

## Sir Hans Heysen, O.B.E. (1877-1968)

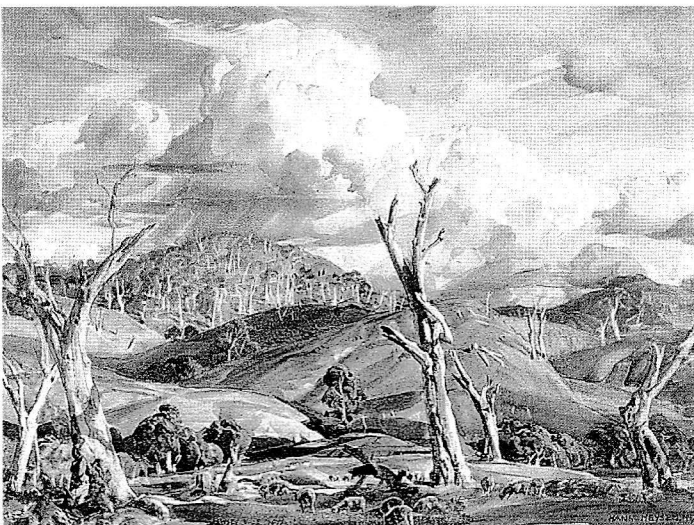
### Artist and conservationist

Wilhelm Ernst Hans Franz Heysen was born in Hamburg, Germany, on 8<sup>th</sup> October 1877, the son of Louis Heinrich Wilhelm Heysen and his wife Maria Elisabeth Henriette (née Eberhard). He emigrated to South Australia with his mother and siblings in 1884, his father having come out the previous year to seek a better economic future for the family.

His father eventually established himself as a produce merchant, though the family faced great hardships as the colony entered a severe depression. Hans was educated at the East Adelaide Model School and four other schools in Adelaide, leaving in 1892 to work in a hardware store and then helping his father on the produce cart. During his childhood he went to stay with a family friend at Hahndorf, thus beginning his life-long attachment to the small German village, the Adelaide hills and, above all, the majestic gum trees.

He attended James Ashton's Norwood Art School and spent a year at the School of Design at the Art Gallery of South Australia, his fees at the latter being paid by Robert Barr Smith (q.v.). In 1899 four businessmen financed him for four years in Europe in return for the pictures he painted there. He studied at the École des Beaux Arts in Paris and also painted in Britain and Europe.

Returning to Adelaide in 1903, he set up a studio and taught art. He married Selma (Sally) Bartels, on 15<sup>th</sup> December 1904 and they had eight children. Heysen had a very successful one-man show



Hans Heysen: *Pewsey Vale*, 1947

in Melbourne in 1908, after which he gave up teaching and rented a cottage in Hahndorf. There was increasing appreciation from critics and collectors, and a second Melbourne exhibition in 1912 enabled him to buy 'The Cedars' at Hahndorf, where he lived and worked for the rest of his life.

Heysen painted many subjects in many media, but is best known for his pastoral landscapes, gum trees and still-lives. He was a watercolourist, etcher and oil-painter, as well as sketching in charcoal and crayon. From 1926 he made many visits to the Flinders Ranges, completing some paintings on site but bringing most back to his studio to be finished. His highly lyrical landscapes, full of brilliant light and vivid colours, were often the first introduction many urban dwellers had to the beauty of the Australian bush. As his biographer Colin Thiele said, 'The whole nation came to see the gum tree as he saw it.'

Heysen mounted over thirty major exhibitions, won the Wynne Prize for landscape nine times between 1904 and 1932, the Crouch Prize in 1931 and the Maude Vizard-Wholohan Prize in 1957. He was assiduous in assisting young artists and served on the Board of the Art Gallery of South Australia. He was appointed O.B.E. in 1945 and was knighted in 1959. He was also one of the country's early conservationists, waging a long war against those who wanted to cut down the great gums of the Adelaide hills, and repeatedly warning of the dangers of destroying the natural environment.

Sir Hans Heysen died on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1968 and was buried beside his wife at Hahndorf Cemetery. His home 'The Cedars' and his studio stand as he left them, preserved by his descendants and open to the public. They contain a representative collection of his life's work, as does the Art Gallery of South Australia. The Heysen Trail, a walking track stretching 1,500 kilometres from Cape Jervis to Parachilna Gorge in the Flinders Ranges, was named in his honour.

