

Celebrating 50 Years in 2023



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The South Australian Genealogy & Heraldry

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The South Australian Genealogist

Journal of the South Australian Genealogy & Heraldry Society Inc



Front cover: The poignant painting on this issue's front cover is by acclaimed landscape artist Bruce Swann, who was born in 1925 in Brighton, Adelaide, and died in 1987 aged 62 years. More of Bruce Swann's impressive artistic output can be viewed at www.bruceswann.com. The painting depicts Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, and you can read more about the location and foundation of this church in Bernadette Thakur's article on page 25.



Back cover: Many South Australian families and officials are able to claim Huguenot ancestry. One such official is Sir Day Hort BOSANQUET, Governor of South Australia from 1909 to 1914, who can be seen on the back cover of this issue seated with his wife and daughters at their farewell at Outer Harbour in 1914 (Image courtesy of State Library of South Australia, PRG 280/1/12/50). To read more on South Australians of Huguenot descent see page 36.

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Do you have a family story to tell?

The South Australian Genealogist provides a place for you to record the events and experiences uncovered during your genealogical investigations. Preserve for posterity the most interesting of your ancestors' endeavours! Articles between 300 and 3000 words are welcome. Email your stories and photographs to:

saghs.editor@saghs.org.au

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Future issue deadlines

August 2023

Submissions by 26 June 2023

November 2023

Submissions by 29 September 2023

Submissions may be emailed to:

saghs.editor@saghs.org.au

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A Message from the President

By Robert Blair



SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

Are you making use of your Society membership? While access to the online databases on the Society's website may be the reason a member joined the Society there is much more to be gained from membership. We aim to add to the online databases throughout the year so there may be new records relating to your family. The Research and Development Committee Team, which is responsible for all the new data, has an extensive collection of projects which will lead to more databases to search.

Then there are Research Services www.genealogysa.org.au/services/research, with transcriptions, look ups and general research. Members pay half the non-member rate. A transcription of a birth, death or marriage certificate costs a member less than a quarter of a certified copy of the certificate and provides more information than is given in the online databases, especially from 1908 onwards. Don't forget that although the online marriage index only covers years up to 1937 inclusive, we also have the records for 1938–1942 and can provide transcriptions of marriages in those years.

Members living more than 100 kilometres from Adelaide are reminded that they are

entitled to two hours free research (not including transcriptions or look ups) a year.

The Society's Special Interest Groups are available to members and when those meetings are Zoom or hybrid meetings, members not living in Adelaide are able to participate. The Germanic and Continental Europe Group has even had a speaker from overseas in their meetings. If a topic you would like to see discussed is not on their agenda, why not send an email to the Group Convenor with your suggestions; www.genealogysa.org.au/whats-on/special-interest-groups?

If you are able to visit the Society Library you can research using the records yourself and make use of the Society's subscriptions to Ancestry, Findmypast, The Genealogist, My Heritage, British Newspaper Archive, Emerald Ancestors, and Cornwall Family History Society to further your research into the overseas origin of your ancestors. You can also use My Heritage from home for free, if you log in through the Members Only Pages on the Society's website.

Using the Society's subscriptions in the Library can save you hundreds of dollars a year, savings which more than pay for your Society membership. A subscription to all the major genealogical websites could cost in excess of \$1200 a year, depending upon the level of subscription. Even taking out a subscription to Ancestry and Findmypast with their most popular options costs more than \$500.

So, are there opportunities for you to make better use of your membership? And please, when your membership is up for renewal, consider it an investment.

Volunteering for Society Projects

Much of the success of the Society in recent years is due to its online databases. Without them we would not have survived COVID lockdowns as we have. But that also has meant that we need to continually add to those databases and provide new resources in order to keep our membership engaged with the Society. The Society's Research and Development Committee is responsible for all the work that goes into providing these resources and this committee oversees the work of more than 150 volunteers.

There are many individual projects covering newspaper personal notices, cemeteries, photographs, ships and passengers, Irish-born South Australians, Cornish-born South Australians, school admission registers, hospital admissions, church registers and much more.

Tasks involved in these projects include scanning, data entry, and data entry checking. Some projects make records already held in the Society Library more accessible, but most are acquiring new resources. Often they will not be the important birth, death or marriage records, but will refer to other events in the lives of those we are researching—a sport or some other activity that they pursued, a committee that they served on—something that they did which adds to our knowledge of them and brings them to life, not just a name on a tree. Depending on what they are doing, volunteers can either work in the Society Library or at home. Those involved with scanning may work at remote locations, sometimes in the country. If volunteers have to travel to a country region, travel and accommodation costs are met by the Society. Some data entry and checking may be done from home with work sent by email.

The Society has many projects in progress or waiting to commence so it is always looking for more volunteers. If you would like to help the Society provide more

resources and have time to spare please contact David Ballinger, Chairman of the Research and Development Committee by emailing saghs.randd@saghs.org.au and remember, you don't have to be living in Adelaide to volunteer. We have remote volunteers living interstate making a contribution, so location is no barrier. If you are a former volunteer but have not volunteered in the last couple of years due to the restrictions of coronavirus, we would welcome you back.

Trove

Members were inundated from January into March in the campaign to save Trove. I make no apologies for the number of times we emailed members or posted to Facebook about Trove. It was an important issue and it was necessary to keep it in everyone's mind to get as much action as possible. Some members provided feedback advising us that they had signed petitions or written to their Members of Parliament. I thank you for your participation in this campaign, for signing petitions and writing to Members of Parliament.

The announcement by the Government early in April that ongoing funding would be provided for Trove was a welcome response to the campaign to save the website, with \$33 million over the next four years \$9.2 million ongoing, and indexed per annum thereafter.



From the Editor

Heidi Ing



One of the articles found in this issue is an ever-timely reminder of the need to identify individuals depicted within our old family albums. The author of the article 'Friends of the Family' was surprised to find that a cherished family portrait featured a locally renowned singer, who had links to the stage through both ancestors and descendants.

While I wouldn't expect to find a celebrity hidden amongst the antique photographs in my biscuit-tin of anonymous antecedents, it would greatly increase the chances if names were recorded on the back of each image. I inherited that biscuit-tin from a great-uncle in the mid-1990s. It was a collection of his mother's photographs, but the ones that were unknown and unnamed. I was assigned the task of uncovering their identities, if I could. I have carted that old tin around the country, comparing the faded faces with those in the family albums of distant cousins, and have enjoyed many a eureka moment.

Have you ever worried about the copious and ever-growing number of photographs sitting on your mobile phone, and stored in the ambiguously located 'cloud'? Perhaps a selection of these digital photographs could be printed and preserved. What a

wonderful excuse to spend quality time with grandchildren, recording the names of friends and family who attended their birthday party, the locations of special excursions, or the cause of a particular gathering.

The act of annotating photographs provides an excuse for generations of a family to gather, recall events, retell and reiterate those stories which become family legends. It can be a wonderful opportunity to record old memories and create new ones. Linking accounts of events to the photographs taken at the time aids recall and encourages future retellings.

Perhaps you have a family yarn which is linked to the people portrayed in a precious photograph, one that makes you smile every time you see their faces? Would you like that tale recorded as folklore and preserved for posterity? You could write up that story and email it, along with the image, to: saghs.editor@saghs.org.au. Just a few hundred words is enough to fill a page and would be a welcome addition to this publication.



Friends of the Family

By Lesley Attema



The author's favourite photograph of the WICKES family, back row: Richard Stephen 'Steve' WICKES, Alfred Charles WICKES, Florence Emily 'Flo' BEVAN, middle row: William Curling WICKES, Frederick William SAYERS, William Charles WICKES, Sarah 'Sally' WICKES (née SMITH), Clara WICKES, Emma 'Emmie' Jane RONCHETTI, Edmond Spencer Gould RONCHETTI, front row: Charles WICKES, Coral WICKES (Image courtesy of the author).

My favourite family photograph shows a miscellaneous group of WICKES family members and was probably taken around 1900. It is my favourite photo because it includes not only my grandfather as a young man (back left), but also my great-grandparents in the centre and my great-great-grandfather (front left) as well as sundry other family members. The reverse of the photograph says 'Broken Hill', which is where the family lived for some time, but I suspect it was taken after they had moved down to Adelaide. It also includes a rare image of the young girl at the front who is named 'Cheryl' on the reverse, but her name was Coral. Her name was probably remembered incorrectly because, sadly, she died in 1904 aged just eleven years. Her mother had died in 1899 and she lived at times

with other family members, including my great-grandparents.

Off to the right-hand side of the photograph there is an older man and a pretty young woman, and on the reverse of the photograph it says they are family friends, Mr. RONCHETTI and Emmie RONCHETTI. I had always meant to see if I could find out who these people were but had not got around to it. I knew Emmie had not married into the family. With time on my hands during a Covid isolation period I thought I would just do a quick search on Trove. With RONCHETTI being a fairly unusual name, I thought there may be a chance of finding out something about them.

Typing the name RONCHETTI into Trove immediately brought up a huge amount of information about this very musical family and particularly about Emmie, who it turned out was a very well-known singer and actress by the early 1900s.

'Mr. RONCHETTI' was Edmond Spencer Gould RONCHETTI and a Biographical Index of South Australians (BISA) entry records him arriving in South Australia with his large family in 1874 on the *Hesperus*. Sadly, one child died during the voyage. His occupation says painter and bandmaster. The RONCHETTI lived for a while in O'Connell Street in North Adelaide, and since my family were living in Prospect and had a painting business in O'Connell Street, that explained one possible connection.

Edmond RONCHETTI died in 1909 after an accident which was graphically described in the *Chronicle* on 14 August 1909. He was buried in the historic North Road Cemetery on Main North Road.

FATAL VEHICLE ACCIDENT.

An accident, which terminated fatally, befell Mr. Edmund Ronchetti, a painter, at Prospect, on Tuesday afternoon. He was climbing into his cart, when the horse, which was a restive one, became unmanageable, with the result that Mr. Ronchetti was thrown to the ground, and a wheel of the vehicle passed over his body. He was removed to the Adelaide Hospital, where he died at a late hour last night as a result of the severe internal injuries he had received. The deceased was 68 years of age, and resided at Tynte-street, North Adelaide.

Chronicle, 14 August 1909, p. 41.

'Emmie' was born Emma Jane RONCHETTI (named after her mother) on 15 January 1882 at home at *Clifton Villa* in Rosewater. There are numerous reports of Emmie RONCHETTI performing at concerts and she was considered to have the ability to

become a major operatic star, with hopes of studying further in England, but the outbreak of the First World War ended those plans. She taught singing, and was commended for fundraising, but did not perform in public very much for some years after she married.

Emmie had married Reginald 'Rex' ALLIN of Milson's Point in Sydney, New South Wales, on 22 March 1911 at Archer Street Church, North Adelaide. The marriage was registered with both names spelled incorrectly as 'Rouchetti' and 'Allen'. They moved to Sydney before returning to live in North Adelaide where their children were born: a daughter, Lilla 'Thalia' (born 1912), and two sons, Bronte Reginald (born 1914) and Noel Lloyd (born 1917).

An extract from an article in *The Mail*, 11 September 1915, describes a third birthday party for Rex and Emmie's daughter, Thalia. Amongst the families attending were several names I recognised: WICKES, BEVAN and AUNGER. This extract also perhaps gives an indication of the musical talent that was to extend over future generations.

On Saturday, September 4, a most enjoyable afternoon was spent at Mrs. Rex Allin's residence, "Rosevear", Gover street, North Adelaide, the occasion being her little daughter's birthday. Quite a number of little folks were present, and all enjoyed themselves immensely. The rooms were decorated with violets, daffodils and arum lilies, and flags of all nations. Afternoon tea was served in the drawing room for the adults, followed by a competition, which was won by Miss Breta Peterson. At 5 p.m. about 20 children sat down to tea. A beautiful cake was made and presented by Miss Hilda Felstead. After tea the children marched into

the drawing room, each carrying a flag presented by Miss Lily Le Cornu, and sang the "Song of Australia". Little Thalia Allin (3 years old) sang "A Little Scrap of Paper" and was rewarded by a shower of pennies, which will buy some stationery for our soldiers. "God Save the King" and three cheers brought the pleasant afternoon to a close.

The State Library of South Australia holds a song sheet in their Sheet Music Collection, written and composed by Emmie RONCHETTI-ALLIN with Jack FEWSTER, called 'Our Flying Boys'. It was priced at 2/- each and celebrated the epic flight of Sir Ross and Sir Keith SMITH, Walter SHIERS and James BENNETT.

By her teens Thalia was showing that she had inherited her mother's talent and Emmie, while taking an interest in her daughter's career, also began performing more regularly again. Thalia ALLIN married Allan William WILLOUGHBY in 1939.

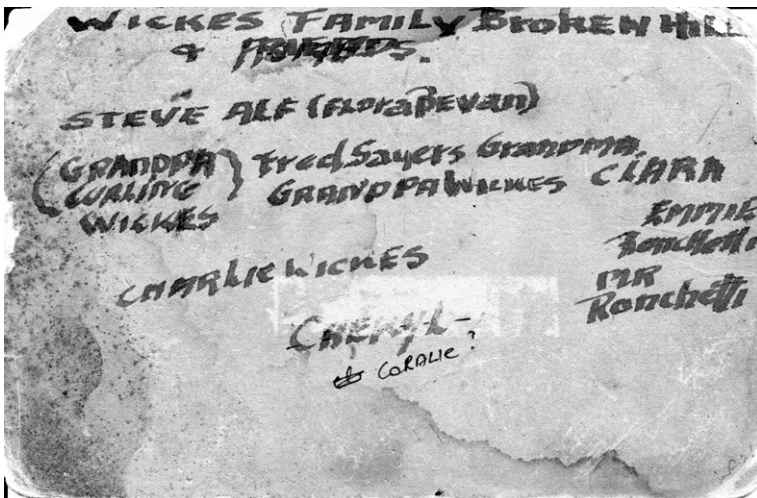
An article in *The Advertiser*, published on 14 December 1953, about their son Allin

David WILLOUGHBY carried the headline 'Singing Family', and gives details of what really was a musical dynasty.

Singing Family.

Carols by Moonlight at Unley Soldiers' Gardens last night had an interesting significance by the appearance of a descendant of one of the oldest singing families in South Australia. He is Allin David Willoughby, chorister from St. Columba's Church, Hawthorn, a great great nephew of Elizabeth Ronchetti (Countess Mandelli), famous London soprano in 1796, before Jenny Lind. He is a grandson of Emmie Ronchetti-Allin, and son of Thalia Willoughby. She and her mother are also members of the choir. Three generations!

Emmie RONCHETTI-ALLIN died aged 84 years on 26 October 1966 and is buried in the historic North Road Cemetery. Following up the details on this photograph certainly uncovered some very interesting 'friends' of my family.



The reverse the the WICKES family photograph (Image courtesy of the author).

