater knowledge of Y-DNA, how it works and how it can be used by the family historian.

Richard Merry  
Convenor, DNA in Family History Special Interest Group  
[saghs.dna@saghs.org.au](mailto:saghs.dna@saghs.org.au)

# Abraham Wren of Cumberland, South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria and New South Wales: a correction

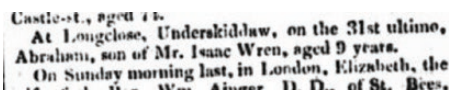
by Graham Webster

In the February 2024 issue of *The South Australian Genealogist*, a story of Abraham WREN was published.<sup>1</sup> I had identified him as my grandson's 5th great-grandfather on his mother's side. Whoops, I had it all wrong!

This article is by way of a correction, an apology to those who had assigned persons described to their family trees, and a *mea culpa*. I outline how the error occurred and what I now believe is the family connection.

I knew that an Abraham WREN was 72 years old when he died in New South Wales in 1888. This date would have given Abraham's birth circa 1817. Many sources and researchers identified that on 12 July 1817 at Loweswater, Cumberland a boy of this name was baptised; his parents were Isaac and Mary (nee TICKELL – widow SCOTT). Gilbrow, Cumberland was often cited as his place of birth, and indeed the Abraham that died in 1888 had on his death certificate a place that looked like this place. Based on this detail I constructed a detailed story<sup>2</sup> around Isaac's family and associated WRENS in the Keswick, Cumberland area. There were a great many WRENS and as primary sources were few, to untangle the families was confusing.

The story was also published by the Cumbria Family History Society<sup>3</sup> and the Tasmania Family History Society.<sup>4</sup> However, it was as a result of the former that I was contacted by a reader of the article who was a direct descendant of Mary SCOTT, the supposed mother of Abraham. She agreed with the baptism date but then highlighted the following:



Castle-... aged 9  
At Longclose, Underskiddaw, on the 31st ultimo,  
Abraham, son of Mr. Isaac Wren, aged 9 years.  
On Sunday morning last, in London, Elizabeth, the  
widow of Isaac Wren, of St. Bees,

*Carlisle Patriot*, 5 August 1826, p. 3

This, of course, completely upended my research. Sure enough, the records show that this Abraham died on 31 July 1817 and was buried at Crosthwaite, Keswick, Cumberland, on 2 August. So, was there a record of another Abraham WREN in the 1816–1817 period in Cumberland? Revisiting the previously mentioned death certificate shows that rather than 'Gilbrow' (perhaps interpreted unconsciously given what others had recorded) it was 'Gilcrux' (also in Cumberland). Using this I quickly identified an Abraham baptised on 7 January 1816,<sup>5</sup> his parents being Joseph and Elizabeth (nee SELBY). This is now the new date and family of Abraham WREN who married Fanny Ellen ENOCH/ENOCK and went on to live in South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria and New South Wales.

Abraham's 'new' parents married in Dearham, Cumberland on 26 March 1816.<sup>6</sup> His father, Joseph, was baptised in Dearham on 19 December 1776 – his father was John WREN; his mother, Elizabeth (as SEILBY), was baptised on 1 February 1784 in Lorton, Cumberland; her father was Abraham SELBY/SEILBY. Dearham, a mining village in the northern part of Cumberland, was the locus for several generations of WRENS, and before that (yet to be confirmed) Hertfordshire, some distance from Cumberland, whereas Elizabeth's family came from an area to the north and northwest of Bassenthwaite Lake, Cumberland.



I am, of course, grateful that my misidentification of Abraham WREN has been revealed. I am, however, positive and confident that my research on Abraham's life away from Cumberland is accurate and readers can be assured that the publications need no further corrections.

#### REFERENCES

- <sup>1</sup> Webster, Graham, 'Abraham Wren of Cumberland, South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria and New South Wales', *The South Australian Genealogist*, Volume 51, Number 1, February 2024, pp. 40-45.
- <sup>2</sup> Webster, *The South Australian Genealogist*, pp. 40-45.
- <sup>3</sup> Webster, Graham, 'Abraham Wren. Part 1. His early life in Cumberland and Madeira', *Newsletter of the Cumbria Family History Society*, Number 189, December 2023, pp. 26-34; Webster, Graham, 'Abraham Wren. Part 2. His life in Australia', *Newsletter of the Cumbria Family History Society*, Number 190, March 2024, pp. 19-25.
- <sup>4</sup> Webster, Graham, 'Abraham Wren of Cumberland, South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria and New South Wales. Part One', *Tasmanian Ancestry*, Volume 44, Number 4, March 2024, pp. 202-207; Webster, Graham, 'Abraham Wren of Cumberland, South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria and New South Wales. Part Two', *Tasmanian Ancestry*, Volume 45, Number 1, June 2024, pp. 10-23.
- <sup>5</sup> See <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:JMR6-NXT>
- <sup>6</sup> See <https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:NKBN-LVZ>  
Elizabeth's family name is given as SEALBY.



All articles published in *The South Australian Genealogist* are eligible for consideration for the Society's Article of the Year Award.

This annual award is presented to the author or authors of the most outstanding article(s) published in the journal within a calendar year.

Visit [www.genealogysa.org.au](http://www.genealogysa.org.au) for further information.

**We would love to read your stories.**

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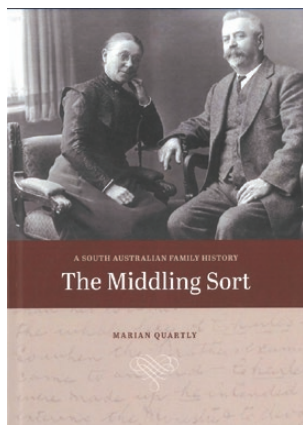
# Genealogy SA 2023 Family History Awards

## TT Reed Family History Book Award

The TT Reed Family History Book Award is presented annually to the author, or authors, publishing what we consider to be the best family history submitted for judging in a given calendar year. The book must be published by a South Australian, or to be substantially about a South Australian family.

There were 11 books entered for the 2023 TT Reed Family History Book Award. The judges felt that these books showed that family history publications in South Australia are getting better. A significant level of research had gone into the books, supported by the use of good graphics, colour printing and clear, well-presented layouts.

The winner of the 2023 TT Reed Family History Book Award was Marian Quartly for her book *The Middling Sort: A South Australian Family History*.



Winner of the 2023 TT Reed Family History Book Award

The judges' comments on this book were:

*This book is exceptional. It is well researched, exquisitely written, and quickly absorbs the reader into its pages. It has a professional appeal without seeking to be ostentatious. The charts are clear, easily read and placed to maintain focus. The endnotes provide a clear trail of the author's research and include useful descriptors to give added context to the text. The inclusion of a bibliography would have complemented the endnotes. While the introduction might have focused more on the process undertaken by the author, it does pique reader interest in a unique way. Overall, this book epitomises a well-written family history.*



Marian Quartly, winner of the 2023 TT Reed Family History Award, with her certificate



Marilyn Quartly's sister, Kay Rollison, accepts the TT Reed Family History Book Award on her behalf from Council Member, Andrew Peake OAM, Awards Committee Chair and Genealogy SA founder

The book *Perroomba: A History of the Whittam Family in Australia* by Brenton Seager was highly commended by the judges. The judges' comments were:

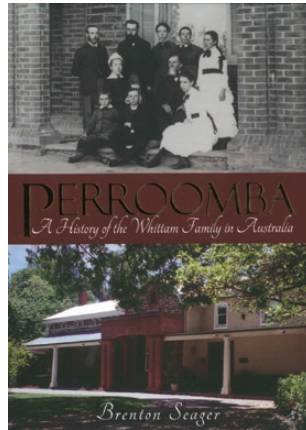
*The author has produced an interesting family history largely centred around the comings and goings of a house in Adelaide's eastern suburbs called Perroomba. Included is extensive anecdotal material that at times needed to be attributed and derives from a treasure trove of documents hoarded by William Whittam, the family progenitor. The book reflects considerable in-depth research from which the writer traces his family roots from the Yorkshire market town of Settle to Adelaide. This is accompanied by a bibliography of some length, a vast array of endnotes from which anyone following in the author's footsteps could clearly chart their way, and comprehensive index. The book production has a notable quality and would have been advanced still further by a more critical image selection and placement. Overall, it is a commendable and pleasing family history.*

Congratulations to Marian, Brenton and all the other entrants for the TT Reed Family History Book Award.