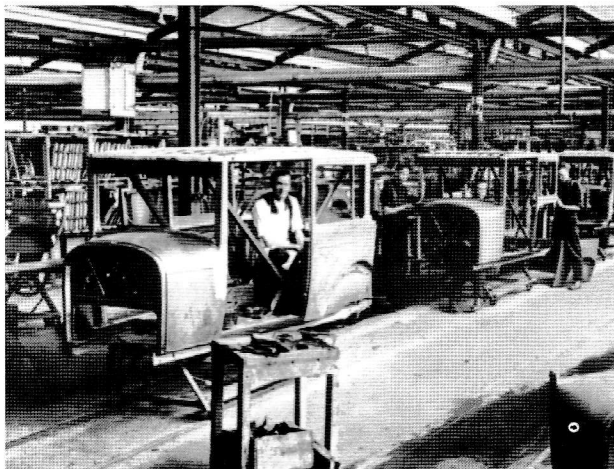
## Sir Edward Holden (1885-1947)

### Motor car manufacturer and industrialist

Edward Wheewall Holden was born on 14<sup>th</sup> August 1885 at College Town, South Australia, the son of saddler and carriage builder Henry Holden and his wife Mary Ann (née Wheewall). He was educated at Prince Alfred College and the University of Adelaide, where he graduated with a B.Sc. in 1905. He then joined the family business, Holden and Frost, and on 18<sup>th</sup> March 1908 married Hilda May Lavis. They had three children, Margaret, Nancy (who, in 1955, as Nancy Buttfield, became South Australia's first woman to enter the Australian Parliament) and John.

Edward Holden was eager to diversify the family business and, in a shed at the rear of the firm's premises in Grenfell Street, extended the operations to include the repairing and maintaining of imported motor cars. Before long, Holden and Frost were building sidecars for motorcycles and, from 1917, when the Government restricted the importation of complete cars into Australia, the firm custom-built car bodies.

Henry and Edward Holden formed a new company, Holden's Motor Body Builders, in 1919 and established workshops at 400 King William Street. Edward Holden, as Managing Director, forged links with General Motors Corporation (U.S.A.) in 1923 when he visited its headquarters as part of an overseas tour to study vehicle production methods. The signing of an agreement between General



Motors and Holden's on 10<sup>th</sup> December of that year for the manufacture of car bodies at Holden's new Woodville plant laid the foundation for what ultimately became one of Australia's largest secondary industries. Edward Holden introduced automated mass production methods to the company and output rose spectacularly. The business experienced difficulties during the Depression and in March 1931 Holden's Motor Body Builders merged with General Motors (Aust.). Holden was appointed Managing Director and Executive Chairman of Directors of the new public company, General Motors-Holden's. He was replaced as Managing Director in 1934 but remained Chairman for the rest of his life.

He served for three years as a councillor and alderman on the Adelaide City Council. In December 1935 he was elected to the Legislative Council as a Liberal and Country League member and was a strong supporter of Thomas Playford (q.v.) in his endeavours to industrialize South Australia.

He continued to play a prominent role in business, serving as foundation Director and first Chairman of the South Australian Industries Assistance Corporation, a member of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research and President of the Adelaide Chamber of Commerce (1929-1930) and the South Australian Chamber of Manufactures (1936-1939). He also held directorships in many Adelaide companies, was President of the National Safety Council and was a member of the Council of the University of Adelaide from 1925 to 1931.

During World War II he was appointed Comptroller-General of the Australian Army Canteen, supervising its stores throughout Australia and overseas. The canteen returned a profit but Holden was sued for damages and taking bribes. The charges were never proved and the case lapsed. Other charges were made that General Motors-Holden's had sabotaged the war effort but these too were found to be groundless when a Federal committee of inquiry revealed that the company had helped materially by providing munitions for the armed forces.

Edward Holden was recognized for his services to business and community affairs when he was knighted in 1946. He died on 17<sup>th</sup> June 1947 and was cremated, unaware that the first car to be wholly built in Australia by General Motors-Holden's would be given his family name.

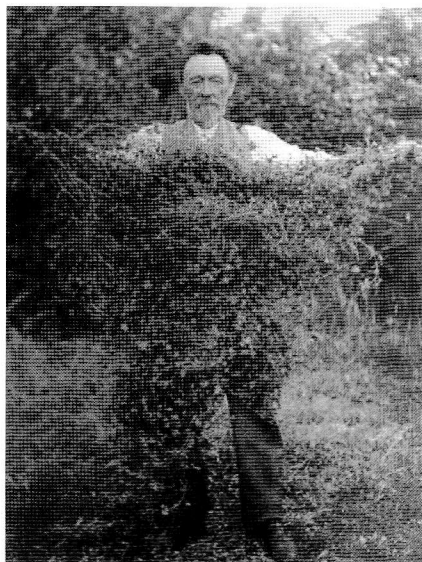
## Amos William Howard (1848-1930)

### Nurseryman and promoter of subterranean clover

Amos William Howard was born on 31<sup>st</sup> May 1848 at Silk Mills, Watford, Hertfordshire, England, the son of gardener William Howard and his wife Ann (née Hester). On 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1871 he married Eliza Rowe and in 1876 emigrated to South Australia, establishing a plant nursery at Blakiston in the Adelaide hills. He was appointed clerk of the local district council and shortly afterwards was elected onto the council, holding his position for ten years.