The Making of Gladys (Part 2)

By Wanda Hopkins

Being a family historian means that I have also been a storyteller, sleuth, quality control expert, project manager, and all too often, myth-buster. The latter was not necessarily intended, and as I've found, can make you very unpopular, and bruise many egos.

Family myths and mistruths may be based on any manner of assumptions and may also have been told and retold for many generations, so it may take the skills of a mediator to set the record straight. Mostly, it comes back to putting too much credence on hearsay. However, it does take courage to admit a mistake, and time to review your research and move on.

In delving into Gladys's history, it was new research territory for me; it wasn't my family whose story I was writing but that of a family friend, Trevor SMITH, and there were many local elements to the story. On the plus side I had no preconceived ideas about Trevor's family, but inevitably I had to give myself a crash course on the history of Mount Barker to provide context to my writing. I later had to negotiate appropriate boundaries when discussing Trevor's appearance at a local history event, so I was very thankful to have had these earlier experiences to draw upon.

Bound for South Australia

After spending two years in Western Australia, Gladys made her way to South Australia. The exact date is not known but it was most likely sometime in 1926. This information is based on two things—what was happening in her life a few months later, which was confirmed by various sources, and a photograph of Gladys with a woman whom we believe to be her sister, Dolly. This image is dated April 1926.¹



Gladys with her sister Dolly, 1926 (Image courtesy of the author).

In her own recollections, Gladys relates that on arriving in Mount Barker she found work as a housekeeper at Gray's Inn on Gawler Street. This historic hotel bears the name of its builder, former Littlehampton pioneer and brewer, Benjamin GRAY, who built the hotel in 1855. At the time of Gladys's arrival, the licensee was a Paul Gustav PAECH. According to Trevor, the PAECH family treated her kindly, even though her living quarters were a little rudimentary; a small room attached to the back of the hotel.

In 1920s Mount Barker, the town was centred around farming and agriculture with a saleyard and tannery in the area adjacent to the hotel.² Social life was often focused on rural activities such as the agricultural shows and horse riding.

As to be expected, football was big in the town and surrounding areas, and if the newspapers are to be believed, dances at the Institute were highly popular. Gladys's name often appears as an attendee at these events.

By 1927 Gladys was quite settled in her new environment and family photographs show that she had made many friends, among them members of the PEAKE family. Henry Albert Victoria 'Miller' PEAKE was a well-known local identity and a Postmaster-General's Department. His interests included football, horses, and music. Trevor related to me that he heard many anecdotes about Miller PEAKE from his younger son, Gordon, who claimed that Miller was known to stand on the back of his horse to undertake repairs to telephone wires.

At some time during the mid-1920s, Miller had the idea of making a movie. On purchasing a state-of-the art Pathé camera, he soon put this undertaking into action.

*we battled on and made this one film, 'The Rancher's Daughter'. Some of those in it were 'Plummer' Duffield, Jim Ingram, Wally Liebelt, Mike Chapman, Ern Taylor, Jessie Hinks, Hazel Smith, Doris Thames and Gladys Morton. Fred Hart was one of the cameramen.*³

All publicity is good publicity

The making of the film was the talk of Mount Barker, and the town was soon buzzing with tales of various touch-and-go incidents that had occurred during the rehearsals and filming activities; one incident involving Gladys herself. On 21 January 1927 she was reported as 'careering' down Gawler Street, at that time an unsealed dirt road, on a runaway horse on her way home from rehearsals.⁴ If taken at face value, the article states that she managed to regain control of

the horse in Hutchinson Street 'without sustaining any injury or damaging any property'. Whether this was part of a stunt is not known, but because it happened just days before the showing of some of Miller's film footage at the local institute, it may well have been.⁵ At the very least, it was an interesting coincidence.

*The announcement that Miller Peake and his players were to screen snapshots of his film now under production and scenes of Mount Barker Day caused an extraordinary demand for seats in the Mount Barker Institute on Wednesday evening, practically the whole of the hall being booked up prior to the performance.*⁶

Delving deeper

At the time I was first putting together this story in 2021, I was also involved in a local community project involving the centenary of Brinkley Hall in Murray Bridge. Part of my role was the production of posters showing the pioneer families of the Brinkley/Mulgundawa area. Having just received the posters from the printers, I showed them to a group of family history colleagues. One recognised the name PEAKE in connection to a local Brinkley family, PASSFIELD. Alma Blende PASSFIELD had married Henry Albert Victoria 'Miller' PEAKE on 5 March 1921. It was not too long before I was put in contact with members of that family.

As already stated, Trevor SMITH also had made connections of his own with the PEAKE family. Several years earlier he had been put in touch with Miller PEAKE's son, Gordon, who told him that he had copy of some film footage of his mother. As their friendship grew, Trevor learned that his mother had also been a frequent visitor to the PEAKE household. Trevor was able to show his

mother this film footage before she died in 2004. He subsequently purchased his own copy of 'The Rancher's Daughter' and the associated film footage from the National Film Archive. It is also because of his connection with Gordon that we were able to obtain photographs of Miller PEAKE's Pathé camera.



Trevor SMITH with Miller PEAKE's Pathé camera (Image courtesy of the author).

I also had the good fortune of being contacted by Dylan WALKER via Facebook. He had seen a short piece I had written about Miller PEAKE's movie and asked permission to use one of the images for a talk he was giving to the Mount Barker National Trust. In return I asked for an invitation to his talk. Independent Cinema Historian Dylan WALKER is an expert in the history of South Australian cinematography, so has a wealth of information at his fingertips.⁷ Some sources had it that 'The Rancher's Daughter' was the first film of its kind shot in South Australia, but his talk revealed otherwise.

Around this time, I had the idea to invite Trevor SMITH to be guest speaker for a family history writing group at the Murraylands University of the Third Age. As the Facebook page had also attracted interest from the Mount Barker Local History Centre, I thought that it was a good opportunity for Trevor to share his mother's story and the historical film footage with those who had an interest in the history of the area. In keeping with the theme of the movie, I styled the presentation, 'Gladys and the Lightning Raiders'. A group of around thirty people attended the presentation which was held on 28 October 2021.

'The Rancher's Daughter'

Despite what is stated in the newspaper article quoted earlier, Gladys didn't appear in the final cut of Miller's movie, although she can be seen in other footage riding his horse 'Snowdrift'.⁸ She was also filmed celebrating Mount Barker Day (an annual fundraising event held in the late 1920s and early 1930s) at the Mount Barker Showgrounds with the PEAKE family. She is clearly identifiable in several shots, not only because of her short stature (Gladys was less than five feet tall) but because of her very fashionable cropped hair.

According to Miller PEAKE, the movie itself was filmed over several years and, based on an interview published in the *Canberra Times* in 1978, it is evident that most of the movie would have been shot long before Gladys arrived in Mount Barker.⁹ While excerpts of the film had been shown locally in 1927, the film was finally shown in full at the Mount Barker Institute in January 1931, by arrangement with Acme Pictures.¹⁰

Originally called 'Fighting Hearts', the cast and crew of 'The Rancher's Daughter' were all from the Mount Barker area. Much of filming took place at Mount

Barker Springs, while other parts were shot at various locations in the Bugle Ranges.¹¹ At a time when ‘talkies’ were not yet mainstream, it was filmed in a silent format. The movie itself was structured as a Western with a synopsis that would be regarded in modern times, as more than a little clichéd. The ‘Lightning Raiders’ (as the outlaws were called) bore names such as Bully Cowan, Dynamite Dan, Dead Shot Moran, and Two Round Murphy. Miller PEAKE played the hero Jack Hardy, and both wrote the script and directed its filming. Hazel SMITH played the rancher’s daughter Nancy Travers and Joe WHITE, the local carrier, played her father and ranch owner John Travers. Whether by fair means or foul, the ‘Lightning Raiders’ were intent on taking possession of the Travers’ ranch. Nancy’s love interest, Jack Hardy, inevitably foiled their plans. The many action shots were all performed by the actors themselves, with Miller PEAKE often showing off his horsemanship, while taking best advantage of his army training in other scenes.¹²



Gladys MORTON riding Miller PEAKE’S horse 'Snowdrift' from film footage of ‘Harry Peake’s Players at Practice’, 1927 (Image courtesy of the author).



‘Jazzing it down’ at the Mount Barker Showgrounds, Mount Barker Day, 1927, with Gladys in the striped dress on the left (Image courtesy of the author).



Miller PEAKE with members of his family at Mount Barker Day in 1927. The ‘lemon squeezer’ hat that he’s wearing was probably army issue. His sister Aurelia is on the left, and his wife Alma (née PASSFIELD) on the right (Image courtesy of the author).

Joining the dots

Of course, any good family history must also include a point of reference to family relationships, and with Mount Barker being a relatively small community in the early twentieth century, it wasn’t long before I was able to find a family relationship between Trevor’s family and the PEAKES. Especially helpful in this exercise were the SAGHS Biographical Index and Online Database.

In 1934 Gladys had married Roy Harold Clarence SMITH, son of William SMITH (1866–1911) and Lydia BEZOR (1867–1930) both of Mount Barker. Lydia’s sister, Jane

BEZOR, had married one Andrew WYLIE. It was their son, Herbert WYLIE who provided Trevor's connection to the PEAKE family via his marriage to Miller's cousin, Mary Jane PEAKE (1887–1919) in 1904.

Married life

Together, Roy and Kathleen 'Gladys' SMITH raised five children, with Trevor being the youngest. Life was not easy for the young couple during the Depression, with Roy taking on work wherever he could find it, including as a construction worker at the Mount Bold Reservoir, built between 1932 and 1938.¹³ No proper housing was available for the workmen and their families, so their living conditions consisted of a makeshift hut in the surrounding bushland.

With the Mount Bold project completed, and with two young daughters to consider, the family eventually left South Australia and moved to Morley Park in Western Australia. This also gave Kathleen the opportunity to reconnect with her sister, Dolly. They purchased four acres of arable land with the intention of setting up a market garden. However, the Second World War intervened and in December 1940, Roy enlisted in the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF). By this time his family numbered three following the birth of their first son earlier that year.

A fitting conclusion

Thanks to the Mount Barker Local History Centre, Trevor and I were given the opportunity to present his mother's story for a second time, this time at the Mount Barker Institute during the History Festival in May 2022. Consistent with the festival theme, those attending were given the opportunity to 'reimagine' Mount Barker through the eyes of a young Gladys MORTON, and through the cinematic lens of Harry 'Miller' PEAKE.

Event organiser, Terri NITSCHKE, also organised music to be composed for the movie by retired music teacher, Ted EDWARDS, adding a touch of local virtuosity to the festival's theme. Footage of Mount Barker Day in 1927 and Miller PEAKE's 'Players at Practice' were also shown, together with a short excerpt of a ninety-year-old Gladys watching herself on video as a vivacious seventeen-year-old. This was perhaps one of the most poignant moments in the presentation. Members of both the SMITH and PEAKE families attended, bringing to our storytelling adventure to a very appropriate natural conclusion.



PEAKE family descendants, Rosemary MONAGHAN and Sue SLADE sharing family memorabilia with Trevor SMITH at the History Festival presentation on 20 May 2022 (Image courtesy of Suzanne Opitz, Macclesfield).

References

¹ The photograph was originally thought to be of Gladys and Dolly PEAKE however members of the PEAKE family have confirmed that this was a case of mistaken identity. The photograph is inscribed 'to my loving [words blanked out]. From Dolly & Gladys with love. April 18th, 1926.'

² The saleyard fronted onto Gawler St adjacent to the Gray's Inn where the current day Saleyard Shopping Centre is located. The tannery was a short distance away in Cameron Street. Anna Pope & Clair Booth, 'DC Mount Barker Heritage Survey', District Council of Mount Barker, 2004.

³ *Mt Barker Courier*, 3 August 1966.

⁴ 'Takes A Bolt', *Mount Barker Courier*, 21 January 1927.

⁵ 'Local Film Draws Record House', *Mount Barker Courier*, 25 February 1927.

⁶ 'Local Film Draws Record House', *Mount Barker Courier*, 25 February 1927.

⁷ 'Dylan Walker, Cinema Historian', www.linkedin.com/in/dylan-walker-71914014.

⁸ 'Harry Peake's Players at Practice' filmed by HH Peake, 3 minutes: 38 seconds, captioned: 'Gladys Morton Steals a Ride on Snowdrift. She Says Movies are Great'.

⁹ 'A pioneer film-maker', *Canberra Times*, 10 January 1978.

¹⁰ *Mt Barker Courier*, 23 January 1931.

¹¹ 'Mt Barker Had its Own Movie Makers 40 Yrs Ago', *Mt Barker Courier*, 3 August 1966.

¹² 'Mt Barker Had its Own Movie Makers 40 Yrs Ago', *Mt Barker Courier*, 3 August 1966.

¹³ Government of South Australia, 'Reservoir reserves: Mount Bold', 2019, www.reservoirs.sa.gov.au/reservoirs/mount-bold.



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A Gothenburg Survivor: David Harris (1847–1885)

By Kathleen Emms

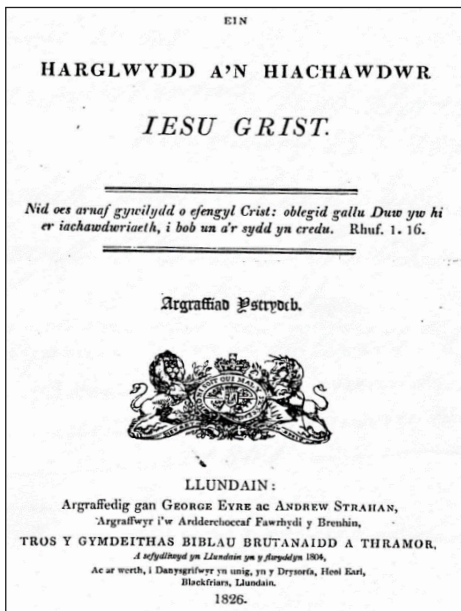


Survivors of the 1875 SS *Gothenburg* shipwreck, artwork by Tom Sullivan, 1904 (Image courtesy of SLSA B 46876).

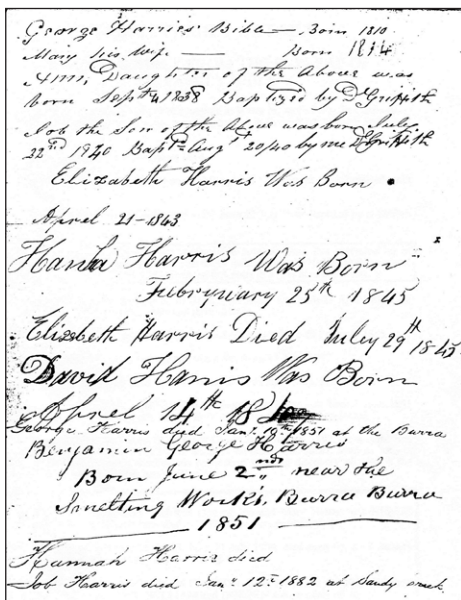
This pencil-on-paper sketch of the sinking steamship, SS *Gothenburg*, was created in about 1904, twenty-nine years after the disaster on the Great Barrier Reef during a cyclonic storm in 1875. The vessel was sketched with her name depicted in fine white letters and nine of the twenty-two survivors of the disaster had their portraits superimposed onto the background. The nine survivors depicted and numbered from the top left are: David HARRIS, James FITZGERALD, John CLELAND, William THOMAS, Thomas COCKRAM, Jack KRUGER, James CAMPBELL, Patrick HOGAN and Robert BRAZIL.