The books entered for the 2023 TT Reed Family History Book Award are shown below and are now available in the library.

More information on the TT Reed Book Award, including a list of entrants for 2023, can be found at <https://www.genealogysa.org.au/whats-on/family-history-book-awards/introduction>.

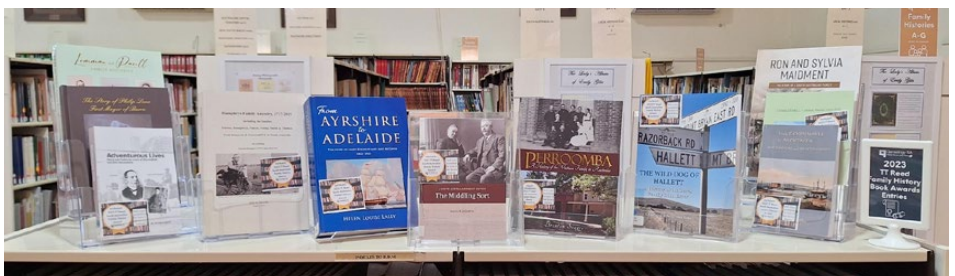
Andrew Peake OAM  
Council member



Brenton Seager's book highly commended by the judges



Brenton Seager presented with his certificate by Andrew Peake OAM, Awards Committee Chair and Genealogy SA founder



## Article of the Year Award

The Article of the Year Award is presented to the author, or authors, of the most outstanding article published in the Society's journal, *The South Australian Genealogist*. First created in 2017, the Award encourages family history writing on a smaller scale than a published book.

All article authors elect to have their articles considered for the Award, and in 2023 there were a record number of 22 articles.

These articles were varied and interesting and covered topics such as family involvement in a Royal visit in 1954, family research journeys, shipwreck survival, heraldry, house history, solving a mistaken identity mystery, a trip to Serbia for ANZAC Day, Huguenot settlement in South Australia, and family friends. There were also articles about the Society's formation and about being a volunteer.

The certificates were presented by Doreen Kosak, Convenor of the Family History Writers Special Interest Group on behalf of the judging panel.



Doreen Kosak, Convenor of the Family History Writers Special Interest Group, announcing the winner of the Article of the Year Award on behalf of the judging panel



The winner of the 2023 Article of the Year Award was Bernadette Thakur for her article *An Abandoned Church Evokes the Spirit of My Dempsey Ancestors* published in the May 2023 Journal.

The judges' comments on Bernadette's article were:

*This is a most evocative article. The author has written an interesting account of a visit to the church in which her family not only attended but also played a part in its construction. It captures the reader's interest from the outset and holds it to the end. It is accompanied by well selected images that add a sense of drama, as well as excellent references. This well-written article actually manages to achieve the promise of the title, to 'evoke the spirit of her ancestors'. Overall, a magnificent story. Well done!*



Bernadette Thakur with her certificate for her winning article in the May 2023 Journal





The article by Robyn Knight, *Oswald Pryor Returns Home to Australia's Little Cornwall*, published in the November 2023 Journal was highly commended by the judges.

The judges' comments were:

*This is a well-written story about an important part of our State's history. It reflects good research and the reader feels informed about the notable Oswald Pryor. The article is descriptive and informative. Well done!*

Congratulations to Bernadette, Robyn and all the other entrants for the Article of the Year Award.

More information on the Article of the Year Award, including a list of entrants for 2023, can be found at <https://www.genealogysa.org.au/whats-on/article-of-the-year-award>.

Kathy Ahwan  
Editor



Robyn Knight with her certificate for her highly commended article in the November 2023 Journal



**Have you hit a brick wall in your family research?**

The Genealogy SA team of experienced researchers may be able to help.

General research can be done either at an hourly rate or a fixed fee.

Not a member? Genealogy SA can still help.

Request help by completing a Research Quote Request for research services at [www.genealogysa.org.au/services/research](http://www.genealogysa.org.au/services/research).

Genealogy SA members\* - \$25.30 per hour Non-members - \$50.60

\* Genealogy SA members who live more than 100 kilometres from our Unley Library, or those unable to attend for disability/mobility reasons are eligible for two hours free research annually.

## Photographic Corner

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### Glass lantern slide collection from the Uniting Church

Lantern slides are positive transparent photographs made on glass and viewed with the aid of a 'magic lantern,' the predecessor of the slide projector. Lantern slide plates were commercially manufactured by sensitising a sheet of glass coated with a silver gelatin emulsion. The plate was then exposed to a negative and processed, resulting in a positive transparent image with exceptional detail and a rich tonal range with some of the slides hand coloured.

The images on the slides ranged from simple illustrations to highly detailed paintings and photographs. Lantern slides were used for home entertainment, public lectures, religious services, travelling shows and were displayed in photographic exhibitions.

The magic lantern was in wide use from the 18th century until the mid-20th century when it was superseded by a compact version that could hold many 35 mm photographic slides: the slide projector.

The Genealogy SA Photographic Collection has a few glass lantern slide collections, one example is from the Uniting Church in South Australia. The Uniting Church paper records were being digitised by Genealogy SA volunteers when it was noticed there  
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were boxes of glass lantern slides in the collection, and agreement was made to digitise them as well.

The pictures include missionary outreach images of locations and cultures in the Pacific and New Guinea, Bible stories, pictures of buildings—inside and out, people and places. Interesting images from the collection (most of them) were selected and then a way had to be developed to digitise them. Alongside this, research was being undertaken on each image to find out as much information as possible to help identify it using various research techniques including Trove, other online resources and using hints from some of the labels or handwritten notes that were with the slides.

The scanning process took some planning and creative thinking. Firstly, each slide was cleaned with ethanol, diluted with water. A special frame had to be invented and made to hold each slide to enable scanning and software was used to correct any cracks or damage in the image.

The following images are a small selection from 767 images added to the library catalogue.



Lantern slide projector (Courtesy State Library of South Australia PRG 1480 17)



Glass lantern slides in negative format.