In 1889, while inspecting nearby land for prospective purchase, he noted a kind of clover later identified as subterranean, *Trifolium subterraneum*, which was found to improve pastures and upgrade soil fertility. It is thought that the species was inadvertently introduced to Australia long before this from Britain or Europe, and was known in the Mount Barker district from about 1880. Victorian Colonial Botanist Baron von Mueller recorded the plant as naturalized in Victoria by 1887 and in 1896 New South Wales Colonial Botanist John Maiden, when surveying the Riverina, said: 'I know nothing against its character, except a certain aggressiveness. . . . It is not an introduction which need render us uncomfortable.' Howard managed to harvest the clover seed, which was a difficult task as the seed is either buried or lies on the surface of the soil.

Howard first promoted his discovery in February 1906 in the *Advertiser* as follows: 'In the Mount Barker district we have a weed which I believe will go far to solve the problem of introducing nitrogen into the soil. This plant is an annual, one of the trifoil family. It first made its appearance in a grass paddock at Blakiston some twelve or more years ago, and now may be seen in most of the grazing paddocks in the district. . . .



'It is an annual, easily grown and easily destroyed. Its roots are laden with the nitrogen-producing residues to a greater degree than any other plant of this family. It is eaten ravenously by stock both in the green and the dry state; cattle, eating the dry branches after the seed is ripe, quickly spread it wherever they go. The seed is sown naturally on the surface, and appears to require no covering, as soon after the early autumn rains we find the plants established and racing away from all other herbage. Where it grows heavily it is cut for hay, and is equal to lucerne or clover for fattening purposes either for sheep or cattle. One of its most valuable characteristics is that it will grow and reproduce itself in any soil and situation without human aid.'

Howard overcame the technical problems of how to gather and spread the seed, and in the following years campaigned vigorously to heighten awareness of the species. He was an enthusiastic writer to the *Advertiser*, extolling the virtues of the clover as a pasture improver. In January 1907 he sold 30 lbs. of it to Adelaide nurserymen E. & W. Hackett and it was soon being distributed in commercial quantities. By 1909 Howard was selling up to a ton of seed per year.

In 1923 his son Cecil imported a clover huller from the United States and this enabled the annual seed production to be raised to eight tons. In 1930 it was claimed that the clover seed was responsible for about £50,000 coming into the Mount Barker district. Within half a century of Howard's first promotion of subterranean clover, 20 million acres in southern Australia had been sown with it.

Amos Howard died on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 1930 and was buried at Blakiston Cemetery. A memorial to his work was erected in 1963 on the Mount Barker Road, close to the site of his original observations, and in 1967 the Australian Institute of Agricultural Science honoured him with the establishment of the Howard Memorial Research Fellowship. Two of the subterranean clover cultivars are named 'Howard' and 'Mount Barker'.

## Sir Walter Watson Hughes (1803-1887)

### Pastoralist and mine-owner

Shortly before his death on New Year's Day, 1887, Walter Watson Hughes wrote to his nephew, 'I have been a sinner all my life.' Enigmatic words indeed for someone involved in the saga that surrounded the legal ownership of the Moonta Mine. In a dispute that raged between 1861 and 1870, he and four co-owners were accused of fraud. The Moonta Mine was worth fighting for, as it proved to be the first South Australian company to generate a million pounds in dividends.

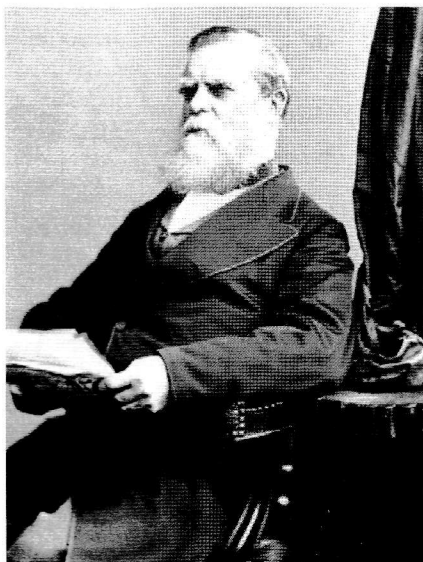
Walter Watson Hughes was born in Pittenweem, Fife, Scotland, on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 1803, the son of Thomas Hughes and his wife Eliza (née Anderson). He went to sea at an early age with lofty ambitions. An obscure Scottish publication contains a quote from a letter he wrote to his father: 'I sling my hammock in the forecabin, but I am resolved to spread my cot in the cabin.' True to his words he became master of the brig *Hero* and traded in opium in the Indian and China seas in the 1830s. In November 1839 he came to Adelaide and on 21<sup>st</sup> September 1841 married Sophia Richman. Three years later he became a sheepfarmer on Yorke Peninsula.