The SS *Gothenburg* left Darwin on 16 February 1875, en route to Adelaide with more than 80 passengers and a

crew of 36. She struck the southern edge of Detached Reef, northwest of Holbourne Island, on 24 February and sank on 25 February 1875. Twenty-two survivors floated to Holbourne Island and were rescued and taken to Bowen, near Townsville. There were between 98 and 112 persons who died in the shipwreck including: South Australia's retired fifth Premier Thomas REYNOLDS and his wife Anne (née LITCHFIELD); Judge William WEARING; Edouard DURAND, the French Vice-Consul, as well as other noted dignitaries and government officials. Also onboard were gold miners, returning to Adelaide with their finds. David HARRIS, the first survivor pictured in the sketch by Tom SULLIVAN, wrote an account of the sinking, and this is lodged with the State



HARRIS family Bible, 'Testament Newydd Ein Harglwydd A'n Hiachawdwr IESU GRIST' (The New Testament of Our Lord and Savior JESUS CHRIST), George Eyre ac Andrew Strahan, Blackfriars, London, 1826 (Image courtesy of the author).



Details recorded in the HARRIS family Bible (Image courtesy of the author).

Library of South Australia under the title of 'Diary kept by David Harris'.

The England and Wales Census of 1841 lists George, Mary, Ann, and Job HARRIS living at High Street, Neath, Glamorganshire, Wales. Carefully recorded on the back of the title page of the HARRIS family Bible, which was brought to South Australia, are the biographical details of George and Mary HARRIS (née DAVIS) and their children. George HARRIS had been born in 1810, Mary DAVIS in 1814, and their children were Ann (born 1838), Job (born 1840), Elizabeth (born 1843), Hannah (born 1845) and David (born 1847). Their daughter Elizabeth died aged two years and three months in 1845. On the 24 May 1849, 29-year-old George, his 25-year-old wife Mary and their four surviving children Ann, Job, Hannah, and David, boarded the *Providence* at Swansea bound for South Australia.

The *Providence* arrived at Port Adelaide on Sunday, 16 September 1849 with 17 passengers. The HARRIS family and four children proceeded to Burra (Kooringa) where they were housed 'near the Smelting Works Burra Burra'. George HARRIS was a Welsh brickmaker whose services were desired by the Patent Copper Company at Burra where their smelter was using 1,000 firebricks per week for repairs alone.¹ George HARRIS was 40 years old when he died of dysentery on the 10 January 1851 at Burra, five months before his sixth child, Benjamin George, was born 'near the smelting works Burra Burra'.

George and Mary HARRIS had been members of the Independent Church at Burra where George was listed as a deacon and described as 'universally respected' in his death notice.² He is buried in an unmarked grave. During her

widowhood of seven years, Mary bravely cared for her family.³ She married widower James DAVIES, a Welsh coal miner, at the Congregational Chapel in Adelaide on 16 April 1857. James and Mary DAVIES then moved to Willaston (Bertha) with their blended family: Amy REES (stepdaughter of James), John and Hannah DAVIES, as well as Ann, Job, Hannah, David and Benjamin HARRIS. At this time David HARRIS was 10 years of age.



David HARRIS (Image courtesy of the author).

After attending school at Gawler, 20-year-old David HARRIS and his 21-year-old stepbrother John DAVIES, ventured to Gympie, Queensland in 1867, after 72 ounces of gold was discovered there in just six days. They posted home a letter, part of which was published in the *South Australian Register*, advising that the Gympie alluvial gold diggings were worked out and the only chance of success at Gympie was to purchase a 'share in a reef' for about £100.⁴ Little did David know that his brother Job HARRIS was to be the discoverer of the Barossa Goldfields the next year.

David HARRIS's stepfather James DAVIES and his partner William LEWIS built lime kilns on the eastern half of allotment 29 in Bertha, now Willaston.⁵ When

David married Mary PANKHURST on 23 February 1872 at the home of teacher, Mr TL MORRIS of Buchsfeldt, he gave his occupation as 'lime burner'. David and Mary's first three children: Florence (born 1872), Hannah Mabel (born 1874), and Frank (born 1875), were born at Willaston. By 1875, David HARRIS had obtained employment with the Overland Telegraph Party. Afterwards he worked for the Virginia Gold Mining Company which had three claims on Stapleton Creek, about 10 kilometres northwest of the Adelaide River, in the Northern Territory. At the time of the shipwreck of the SS *Gothenburg*, David was returning to Adelaide to report on the problems with the crushing machinery being used at Stapleton Creek. After his death in 1885, David's handwritten diary was handed to the *Wallaroo Times*. Under the headlines of 'Wreck of the Gothenburg, A Survivor's Account', the newspaper published the following: '...we have had handed to us a diary, kept by Mr Harris, from the time he left Port Darwin until he reached Adelaide. The account is complete, and, we believe, has never been published. It will be read with interest, even at this distant date.'⁶

Tuesday, Feb. 16, 1875—Left Port Darwin in the Gothenburg with about 90 passengers, and a crew, including officers of 29.

Friday, 19th—Arrived at Somerset, Torres Straits, in the evening, and anchored.

Saturday, 20th—Took in about 30 tons ballast. There is a very strong current running here. Between 3 and 4 in the afternoon both of the anchors broke away, but, fortunately, steam had just been got up, so we proceeded about 7 miles on our voyage, and anchored for the night.

Sunday, 21st—Anchored at night.

Monday, 22nd—Anchored at night.

Wednesday, 24th—All proceeded well till to-day, when we were sailing along with a strong breeze in our favor, blowing from the North-East, when about half past 6 in the evening we ran aground on a coral reef. The steamer was going about 11½ or 12 knots an hour, and ran up high on it forward, there being deep water aft. Not much alarm was felt, as the captain seemed very confident of getting her off at high water, which would be at about 11, or half-past, p.m. The wind, however, rose to a moderate gale, and about 9-o'clock all hands were ordered aft, and the engines were reversed, but without any perceptible result. The captain then decided to remove all the casks (20) of water, which were acting as ballast in the forehold, to right aft. A lot more empty casks were also placed aft and filled, the engine backed hard all the time. I tried to get a few hours sleep, but the wind increased to a perfect gale, and the steamer was bumping heavily, which began to look serious, although the passengers were as quiet and cool as though sailing along in fine weather. About 11 the wind changed to N.W., coming in with very heavy gusts with showers of rain, and drove the vessel around broadside to the reef. She had not as yet made any water, but shortly after began to do so.

About 2 and 3 o'clock, Thursday morning, the two boats on the port (weather) side were lowered and manned. It was with great difficulty, however, that they were kept from being swamped or dashed to pieces against the vessel's sides. There were two large spars lashed on each side of the steamer. These were now cut loose, and allowed to drift away. The two boats, each manned by four seamen, in being taken

round to the lee side, also got away, the painter of one breaking, and the other being pulled from the hands who held it. The water had before this stopped the engine, and the steamer was heeling over fast to deep water. Some of the passengers remained below, and did not come on deck at all; among these were the Hon. T. Reynolds and Mrs Reynolds, Dr and Mrs Millner and others.

All who were on deck were crowded along the higher side of the vessel. Daylight was now beginning to appear, and preparations were made for lowering the two starboard boats. The deck had got so steep that we had to climb over the rail and get on the vessel's side. Another heavy squall now commenced to blow, bringing up a heavy sea. Preparations were now made to lower the two starboard boats, the water was now rushing down the hatchways and into the cabins, and planks, boxes, and all sorts of litter were covering the water, together with sheep, dogs, and articles of clothing. I had carried a piece of rope in my hand for several hours, thinking it might be useful, and I now lashed myself to the rail. The sea now began to sweep right over the vessel, and I took but little notice of what happened to anyone but myself. But I remember looking round at the boats and seeing them crowded with people, so abandoned the idea of making to them. From what others saw, however, I learnt that the two first seas carried all but about a dozen away.

The lifeboat being swamped and partly split went drifting away with four or five in it. The other boat—the last of the four was filled and capsized, but, providentially (for us), they were unable to cast off the painter from the davit tackling. It was also fast in the bows of the boat, having been almost impossible to lower it in the position of the vessel.

I remember seeing about an acre of the sea on the lee side of us covered with human heads, bobbing up and down like so many corks. A good many were floating away on boxes, spars, or anything they could get hold of, but I looked as little as possible at them. The way I had lashed myself was, however, nearly proving fatal, as the seas were sweeping over me, and I could not untie myself, so I had to drag myself through the loop that was around me, and then crawl up towards the fore-part of the vessel, which was a little higher. At this moment I saw someone (Brayley) on the mainmast, so I resolved on trying to get on the foremast, and so gain a few minutes. I did not think the masts would be long above water, as the vessel was heeling over into deep water. About every yard I made, a heavy sea would come breaking over us, and then I had to stop and grip with all my might to avoid being washed away.

At length I reached the ratlines, and scrambled up to the yard; a large wave, however, nearly washed me off that. One or two had got up before me, and a few came after me. Two men were then clinging on to the davits, and Brayley, one of the fire men, cut the signal halyards and flung it to them, and succeeded in saving them. Clelland now appeared from the mass floating away, swimming bravely towards the vessel. He reached the boat, on which he rested but for a moment, and then out for the mainmast which he reached. Since the first sea broke over the steamer scarce 10 minutes had elapsed to the time the fourteen of us were in the masts, and the remainder, who were yet afloat, were drifting off before the wind, about 108 souls were lost. Clelland, who undressed in the water, now swam off to the boat. He took a rope with him, which he tied to the boat, and then I tried to cut the painter, but he could

not succeed in doing so. Fitzgerald also tried. At last, however, the three of them managed to turn her over, and to our great joy we saw four oars securely tied in her. She was pulled up alongside the mainmast, and attempts were made to enter her, but the sea was too rough. We saw we had to wait for finer weather, and earnestly was it prayed for that day. There was no signs of it abating, however, and towards evening it came as hard as ever, with showers of rain, that seemed to go through us. At low water the vessel bumped so severely that we were much afraid that she would go to pieces, as she was twisted or broken in two between main and fore masts.

I did not think I should last the night out, I was so cramped with the cold, and having to remain in one position. About 3 o'clock next morning (Friday), the sky was clear and the moon shining bright, and we could see high land, which turned out by Cape Bowling Green in the S.W. Before daylight the Lord, in His great mercy, had bid the wind and waves be calm, and by 6 o'clock we had the boat baled out, and made a start about S.S.W., in which direction Commander Ross had told some of us we should find Bowen, about 30 miles off. After we had got clear of the reef an oar was put up for a mast, and a sail rigged out of the fore top-gallant-sail, which the sailors had cut away. There was still a pretty rough sea on, and we had to keep on baling with one of the sailor's sou'-westers.

About half an hour after we heard cooey, and were glad to find it proceeded from the four sailors of one of the boats which broke away, and whom, we were afraid, were lost. They had landed before us on the opposite side of the island, and their boat, which was larger than ours, was smashed to

pieces on the rocks. They had found about 400 sea birds' eggs, which were laid on the sand, each one stuck on end almost a foot apart from each other. We carried our sail across to the other side, about half a mile, and I had a feed of raw eggs. Saw a sail in the distance, and I climbed the highest of the hills, which formed the island, to try and signal it with a handkerchief tied to a stick, but could not.

I did not think I was so weak as I was until I commenced climbing the hill. I had to sit down many times while going up. I had not got thoroughly rid of the diarrhoea, of which I had a very severe attack in Port Darwin, through getting wet in coming down country. We managed to dry a few matches and light a fire, which was a great comfort to us, and which a watch stopped up at night to keep alight. Next morning (Saturday) rationed ourselves out on our stock of eggs. Got a better sail made, and found about another 100 eggs. In the evening caught three or four dozen sea birds, which came up in immense numbers to roost in the low trees.

Sunday morning fifteen of us made a start in the boat for an island 20 miles to the south, which seemed to be more in the track of vessels. Before we got there saw a sail and waited for it. It turned out to be a boat sent out in search for us, the other boat which got away with four men having been picked up by the Leichardt steamer, making in all twenty-two saved, being twelve seamen and ten passengers. We were towed into Bowen, and taken by the Harbor Master, and sent to the Immigrant Depot, and were treated by him and many of the townspeople very kindly. They say they have not had such a storm here for many years, and the country is flooded, the telegraph line is washed down in many places south of here. By means of the Tionee steamer, which sailed from

Lawrence to Brisbane, Thomas sent a telegram to the Advertiser, with a short account of the wreck, and list of saved, and I sent one to McMeikan and Co., asking them to send us an order that would take us to Melbourne.

No steamer going south arrived here before the 9th (Tuesday), when the Victoria, of about 1,000 tons, put in. We made arrangements with the captain to take us to Sydney for half the usual fare (£2), the people of Bowen having kindly subscribed a sum that came to 50s each. Mr Brandon, the manager of the Joint Stock Bank, guaranteed the captain the money, so we secured the passage free. Started the same evening about 6 o'clock against a strong head wind.

Wednesday, 10th—Anchored at Flat Top Island to land a lot of passengers for Port Mackay.

Sunday, 14th—Have had a very rough and unpleasant passage so far, the boat being very light in the water, and having no ballast, and having to contend against strong winds. We, however, arrived safely in Sydney on Tuesday evening, March 16, about half past four, just a month since leaving Port Darwin. On landing we found that the A. N. Co's steamer Rangatira was just on the point of sailing, and that we could all have a passage to Melbourne in her, which we were glad to accept. Five of our number were left behind—D. Wylie, Hogan, Cockrane, Campbell and Kruger.

Saturday, March 20. —Fitz left in the Claud Hamilton. Saw Mr Scown.

Monday, 22nd—Sent a telegram to Mary.

Tuesday, 23rd—Left Melbourne in the Aldinga, Messrs McMeikan & Co. having furnished us (Clelland, Thomas and myself) with cabin passages.