Finish of the MacRobertson Air Race (also known as the London to Melbourne Air Race), Flemington Racecourse, Melbourne, Victoria, 1934 (P00197-280)



Mackay Aerial Survey plane VH-UGF 'Love Bird' at Uluru [Ayers Rock], Northern Territory, 1930 (P00197-633)



Unidentified children attending Moonta Mines Sunday School Primary Department class (P00197-603)



Unidentified men attending Moonta Mines Sunday School class (P00197-601)





Sunday School picnic, Darke Peak, South Australia, 1935 (P00197-578)



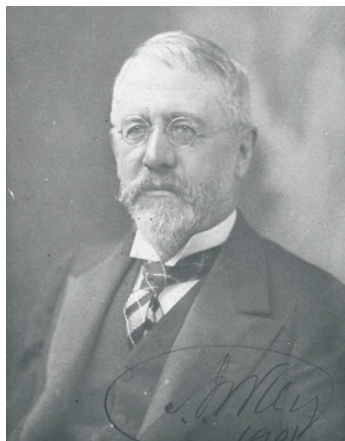
Methodist Minister in jinker drawn by 'Dolly', 1935 (P00197-562)



Court of the Faithful Knight, Woodville, South Australia, group photograph (P00197-138)



Unidentified man and children in horse drawn carriage (P00197-019)



Sir Samuel James Way, 1901 (P00197-098)



Lady Mary Colton [nee Cutting] (P00197-097)



AG Burton's residence, Kilroo, South Australia, 1935 (P00197-556)





Inland Mission patrol units at Adelaide Railway Station  
(P00197-041)



Unidentified women at Methodist Ladies' College, Wayville, South Australia, c. 1910  
(P00197-002)



Bee farm, Blumberg [Birdwood], South Australia (P00197-011)

## Can You Help?

Our Photographic Collection Team have had an unknown school photograph donated to their collection and would like help identifying the school.

If you can help identify the school or emblem on the uniform email the Editor at [saghs.editor@saghs.org.au](mailto:saghs.editor@saghs.org.au).



# Research & Development Committee Update

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by David Ballinger

## Marriage registrations update project

We are assisting the South Australian Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages and his team with the transcription of South Australian marriages between 1938 and 1945.

Progress on this is moving forward but we are still looking for more volunteers for either transcription (data entry) or checking.

Due to restrictions on viewing the original images this work can only be done in the Society Library.

If you feel that you can contribute to this important project please contact me at [saghs.randd@saghs.org.au](mailto:saghs.randd@saghs.org.au).

## External scanning (Outreach program)

We have hit the ground running in 2024 with our scanning program, which will be our biggest yet.

At the time of writing, we will have completed the records at the Blackwood Golf Club and St Saviours Anglican Church, Glen Osmond.

The records from previously scanned sites are now providing an additional input to the work for eventual release into the databases.

We have commenced at the Lameroo and District Historical Society, the Greek Orthodox Community of South Australia, the Penola History Room, and the Theatre Organ Society of Australia (SA Branch).

We will be travelling back to Lameroo twice in the second half of this year and once more to Penola. In the meantime scanning is

continuing at the Uniting Church Historical Society and the Greek Orthodox Community of South Australia. In addition, three teams work from home scanning various records.

About to commence is the Mallee Tourist and Heritage Centre at Pinnaroo, Millicent History Room at Millicent and the Yallum Homestead (at Penola).

In addition, we are scanning old paper editions of newspapers so that missing years of notices can be transcribed and moved into our databases.

We are always in discussions with different organisations regarding the scanning of their records. If you have any ideas of potential scanning sites that you believe may be a valuable addition to our databases please email me at [saghs.randd@saghs.org.au](mailto:saghs.randd@saghs.org.au) with the details so we can investigate it further.

## The future for scanning

We are looking for additional people to be trained to use the scanners to supplement those volunteers already working in the program. Once trained you could be doing scanning in the library or at suburban or country locations.

If you feel that you have an aptitude for this type of work, and would like to pursue it further, please email me at [saghs.randd@saghs.org.au](mailto:saghs.randd@saghs.org.au).

## Wishing to become a part of the database volunteers?

We are always looking for additional volunteers to do either data entry, data checking or data corrections.

This work can be done either at home or in the Genealogy SA Library

If you feel that you can assist in any way, please contact me at [saghs.randd@saghs.org.au](mailto:saghs.randd@saghs.org.au).

## Working Bees

Our working bees have continued to be popular, and resounding success in completing a large amount of backlog work and adding new volunteers to the teams.

Working bees for the next three months:

29/09/2024	General Working Bee
20/10/2024	BDM Working Bee
27/10/2024	Library Open CBSA Working Bee
3/11/2024	BDM Working Bee

If you haven't been a regular at the working bees over the last two years, and feel that you would like to either resume or start, please contact me at [saghs.randd@saghs.org.au](mailto:saghs.randd@saghs.org.au) to register your interest.

Finally, my thanks to all of the Research & Development Committee, Projects Team Leaders, and volunteers for your continued devoted work during this time. Because of your work, we are in a better position. Well done!

## David Ballinger FSAGHS

Chairperson, Research & Development Committee

# Join Us

## Come join our team.

Genealogy SA is always looking for volunteers.

Our volunteers play an important role in pursuing our objective of promoting genealogy, and contributing to our resources of South Australian family history information.

A number of volunteer roles are available in:

- data checking
- projects
- research
- events, and
- the library.

If you are interested, visit our website

[www.genealogysa.org.au](http://www.genealogysa.org.au)

and register online.

## News from the Special Interest Groups

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### DNA in Family History Group

Recent group meetings have been Zoom meetings, and several members in need of help with the interpretation of their DNA results have continued activities with one-on-one, in-person meetings with Genealogy SA members.

Recent Zoom meetings were detailed accounts of solving family mysteries using DNA and tools such as WATO (What are the odds). These meetings are popular as they give us all new approaches and ideas to use with DNA. These skills and associated understanding sometimes take a while to get together.

We also had a meeting on GEDmatch and a DNA Q & A. Future meeting topics include Y-DNA (male lines, usually associated with surnames), ethnicity (a frequent topic for discussion due to the various results provided by the different companies), mtDNA (female line DNA), and Ancestry DNA. Both GEDmatch and Ancestry have had, or are having, some changes to the services they provide.

DNA interaction is being supported by the Marketing and Promotions Committee of Council, with public DNA-oriented meetings at the State Library and other evening events, so watch for publicity.

Convenor: Richard Merry  
[saghs.dna@saghs.org.au](mailto:saghs.dna@saghs.org.au)

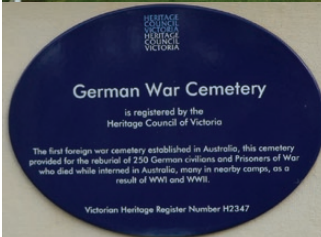
### Germanic and Continental European Group

The winter months in Adelaide have been cold making the use of Zoom for our meetings very attractive and inclusive for our members around Australia. We will have a meeting on 11 December 2024 in the Library to celebrate Christmas and the end of 2024.

In April Sharon BURNELL, a member of the Yorke Peninsula Family History Group, a branch of Genealogy SA, spoke to our group. Sharon presented her great-great-great-grandfather, Dr Richard Wilhelm SCHMIDT. He was born in Warmbrunn, Silesia in 1821. He graduated as a medical doctor from the Berlin University. He migrated to South Australia and established a medical practice in Willunga. In 1852 he travelled overland with his wife Amelia (née KAPITSKY) to Victoria, where he worked as a doctor and occasional miner on the Mt Alexander goldfields. They had five children, but the twins died soon after birth. Life for all was very hard and money short. He died in 1868 and was buried in an unmarked grave in Clunes, Victoria; his wife died a year later. Sharon's research on Dr SCHMIDT's life and work on the goldfields, along with that of other Continental European doctors, was very illuminating of the times and gave the members a greater appreciation of Victorian life in the 1850s.