When Hughes first found traces of copper on his pastoral run in the early 1850s, he was short of funds and simply sat on his find while nurturing a valuable relationship with Edward Stirling, one of four directors in Elder, Stirling & Co. When his shepherd, James Boor, found copper on Hughes' Wallaroo property in December 1859, Stirling and his brother-in-law, John Taylor, invested in the venture. Six months later, when all three faced insolvency, Stirling and Taylor tried to resign from the company and take half the assets with them. Robert Barr Smith (q.v.) got wind of their plans and called their bluff. In a smart move, he and Thomas Elder (q.v.) also became partners in the mines.

It was then that Patrick Ryan, another of Hughes' shepherds, found copper at Tiparra Springs in May 1861. Lodging claims for this site, which became the Moonta Mine, was not straightforward for Hughes. With grievances against Hughes, Ryan tried to take out the claim with other friends, who became known as the Mills Syndicate. When their application was botched by Ryan and rejected by the Land Office, Hughes made the claim on behalf of Ryan and for the four partners of Elder, Stirling & Co. His interference was condemned by the Mills Syndicate as a blatant abuse of the mining regulations and protests by them and others saw a select inquiry, a Supreme Court case, an equity case and the first Privy Council judgement for South Australia. But when funds ran out in 1868, the Mills syndicate settled out of court for £8,000, leaving Hughes and his partners owners of the Moonta Mine. 'Technical errors' in Hughes' mineral claims were sanctioned retrospectively by the Mineral Lease Validation Act of January 1869.

In the early 1860s Hughes established Hughes Park station at Watervale in the mid-north and over the next few years acquired other large pastoral properties. In 1872 he promised £20,000 to endow two professorships, in classics and philosophy, at the proposed University of Adelaide. When the University Association asked him to modify the terms of the deed so that the money was not tied to these chairs, Hughes threatened to cancel the gift. The deed eventually went through, an Act of Incorporation was passed in 1874 and Hughes' contribution inspired others, including another £20,000 from Thomas Elder. For this reason, Hughes became known as 'the Father of the University'.

In 1864-70 he lived in England and retired there permanently in 1873, taking up residence at Fan Court, Chertsey, Surrey. In 1880 he was knighted for his services to South Australia. He died on 1<sup>st</sup> January 1887 and was buried in the village churchyard of Lyne, near Chertsey. In 1906 a bronze statue of him, sculpted by Francis Williamson, was erected in front of the Mitchell Building of the University of Adelaide on North Terrace.





## Sir Roland Jacobs (1891-1981)

### Businessman and philanthropist

Roland Ellis Jacobs was born at North Adelaide, South Australia, on 28<sup>th</sup> February 1891, the son of company director Samuel Joshua Jacobs and his wife Caroline (née Ellis). He was educated at Geelong College, Victoria, and the Adelaide Shorthand and Business Training Academy. A series of office jobs developed his business skills, his initiative and the ability to take responsibility at an early age. During the First World War, having been rejected for overseas service on medical grounds, he served as a training and administrative officer in a number of South Australian army camps.

On 29<sup>th</sup> August 1917 he married Olga Hertzberg and they had three children. After his marriage he worked as a mercantile broker, becoming agent for the Perth firm of F.A. Henriques. In 1930 that firm merged with Harrison San Miguel, the Adelaide subsidiary of the Sydney business Mauri Bros. & Thomson Ltd., suppliers of brewers' and bakers' requisites. He remained with the firm as Assistant Manager and then Manager until 1948.

After his father died in 1937, he was invited to join the board of the S.A. Brewing Company, of which his father had been a founder and later Chairman of Directors for thirty-five years. He declined this invitation, partly because his father had always insisted that his position in the brewery should not benefit his son, and also because he himself did not think he had the necessary experience.

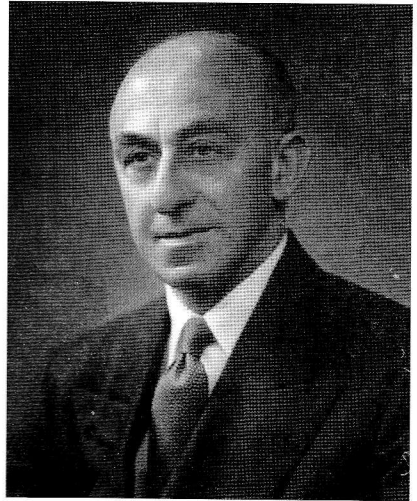
His reputation was enhanced in 1942 when he became President of the Adelaide Chamber of Commerce and then served on a number of war-related government committees. In 1948 he was again invited by the brewery to become its Managing Director. This time he accepted and soon after became Chairman, holding this position until he retired in 1967. He strove to promote the image of the company as a contributor to the public good. The beautification of the Torrens bank next to the brewery and the decoration of the chimney stack in the colours of the premier football club were his ideas.