Thursday 25th—Arrived in the port about midday, and got home the same evening.⁷

Despite only having returned home on 25 March 1875 after surviving the shipwreck on 25 February 1875, David attended a Virginia Gold Mining shareholders meeting at Jackman's Rooms in Adelaide on 31 March to give his report of the problems at Stapleton Creek.⁸

In 1876, David and his wife Mary, along with his brother Benjamin George HARRIS and his wife Rosa, took up virgin land at Greens Plains near Kadina. The two pioneer brothers built pine and daub homes on adjacent scrub blocks, and Benjamin wrote that,

for several years the kangaroos ate up the crops, but the fourth came to fruition and aided [us] ... to carry on. Stores had to be carted with a heavy dray and plough-horse from Kadina, through dense scrub. Single furrow ploughing and hand sowing and reaping were the common procedure, and grubbing had all to be done without the aid of machinery.⁹

David and Mary's fourth child, Frank Gothenburg HARRIS was born near Kadina in 1877 followed by Morgan (born 1879), Owen (born 1881, died 1881), Owen (born 1882), and Olive Mary (born 1884). Eight months after Olive's birth, the following notice appeared in the *South Australian Register* on 29 May 1885

HARRIS. — On the 23rd May, at Green's Plains West, of consumption, borne with Christian fortitude, David Harris, aged 38 years. One of the Gothenburg survivors.¹⁰

David's obituary was published in the *Christian Colonist*, on Friday, 19 June 1885 on page 2.

OBITUARY.—David Harris was born in Wales, April 14, 1847, and departed

this life at Green's Plains, May 23, 1885, in sure and certain hope of a glorious resurrection. He first became identified with the church at Gawler, being a member of the Baptist Church of that town during the pastorate of the Rev. S. Fairey. He subsequently went to the Northern Territory, and was one of the survivors of the wreck of the Gothenburg. He came to reside at Green's Plains about nine years ago, and at once became a member of the Primitive Methodist Church, of which he remained a most consistent and zealous member until the time of his death. His religion was real and constant, not of the meteor-like brilliancy, but like the sun shining more and more unto the perfect day. His death was in harmony with his life, calm and serene. He leaves a wife and five children to mourn.¹¹

Mary and the five children, Florence (12), Frank Gothenburg (7), Morgan (5), Owen (2) and Olive Mary (9 months) remained on the farm until it was sold in 1888. Mary remarried and the family moved with her second husband, Henry BURROWES, to Broken Hill. Tragedy followed the children: Frank Gothenburg HARRIS died at the Broken Hill Hospital in 1939 as a result of a revolver bullet wound accidentally inflicted on him by a friend; Morgan HARRIS was only 17 years old when he died of typhoid at Broken Hill in 1896; and Owen Harris was 15 years old in 1897 when he fell into the Proprietary Dam in North Broken Hill and drowned.

Mary (née PANKHURST) (formerly HARRIS) (formerly BURROWES) married for a third time in 1916 to Frederick James PERRY, in the home of her sister-in-law, Mary QUINN at Cockatoo Valley, South Australia. She died in 1926 and is buried in an unmarked grave in the Methodist section of the Broken Hill Cemetery.

David HARRIS is buried at Kadina, and two of his sons who predeceased him, Frank and Owen, are memorialized on his headstone.

A third son Morgan is also buried in this grave but without inscription. David and Mary’s second daughter Hannah Mabel HARRIS, who died as an infant in 1875, is memorialised on the headstone of her uncle Job HARRIS in the Willaston Cemetery. Harris Street in Millner, Darwin, is named for David HARRIS.

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Headstone of Job HARRIS at the Willaston Cemetery (Image courtesy of the author).



Headstone of David HARRIS at the Kadina Cemetery. (image courtesy of the author)

A Life of Challenges

By Phillip Mann

My great-grandmother, Johanne 'Louise' BRADTKE, was born in Cicha Gora, Posen, in Prussia, to Anna Rosina Dorothea SCHLINKE (later BRADTKE) on 7 June 1823. Details of her father are unknown as the father's name was left blank on her birth certificate. On 29 January 1823, a few months before her birth, her mother was married to Johann Gottfried KUCKE, the eldest son of Johann Gottfried KUCKE and Rosina Dorothea (née HAEMMERLING) of Cicha Gora. I have not yet found KUCKE in the family trees of my DNA matches from Ancestry, nor have I found any further information on Johann Gottfried KUCKE.

On 12 November 1829, Rosina Dorothea married Wilhelm BRADTKE. Wilhelm adopted Louise as his daughter, and she took his surname. As the oldest child in a growing family, it is likely Louise helped to look after the younger children. In May 1845, Louise BRADTKE left Bremerhaven with her parents and seven half-siblings (another born en route) on the *Heerjeebhoy Rustomjee Patel*, arriving in Port Adelaide in September 1845 (a voyage of 117 days).

The publication, *Bradtkte family history: Bradtke, Mann, Schupelius, Weckert*, suggests they were probably met in Port Adelaide by her uncle Daniel SCHLINKE and taken to live with him in the township of Bethany.¹ Daniel had arrived on the *Catharina* in 1839 and had established a mill at Bethany. Four crude homes were built along the creek which led to Schlinke's Mill, and these were lived in by the SCHLINKE, BRADTKE, MANN, and SCHRAPEL families.



Ruins of Schlinke's Gully mill (Image courtesy of SLISA B57371/37).

Louise was married to Johann 'Christian' MANN on 27 November 1847 by Pastor GD FRITZSCHE in the Bethany Lutheran Church. Christian and Louise went on to have nine children in fifteen years. The family lived at first in the Tanunda district, farming at Bethany. In November 1853, they bought land which was located between Kersbrook and Williamstown. Hoffnungstahl was their nearest Lutheran Church, and the church register lists them as members there between 1851 and 1857. This land was sold by public auction in 1857, by order of the mortgagee.² They returned to Bethany, where the next three children were born, and one daughter was buried.

In 1861, Christian MANN bought 113 acres between Rosedale and Gomersal and in 1868, he was listed as a farmer at Rosenthal (now known as Rosedale) in the Barossa Valley, South Australia. In early 1870 the family moved north to the Robertstown-Point Pass district, which was first known as 'Emu Flats', and joined the Immanuel Lutheran Church at Point Pass.

Louise MANN (née BRADTKE) died on 5 October 1908 in Point Pass, South Australia aged 85 years, having outlived her husband Christian by seventeen years. She is buried with her husband, four children and five grandchildren in the Point Pass Immanuel Lutheran cemetery. Her will, dated 27 June 1908, left her real estate (Section 136 in the Hundred of English) to her eighth child, Gustav Adolph MANN. Proceeds from the sale of her livestock went to 'Die Lehranstalt zu Point Pass' (the Point Pass Lutheran School) while her horse and buggy were left to Mrs LEIDIG, the pastor's wife.



Headstone of Johann Christian and Louise MANN (née BRADTKE) at the Point Pass Lutheran Cemetery (Image courtesy of the author).

Pastor Georg Friedrich LEIDIG (1870–1925), Lutheran clergyman, went to Point Pass in 1892 to serve a scattered rural parish, ultimately comprising eight churches. Three years later he established a boarding institution as a centre to instruct his

confirmees, train teachers for Lutheran day schools, and to offer higher education. This became Immanuel College. He had married Maria Margaretha Regina ECKARDT in 1892, and she was loved as a 'mother' of all students. The couple had three sons or their own, two of whom studied in Germany. Pastor LEIDIG travelled widely, including visiting Germany, to promote the college. As President of the South Australian District, LEIDIG guided his Church through difficult times during and after the First World War.³

An auction to sell items from the estate of Louise MANN was conducted by C von BERTOUCH, and held on Tuesday, 8 December 1908 at the Eudunda Market.⁴ Some of the sale items included: 200 ewes, 20 stud, fat, and lean cattle, 20 heavy and light horses, 15 pigs, 2 harvesters and sundries, 3 young and useful horses, 2 foals, and 5 stud cattle.

These bare details skip over what must have been a challenging and rewarding life. From her early days with her mother in Prussia, Louisa BRADTKE became the eldest child in a large family. She would have looked after her younger siblings on a crowded ship for four months during the voyage to South Australia. What an adventure! Probably none of them had ever seen the sea before. She walked with her family from Port Adelaide to Bethany where they established a home. She married and had nine children in quick succession, moved many times, until the family finally settled and established a farm on virgin land at Point Pass. Her life was certainly spent overcoming challenges.

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An Abandoned Church Evokes the Spirit of My Dempsey Ancestors

By Bernadette Thakur



'Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Dawson', painted by Bruce Swann (Image courtesy of Steve Swann).

There is an evocative painting by South Australian landscape artist Bruce SWANN, 'Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Dawson', depicting a once-beautiful small church standing alone in a dry landscape on a hot summer's day.¹ It is a forlorn symbol of the lost dreams of hard-working pioneers.

This church has a significant place in the history of my maternal ancestors, the DEMPSEY family. My great-grandparents helped to build the church. Until I began researching my family history, I had never heard of Dawson, or Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church. 'Our Lady of Mount Carmel' is the name given to the Virgin Mary in her role as patroness of the Carmelite religious order. This order was founded on Mount Carmel, a coastal mountain range in northern Israel, in the twelfth century. Carmelite tradition has it that a community of Jewish hermits

had lived at the site since the time of the prophet Elijah (900 BCE). Elijah is revered as the spiritual Father of the Order. Shortly after the Order was created a Carmelite monastery was founded at the site dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Another Bruce SWANN painting of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Dawson, from a slightly different angle, was commissioned by the people of South Australia and presented to Pope John Paul II on his 1986 visit to Adelaide. It is now part of the Vatican collection. This church is listed on South Australia's Heritage Register with the following citation:

Dawson's Catholic Church, Our Lady of Mount Carmel, built in 1886 is of significance because it evocatively illustrates the pattern of settlement associated with the expansion of the

agricultural frontier that occurred as a result of land reform from the mid-1870s. With extreme optimism, small farming communities were established far north of Goyder's Line of Rainfall and hamlets developed. In Dawson, this fine church was built, anticipating a thriving community. The architect for the building, Father John Norton is of significance as a competent architect turned priest and was responsible for several buildings in the region. Of course, the town of Dawson and its envisaged wheat farming community did not occur, beaten by years of drought in country best described as marginal. Dawson's Church evokes all of this history and stands in this barren landscape as a monument to the failure of the later Strangways resumptions.²

The 1880s saw the construction of Methodist and Anglican churches as well as the Catholic church. The Dawson Hotel was built in 1883. A public school opened in 1885 after several years of agitation by local residents. Local government came to the area in 1888 with the District Council of Cogliin which met alternately in Dawson and Lancelot. In its heyday, Dawson had multiple stores, an Institute, an agricultural bureau, and a blacksmith.

My great-grandparents were among the unfortunate early settlers who tried farming outside Goyder's 'Line of Rainfall'. George Goyder was South Australia's first Surveyor General to determine that land beyond a certain line was not suitable for agriculture as it lacked reliable rainfall. The government of the day ignored his warnings, and knowingly sold land to unsuspecting settlers. The countryside around Dawson has returned to its native vegetation, mainly saltbush and mallee scrub. Farmers run a few sheep. There is little trace left of the community who once lived there.

My grandfather, Patrick Joseph DEMPSEY, was born on the family farm near Dawson on 17 July 1887, the second child of my great-grandparents Andrew Felix DEMPSEY and Mary Ann (née NAUGHTON). Their first child, a daughter named Mary Bridget, was born on 22 March 1886, but she lived for only eleven days and was buried in the Dawson Cemetery. In the photographs I have seen of my great-grandmother as an old lady, she looks rather stern. I have tried to imagine her feelings as a young woman, coping with the grief of losing her first child soon after birth. Mary Ann DEMPSEY (née NAUGHTON) was mother to eight children born near Dawson between 1886 and 1901.



Mary Ann DEMPSEY (née NAUGHTON) with her granddaughters Patricia (child standing) and the author's mother Mary DEMPSEY (child on lap), 1915 (Image courtesy of the author).

A few years ago, I went on an ancestral journey of discovery in South Australia, visiting the places where my ancestors had once lived. Dawson was the last stop. We turned off the Barrier Highway north of Peterborough, onto a rough dirt road. It did not look promising. There had been heavy rain that winter and we were nervous about getting bogged, an experience we had already encountered near Wirrabara. We wondered if we should continue or abandon our quest to find Dawson. As we passed the small cemetery, we could see it was not far, so we decided to risk it. The remains of a solid hotel stand on the corner of the main intersection of what was once Dawson.



Dawson, with ruins of Dawson Hotel on the left, 18 September 2016 (Image courtesy of the author)..

What happened next was one of those serendipitous moments when I felt that the spirits of my ancestors were watching over me as I researched my family history. In that deserted landscape, a farmer appeared driving his ute with his working dog beside him. He stopped to chat and was naturally curious about what we were doing in Dawson. I told him about my interest in Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church and to my amazement he told me that I would find the keys hanging on a hook in the small community hall nearby and I could return them there when I had finished looking inside the church.

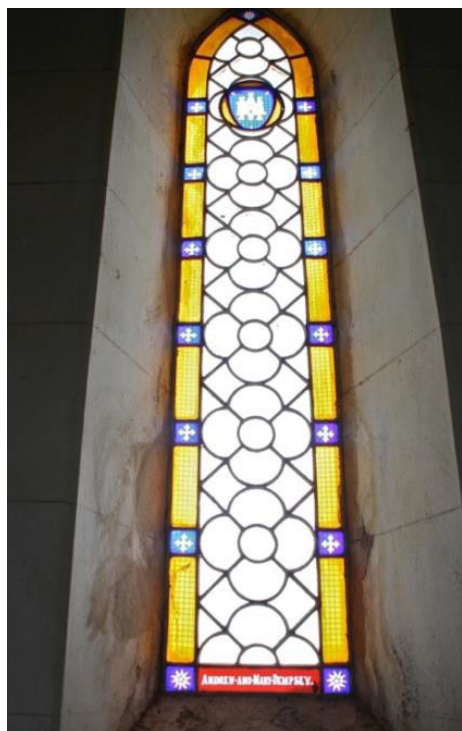


Our Lady of Mt Carmel Church, Dawson, 18 September 2016 (Image courtesy of the author).

When I entered the church, I was moved to see one of the stained-glass windows had been dedicated by my great-grandparents 'Andrew and Mary Dempsey'. I have visited many of the great cathedrals of Europe, but they did not move me as much as this small church in the bush. I felt a sense of grief and loss for my ancestors who had built this church and after a few years had to leave it behind when they were forced to abandon farming in this inhospitable environment. The last Mass in this church was held in January 1970. More than 50 years since it was closed and 140-or-so years since it was built, the church building, with its stained-glass windows and beautiful wood ceiling, remain in good condition—a testament to the care with which it was constructed.

John Henry NORTON, the church's architect, was born on the Ballarat goldfields in 1855. His father was English and his mother was Irish. As a young child he attended a Methodist Sunday School but later turned to his mother's Catholicism, and in 1870 was received into the Church. Bishop REYNOLDS of the diocese of Adelaide sponsored his studies for the priesthood overseas. He was a student at St Kieran's College, Kilkenny for two years and then a seminarian at the Propaganda College in Rome. He received

his Doctorate of Divinity from the College and was ordained a priest on 8 April 1882. On his return to South Australia, he was appointed to the parish of Petersburg, now Peterborough. Father NORTON was responsible for designing several notable buildings in his parish. He was consecrated as Bishop of the then Port Augusta diocese at St Francis Cathedral, Adelaide, on 9 December 1906.³



The stained-glass window donated to the church by Andrew and Mary Dempsey (Image courtesy of the author).