The May meeting enjoyed member Kaye ELLEN sharing her knowledge and visit to the Tatura Museum and Internment Camp in Victoria. Kaye's grandfather of German origin had been interned at Loveday Internment Camp in South Australia and later transferred to Tatura Internment Camp during World War II.

Kaye described her visit to the Tatura Museum and Tatura German Cemetery which commemorates the German internees. A film, *They were treated with respect*, from the Tatura Museum was shown portraying the history of internment camps in Australia and the cemetery. This film can be viewed by arrangement.



Tatura German Cemetery (Images courtesy of Kaye Ellen)

Our monthly meetings are varied and range from the history and genealogy of 1800s early German immigrants to occasional Dutch, Polish, Greek and Italian stories through to the more recent history of post-World War II immigrants.

At the June meeting Western Australian member Ian SIMON presented an interesting story from his daughter-in-law's family. It was a fascinating trail of criminal activity, name changing and migration from Wales, Sweden, Bohemia, Poland and the Russian Empire. His thorough research and clear presentation made it very useful to our group.

We invite all members to join us and share the stories from their Continental European family members.

Co-Convenors: Aileen Preiss & Kingsley Neumann [saghs.gce@saghs.org.au](mailto:saghs.gce@saghs.org.au).

## Scotland Group

The topic for our June meeting was 'Stories of Misfortune, Misadventure and Tragedy from my Family Research'. I presented five stories to the group that I had uncovered through my research about tragic and sad events suffered by family members in years gone by. While these stories can be sad and potentially distressing, they do provide further insight into the lives that people have led and the hardships endured.

The one specifically relevant to Scottish research involved the death of a farmer's son named Thomas MACFARLANE. I found from his death registration document that the cause of death was given as 'Accidental discharge of fire arms carried by deceased. Death instantaneous.' and that it had occurred on the land that was farmed by the family.

There is no system of Coroner's Inquests in Scotland unlike England, Wales and Northern Ireland (and South Australia). Instead, in cases of accidental, unexpected, unexplained, sudden or suspicious deaths an investigation is carried out for the Procurator Fiscal who receives a full report into the death. The findings are then noted in the Register of Corrected Entries which is linked to the related entry in the Statutory Register of Deaths. The investigation in Thomas's case concluded that he was 'Accidentally shot by the discharge of a fowling piece loaded with gun powder and small shot'.

I also found a newspaper article on the British Newspaper Archive site (*The Ayr Advertiser*, Thursday 16 August 1880, p. 4) regarding the death which provided further information. The article reported that Thomas 'was mortally shot by the trigger of his gun catching the thorns of a hedge through which he was scrambling.' The



editor stated that carrying a loaded gun through a hedge was a dangerous practice which had caused many deaths and suggested safer alternative methods.

The other cases in my presentation occurred here in South Australia and included falling from, and being run over by, a dray while intoxicated; a suicide by poisoning; an outbreak of smallpox at Bordertown; a multiple drowning in the Port River; and a sudden death from an infectious disease.

As researchers we know the importance of viewing the original or primary document to note the details which may not have been included in an index. The cause of death from the death registration document will indicate if there may be a story to be found through further research.

These unfortunate events are often covered in newspaper publications with Coroner's Inquests and court proceedings reported in detail. Newspapers, therefore, are an invaluable resource. Trove is the site for Australian papers and the British Newspaper Archive for UK papers. The British Newspaper Archive is a subscription site which is a joint venture between the British Library and FindmyPast. It can be accessed from our SAGHS Library computers and through FindmyPast.

Convenor: Marcus Thornton  
[saghs.scotland@saghs.org.au](mailto:saghs.scotland@saghs.org.au)



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## New Members & Their Research Interests

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If you wish to contact any members listed below, please email the Society at [saghs.members@saghs.org.au](mailto:saghs.members@saghs.org.au) with your contact details.

ATKINSON, Miss Tash (**ATKINSON, CHAMBERS, FOSTER, HAINES, HART, HUTCHINS, LEE, O'SHANNESSY/O'SHAUGHNESSY, RICHES**)

BAKER, Mrs Pamela (**BAKER**)

BAUNTON, Ms Chris (**BOULDEN, BROWN, COOKE, HILL, PARKER, PEDLER, VIVIAN**)

BELLMAN, Mrs Jen (**PADGHAM, WARD**)

BLANDFORD, Mrs Pam (**JONES, LOVELL**)

BODGER, Mrs Erica (**WHITMARSH**)

BOGLIS, Ms Carol (**MARTIN**)

BOYD, Mrs Judi (**EADE, HARRIS, LLOYD**)

BROADHURST, Ms Mary (**ARNOLD, BROADHURST, HART, SLATTERY**)

CARLSON, Mrs Cheryl (**HITCHCOCK, PINKNEY, ZOBEL**)

COLEMAN, Ms Hellen (**BRYANT**)

COLLINS, Mrs Jennifer (**COLLINS**)

CORKER, Mrs Leanne (**CHAMBERS, GOODS, GOODES, HANNAFORD, JAMES, SMITH**)

COUSENS, Mrs Sharon (**MANTON**)

DEWICK, Mrs Leonie (**DAWE, MATTHEWS, MOYLE, PENALUNA, ROBERTSON, SHADWELL, THOMAS**)

EKERS, Mr Philip (**BISHOP, EKERS**)

FOSTER, Mrs Libby (**GLIDDON, HARRIS, RITSON, TOLLEY**)

GOLDING, Mr Aaron (**BARRETT, BOLAND, CHAPLIN, GOLDING**)

GRANT, Mrs Aria (**EISEN, MENZ**)

GREENAWAY, Ms Angela (**COLLINS, JOHNSON/JOHANSSON**)

JOHNSON, Mrs Courtney (**ALLEGAME, JOHNSON, KITTEL, O'LOUGHLIN, SQUIRE, WEST**)

KELLY, Mrs Jenny (**CLARKE, LANGBEIN, KELLY, SHAW**)

KIRKPATRICK, Mrs Erin (**WALKER**)

KOCH, Ms Karin (**HEINE, KOCH, SONTAG, ZERK**)

LARTER-CONWAY, Mrs Diane (**EAGLE, HUNT, SAINT, TRUSSELL**)

LIVERMORE, Mrs Erica (**STAKER**)

LOTHIAN, Miss Ails (**CREAM, LOTHIAN, MUIR, RHODES, SAUNDERS, SMITH, TERRY**)

MCINTOSH, Mrs May (**EDWARDS, WILLIAMS**)

MCKINNON, Ms Libby (**FARRELL, O'GRADY**)

MEE, Mrs Jenny (**LOCK, WHITFORD**)

MURFITT, Mr Chris (**BURTT, COAD, CLARKE, MURFITT**)

NIELSEN, Mrs Cheryl (**BAKER, BOULD, BRYANT, DABOVICH, GELLERT, PENDLEBURY, POWER, RIDGWAY**)

O'NEILL, Mrs Margaret (**FITZGERALD, O'NEILL**)

PEARCE, Mrs Maz (**RICHTER**)

PEPPER, Mrs Dianne (**CHIGWIDDEN, MATTERS, MIELL, PEPPER, PHILLIPS, SLATTERY**)

PERKS, Dr Clayton (**PERKS**)

PRINGLE, Ms Annie (**BRADEY, FOSTER, FULLER, PARSONS, SMITH, WESCOMBE, WHITTAKER**)

ROBINSON, Mrs Tasha (**GOLDFINCH, IRELAND, JENKINSON, MCKENZIE, MOIR, ROBERTS, ROBINSON, STEPHENS, WRIGHT**)

SMITH, Mrs Sharon (**SCHNAARS**)

TODD, Mrs Barbara (**SWAN**)

WALKER, Ms Dianne (**HUGHES, LEWIS, SMARTS**)

WILLIAMS, Mrs Judy (**KALMS**)

WOOLCOCK, Mrs Judy (**CHESTER, HARRIS**)

# What's On

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Listed below are upcoming events held by Genealogy SA. These events are current at the time of printing. Visit [www.genealogysa.org.au/whats-on/events-calendar](http://www.genealogysa.org.au/whats-on/events-calendar) for updates.