The number of voluntary organizations (more than thirty) of which he was a member and often Chairman reflected his strong belief in the importance of community service, and confirmed his reputation for wisdom, commonsense and the ability to raise money for good causes. One of his particular interests was the welfare of crippled children and others with disabilities. He chaired the committee of Meals on Wheels at the request of its founder, Doris Taylor (q.v.), and was a government-appointed member of the advisory boards to the Royal Adelaide and Queen Elizabeth Hospitals. With Sir Ivan Jose he promoted the establishment of the Medical Foundation of the University of Adelaide.

Although unskilled in the arts himself, he supported many artistic activities. For ten years he was on the A.B.C. Advisory Committee in Adelaide and helped to form an association to establish the South Australian Symphony Orchestra on a permanent footing. With Sir Lloyd Dumas and Professor John Bishop (qq.v.), he was a founding Governor of the Adelaide Festival of Arts and raised money by organizing guarantors. He was also a foundation member and honorary life member of the Elizabethan Theatre Trust. In January 1963 he was created Knight Bachelor for services to the community. His first wife died in 1969 and on 30<sup>th</sup> November 1970 he married Esther Tipman Cook, who, like himself, had been prominent in community service for many years.

Sir Roland Jacobs was an unostentatious and private man, who did not seek or acquire personal wealth but was loved and respected by a wide range of people for the warmth of his personality and generous service. A considerate and caring employer, he was a good listener, was tolerant of other people's viewpoints and believed in 'moderation in all things'. Born into the Jewish faith, he practised its ethics rather than its rituals.

He died on 28<sup>th</sup> June 1981 and was buried at Centennial Park Cemetery.



## Jimmy James, O.A.M. (c. 1913-1991)

### Aboriginal police tracker

Jimmy James was born in the hot spinifex desert of central Australia, at his father's waterhole, west of Ernabella. He survived the harsh, isolated bush existence as a Pitjantjatjara tribesman to become a legend in his own time. There is no formal record of his birth but James always maintained that he was born in 1913. His father was Warlawurru (Eagle-Hawk) and his mother was Kaarnka (Black Crow). The establishment of missions in his tribal lands exposed him to an alternative culture. The Ooldea Mission became his home from late childhood, and camp life on the fringe of white civilization offered a blend of conflicting lifestyles to which James adapted himself.

In December 1945 the Oodnadatta Court's landmark decision to find the Mount Dare station manager guilty of assault and maltreatment of Aborigines sent shockwaves through the entire far north and James unwittingly assumed a key role in the affair. He was chained up and mistreated on the station and subsequently wrongfully arrested and gaoled for assault, but justice ultimately prevailed. However, the incident contributed to his moving from his homeland.

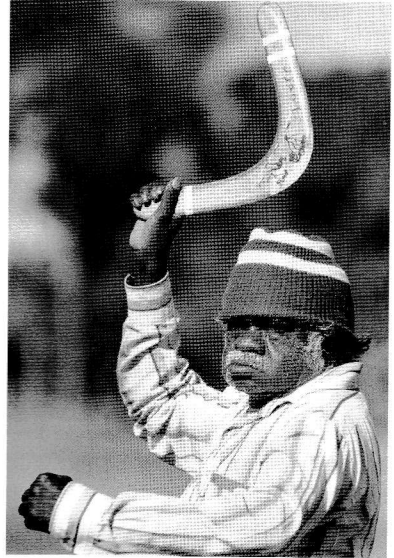
His association with the South Australian Police began after he helped to establish the Gerard (q.v.) Mission near Berri, in January 1946. On 22<sup>nd</sup> February 1947 he married Lilian Florence Disher. Coincidentally, she was known locally as the unofficial adopted daughter of another Jimmy James, also a tracker. They had four children but one son died soon after birth. Even more tragic is the fact that James outlived his whole family, who all succumbed to alcoholism and the pressures associated with the loss of tribal traditions.

James' tracking career began formally in 1948 and by the mid-1950s he had proved his worth as a talented tracker of escapees, arsonists, and lost persons. Even landowners came to rely on him to assist in tracking wild dogs or in gathering evidence against suspected poachers. Two famous criminal cases, the 'Sundown' and 'Pine Valley' murders in 1957 and 1958 respectively, were his most publicized successes of this period. In each case the skills of James and his fellow trackers led to the arrest of the offenders and provided vital evidence to ensure their convictions.