Bishop NORTON had a close connection with the DEMPSEY family over many years. He officiated at the marriage of my great-grandparents Andrew Felix DEMPSEY and Mary Ann NAUGHTON at St Sebastian's Church, Peterborough, in 1884. He married my grandparents,

Patrick Joseph DEMPSEY and Mary Lilian HOWARD, at Our Lady of Dolours Church, Yongala in 1911. He also officiated at many Dempsey family baptisms and funerals.⁴ My mother did not leave behind many precious possessions, but there was one item which was very dear to her: a sepia-toned picture of the Sacred Heart in an oak frame which was a gift from Bishop Norton to my grandparents on their wedding day. My mother said in her memoir that the picture has a great deal of meaning for her, and expressed the hope that some member of the family would take care of it when she was no longer able to do so.⁵

Eventually my great-grandfather Andrew Felix DEMPSEY gave up trying to farm in the Hundred of Paratoo. His land was sold for less than the 10 percent deposit paid on it. The Dempseys moved south and started anew, farming subdivided land on Old Canowie Station, between Whyte Yarcowie and Jamestown. Andrew Felix DEMPSEY purchased a property of 800 acres near Whyte Yarcowie for my grandfather, but Grandpa was not given the land; he gradually repaid his father and by 1924 had succeeded in doing so. My grandparents moved onto this farm following their marriage in 1911. This is where my mother spent her childhood in great comfort and security. She wrote, 'It seemed to me, as a child, that the farm and home might well have been there for centuries. That's how secure everything seemed to be.'

My grandfather had great devotion to Our Lady of Mount Carmel. His birthday coincided with her Feast Day, and he named his farm near Whyte Yarcowie 'Carmela' in her honour. He never forgot the church of his childhood. On the occasion of the closing of the church in January 1970, he wrote an article in the

Witness, the monthly newspaper of the Port Pirie Diocese, expressing his sorrow. He recounted some amusing anecdotes about his days serving as an altar boy. He recalled that when he was a student at the Dawson Public School (the Catholic school had closed because of drought) the school had over 60 pupils on the roll book. He wrote,

*now there is no one living in the township of Dawson. What a mistake was made when the Government in defiance of the advice that Goyder gave them that they should not cut up for closer settlement any land outside Goyder's line of rainfall. And now the lovely building is to be abandoned.*⁶

According to another correspondent in the *Witness*, Cardinal Norman GILROY (Bishop of Port Augusta 1935–1937) was reported as saying that the Dawson Church was like a small Cathedral in a desert. A year following the closure of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, my grandfather died, aged 84 years, at the Little Sisters of the Poor, Myrtle Bank, Adelaide.



The author's grandparents Patrick Joseph and Mary Lillian DEMPSEY (née HOWARD) with their children (left to right) Mary (author's mother), Patricia and John, c1917–1918 (Image courtesy of the author).

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Abraham Miller's Story

By Judy Wormwell

In mid-May 2022, Abraham MILLER was formally memorialised with a grave surround and tablets on his burial plot in the Auburn Cemetery. He had lain in his unmarked grave in the Clare Valley since 1864.

Abraham MILLER was born Abraham MELLOR in Manchester, England, around 1786. He was convicted in 1818 and transported to New South Wales with a sentence of 'Life'. During his convict years, his name was variously recorded as 'Mellor' or, increasingly, 'Miller', probably due to others misunderstanding his strong northern accent when giving his name verbally.

By the mid-1840s, he had become Abraham MILLER, a freed convict working his own property given to him by Governor Darling's medical physician in the 1830s. The reason for this gift is supposition, but the inference is that it was a type of pay-off for Abraham's refusal to testify in person against the physician's associate. In 1850, Abraham, his son and pregnant wife and their two children, along with most of his son's wife's family, travelled overland to South Australia, arriving in 1851.

Abraham's South Australian death certificate states that he was 79 years old when he died on 3 July 1864. To date, however, no definitive birth record can be found for his pre-colonial life, as there were several Abraham MELLORs in his district. Even across his later convict years, a range of birth dates can be found in various records. It is likely, however, that his parents were Benjamin and Ann MELLOR and that he was baptised on 13 August 1786 in Manchester, England.

On the other hand, an Abraham MELLOR was baptised in Manchester in 1788 with only a father, Abraham, recorded for the event. It is probable this is the boy who, at 'about eleven' in 1799, had become indentured for seven years to a peruke [wig] maker in Manchester.¹



Engraving of a wigmaker's workshop in the eighteenth century from *The Wigmaker in the Eighteenth-Century*, www.gutenberg.org.

Abraham MILLER was a short man and, as a lad, could easily have been presumed younger than his actual age. Yet there is certainly no doubt about the reason Abraham Mellor ended up in the colony of New South Wales as a convict in 1818.

The crime

In June 1817, Abraham MELLOR and James BUCKLEY, two of a group of six men, were committed to Lancaster Castle. They were held as prisoners until their charge of burglary and housebreaking could be heard during

NOMINATIONS FOR COUNCIL

This insert contains important information about vacancies on the Council for 2023 - 2025, and the nomination of members to fill those vacancies.



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NOMINATIONS FOR COUNCIL

To nominate a person for the new Council to be elected at the 50th Annual General Meeting, you are required to complete the form opposite and forward it to the Returning Officer by noon 31 July 2023.

If there is a need for an election, the Returning Officer will advise the nominees and request a statement and a photograph for inclusion in the August 2023 Journal of the Society.

This year there are five vacancies on Council.

The following Councillors' terms of office conclude at the 2023 Annual General Meeting and all are eligible for nomination and re-election

David Ballinger

Robert Blair

Dale Johns

Phil Lokan

Andrew Peake

The following Councillors' terms of office continue until the 2024 Annual General Meeting:

David Barber

Helen Livingston

Fiona Errington

Gilbert Materne

Emily Richardson

Beryl Schahinger

The Council has appointed Meryl Stephenson as Returning Officer and Carolyn Wass as Scrutineer.



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COUNCIL 2023 - 2025 NOMINATION FORM

(Please **write** in **block capitals** except signatures)

Name of Nominee:

Member Number:

Name of Proposer:

Member Number:

Signature:

Name of Seconder:

Member Number:

Signature:

ACCEPTANCE OF NOMINATION

I, the above-named nominee, accept this nomination, being eligible in accordance with the Rules of the Constitution relating to Membership and to Council, Officers and Patrons.

Date:

Signature:

This form must be with the Returning Officer by NOON on 31 July 2023 in a sealed envelope addressed to the Returning Officer.

The names of those nominating will remain confidential until the close of nominations.

If there are more candidates than vacancies, an optional statement of no more than 150 words and a photograph will be requested from the nominee by the Returning Officer for publication in the August 2023 edition of The South Australian Genealogist. If more than 150 words are submitted, the Returning Officer may edit the statement.

A photocopy of this form is acceptable.



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the ensuing assizes, the twice-yearly court hearings before a jury. *The Times* of London reported their trial.² The prosecution alleged that on the night in question James BUCKLEY, bearing a pistol, led the others into the house of James FIELDING through a downstairs window. Also sleeping in the house were Fielding's brother and his niece. Both brothers were assaulted, and nine guineas were stolen from a box; other items were also taken from the house.

FIELDING's niece attested that Abraham had then threatened her with a pistol, asking, 'Where is the money?' She said, 'I was frightened when the little man set his pistol to me, but not so much that I could not know him ... I did not cover my face a bit.' Another woman, who knew Abraham, identified him in relation to his lengthy visit to her master's house earlier in the night in question. Witnesses for the defence gave 'evidence', which was obviously concocted, as the Judge made the comment, '... such an attempt to establish a defence by perjury is a great aggravation'. After retiring for only 20 minutes, a verdict of 'Guilty' was given for both Abraham and BUCKLEY, but their death sentence ultimately became transportation to New South Wales for life (14 years).

Transportation

From December 1817 until his departure in 1818, Abraham was held in the hulk, *Retribution*, at Woolwich in southeast London.³ On 27 March 1818, he left England on the convict ship *Tottenham*, never to return. *Tottenham* was one of only two convict ships to record double digit deaths on the voyage. It departed Spithead with 200 convicts, all male and with 53 life sentences between them, and arrived in Sydney with 190 living convicts.

Abraham's colonial registration described him as five feet three inches, ruddy complexion, brown hair, and hazel eyes (inflamed).⁴ His occupation was listed as 'weaver'. There is probably a simple reason why Abraham's name was recorded variously as MELLOR and MILLER. The official government documents, begun with his criminal details in local Manchester, would have recorded his name accurately. Where reference was subsequently made to these written documents, for example on his transportation, the name MELLOR seems to have carried through. On the other hand, when Abraham had to give his name verbally in the colony, when dealing with people originally from other regions (or classes) of England, his strong accent could easily have allowed for misinterpretation.



Painting of Woolwich Dockyard by Nicholas Pocock (Image courtesy of National Maritime Museum, BHC1950).

On arrival, convicts were assigned to either government works or to an individual. An effort was made to match the convict to his/her area of expertise, but there was little call for weavers, meaning they were usually assigned as unskilled labourers, if male, or if female, as domestic servants. As number 34 of 97 from the *Tottenham*, Abraham MILLER was part of a group of twelve assigned from Parramatta for Mr Rouse's Town Gang. This appears to be the first recorded use of his name as 'Miller'. In 1821 Abraham was re-assigned. In the 1822 Muster he was recorded, again as MILLER, as being employed at the Lumber Yard. From this year, his life took an unexpected turn.

Drs McLeod and Moran

In 1821, Dr Donald McLEOD sailed to Sydney on the *Royal George* with Governor BRISBANE and was appointed physician to the vice-regal family and Government House staff.⁵ As well as this position, Dr McLEOD went on to hold a number of important government posts, including the first Police Magistrate at Parramatta, during Brisbane's tenure. His career as a magistrate was described as being 'fraught with problems as he was both harsh and uneven in his administration of justice'.⁶ At some point, McLEOD was 'considered unsuitable for a senior government post as he had been cohabiting with a woman of bad character', but what must be kept in mind is his close relationship with the governor, his family and their staff.

Dr Francis MORAN arrived in Sydney on *Mary Ann I* in 1822 and was appointed Assistant Surgeon in the colony.⁷ Before December of that same year, Abraham's life intersected with Dr MORAN's. Dated 7 December 1822, an official letter was sent to Brisbane, stating Abraham's refusal to attend a Court Enquiry concerning

Dr MORAN. Although Abraham's court attendance, in person, had been requested twice, Abraham had sent his statement in writing. This immediately arouses suspicion. Abraham's background would almost certainly have resulted in his being illiterate and hence someone must have written this statement for him.

The enquiry concerned MORAN having made disparaging remarks to a woman during a dinner hosted by a well-known Sydney solicitor and presumably attended by the upper echelons of Sydney society. No record can be found of Abraham's manner of involvement. Along with both doctors having military backgrounds, MORAN and McLEOD would have moved in at least the same medical—and likely social—circles, possibly becoming friends, supporting each other when necessary. McLEOD would go on to play a pivotal role in Abraham's life and hence it is reasonable to assume that one or both men exerted pressure on him (likely via bribery, as things turned out) not to appear at the enquiry in person. Abraham's statement was then prepared for him and, being illiterate, he would have had no real knowledge of what was presented in his name.

Governor BRISBANE also held a military rank. The outcome for MORAN, therefore, was a very severe written rebuke from BRISBANE, per his Secretary, reproaching him for having dishonoured the military code of conduct. MORAN moved, perhaps unwillingly, to Port Macquarie within six months and after stints in various locales, including India, died in Sydney in 1839. An inquest found the cause of death was intemperance.

It is only supposition, but it could be that Abraham's payoff for refusing to testify in person was that McLEOD would 'look after him'—something he certainly did.

In July 1823, Abraham was given permission, by the Reverend Samuel MARSDEN, to marry Catherine SULLIVAN, and they married in September 1823.⁸ Catherine, an Irish woman, had been sentenced for life and had arrived in the colony on *Mary Ann I* in May 1822, as one of 108 convict women on this ship. Catherine had her three-year-old daughter with her, but ‘children of convict women either stayed with their mothers or were moved to an orphanage’.⁹ As there is no further mention of the daughter, it appears she was sent to an orphanage. An interesting aspect of Abraham’s choice of wife is that Catherine arrived on the same ship as MORAN. This could have been coincidence, as could the fact that McLEOD was the Superintendent of the Female Factory, where Catherine had been assigned. Perhaps McLEOD and/or MORAN ‘found a wife’ for Abraham as part of his payoff.

The year 1825 was a momentous one for both Abraham and New South Wales. Abraham’s only colony-born child, Abraham MILLER (always Miller), was born in mid-1825, while the General Muster of that year found Abraham working in the Government Gardens in Parramatta.



Old Government House and Gardens in Parramatta, New South Wales, where Abraham MELLOR worked in 1825 (Image courtesy of Wikimedia).

From the lumber yard to the Gardens would have been a major promotion so was it coincidence or, again, was it payoff? Then, in November, Abraham was granted his Ticket of Leave by special Order of the Governor.¹⁰ BRISBANE’s term of office in the colony was coming to an end in that same month, so it is likely McLEOD used his vice-regal connection to gain this concession for Abraham prior to both BRISBANE and McLEOD independently departing for Europe before the end of 1825.

Abraham’s marriage to Catherine was proving unsatisfactory. On 2 May 1827, *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* reported:

*Catherine Miller, wife of Abraham Miller, taken up by constable McManus for drunkenness on Sunday. Her husband stated that he found her drunk 15 days out of 18; sentenced 3 months to 3d class in the Factory.*¹¹

Third class in the Female Factory was the most severe penalty. No death record can be found for Catherine, but Abraham was a widower by 1835. At the recorded age of 45 years, he was granted permission to marry a young convict woman of 19 years, but this was possibly a political move to benefit the girl, as was known to commonly happen, because the marriage never eventuated.

In the 1828 census, the MILLER family was recorded as living on McLEOD’s 1000-acre property at Cabramatta, where Abraham worked as a gardener. It seems likely that the younger Abraham went on to receive an education arranged by McLEOD. In early 1828, McLEOD returned from Europe in time to accompany Charles STURT on his expedition to the River Darling, before departing in 1829 for India as an Army surgeon. McLEOD had not settled on the location of his 2000-acre land grant of

1825. Acting on his client's behalf, his lawyer acquired the grant property at Gundaroo, approximately 50 kilometres southeast of Yass. Dr Donald McLEOD died in Calcutta in 1840.

In 1835, Abraham received a Conditional Pardon. Then in 1836 he was granted an Absolute Pardon, making him an unfettered man.