## AUGUST 2024

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- 1 **England Group**
  - 4 **Scotland Group**
  - 6 **Advanced DNA Painter Workshop:** 6:00pm to 9:00pm, Genealogy SA Library
  - 7 **Genealogy Computer Users Group**
  - 7 **Wednesdays @ 1:** Family History Research at State Records of South Australia, 1:00pm to 2:00pm, Genealogy SA Library
- 

- 12 **Irish Group**
  - 13 **Family Historian Software Users Group**
  - 14 **Germanic & Continental European Group:** Gottfried Lubasch, Dorothea Greiser, their daughters, the 'Zebra', the farm & how their home became an archive, 7:30pm, via Zoom
- 

- 15 **Family History Writers Group**
  - 18 **Working Bee – General:** 10:00am to 3:30pm, Genealogy SA Library
  - 20 **Germanic & Continental European Group:** Group Outing to the Reg Butler Archives, Hahndorf
- 

- 20 **Library Tour:** 7:00pm, Genealogy SA
  - 21 **DNA in Family History Group:** DNA Ethnicity, 7:30pm, via Zoom
  - 27 **Library Tour:** 11:00am, Genealogy SA
- 

## SEPTEMBER 2024

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- 4 **Genealogy Computer Users Group**
  - 5 **England Group:** Personal names across time, 7:30pm, via Zoom
  - 9 **Irish Group**
  - 10 **Family Historian Software Users Group**
  - 11 **Germanic & Continental European Group:** Johann August Dommenz and Family: immigration from Prussia to South Australia, 7:30pm, via Zoom
- 

- 18 **DNA in Family History Group:** mtDNA – female line DNA, 7:30pm, via Zoom
  - 19 **Family History Writers Group:** Winner of the 2022 TT Reed Book Award, Anne Ford, speaks about her writing journey, 7:00pm, via Zoom
- 

- 24 **Library Tour:** 11:00am, Genealogy SA
  - 29 **Working Bee – General:** 10:00am to 3:30pm, Genealogy SA Library
- 

## OCTOBER 2024

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- 2 **Genealogy Computer Users Group**
  - 3 **England Group**
  - 6 **Scotland Group**
  - 8 **Family Historian Software Users Group**
  - 9 **Germanic & Continental European Group:** My maternal Bohemian ancestral line, 7:30pm, via Zoom
- 

- 13 **Open Day:** Genealogy SA Library
  - 14 **Irish Group**
  - 15 **Library Tour:** 7:00pm, Genealogy SA
  - 16 **DNA in Family History Group:** DNA Ethnicity, 7:30pm, via Zoom
  - 17 **Family History Writers Group:** The finished product, your book, no matter the subject, matters: 7:00pm, via Zoom
- 

- 20 **Working Bee – Births, Deaths and Marriages:** 10:00am to 3:30pm, Genealogy SA Library
  - 23 **SA Genealogy & Heraldry Society Annual General Meeting:** 7:00pm for 7:30pm start, Genealogy SA Library
  - 27 **Working Bee – CBSA:** 10:00am to 3:30pm, Genealogy SA Library
  - 29 **Library Tour:** 11:00am, Genealogy SA
-

## NOVEMBER 2024

**3 Working Bee – General:** 10:00am to 3:30pm, Genealogy SA Library

**6 Genealogy Computer Users Group**

**7 England Group**

**11 Irish Group**

**12 Family Historian Software Users Group**

**13 Germanic & Continental European Group:**  
Researching old Australian German Cemeteries, 7:30pm, via Zoom

**16 DNA in Family History Group**

**17 Getting Started with your Family History:** Genealogy SA Library

**21 Family History Writers Group**

**26 Library Tour:** 11:00am, Genealogy SA

### Special Interest Groups

Special Interest Groups meet regularly each month online through Zoom. For more information on joining a Zoom meeting please contact the Genealogy SA office on (08) 8272 4222, [saghs.admin@saghs.org.au](mailto:saghs.admin@saghs.org.au) or visit our online Events Calendar.

### Regular Meeting Dates

**Genealogy Computer Users Group:**

1st Wednesday of every month  
(not December and January)

**England Group:**

1st Thursday of every month (not January)

**Irish Group:**

2nd Monday of every month (not January)

**Family Historian Software Users Group:**

2nd Tuesday of every month (not January)

**Germanic & Continental European Group:**

2nd Wednesday of every month  
(not January)

**DNA in Family History Group:**

3rd Wednesday of every month (not January)

**Family History Writers Group:**

3rd Thursday of every month (not January)

**Scotland Group:** 1st Sunday of every  
2nd month (not January)



## Library Open Hours

**Phone** 08 8272 4222

**Address** 201 Unley Road, Unley

[www.genealogysa.org.au](http://www.genealogysa.org.au)

**Tuesday** 10:00 am - 9:00 pm

**Wednesday** 10:00 am - 4:30 pm

**Thursday** 10:00 am - 4:30 pm

**Saturday** 10:00 am - 4:30 pm

**Sunday\*** 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm

### & selected Public Holidays

\*2nd & 4th Sunday of the month

## Public Holiday Opening Hours 2024

**The Genealogy SA Library**

**will be OPEN from**

**1:00 pm to 4:30 pm on**

**Labour Day – 7 October 2024**

# New Books in the Library

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These items are now available in the Genealogy SA Library. The second copies are available for loan. To find these items and more you can search our library catalogue at [www.genealogysa.org.au/resources/society-library/about-the-library](http://www.genealogysa.org.au/resources/society-library/about-the-library).

## Biographies

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*Two Different Worlds* by Jan Springett REF/SPR/A/BIOG

*There is a Light at the End of the Tunnel* by Airlie Jane Kirkham REF/KIR/A/BIOG

*Ever Yours, C.H. Spence: Catherine Helen Spence's An Autobiography (1825-1910), Diary (1894) and Some Correspondence* edited by Susan Magarey with Barbara Wall, Mary Lyons and Maryan Beams REF/SPE/A/BIOG

*Lift to the Wind: A Life of Elizabeth Stevenson, 1937-2013* by Charles Stevenson REF/STE/A/BIOG

*Search for Andrew MacCormac – Portrait Painter* by Margaret Gethin REF/MAC/A/BIOG

*The Trials of Billy Freeman: From a Child Convict in Wiltshire to Pioneering Farmer in a New Australian Province* by Alan F Atkinson REF/FRE/A/BIOG

*Captain William Scoresby 1760-1829: Whitby's Most Successful Whaler* by C Preston REF/SCO/G/BIOG

*The Mineral Detective: The Biography of a Geologist* by Judy Fander REF/FAN/A/BIOG

*No Common Man: A Biography of J Raymond Wilton* by Charles Stevenson REF/WIL/A/BIOG

## Family Histories

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*Angas Family of Lindsay Park and Collingrove* by Kingsley Ireland FH Cabinet - A