A more personal but equally impressive success came in 1966 when Jimmy James, despite all odds, found nine-year-old Wendy Pfeiffer alive after she had been abducted and assaulted near Mylor. The gold medallion he received in honour of his service in this case forever remained his proudest possession. After a hundred more tasks, he was acclaimed in 1982 for the personal risks he took and the skill he displayed in locating the dangerous escapee James Smith.

His title of 'Dreamtime Man of Gerard' reflected his permanent commitment to Aboriginal culture and highlighted his spiritual awareness. As a long-time member of the Gerard Council, he encouraged the teaching of traditional lore to Aboriginal children, narrated stories and taught bushcraft. He was also skilled at making boomerangs and spears. His sense of humour and infectious chuckle were trademarks of the warm and caring 'Uncle Jimmy'. He received many commendations. The black community singled him out as the inaugural South Australian Aboriginal of the Year in 1983 and the white community awarded him the Medal of the Order of Australia in 1984.

By 1987, after suffering repeated strokes, he found himself confined to a wheelchair, living frugally in modest surroundings at the Salisbury Nursing Home. His spiritual strength carried him quietly to his death on 27<sup>th</sup> October 1991 and he was buried with his family in the Gerard Reserve Cemetery after a memorial service with a police honour guard. An impressive granite memorial to him stands on the shore of the River Murray at Berri, but Australia will never be able to replace Jimmy James, master of the art of tracking.



## Norman William Jolly (1882-1954)

### Forestry scientist

Norman Jolly was born on August 5<sup>th</sup> 1882 at Mintaro, South Australia, the son of storekeeper Henry Jolly and his wife Annie (née Lathlean). He was educated at Mintaro State School, Prince Alfred College and the University of Adelaide, where he obtained his B.Sc. in 1901. He distinguished himself in sport, playing A grade cricket, rowing in the University eight and representing South Australia in Australian Rules football in three successive years. He was a schoolteacher in Queensland before going to Balliol College, Oxford, in 1904 as South Australia's first Rhodes Scholar. He graduated with a B.A. in natural sciences in 1907 and the same year joined the Indian Forest Service in Burma. He left there believing that 'an Australian should do his job for his own country' and in 1910 became an instructor in forestry for the S.A. Woods and Forests Department. Here he established the first course in higher forestry training in Australia and in 1911 was also Assistant Conservator of Forests.

On 18<sup>th</sup> August 1911 he married a widow, Mary Clyatt Gellert (née Colebatch) and shortly after was appointed as Queensland's Director of Forests. While there he began the State's first silviculture research programme and, upon reviewing the degrading and dwindling condition of the forests, implemented a sustained yield policy, beginning his battle to retain land for forest use rather than exploitation and sale. One conclusion from his Queensland experience, noted in 1911, was the lack of trained foresters in Australia: 'I consider that the training of students for the State Forestry Department is a matter of very great importance. . . It is, I should say, obvious that the forestry interests of all States will be most economically and efficiently served by the foundation of one central school for the whole of Australia.'



In 1918 he became a Forestry Commissioner in New South Wales and in 1925 he was appointed first Professor of Forestry at the University of Adelaide. This appointment was short-lived as the department was transferred to Canberra in 1926 to become the Australian Forestry School. Jolly then returned to New South Wales as sole Forestry Commissioner and served in this capacity until 1933, pioneering the softwood industry in that State. He had frequent conflicts, however, with his supervisor, Commissioner Ralph Dalrymple-Hay, and with government bureaucracy. A later commentator observed that Jolly was 'enlightened and realistic' in his approach to softwoods, and the writer of his obituary remarked: 'To some it is given to be diplomats first and foresters afterwards as circumstances dictate; Jolly's gifts were markedly in the reverse and he left New South Wales in a political dust storm of a type almost endemic in those parts.'

Returning to South Australia, he acted as a consultant to New Zealand Perpetual Forests Ltd. and in 1939 became Forestry Consultant to the S.A. Woods and Forests Department. He led research programmes and successfully translated the German forester Peschel's research on plantation forecasting and management and adapted it to local conditions. He was a member of the S.A. Forestry Board and in 1953 was elected as an honorary member of the Institute of Foresters of Australia.

Notwithstanding his academic ability, Jolly wrote very few books or articles. In Queensland he published the significant policy texts, *Silvicultural Notes of Forest Trees in Queensland* (1917) and *The Structure and Identification of Queensland Woods* (1917), wrote the first manual on Australian silviculture, *New South Wales Silviculture* (1920), and in South Australia had to be bullied into writing a departmental bulletin on *The Thinning of Radiata Pine*. He was an accomplished scholar, known for his intellect, integrity and keen critical faculty.