Property ownership

By the early 1830s, several areas of land in the Murrumbidgee District had been claimed, by squatting, in McLEOD's name. One of these, a smaller property, had been acquired for Abraham. The first known record is 1838, but Abraham could have been resident there earlier, because the area had previously been unregulated, and consequently, unrecorded by the government. According to historian Arthur ANDREWS, McLEOD took up the run, Talmalmo, for his 'assigned servant'. This servant was described as 'one of his stockmen named Abraham Miller, from whom the locally-renowned "Abraham's Bosom" obtained its name'.¹² The property Talmalmo comprised much hilly-to-mountainous terrain and 'Abraham's Bosom' is a cutting which still exists. It is near the southern boundary of the Woomargama National Park in New South Wales. The Talmalmo run, together with others, was eventually reconfigured, and all that remains is its name for the small town of Talmalmo, about 60 kilometres east of Albury.

The colony had been spreading north and south, especially via squatting, leading the government to regulate this type of land acquisition. The regulation took the form of a lease arrangement through the issuance of Depasturing Licences, requiring the payment of annual fees. Although the run had been claimed a few years earlier for Abraham MILLER,

Talmalmo was first registered in his convict-recorded name of MELLOR in 1842. After the initial part-year fee of £5 to bring him into line with the end of the financial year of 1842-1843, his annual fee was £10. Either of the Abrahams, father or son, held a Depasturing Licence for Talmalmo until 1849.

The 1840s saw numerous changes within both the MILLER and McLEOD families. The McLEOD property at Gundaroo had been inherited by McLEOD's son, Donald Roderick McLEOD, who moved away from the property in 1845 for several years, following serious drought conditions. The movements of Abraham MILLER Jnr are unknown between 1828 and 1846. It is possible, however, that he was both gaining a formal education and learning how to farm on the McLEOD property, together with two of Dr McLEOD's nephews. Their father was Donald's brother, Archibald McLEOD, at one time in charge of agriculture on Norfolk Island.

Abraham MILLER Jnr married Sarah COLLINS in 1846, in the registration place of Gundaroo. Sarah had arrived in the colony in 1839, as an eight-year-old, with her free-settler family. Abraham signed the marriage certificate, indicating he was literate, whereas Sarah only made her mark, a cross, evidence of illiteracy. It is likely the young couple immediately went to live on Talmalmo, because the licence in 1846 was issued in the name of Abraham MILLER, whereas previously it had been MELLOR. The language used to describe the property in the 1848 licence renewal application, along with consistent spelling thenceforth of the name, Talmalmo, suggests Abraham MILLER Jnr had indeed become the registered holder of the tenure.

An 1848 map of 'Early Runs of the Upper Murray' locates Talmalmo to the north

of the Hume (now Murray) River with the river forming its southern boundary. The Government Gazette description for that year gives an approximate area of 7,680 acres with an estimated grazing capacity of 500 cattle and 2000 sheep. In due course, a dispute concerning the northeastern boundary arose, resulting in Abraham lodging a caveat opposing the owner of the adjoining property, in 1850. A second hearing was scheduled for April 1851, but it did not proceed, because the MILLER family were no longer there.

Move to South Australia

For whatever reason, both the MILLER and most members of the COLLINS families departed New South Wales before the hearing. Abraham MILLER Jnr had two sons by then, and according to family lore, a third child was born in September 1850, during their overland journey to South Australia. Initially, the MILLERs settled in Watervale in the Clare Valley. In 1851, Abraham MILLER Jnr took out his first lease of land, about 17 kilometres south: Section 221 in Auburn (Upper Wakefield). He went on to purchase and lease other sections in the district. In 1860, he bought Section 221, on which he built a substantial home. The property is now owned by Taylors Wines and planted with vines. An acre of Section 222's eighty acres (touching Section 221 at its southeastern corner) was 'cut out' by Special Order, presumably for Abraham Snr independent use, and this was where he died in 1864.



in New South Wales, Abraham MILLER proved himself to be a survivor. He showed that by hard work and taking advantage of presented opportunities, he was able to forge a new life for himself, ultimately becoming a worthy citizen in the fledgling colony of South Australia.

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Finding our Huguenot Connections in South Australia

By Dorothy Brownrigg and Robert Nash

Huguenots were French-speaking Protestants, part of a Christian movement in Europe known as the Reformation. French scholar John CALVIN (born Jean CAUVIN) wrote his *Institutes of the Christian Religion* in 1536, which led to French Protestants adopting his form of Protestantism. Bitter religious wars between 1562 and 1598 caused great harm and suffering. During the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, thousands of Protestant Walloons (French-speaking people from southern Belgium and north-eastern France) fled and were joined by other Huguenots fleeing religious persecution in France itself, to settle abroad.

In 1572 thousands of Huguenots died in the St Bartholomew's Day Massacre in Paris, and as subsequently, in other parts of France. King Henry IV, born a Protestant, issued the Edict of Nantes in 1598 which gave some civic and religious tolerance to the Huguenots. King Louis XIV revoked the Edict of Nantes in the 1680s in order to coerce conversion to the Catholic faith. As a religious minority in France, the Protestants withstood years of brutal persecution and marginalisation. They were restricted in terms of their professions, places of worship, and were coerced to deny their faith. Those who did not abjure left their homeland as refugees and chose exile in tolerant countries, many never to return.

Approximately 200,000 Huguenots left France in the decade of the 1680s. The principal places of refuge were the Netherlands, Switzerland, Germany, England, and Ireland. Many ventured further to distant colonies of the British and Dutch empires. Some settled in far-flung places such as Russia, the

Caribbean, Britain's American colonies, South Africa, and Ceylon. Although no Huguenots came directly to Australia, many descendants of these people did, and were prominent citizens during earliest European settlement. Some gained notoriety as individuals and others as family groups. The Government of South Australia was proclaimed on 28 December 1836, established as a free settlement rather than one built on convict labour.

Huguenot Individuals in South Australia

Robert GOUGER (1802–1846) held the position of South Australia's Colonial Secretary in 1835. He was the son of a London merchant and descended from a Huguenot family whose name appears in the register of the French church of Threadneedle Street, London, as early as 1690.¹



Photograph of portrait of Robert GOUGER, 1833 (Image courtesy of State Library of South Australia, B 48189).



Grave of Osmond GILLES, before recent restoration, West Terrace Cemetery (Image courtesy of Anne Both).



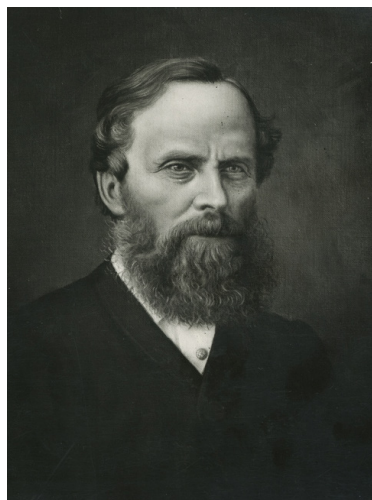
Portrait of South Australia's first Colonial Treasurer, Osmond GILLES (Image courtesy of State Library of South Australia, B 7030).

Osmond GILLES (1788–1866) was South Australia's first Colonial Treasurer, a successful businessman, pastoralist, and philanthropist. He descended from a Huguenot family of merchants who probably originated in the area of Bolbec in Normandy. As a wealthy grain and stock merchant in partnership

with his brother-in-law, Phillip OAKDEN in Hamburg, he gained extensive knowledge of the sheep and wool trade. In the colony he became an influential pastoralist, importing sheep from Van Diemen's Land, and Saxon Merino flocks from Germany. When colonial funds were depleted, GILLES kept the South Australian Treasury going with regular advances from his own resources. In 1839 he discovered silver-lead on his property at Glen Osmond, yielding substantial royalties, and became the first person to export mineral ore from Australia. Despite his evident temper, the dominant factors in his private life were strong religious beliefs and generosity. He gave aid and land to churches of various denominations and to cultural societies and charitable institutions.²

The BONNEY family left France after the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes, and settled in Staffordshire, England. Charles BONNEY (1813–1897), the son of an Anglican clergyman, emigrated to Sydney arriving on 12 December 1834. He initially worked as a legal clerk, and then as a pastoralist. In 1838, he and Joseph HAWDON overlanded the first stock to Adelaide, then overlanded another herd of cattle to Adelaide via a drier route through southwest Victoria in 1839. He was a capable and intelligent bushman, and his wide knowledge of Australian geography was recognized when he was elected a fellow of the Royal Geographical Society in 1861. Charles married Charlotte HERITAGE in 1846, became mayor of Norwood in 1853, and was elected to the House of Assembly in 1857. His political career continued in the Legislative Council, then as a Magistrate. He became the Commissioner of Crown Lands and in 1869 was appointed General Manager of the government railways. Throughout his official and political life

he was called as an expert witness for parliamentary committees on subjects relating to mining, land and the railways.³



Portrait of Charles BONNEY, overlander, politician and civil servant (Image courtesy of State Library of South Australia, B 7390).

Admiral Sir Day Hort BOSANQUET (1843–1923) arrived in Adelaide in March 1909 to be the Governor of South Australia. His Huguenot ancestors can be traced back to Lunel, in Languedoc. David BOSANQUET, the forebear of the English family, worked in the silk trade in Lyon. David fled persecution in 1685 travelling to Geneva, then through Germany and Holland, arriving in London on 18 November of that year. In London, David traded the silks of Spitalfields for exotic goods such as lapis lazuli, coffee, and beeswax. He and his brother Jean became highly successful merchants, with subsequent London generations becoming more gentrified. They held influential positions in the Huguenot community as well as in commercial, ecclesiastical, and military positions.

David was a Director of both the Levant Company (which had sole right to trade with the Ottoman Empire) and the East India Company.



Sir Day Hort BOSANQUET and family leaving South Australia in 1914 (Image courtesy of State Library of South Australia, PRG 280/1/12/50).

In 1857 Day Hort BOSANQUET (David's three-times great-grandson) joined the Navy as a cadet aged 13 years. By 1897 he was a Rear Admiral, and in 1904 was a Full Admiral in command of the North America and West Indies station. He married Mary BUTT in 1881 and they had three children. As Governor until 1914, Day Hort served with two Premiers: one Conservative, A.H. PEAKE; and one Labor, John VERRAN. He encouraged both to fight for South Australia's rights, especially in boundary disputes with Victoria, the struggle for a fair share of Murray water, and the building of the Oodnadatta-Pine Creek railway link as a quid pro quo for the transfer of the Northern Territory to the Commonwealth.⁴

Other individuals of Huguenot descent who made significant contributions to South Australia include Sir George GREY (1812–1898) Governor of South Australia from 1841 to 1845; surveyor and engineer George CHAMIER (1842–1915); winemaker Desmond Du RIEU (1890–1969); and journalist and newspaper executive Sir Frederick DUMAS (1891–1973).



Portrait of Sir George GREY painted by Daniel MUNDY, c1860. The mother of Sir George GREY, Governor of South Australia from 1841 to 1845, came from an Irish Huguenot family, VIGNOLES (Image courtesy of New Zealand History, <https://nzhistory.govt.nz/media/photo/george-grey-painting>).

Three Huguenot Families in South Australia

The FERRY Family

The FERRY family were originally Walloon (French-speaking) weavers from the town of Tourcoing on the border of France and what is now Belgium. They came to England in the sixteenth century, settling first in Canterbury and later in the East End of London. John Mattinson FERRY (1806–1886) described London as a city which ‘possessed many spots where the inhabitants lived in an exceedingly crowded, squalid and filthy state, in which vice and immorality were rampant, and from which most of the inhabitants turned out daily as ballad singers, beggars or pickpockets.’ John’s father started a Sunday School in which reading and writing were a central part of the program. Sunday schools were seen as a

way of turning the poor away from crime, and instilling in them a sense of morality, and a desire for self-improvement. In 1829 John began work as a teacher in Tottenham, but some years later his health deteriorated, and he was advised to emigrate to a healthier climate. He had to borrow money from his brother-in-law to secure passages for his family. They embarked on the *Derwent* on 6 November 1852, eventually reaching Port Adelaide on 15 March 1853. John had two shillings and sixpence in his pocket, no specific prospects for accommodation or employment, a wife and seven children aged between one and twenty-one years old.

Two sons, John and Seth FERRY, secured employment until their father found an opportunity for the family to move to Woodside in the Adelaide Hills where they opened a school and store. The family continued to show adaptability and determination, by applying themselves to anything that would allow them to earn a living. John Snr worked as a district clerk, surveyor, and collector while his son John moved into a sawmilling partnership. Other sons worked with the carrying business, carting goods between Woodside and Adelaide and settlements further north. The FERRY family’s seventh child, Eleanor Dingley FERRY, married a young German doctor called Edward HOCHÉ, and accompanied him to the remote outpost of Birdsville in 1893. Sadly, she died there in a typhoid epidemic the following year.

Teaching sustained most of John Mattinson FERRY’s family. His two eldest children returned to that profession, with John Jnr teaching at seven different schools. In 1868 John Snr approached the Council of Education with a proposal for a school in Meningie, in the south-

east of the state. By March 1870 he had nineteen boys and fifteen girls enrolled and remained Principal of the school until he retired in 1876, aged seventy. Five of the nine people in the FERRY family who arrived on the *Derwent* in 1853 moved into the teaching profession, others into horse-raising and wheelwrighting. Their enterprise, initiative, pursuit of excellence, and a strong belief in family were to play a significant role in their success and contribution to the early development of South Australia.⁵



Eleanor HOCHÉ (née FERRY), the daughter of John Mattinson FERRY, who died at Birdsville in Queensland in 1893 (Image courtesy of Helen Ferber).

The CHAMPION de CRESPIGNY family

This family were of French nobility in Normandy, descending from Claude CHAMPION de CRESPIGNY, Sieur de Crespigny, and his wife, the Comtesse de VIERVILLE, who both fled to England in 1687. Three sons who sought refuge in England became free denizens of England by an Act of Parliament passed on 5 March 1690. Family tradition claims descent from hereditary champions to the Duke of Normandy, who were expected to risk mortal combat to defend the Duke's honour.

Sir Constantine Trent CHAMPION de CRESPIGNY (1882–1952) descended from Claude CHAMPION de CRESPIGNY. Constantine's father, Phillip, was born in St Malo and the family emigrated to Australia in 1852. Philip CHAMPION de CRESPIGNY had a long career with the Bank of Victoria, joining in 1866 and becoming General Manager in 1916. Sir Constantine was a successful and prominent figure in Australia's medical history, serving in both peacetime and war. He was born at Queenscliff, Victoria. He gained his medical degree at Melbourne University, specialising in pathology in 1909, and was appointed to Adelaide Hospital. In 1906 he married Beatrix HUGHES and they had four children. After Beatrix's death, he married Mary Birks JOLLEY in December 1945, a teacher thirty years his junior, and they had one daughter, Charlotte.

In 1908 he started a research laboratory in pathology in a tin shed at the back of the Adelaide Hospital. He solicited funds from private persons, charitable bequests and the State government to build the Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science. His vision was for an institute which combined laboratory services, teaching and research. Today, the laboratory is on the grounds of the University of Adelaide and is called SA Pathology. It has merged

with pathology departments from two other public hospitals and has an expenditure of \$55 million. It continues to emphasise an integration of service, teaching and research in clinical medicine.