*Epiphany: My Paternal Awege Family Name in Gross Schmoellem, Prussia. Lobethal, Mannum & Petersburg in South Australia: Their Lives and Times 1856-1958: A Family Research Paper* by Anthony Awege FH/AWE

*Mary Bridget Reardon: This is Her Story* by Michael J Roache FH/REA

*Solomon and Associated Family Member With Military Service* by Philip J Powell FH/SOL

*Descendants of John and Charlotte Gilbert in Australia 1808-2010. First Child John Gilbert 1831-1888* by Jean and Kevin Gilbert FH/GIL

*The Descendants of James Doneley Arrived in N.S.W. 1798, William Tyson Arrived in N.S.W. 1809, Dennis Sheil Arrived in N.S.W. 1812* by D, T & S Committee FH In Storage - D

*Out of the Barossa: Three Schultz Sisters, Two Seaman Brothers and a Pollard Son: Family History, 1828 to 2020* by Andrew Tamassy FH/SEA

## Indexes

---

*SA Newspaper Births 1947: Revised and Updated February 2024* compiled by Neville Bottger REF/BIR/SA/IND



## Local Histories

---

***Whispers from Prospect's Past: The People Living in Prospect, South Australia in 1841 and What Happened to Them***

by Joan Wilcox and Gill Wilcox LH/PROSPECT 2 copies

---

***The Adelaide Hills: A History*** by Neville Collins

LH/ADELAIDE HILLS 2nd copy

---

***Burnside, South Australia, 1856-1936***

LH/BURNSIDE  
[Rare Books Cabinet]

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***Pirie Street Methodist Church, Adelaide: Centenary Celebrations [1850]-1951*** by Pirie Street Methodist Church (Adelaide, SA)

LH/PIR/ADE  
[pamphlet box]

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***Barossa Historic Bulletin, Vol. 1, No. 4 (1974)***

by Barossa Valley Archives and Historical Trust

LH/BAROSSA VALLEY  
[pamphlet box]

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***Modbury High School 50th Anniversary: A Pictorial History 1965-2015***

by Jonathan Hartstone and Howard Macrae

LH/MODBURY

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***Westbourne Park Primary School: The First 75 Years*** by Sue Scheiffers

LH/  
WESTBOURNE PARK 2nd copy

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***The Bight*** by Colin Thiele

LH/THE BIGHT 2nd copy

---

***Concordia 100 Years, Murtoa-Adelaide: A History of Concordia College, Adelaide*** by Elmore Leske

LH/HIGHGATE 2nd copy

---

***Land Cruises to Lameroo: Centenary Celebrations 7th October to 11th October [1936]***

LH/LAMEROO  
[Rare Books Cabinet]

---

***Parrakie: A Brief History, 1906-1986*** by Lyn Beelitz

LH/PARRAKIE

---

***Progress With Purpose: Lameroo 1981-2006***

by Lameroo Centenary Book Committee

LH/LAMEROO

---

***Scenic Drives of the Mount Barker District***

by District Council of Mount Barker

LH/MOUNT BARKER  
[pamphlet box]

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***Sturt: The Unley Story*** by John Lysikatos

LH/UNLEY

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## Reference Military

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***The Thirty-Seventh: 'History of the Thirty-Seventh Battalion A.I.F.'***

by NG McNicol

REF/MCN/WWI

---

***From Here They Marched: Mitcham Camp and the Training of AIF Volunteers in South Australia*** by Gavin Scrimgeour

REF/SCR/WWI

---

***Physiotherapists in War: The Story of South Australian Physiotherapists During World Wars I and II, Japan-Korea and Vietnam*** by Honor C Wilson

REF/WIL/WAR

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***AIF Unit Histories of the Great War of 1914-1918*** by Ron Austin

REF/AUS/G/WWI 2nd copy

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## Reference Convict

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***Masters & Convicts: Murramarang & Ulladulla*** by Cathy Dunn

REF/DUN/CVT

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***Convict Records of Norfolk Island 1788-1814*** by Cathy Dunn

REF/DUN/CVT

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## Reference Indigenous

---

***Linden Girl: A Story of Outlawed Lives*** by Pamela Rajkowski

REF/RAJ/INDIG

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***Aboriginal Bark Canoes of the Murray Valley*** by Robert Edwards

REF/EDW/INDIG

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## Reference General

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*The Symbolism of the Cathedrals* by Didier Carrie and Brigitte Ludwig REF/CAR/G

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## Reference Shipping

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*Investigator Strait: Maritime Heritage Trail* by Terry Arnott REF/HER/SHIP

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## Reference Australia

---

*Myer: Celebrating 100 Years of Fashion* by Stella M Barber REF/BAR/A

---

*200: The Westpac Story* by Westpac Banking Corporation REF/WES/A

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### *Bicentenary '88: Newsletter of the Australian Bicentennial Authority*

by Australian Bicentennial Authority

IN STORAGE - MAGAZINE

Also available in this bound volume: Bicentennial bulletin, South Australia: newsletter of the South Australian Council of the Australian Bicentennial Authority Jubilee; 150 news bulletin (South Australia); Tall Ships, Australia 1988: The Tall Ships Are Coming to Australia Droving '88

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*From Darkness to Light: Surviving the Holocaust* by Naomi Rosh White REF/WHI/A

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### *Old Gold and Mining Towns of Australia*

by John Darbyshire (paintings) and CE Sayers (text)

REF/DAR/A

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### *Finding Ancestors in Church Records: A Brief Guide to Resources*

by Shauna Hicks

REF/HIC/A 2nd copy

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*The Bold Riders: Behind Australia's Corporate Collapses* by Trevor Sykes REF/SKY/A

---

*Some Came Early, Some Came Late* by Nancy Phelan REF/PHE/A

---

*Aussie-Osities* by Vane Lindesay

REF/LIN/A

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### *Australia in Maps: Great Maps in Australia's History from the*

*National Library's Collection* by Maura O'Connor

REF/OCO/A 2nd copy

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## Reference South Australia

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### *A History of Leopold Lodge No. 31 S.A.C. 1884-1984: One Hundred Years of*

*Freemasonry in South Australia* by Angus Thompson

REF/THO/A/SA 2nd copy

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### *A Selection of Material from the Extensive Research Notes Gathered for*

*a Proposed History of the Press in South Australia* by Leonard Stanley

*Marquis* prepared for publication by Ronald Parsons

REF/MAR/A/SA 2nd copy

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*Gall's South Australian Scenes* by Ernest Gall

REF/GAL/SA  
[Rare Books Cabinet]

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*In and About Adelaide* by John C Goodchild

REF/GOO/SA

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### *Secrets of Rose Park, Toorak Gardens and Dulwich ... and Districts Beyond:*

*Book 2* by Polly Dundon-Isaac

REF/DUN/SA

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### *Surrounded by Generations of Cooks Past: Honouring Those Who Nurtured*

*and Developed the Families and Community of Forest Range and Lenswood*

by Jo Shaw

REF/FOR/SA

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*Register Personal Notices* by Reg Butler and Alan Phillips

REF/BUT/A/SA 2nd copy

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*Lady's Album of Emily Elizabeth Giles* by Emily Elizabeth Giles

REF/GL/SA

---

*The Producers: A Taste of South Australia* by Kate Spain

REF/SPA/SA

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*Late Picking: Vintage Jubilee 150* edited by Stella Guthrie

REF/GUT/A/SA 2nd copy

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## Reference New South Wales