Norman Jolly died on 18<sup>th</sup> May 1954 and was cremated. In the same year the Institute of Foresters of Australia honoured him with the establishment of the N.W. Jolly Medal as its highest award for services to forestry in Australia and in 1957 a cairn was erected in the Norman Jolly Memorial Grove in the Moonpar State Forest on the northern coast of New South Wales.

## Hooper Josse Brewster Jones (1887-1949)

### Musician and composer

Hooper Brewster Jones was a man who had a passion not only for music but for plain speaking. On one occasion, when he was adjudicating at a South Street Competition in Ballarat, Victoria, one of the other judges did not agree with his verdict on a cornet solo. 'Could you play the cornet?' he asked. 'No,' Jones replied, 'but then neither could I lay an egg, but I know when one is rotten.'

Jones was born on 28<sup>th</sup> June 1887 at Black Rock Plains, South Australia, the son of William Jones and his wife Rebecca (née Williams). His father was the headmaster and sole teacher at the country schools of Armagh and Bute. He was his son's only music teacher until 1901 when Hooper won a three-year scholarship at the Elder Conservatorium of Music in Adelaide. He studied with Byraceson Treharne, won several prizes and had his scholarship extended for a year. In 1902 *Quiz's* music critic wrote of the 'clever playing and gratifying excellence of Master Jones'. Three years later he was described as 'the most promising student who ever entered the Conservatorium'.

He was nineteen when he won an Elder Scholarship which gave him three years' tuition at the Royal College of Music, London, where he studied piano, singing, chamber music and composition. Sir Charles Villiers Stanford taught him composition and one day Jones showed him his own piece, 'An Indian Serenade'. It was too much for Stanford. The harmonies were outrageously new and the melody broke all the rules. Stanford rushed to the piano, threw his fingers anywhere and asked if 'that' was melody.

The effect was tonal and quite good --- an accident of course. What was Jones to do? Policy said, 'Hold your tongue.' Conscience said, 'Speak the truth.' Jones said, 'That was splendid melody, sir.' He was expelled from Stanford's classes.

Jones made numerous appearances in concerts in London and was music master at Harrow Preparatory School and Carlton House Girls' School, Cambridge, but returned to Adelaide in 1909 to foster music there. On 11<sup>th</sup> June 1910 he married Gerta Homburg, whom he had met in Germany, where she had studied singing, specializing in German lieder. Jones was never a member of the Elder Conservatorium staff as he felt that this would place too many restrictions on him. He taught piano, singing and composition privately and believed that teaching should be 'a psychological study of the student's possibilities'. In July 1915 he conducted his first orchestral concert and later, at his own expense, formed the Brewster Jones Symphony Orchestra at Queen's Hall. During World War I it was South Australia's only symphony orchestra and by 1920 it numbered seventy players.

As a pianist and conductor, Jones introduced contemporary French music to both Adelaide and Melbourne. His symphonic poem 'Australia Felix' is an example of professional early twentieth-century programme music. A prolific, original and unacademic composer, his love of the Australian bush and its bird life produced many songs and seventy-three piano pieces. In the Flinders Ranges he noted the songs of the birds while Hans Heysen (q.v.) painted the landscape. Nadia Penalurick, pianist and music critic, enjoyed the piano pieces and often played them and promoted his compositions. He adjudicated at eisteddfods and was the music critic for the *Advertiser* and later for the *News* until just before his death. He judged performances against the capabilities of the performers.

By the late 1940s Jones had retired from active musical life. His son Arthur formed a string orchestra in 1947 and in a concert on 8<sup>th</sup> July 1949 his father was the soloist in the Mozart piano concerto in D minor. Jones gave a fine performance but fifteen minutes later he died of a heart attack. He was buried at Centennial Park Cemetery. Today very little of this handsome, versatile man's music is heard but several of his grandchildren are well-known musicians.





## August Kavel (1798-1860)

### Lutheran migrant leader

August Ludwig Christian Kavel was born in Berlin, Prussia, on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1798. After training at Berlin University, where he rejected the prevalent Enlightenment teaching, he was appointed in 1826 as pastor to the Lutheran church at Klemzig, a village in Brandenburg province. Here his powerful preaching led to a religious revival in the area. At first Kavel accepted the king's moves to unite the Lutheran and Reformed Churches but gradually became convinced by the growing Lutheran opposition that the union was incompatible with their teaching. As a result he resigned in 1835 and joined the breakaway Old Lutherans.

Kavel and his followers decided to emigrate so that they could worship in freedom. Failing to find sponsorship to America, Kavel was directed from Hamburg to England, where in 1836 he met the Baptist businessman and philanthropist George Fife Angas (q.v.), Chairman of the South Australian Company, who showed an interest in settling German agricultural workers in the new colony.