Constantine Trent CHAMPION de CRESPIGNY was commissioned into the Australian Army Medical Corps, serving as Lieutenant-Colonel in Gallipoli in 1915 and France in 1917, then became a consulting physician at the AIF headquarters in London in 1918. He was awarded a Distinguished Service Order in 1917. Constantine Trent became a member of the Royal College of Physicians, acted as the President for 1942–1944, and published many papers between 1914 and 1944. He was knighted in 1941 and was known as ‘Sir Trent’. He had a strong sense of duty, both private and national. He once said to one of his children, ‘When in doubt my dear, do the difficult thing’.⁶



Guillaume Daniel DELPRAT, CBE, Melbourne, 1919 (Image courtesy of Paquita MAWSON, *A Vision of Steel: The Life of GD Delprat, CBE, General Manager of BHP, 1898–1921, FW Cheshire, 1958, p. i*).

The DELPRAT family

Guillaume Daniel DELPRAT (1856–1937) was born on 1 September 1856 at Delft, the Netherlands, the son of Major General Felix Albert Theodore DELPRAT and Elisabeth Francina (née van SANTEN KOLFF). In 1879 he married Henrietta Maria Wilhelmina Sophia JAS and they had two sons and five daughters. From 1873 to 1877 he served an engineering apprenticeship in Scotland and had a mining career which spanned Spain, Mexico and North America. In 1898 he accepted an offer to become assistant general manager of BHP and he and his wife, along with five of their seven children, arrived in South Australia in January 1899. They settled in Adelaide from 1904 where they remained until moving to Melbourne in 1913.

On 1 April 1899 Guillaume Daniel DELPRAT became general manager of BHP, a position he held until 1921. He pioneered the froth flotation process for refining sulphide ore, predicted the exhaustion of BHP’s mine at Broken Hill and pushed to move the company’s smelters to Port Pirie. He initiated the construction of the BHP Whyalla Tramway, shifted BHP from silver and lead mining to zinc and sulphur production, and advocated for the construction of the steelworks in Newcastle, New South Wales. These moves were the basis of BHP’s later success. For Guillaume Daniel DELPRAT’s visionary judgement he was made a CBE (Commander of the Order of the British Empire). In 1958, his daughter Paquita wrote a biography of her father, *A Vision of Steel*, which details his successful career.⁷

Francisca Adriana ‘Paquita’ DELPRAT (1891–1974) was a community worker and writer, who married the geologist and explorer Sir Douglas MAWSON (1882–1958). Her education began at the convent at Broken Hill before she attended

Tormore House, a progressive private school in North Adelaide, until 1908. She became engaged at the age of nineteen, and married Douglas MAWSON in 1914, the same year as he received his knighthood. They had two daughters: Patricia born in Melbourne in 1915, and Jessica born in London in 1917 before returning to South Australia in 1919 where they built a house in Brighton. Lady Paquita MAWSON took on active roles in the University Wives' Club, the Lyceum, the Queen Adelaide Club, the Mothers' and Babies' Health Association, and the South Australian Branch of the Red Cross Society. In 1946 she was appointed Officer of the Order of Oranje-Nassau in recognition of the assistance she gave to Dutch refugees and was awarded an OBE in 1951.⁸

Lady Paquita MAWSON (née DELPRAT) was a prolific letter writer and made her own contribution to knowledge of Antarctica with her publication *Mawson of the Antarctic*.⁹ Some of her personal letters have recently been used by her great-granddaughter, Emma McEWIN, to reveal the role Paquita may have played in Mawson's survival during the 1912–13 sledging expedition. Emma claimed:

*Reading them [their love letters] I saw her point of view, I also saw how much she yearned for him, and I saw how he thought of her constantly, and how this must have pulled him through many times. I am convinced that knowing she was there waiting for him made him more determined to survive on that terrible journey back. He was utterly alone, utterly alone, in that vast expanse of nothingness, with just the howling blizzard around him.*¹⁰

Douglas MAWSON kept Paquita's letters all his life. Nancy Robinson FLANNERY first saw Paquita's correspondence in 1991, among the papers that Mawson's estate had entrusted to the University of Adelaide. She was intrigued to glimpse the emotional life of the austere explorer-scientist. Six years later, Nancy

found Douglas's letters to Paquita among private family papers and was then able to explore both sides of this romantic story. Nancy edited these letters to produce a book entitled, *This Everlasting Silence*, a phrase Paquita had used in one of her letters to Douglas.¹¹ Both Paquita and Douglas are buried at St Jude's Cemetery, Brighton, Adelaide.

Many skilled artisans, farmers, and seamen from the Channel Islands (Jersey and Guernsey) arrived in South Australia after 1848 with names such as: BARREAU, Des LANDES, Le CORNU, Le MAISTRE, Le COUTEUR; de GARIS, de la MARE, du MONT, HELLEUR, Le MESURIER, Le POIDEVIN, OGIER, PRIAULX, and TOSTEVIN. Other Huguenot names that can be found in South Australia include ANDRÉ, BOYER, CAZNEAUX, de LAUNE, DELO, FOURMY, HOINVILLE, MARET, PHENE, TEULON, DURYEA, CARLIER, MALANDAIN, and GAMBIER. Through determination, enterprise and a sense of civic duty, they made significant contributions to the development of the new colony. Their individual and combined legacy is significant.

The Huguenot Society of Australia is a historical and genealogical society founded in 2003 with members throughout Australia. One of our main aims is to assist members with their family history research. For more information, please email ozhug@optushome.com.au.

You are invited to save the date for the Huguenot Society Conference, to be held on 21 October 2023 at Club York, 99 York Street in Sydney. Dr Tessa Murdoch is a keynote speaker and her recently published book, *Europe Divided: Huguenot Refugee Art and Culture*, is highly recommended. For more information see <https://huguenotsaustralia.org.au/news/>

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- ¹⁰ Emma McEwin, *An Antarctic Affair: a story of love and survival by the great-granddaughter of Douglas and Paquita Mawson*, East Street Publications, 2008
- ¹¹ Nancy Flannery, *This everlasting silence: the love letters of Paquita Delprat and Douglas Mawson, 1911–1914*, Melbourne University Press, 2005.

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New Members & their Research Interests

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

BEVERLEY, Mrs Elizabeth (**ERREY, ANEAR, O'RILEY, RILEY, BEVERLEY, LEOPOLD, WEICHERT, WEIGERT, PRELLER**)

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

FRASER, Ms Jane (**SWAIN, BALLINGER, FITZSIMONS**)

GEPP, Ms Corinne (**GEPP, BOWERING**)

GOODWORTH, Mrs Helen (**THOMAS, GRAY, NIEASS, INGERSON, JOHNSON, BROWN, PETHICK**)

GRAY, Miss Jeana (**JONES, WILLIAMS, TONKIN, KAIN, KEAN, MITCHELL**)

HARRIS, Ms Ellie (**Elsie May JONES, born 6 February 1910**)

HARVEY, Mrs Heather (**COOK, TREZISE**)

HEALY, Ms Robyn (**REU**)

JENKINS, Miss Debbie (**FURNEAUX, REED**)

JOHN, Ms Margie (**PAGE, WHITEFORD**)

JOHNSON, Mr Ken (**OWEN, BURGESS, HAWORTH**)

LABLACK, Ms Karen (**Germanic settlements in Australia**)

LODGE, Ms Jane (**McRAE, DAVIS, GLIDDON**)

MILLS, Ms Sue (**MILLS, CHRISTIE, KERR, BARNETT, MASCHMEDT, LAMBERT, CHARLES, CHARLIER, O'DEA**)

MOGG, Mr Jeffrey (**HETHERINGTON, KOENNECKE, FISHER, MOGG**)

MURRAY, Mrs Andrea (**CREASER, LAWSON, SIMPSON, LINN**)

PACKER, Mr Bruce (**PACKER, MUNDULLA, LOADER, Wanbi, Payneham, Broken Hill**)

STUART, Ms Megan (**BETANCOR, MCKILL, HASFORTH**)

VANDEPEER, Mr Michael (**VANDEPEER, HARRIS, MILLS, NASH, FISHER, OLIVER**)

WEGENER, Ms Susanne (**WEGENE, MARSH, PARHAM, RIGGS**)



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Research & Development Committee Update

by David Ballinger

The year 2023 started with a rush and the momentum is still on. Due to the efforts of our Project Team Leaders and volunteers we are accumulating a massive amount of source records. This data is working its way through our system prior to being released as a searchable database. The information is derived from existing projects, but also from data that is donated to us by researchers who find snippets of valuable information while they are doing their family history.

In addition, we are investigating potentially interesting projects which have been suggested to us by members. Some of these projects are relatively simple to commence and are being investigated further to identify their value and management needs. If you have any ideas that you believe may have potential to be a valuable addition to our databases, please do contact me on saghs.randd@saghs.org.au with the details so we can investigate it further.

Newspaper personals and other notices

Our Newspaper Personals database has been a long-term project that will have no end. Previously, our database consisted of notices from Adelaide-based newspapers (*The Advertiser*, *Sunday Mail* etc.) as well as some country newspapers. With the decline in use of *The Advertiser* for notices such as Births, Engagements, Approaching Marriages, Marriages, Deaths, Funerals, we are now concentrating additional volunteer hours to working on all of the

30 country newspapers available to us. Some 95 percent of notices recorded in country newspapers do not appear in *The Advertiser*. This work has exponentially expanded the amount of data and will give us a solid base for this database heading into the future.

Wishing to become a database volunteer?

We currently have a need for additional volunteers to work on the Schools Admissions project, the Incoming Immigrants (Passengers List) project, or as a general project volunteer either as a transcriber (data entry) or checking. This work can be completed either in the Society Library or at home. If you wish to work from home, you can either personally pickup and return the files, or become a remote volunteer where files are delivered by email.

In addition, the Headstone Renaming project is seeking people to rename headstone image files. Some computer literacy is necessary, but training will be provided. If you feel that you can assist in any way, please contact me on saghs.randd@saghs.org.au.

German-Born South Australians

This project is still in the final stages of preparatory development and an announcement calling for information will be made as soon as possible.

Online Database development and enhancements

As you will have seen, we have added a large number of new records to our databases during the last part of 2022 and early January 2023. As we advised previously, we currently have released to our database development team many additional records to be configured into searchable databases. Final development of these for release is nearly completed and we will inform you when this has been done. If you are an online database user and have an idea that you believe would enhance your online experience, please do email me at saghs.randd@saghs.org.au.

External scanning (Outreach Program)

This program has managed to continue locally in Adelaide, and two new sites in Adelaide and two in country areas are about to commence. All of the source records previously scanned are progressing their way through our database development processes, with many more being added as new locations for scanning join the program.

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 onsite 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.

Working Bees

Our working bees have continued to be popular and all have been resounding successes. This year we have added

some special working bee dates which will concentrate solely on a single project for the day. The projects selected for these days are Incoming Passengers, Headstone Images, and Cornish-Born South Australians. So far these working bees have proven to be very successful in completing a large amount of backlog work and adding new volunteers to the teams.

The scheduled working bees for the remainder of 2023 will be held on:

- 18 June 2023 (General Records)
- 2 July 2023 (Cornish-Born South Australians)
- 30 July 2023 (General Records)
- 1 October 2023 (General Records)
- 15 October 2023 (Headstone Images)
- 5 November 2023 (General Records)

We have 'returned to normal' for our working bees in 2023. There will be no restrictions on the number of people attending so, 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, then please do contact me on saghs.randd@saghs.org.au to register your interest.

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

David Ballinger FSAGHS

Chairperson
Research & Development Committee

News from the Special Interest Groups

Scotland Group

At our February meeting we discussed the topic 'FamilySearch—is it useful for Scottish Research'. FamilySearch www.familysearch.org is the largest genealogical organisation in the world. Founded in 1894 as the Genealogical Society of Utah, they started microfilming records in 1938, digital imaging in 1998, and launched their first website in 1999. The current website provides access to their historical records database which includes digitised books, digitised microfilm, other digital records, training material and research resources. Their Research Wiki includes useful guidance and information on source records and availability at a country, county and parish level.

Those of you who are familiar with the site will know that often the images of the records are not available to users logging in from home but are only available from FamilySearch Centres or from a FamilySearch Affiliate Library. We are in the fortunate position that our SAGHS Library is the only affiliate library in South Australia. It is simply a matter of logging in on one of the Society computers using your own FamilySearch login to be able to access many of these images, but some images are only available from FamilySearch Centres. There are a number of these throughout our state and I understand that their staff can be very helpful.

FamilySearch is certainly not a replacement for ScotlandsPeople www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk which is the major source for Scottish records. Nonetheless, it is my view that FamilySearch is a useful site for your Scottish research. They have digitised and indexed a wide range of documents and records. It is possible that

information that you haven't been able to find might be found on their site from a source document that is not available elsewhere. I encourage those who are not already familiar with the site to have a look and see what you can find. It is free to use, although you need to register first.

In April, the topic was 'Migration from Scotland—where did the emigrants go?' Emigration out of Scotland has occurred over a long period of time and for many reasons. These have included the migration of people forced from their homes with the highland clearances, the collapse of industries such as kelp farming and burning, religious discrimination, periods of famine, convict transportation, poverty, a desire to own land rather than have the life of a tenant farmer, organised schemes such as the Irish plantations, employment opportunity, forced child migration, and to follow other family members.

The most popular destinations were the North American colonies (the United States of America after the American War of Independence), Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and of course, Ireland. The assisted passage schemes were required for the working classes to be able to consider emigration to the distant colonies in Australasia due to the high cost of passages relative to the fares to North American colonies. Ultimately Scots have emigrated to many countries all around the world. In many places they have established a lasting legacy including their religion, language, and social and cultural traditions such as Highland games and the Great Highland bagpipes.

We also discussed a group project to update the Society's Register of Members Research Interests with particular emphasis

on those families in Scotland that we are investigating. It is quite possible that we may find common names and can share our research findings. At our next meeting in June, we will hear from group members with their 'Stories of Hardship, Misadventure and Misfortune' that their forebears suffered and endured. It promises to be an interesting discussion.

Convenor:

Marcus Thornton

saghs.scotland@saghs.org.au

Germanic and Continental European Special Interest Group

Our GCE SIG has held hybrid Zoom meetings, based in the SAGHS Library on Unley Road, since February 2023. This has enabled us to include our more distant members along with those who enjoy the library setting. We embraced this technology with enthusiasm, but it has been challenging. Thanks go to General Manager Carolyn Wass for her support and knowledge of the hybrid system. A new conference microphone/speaker was bought for better audio. We hope to manage this new system better and thank everyone for their patience and support.