<i>Harmony Home</i> by Jan Ross	REF/ROS/NSW	
<i>Journey of Discovery to Port Phillip, New South Wales by Messrs. W.H. Hovell, and Hamilton Hume in 1824 and 1825</i> by William Hovell and Hamilton Hume	REF/HOV/NSW	
<i>Built on Silver: A History of Broken Hill South</i> by Brian Carroll	REF/CAR/A/NSW	2nd copy
<i>From That Day to This</i> by Myrtle Rose White	REF/WHI/NSW	

## Reference Victoria

<i>New Crossing Place: The Story of Seymour and Its Shire</i> by HG Martindale; extended to 1982 by Niall Brennan	REF/MAR/VIC	
<i>Hume and Hovell Expedition Termination</i> by Lance Pritchard	REF/PRI/VIC	

## Reference Tasmania

<i>Bush Tram-Ways and Private Railways of Tasmania: c1850 to c1960</i> by JG Branagan	REF/BRA/TAS	
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## Reference Germany

<i>A History of Germany and Guide to Tracing Immigrants from Germany</i> by James McClelland	REF/MCG/G/GER	2nd copy
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## Reference Britain

<i>Wills and Where to Find Them</i> by JSW Gibson	REF/GIB/G/BRI	2nd copy
<i>Illegitimacy (A McLaughlin Guide) (6th Revised Edition)</i> by Eve McLaughlin	REF/MCL/BRI	
<i>Quarter Sessions: Your Ancestor &amp; the Law (A McLaughlin Guide)</i> by Eve McLaughlin	REF/MCL/G/BRI	
<i>The Dictionary of National Biography, 1922-1930: Founded in 1882 by George Smith</i> edited by JRH Weaver	In Storage	

## Reference England

<i>Macclesfield Memories: An Old Picture Postcard Album</i> by Gordon Campbell	REF/CAM/ENG/LAN	
<i>Prestbury</i> by Cheshire County Council, Archives and Local Studies Service	REF/CHE/G/ENG/CHS	
<i>Pictures from the Past</i> by John Seymour	REF/SEY/ENG	
<i>The York Story: A Thousand Years of the City's History</i> by York Castle Museum	REF/YOR/G/ENG/YKS	2nd copy
<i>A Guide to Cornish Place-Names with a List of Words Contained in Them</i> by R Morton Nance	REF/NAN/ENG/CON	
<i>Trans-Pennine Heritage: Hills, People and Transport</i> by Keith Parry	REF/PAR/ENG/YKS	
<i>The Estates of Crowland Abbey: A Study in Manorial Organisation</i> by Frances M Page	REF/PAG/ENG/LIN	
<i>The Registers of St James Church Kirk 1813-1851</i> by the Lancashire Parish Register Society	REF/LAN/G/ENG/LAN	
<i>Wills at Salisbury: 1464-1858 (Volume 1, A-K)</i> by Cliff Webb	REF/WEB/G/ENG/WIL	2nd copy

<b><i>A Handbook of Cornish Names compiled</i></b> by G Pawley White	REF/WHI/ENG/CON 2nd copy
<b><i>These Unhappy Warres: The Civil War and Pontefract: A 350th Anniversary Evaluation</i></b> by JMV Quinn	REF/QUI/ENG/YKS
<b><i>The South-East: Down and Weald: Kent, Surrey and Sussex</i></b> by John Talbot White	REF/WHI/ENG/KEN
<b><i>Domesday Book. 23, Warwickshire text and translation</i></b> edited by John Morris	REF/MOR/ENG/WAR
<b><i>Tracing Your Ancestors from 1066 to 1837</i></b> by Jonathan Oates	REF/OAT/G/ENG 2nd copy
<b><i>Discover English Parish Registers</i></b> by Paul Milner	REF/MIL/G/ENG 2nd copy
<b><i>Prestbury and Its Ancient Church</i></b> by St Peter's Church (Prestbury, England)	REF/STP/ENG/CHS
<b><i>Baptist Church Records Middleton Cheney, Northamptonshire: Pt 1 History of the Church, Pt 2 List of Church Members 1781-1908, Pt 3 Marriage List 1839-1946</i></b> by Nancy Long	REF/LON/ENG/NTH

## Reference Ireland

<b><i>How to Trace Your Irish Ancestors: An Essential Guide to Researching and Documenting the Family Histories of Ireland's People (3rd edition)</i></b> by Ian Maxwell	REF/MAX/IRL
<b><i>Researching Scots-Irish Ancestors: The Essential Genealogical Guide to Early Modern Ulster 1600-1800</i></b> by William J Roulston	REF/ROU/G/IRL
<b><i>A Guide to Tracing Your Leitrim Ancestors</i></b> by Tom Coughlan	REF/COG/IRL
<b><i>The Other Clare Vol. 47 (2023)</i></b> by Shannon Archaeological and Historical Society	REF/OTH/IRL

## Donations and Gifts

Monetary donations or gifts to the Society are always welcome.

Your donation will contribute to sustaining the Society for future generations of South Australian family history researchers. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

If you wish to donate family history resource material please contact the Librarian first.

Note that the Society cannot accept every item offered into its collection. The Society needs to address issues such as existing collection holdings, available storage space, available staff resources and relevance to collection development.

This means that after careful assessment we may sometimes decline offers of donation.

Thank you for thinking of us.



# Service Fees & Charges

*The fees listed below reflect the new fees and charges effective from 1 September 2024.*

*Login to the website to renew your membership through our safe online payment gateway.*

## Annual Subscriptions

### Ordinary Membership:

Australian resident	\$121.00
Overseas resident	\$110.00

### Associate Membership:

Australian resident	\$60.50
Overseas resident	\$55.00

An Associate Member is an immediate relative or partner living at the same address as an Ordinary Member.

## Joining Fees

### Ordinary Membership:

Australian resident	\$22.00
Overseas resident	\$20.00

### Associate Membership:

Australian resident	\$11.00
Overseas resident	\$10.00

## Other Fees

### Journal:

Journal only, per annum	\$46.00*
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*\*Within Australia. Postage calculated for Overseas customers.*

### Library visitors fees:

(includes use of equipment) Per day or part thereof	\$20.00
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Members of other societies affiliated with AFFHO, and who reside outside of South Australia, are admitted at no charge (*proof of membership required*).

## Photocopies and Prints:

A4 \$0.20 A3 \$0.50	
Library overdue fines per week	\$1.00

## Research services:

Members/hour	\$25.30
Non-members/hour	\$50.60

## SA Look-ups:

Members	\$13.20 each
Non-members	\$26.40 each

## Genealogy SA Transcription Service:

Transcriptions of certificates of SA Births (1842–1928), Deaths (1842–1989) and Marriages (1842–February 1949) held on microfiche and computer in the Society Library can be provided to members and non-members on payment of the respective fees.

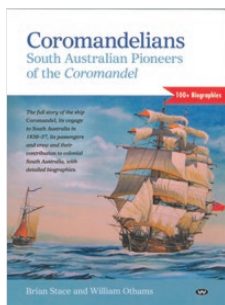
Members	\$13.20 each
Non-members	\$26.40 each

The indexes of the records can be found on our website under Online Database Search and transcriptions can be individually ordered and paid for through our website: [www.genealogysa.org.au/services/research](http://www.genealogysa.org.au/services/research)



# Bookshop

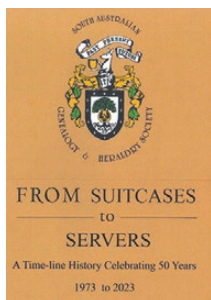
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## ***Coromandelians: South Australian Pioneers of the Coromandel*** by Brian Stace and William Othams

The full story of the ship *Coromandel*, its voyage to South Australia in 1836–1837, its passengers and crew and their contribution to colonial South Australia, with detailed biographies.

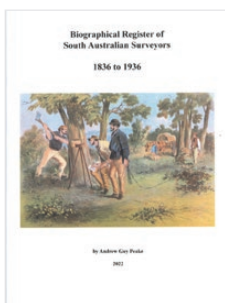
**\$66.00** (Members: \$60.50)



## ***From Suitcases to Servers, A Timeline History Celebrating 50 Years 1973 to 2023***

Marking the history and growth of the South Australian Genealogy & Heraldry Society – from our early days, transporting our records in suitcases and cartons, to our modern organisation.

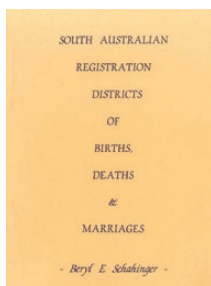
**\$12.00** (including postage)



## ***Biographical Register of South Australian Surveyors 1836 to 1936*** by Andrew Guy Peake

The Biographical Register attempts to provide some basic information on birth and death, and the surveying achievements of over 460 surveyors who operated in South Australia.

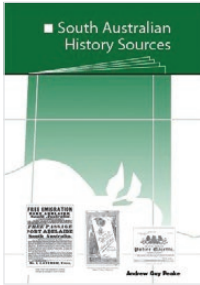
**\$30.00** (Members: \$25.00)



## ***South Australian Registration Districts of Births, Deaths & Marriages*** by Beryl E Schahinger

This is a history of South Australia's registration districts and the records available, together with a wealth of practical suggestions for genealogists and family historians accessing South Australian vital records.

**\$30.00** (Members: \$25.00)

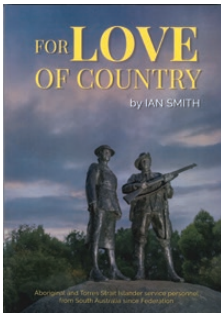


### ***South Australian History Sources***

by Andrew Guy Peake

An essential reference guide for local and family historians researching in South Australia. This book is a revision of the 1977 edition, providing an update of South Australian history sources. The author notes the changes in record repositories, the increasing access through the internet, and the impact of privacy concerns on access to records and their content.

**\$50.00** (Members: \$45.00)



### ***For Love of Country***

by Ian Smith

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander service personnel from South Australia since Federation. This book chronicles the military service to Australia rendered by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander service personnel who have a verifiable link to South Australia. This book animates the lives and service of 422 men and women as a factual record of their service, their life and times before, during and after their service.

**\$65.00** (Members: \$60.00)

All prices for goods and services quoted are in Australian dollars and inclusive of 10% GST. Please add 20% to listed prices to cover packaging and postage.

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# Notice to Contributors & Advertisers

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## Contributors

The Editor welcomes articles, photographs, letters, news and items of interest on any family and local history topics.

Electronic submissions only.

**Email:** [saghs.editor@saghs.org.au](mailto:saghs.editor@saghs.org.au)

Submissions should be less than 3,000 words.

A Style Manual for submissions to *The South Australian Genealogist* is available at [www.genealogysa.org.au/resources/handouts](http://www.genealogysa.org.au/resources/handouts). For content and formatting not covered in this Style Manual, the *Style Manual for Authors, Editors and Printers* (Digital Edition) will be used, see [www.stylemanual.gov.au/](http://www.stylemanual.gov.au/).

Spelling follows the *Macquarie Dictionary* and *Fowler's Modern English Usage* is used to determine the grammatical structure of text.

In submitting an article for publication the author(s) confirms that the article is their original work, and, where necessary, all permissions have been secured to publish illustrations, photographs and any other material incorporated into the article.

The Editor reserves the right without exception to edit articles.

Items accepted for publication in the Journal may also be added to the Genealogy SA website.

## Photographs & Graphic Images

Please send photographs or images as attachments via email. Save image files at maximum quality (e.g. 300 dpi TIFF or JPEG file format) aiming to make each image at least 1MB. If you embed photographs or images into a document,

please also send images as individual files.

Please provide a caption for each photograph or image that you submit. Clearly indicate the source of each photograph or image and that you have permission for their use.

The Editor reserves the right to include or omit, edit, and place photographs and images within the context of the text.

## For Advertisers

Quarter page (128 x 43 mm)	\$33
Half page (128 x 90 mm)	\$66
Full page (128 x 185 mm)	\$132

Please note that copy is required by the first day of the month before the publication month.

**Space must be booked two weeks before the copy deadline.** Payment is required at the time of booking; prices quoted include GST.

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The views expressed in the articles and other material in this Journal do not necessarily reflect the views of the Society, its members, the Editor or the publisher (all and any of whom are referred to as 'the Society').

The Society is not responsible for the accuracy, adequacy, currency, suitability, legality, reliability, usefulness, completeness, relevance, correctness or otherwise of the statements made or the opinions expressed by the authors of the articles or of the information contained in this Journal, or for any verbal or written advice or information provided by or on behalf of the Society, whether provided in connection with an article or otherwise. The Society cannot vouch for the accuracy of offers of services or products appearing in this Journal, or be responsible for the consequences or outcomes of any use of or contract that may be entered into with any advertiser.

# About the Society

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## MEMBERS

Members have free access to the Society's library and, subject to exceptions, may borrow material from the library for four weeks.

Members receive a copy of this quarterly journal free of charge, a monthly email newsletter and a discount on certain publications and seminars conducted by the Society.

Use of microform readers and computers in the Library is free of charge. Applications for membership are welcome from all those with an interest in genealogy and family history. New members are required to pay a joining fee with their first subscription. Membership renewals are due annually from the date of joining.

## LIBRARY

The Library is located at 201 Unley Road, Unley SA 5061. It holds an extensive book and non-book collection of resources for research. Non-members can access the library for a fee.

Accessible parking and wheelchair access is available at the rear of the building.

Website: [www.genealogysa.org.au](http://www.genealogysa.org.au)

## RESEARCH SERVICE

Genealogy SA's prompt and efficient research service is available to family researchers and can access material outside of the Society's collection. While general telephone enquiries are welcomed, research requests must be in writing, stating full details of what is known and what is sought. Each request will be advised of the fee due for the time required. The Society web page has a research request form. Research on the sources used for entries in the Biographical Index of South Australians is available to all enquirers on payment of a prescribed fee.

## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Special Interest Groups cater for members with specific research interests. See What's On for details of meetings.

### COMPUTER USERS GROUP

[saghs.computer@saghs.org.au](mailto:saghs.computer@saghs.org.au)

### DNA IN FAMILY HISTORY GROUP

[saghs.dna@saghs.org.au](mailto:saghs.dna@saghs.org.au)

### ENGLAND GROUP

[saghs.england@saghs.org.au](mailto:saghs.england@saghs.org.au)

### FAMILY HISTORY WRITERS GROUP

[saghs.FHW@saghs.org.au](mailto:saghs.FHW@saghs.org.au)

### FAMILY HISTORIAN GROUP

[saghs.familyhistorian@saghs.org.au](mailto:saghs.familyhistorian@saghs.org.au)

### GERMANIC & CONTINENTAL

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### IRISH GROUP

[saghs.irish@saghs.org.au](mailto:saghs.irish@saghs.org.au)

### SCOTLAND GROUP

[saghs.scotland@saghs.org.au](mailto:saghs.scotland@saghs.org.au)

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Library fund donations of \$2 and over are tax deductible.



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