Emily Richardson, Assistant Director of the National Archives Australia (SA Branch) and SAGHS volunteer, presented an informative and entertaining talk in February about the many thousands of immigrants to South Australia and how to access their information. In March Janette Lange, Archivist at St Joseph's in Kensington, presented the 'German Sisters of St Joseph's'. Janette described ten women who were either born in Germany or were of German ancestry. This illuminating talk was greatly appreciated.



In April we will hear how our SAGHS photographic collection volunteers have carefully reconstructed the history of a Bulgarian woman from a photograph found in a box of donated photos. This has led to her featuring on our SAGHS promotional brochures and banners. We plan to have a GCE SIG outing in June to the Eudunda Heritage Gallery in Eudunda. Details will soon be available.

We invite all members researching regions in Continental Europe to contact us, as we enjoy sharing your progress. Please send in ideas for future meeting topics. We look forward to seeing you at our meetings. Please check the Events Calendar, as some of our winter meetings will be Zoom only <https://www.genealogysa.org.au/whats-on/events-calendar>.

What's On



MAY 2023

- 2 **Twilight Talks:** Introduction to the Genealogical Society of Victoria
- 3 **Computer Users Group:** General questions
- 4 **England Group:** The County of Durham
- 8 **Ireland Group:** TBA
- 9 **Family Historian Software Users Group:** Plugins and basic queries
- 10 **Germanic & Continental European Group:** Technical resources used in finding and determining details of my great-grandfather's baptismal record, presented by Philip Mann
- 17 **DNA in Family History Group:** TBA
- 18 **Family History Writers Group:** Stories of Hardship, Misadventure and Misfortune

JUNE 2023

- 1 **England Group:** The County of Cornwall, presented by Jan Lokan
- 4 **Scotland Group:** TBA
- 7 **Computer Users Group:** General Questions
- 7 **Wednesdays@1:** QFHS

- 12 **Ireland Group:** TBA
- 13 **Family Historian Software Users Group:** Extended queries guesstimate birth & death years of individuals
- 14 **Germanic & Continental European Group:** NEKLA 2014, presented by Kingsley Neumann.
- 18 **Genealogy SA Working Bee:** General Records
- 21 **DNA in Family History Group:** TBA
- 22 **Family History Writers Group:** TBA

JULY 2023

- 2 **Genealogy SA Working Bee:** Cornish-Born South Australians
- 4 **Twilight Talks:** SAG
- 5 **Computer Users Group:** TBA
- 6 **England Group:** How to search for your convict ancestors records.
- 10 **Ireland Group:** TBA
- 11 **Family Historian Software Users Group:** Building custom Narrative sentences
- 12 **Germanic & Continental European Group:** Questions and Hints, Group Discussion

- 19 **DNA in Family History Group:** TBA
- 20 **Family History Writers Group:** TBA
- 30 **Genealogy SA Working Bee:** General Records

AUGUST 2023

- 2 **Wednesdays@1:** TBA
- 2 **Computer Users Group:** TBA
- 3 **England Group:** Free passage to Paradise
- 6 **Scotland Group:** TBA
- 7 **Ireland Group:** TBA
- 8 **Family Historian Software Users Group:** TBA
- 9 **Germanic & Continental European Group:** TBA
- 16 **DNA in Family History Group:** TBA
- 17 **Family History Writers Group:** TBA



Special Interest Groups

Meetings of Special Interest Groups are held regularly each month online through Zoom or in the Genealogy SA Library at 201 Unley Road, Unley.

For more information on joining a Zoom meeting please contact the Genealogy SA office on (08) 8272 4222, saghs.admin@saghs.org.au or visit the Genealogy SA online Events Calendar <https://www.genealogysa.org.au/whats-on/events-calendar>

Regular Meeting Dates

Computer Users Group: 1st Wednesday of every month (except December and January)

England Group: 1st Thursday of every month (except January)

Ireland Group: 2nd Monday of every month (except January)

Family Historian Software Users Group: 2nd Tuesday of every month (except January)

Germanic & Continental European Group: 2nd Wednesday of every month (except January)

DNA in Family History Group: 3rd Wednesday of every month (except January)

Family History Writers Group: 3rd Thursday of every month (except January)

Scotland Group: 1st Sunday of every 2nd month (except January)

New Books in the Library

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. A link to our library catalogue can be found on the Genealogy SA website:

www.genealogysa.org.au/resources/society-library/about-the-library.

Family Histories

Celebrating the Life of Margaret Millard: 9th December 1933–3rd March 2020	FH Cabinet/M	
Spain Family of South Australia 1847 by Carolyn Spain	FH Cabinet/S	
Belmonte: Joseph Edward Beinke, His Family and Farming Life 1890–1975 by Gavin Beinke	FH/BEI	2nd copy
The Hills of Time: A Family History of Georg Heinrich Friedrich Bockmann, his Wife, Johanne Caroline Wilhelmine (née Kaufmann) & Their Ancestors by Margaret Gibson	FH/BOC	2 copies
Deep-rooted in Kent: An Account of the Filmer Family by Reginald M Filmer	FH/FIL	
Eva Olive Thomas (née Henley) Her Ancestors and Descendants, in Loving Memory by Josaphine Saint	FH/HEN	2 copies
Echunga Primary School May 28th Golden Jubilee 1929–1979	FH/ECHUNGA	

Local Histories

Making Space: Women and Education at St. Aloysius College 1880–2000 edited by Fay Gale	FH/ECHUNGA	
Making Space: Women and Education at St. Aloysius College 1880–2000 edited by Fay Gale	LH/GAL/ADE	
Copper City Chronicle: A History of Kadina by Keith Bailey	LH/KADINA	2nd copy
Horizons: A Chronicle of School Life at Orreroo, 1880–1980 edited by Rita Shepherd and Robert Shepherd	LH/ORROROO	
Stories of Prospect Past: A Collection of Interesting Stories and Personal Memories About People and Places Related to the City of Prospect by Lesley Attema and David Johnston	LH/PROSPECT	
Followers of God: The Church of England in Whyalla 1901–1981 by AR Bowers	LH/WHYALLA	2nd copy

Newspapers

The Advertiser: My Tributes July 1–December 31, 2022	The Advertiser
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Reference Britain

Family History Handbook 2023 by Warners Group Publications REF/FAM/BRI

Reference General

Tracing Your Family History with the Whole Family by Robin C McConnell REF/MCC/G

Reference Germany

How to Research Your German Ancestors by Peter Towey REF/TOW/
GER

Reference Ireland

Researching Presbyterian Ancestors in Ireland by William J Roulston REF/ROU/IRL

Reference Military

That Elusive Digger: Tracing your Australian Military Ancestors by Neil C Smith REF/SMI/
WAR 2nd copy

Reference Shipping

Sailing to South Australia: 1859, 1864 & 1867, Four Months at Sea, The Farndell Family Diaries by Garry Scroop REF/SCR/
SHIP

Reference South Australia

SA Convicts Sentenced to Transportation 1837–1851 by Graham Jaunay REF/JAU/SA 2 copies

Bread: Kernewek Lowender Souvenir Edition (1985) REF/KER/SA

Early Theatre Life in Adelaide SA 1836–1856 by Ian Sellick REF/SEL/SA

Reference Victoria

The Mortuary Train Service to Fawkner Cemetery edited by David Vaughan REF/VAU/VIC

Photographic Corner

Light

Light is a part of everyday life which we take for granted and only notice when it is no longer there—such as at night time during a power cut. Light has always been crucial for photography, particularly in the days before modern cameras and phones with their built-in flash, or electric lighting inside buildings.

In looking at old wedding photos, have you ever wondered why those shots of large family groups were taken outside? The answer is to do with light, or rather the lack of light. The internal rooms did not have sufficient levels of artificial lighting to allow photography. This is why the immediate wedding party, or often only the bride and groom, would go on a separate occasion to a commercial photographic studio where there was special lighting, for their 'formal' wedding photograph.

In early Australia the candle was the main source of light. Cheap candles were made of tallow, which smoked badly and had a terrible odour. Outdoors, moonlight was very important, with night time social events often planned according to the full moon.

Gas lighting was established in Adelaide during the 1860s, then later in country towns and suburban areas. Then kerosene lamps became popular in homes during the 1870s. Electric lighting began to be introduced into homes in Adelaide in the late 1880s, but it was not until the 1930s and 1940s that it became widespread. Vehicles also used lamps to illuminate their

way until the later introduction of electric headlights. The streets of Adelaide and some businesses were beginning to be illuminated with electric light in the early years of the twentieth century, and when Elizabeth II made a state visit in 1954 many buildings illuminated their facades with strings of lighting.



The wedding of Johannes Carl August LINKE and Johanna Wilhemine CHRISTIAN at Tanunda, South Australia. Group photograph, taken on the wedding day (Zilm Collection, P00234-010).



Gas lighting in Strait Gate Lutheran Church, Light Pass, South Australia, c1920 (Knispel Collection, P00091-005F).



Studio portrait of Carl August LINKE and Johanna Wilhemine CHRISTIAN, taken on a different day to the wedding ceremony seen in photo P00234-010 (Zilm Collection P00234-011).



A rare internal photograph from the 1890s. You can see from the shadows that, because of the lack of artificial light, the photographer has needed to use the natural light coming in through a window to the left of the picture to achieve a proper exposure (Gault Album, P00130-03).



Annie GRIEVE reading by kerosene lamp (Hall Collection, P00225).



A horse-drawn tram—note the kerosene lamp next to the driver (Coles Collection, P00108-25F).



Top Left: Electric tram with electric headlamp (Coles Collection, P00108-17F).

Middle Left: An early street light—Naracoorte, South Australia, c1870 (Peake Album, P00103-07F).

Bottom Left: Electric street lighting in Adelaide c1940s—you can see the lights on top of the posts carrying the electric tram cables.



Close up of electric street light (Mills Collection, not yet catalogued).



Street and building illuminations for the State visit of Queen Elizabeth II in 1954. You can also see an electric street light on top of the telegraph pole in the middle of the street (Hall Collection, P00228-098).

Can You Help?



According to the inscription on the back of the above photograph, this is 'Clare Church', and the photographer was Stanley Studio of Main Street in Clare. Although it has a distinctive front, we have been unable to locate it and challenge our eagle-eyed readers to identify it – it may not be in Clare! (Carey Collection, P00211). If you are able to help, please contact our photographic team at saghs.photographic@saghs.org.au.



Last Journal we asked if anyone could identify the flag in the photograph. Thank you Rosemary, who suggested it could be the flag of the East India Club, which is located in the heart of London's Clubland, and has a long tradition as a gentleman's home away from home.

Notice to Contributors & Advertisers

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

Submissions should be less than 3,000 words. The editor may edit articles. Formatting in *The South Australian Genealogist* conforms to the requirements of the *Style Manual for Authors, Editors and Printers* (Digital Edition) www.stylemanual.gov.au/ Spelling follows the *Macquarie Dictionary* and *Fowler's Modern English Usage* is used to determine the grammatical structure of text. Items accepted for publication in the *Genealogy SA 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 a high quality (e.g. 300 dpi TIFF or 600 dpi JPEG) 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 43mm	\$33
Half page	128 x 90mm	\$66
Full page	128 x 185mm	\$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. The editor reserves the right without exception to edit articles.

Bookshop

Books



Coromandelians: South Australian Pioneers of the Coromandel

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

Supported Immigration Schemes to South Australia

Nancy Baldock



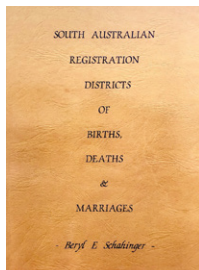
Supported Immigration Schemes to South Australia

This booklet outlines the schemes sponsoring immigration to South Australia from the settlement of the colony to post-World War II. **\$7.70** (including postage)

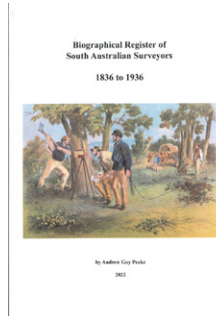


Family History for Beginners and Beyond

This book has extensive references for both beginners and the more experienced family historian, and is a practical guide to help readers trace their ancestry and family story. (Members: \$40.00) **\$45.00**

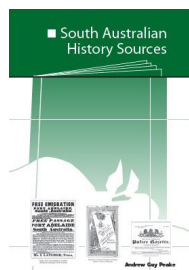


South Australian Registration Districts of Births, Deaths & Marriages by Beryl E Schahinger (Members: \$25.00) **\$30.00**

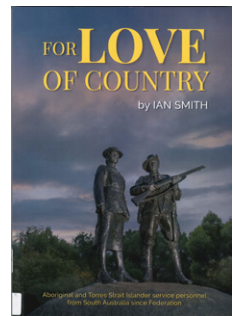


Biographical Register of South Australian Surveyors 1836 to 1936

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



South Australian History Sources by Andrew Peake (Members: \$45.00) **\$50.00**



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

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

For more titles sold by SAGHS please check <https://www.genealogy-sa.org.au/shop>

Service Fees and Charges

When making your membership renewal payment by Direct Deposit through your financial institution, please ensure you reference your payment with your membership number. GST inclusive (Overseas residents are GST-exempt)

Annual Subscriptions

Ordinary Membership:

Australian resident	\$104.50
Overseas resident	\$95.00

Associate Membership:

Australian resident	\$52.25
Overseas resident	\$47.50

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

Journal:

Journal only, per annum	\$36.00
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Library visitors fees:

(includes use of equipment)

Per day or part thereof	\$15.00
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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*).

Research services:

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

SA BDM certificate transcription:

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

SA Look-ups:

Members	\$9.90 each
Non-members	\$19.80 each

Genealogy SA Transcription Service

Transcriptions of certificates of SA Births (1842–1928), Deaths (1842– 1967) and Marriages (1842–1942) held on microfiche 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

Photocopies and Prints

A4 \$0.20 A3 \$0.50

Library overdue fines per week \$1.00

The 50th Anniversary Dinner

Celebrating 50 Years

The President and Council
of the
South Australian Genealogy and Heraldry Society Inc.
Invite You

to
The 50th Anniversary Dinner
to be held in the
Osmond Terrace Function Centre,
Norwood Hotel, Osmond Terrace, Norwood

Saturday 19 August 2023

6:30 pm for 7:00 pm.

Dress Code: After dark

3 course meal including a Birthday Cake.

Drinks personal purchase

Cost: \$75.00 per person (Includes commemorative booklet)

Online bookings close 1 August 2023

www.trybooking.com/CHGBT

Bookings must include names of attendees,
dietary requirements and preferred seating.

For assistance or enquiries: 08 8272 4222

1973 - 2023

About The Society

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



www.facebook.com/GenealogySA

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.

Disabled parking and access available.

Website: www.genealogysa.org.au

RESEARCH SERVICE

SAGHS popular 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.

COMPUTER USERS GROUP

saghs.computer@saghs.org.au

DNA IN FAMILY HISTORY GROUP

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ENGLAND GROUP

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FAMILY HISTORY WRITERS GROUP

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FAMILY HISTORIAN GROUP

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