The Prussian Government at first refused to allow them to leave but eventually about 200 peasants and artisans, including Kavel, his parents and siblings, emigrated to South Australia, with Angas advancing money for their fares (to be repaid later with interest). They arrived on the *Prince George* in December 1838 and over the next few years several hundred



more German colonists joined them. Under Kavel's leadership, they established villages at Klemzig near Adelaide, at Hahndorf in the Adelaide hills, and at Glen Osmond in the foothills. They also founded the Lutheran Church in Australia and swore allegiance to the British Crown. Kavel negotiated with Angas' agent, Charles Flaxman, to take up large tracts of land in the Barossa Valley, where the settlers founded the townships of Bethany and Langmeil (Tanunda).

On 28<sup>th</sup> March 1840 Kavel married an Englishwoman, Anne Catherine Pennyfeather, despite initial qualms of conscience because of her different religious background. However, their happy marriage was cut short when she died on Christmas Day, 1841, after giving birth to a stillborn son. In 1851 Kavel married Johanne Beate Irrgang, but they remained childless.

Kavel's disagreements with the second pastor to arrive, Gotthard Fritzsche, as well as with some German missionaries sent to work among Aborigines, led to a split among the Lutherans in 1846 that was to last for 120 years. Nevertheless, their success in South Australia, described in letters home, encouraged many more to emigrate and by 1855 Germans and their children constituted over 8% of the province's population. They were industrious workers, concentrating on agriculture and the grazing of sheep and cattle. The rich legacy of German culture in South Australia, especially in the Adelaide hills and the Barossa Valley, was born of their efforts.

Kavel favoured a strict pietistic exclusivity in religious life, with a leaning towards millennialism, i.e. the literal interpretation of the thousand years mentioned in the Book of Revelation. Yet he took an active part in public life, wrote letters to the newspapers, gave a public talk on comets, was a Trustee of the Savings Bank, wrote a pamphlet promoting the colony and co-operated with the ministers of other churches. While very strict with himself and his own people, he was liberal and tolerant towards others, and was generous and self-denying, although somewhat austere. His sincerity, integrity and single-minded pursuit of what he believed was right attracted dedicated followers, though what they admired as uncompromising determination was seen by his opponents as arrogance and pigheadedness.

August Kavel died at Bethany on 12<sup>th</sup> February 1860 and was given a large funeral at nearby Langmeil. His grave there is now marked by an imposing granite monument, erected in 1938.

## Sir Sidney Kidman (1857-1935)

### Pastoralist and philanthropist

Sidney Kidman was born near Athelstone, South Australia, on 9<sup>th</sup> May 1857, the son of farmer George Kidman and his wife Elizabeth Mary (née Nunn). He led a life in which the reality and the myth were difficult to separate. After a few years of elementary schooling at Norwood, he ran away from home, armed, as legend has it, with a one-eyed horse and five shillings. Heading initially for Kapunda, he moved to Burra before journeying to meet his brother who was working in the Barrier Range in western New South Wales. It was here that Kidman picked up his first itinerant work, earned enough to buy a bullock team and set himself up as a carrier. During this time he established contact with Aboriginal people, earning their trust, working with them and learning much of their bushcraft.

Kidman's transport work in isolated outback communities extended to droving large mobs of cattle and horses. Occasionally these ventures took him as far as Adelaide. When copper was discovered at Cobar in the early 1870s, Kidman used his knowledge of droving and transport to establish a butcher's shop. It was here that his peculiar ability to both spot and strike a deal was made plain. Like a number of other identities in Australia's pastoral industry, he not only purchased cattle but also butchered them, and the profits flowed with spectacular success.

Further assisted by a legacy of £400 from his grandfather in 1878, he diversified his commercial interests into other forms of transport and stock trading. He established coaching businesses in New South Wales and Western Australia and also supplied the British Army in India with horses. Meanwhile, his judicious purchase of cattle, and profitable sale of them to another brother who ran a butchering business in the young settlement at Broken Hill, provided further profits. On 30<sup>th</sup> June 1885 he married Isabel Brown Wright at Kapunda and they had four daughters and two sons.

From 1886 Sidney Kidman began purchasing station properties at strategic, remote situations. Determined never to be beaten by adverse environmental conditions, he developed two chains of interdependent properties, one stretching from the Gulf of Carpentaria through western Queensland and western New South Wales into South Australia, and the other from the Fitzroy River in Western Australia and Victoria River Downs in the Northern Territory all the way south to the Flinders Ranges. When seasons were poor on one of these stations, stock could be moved to another in a more favourable location. With an eye for good water supply and feed, and with a deep understanding of the land and its people, Kidman was able to weather the Depression of the 1890s and the severe drought of 1902. By 1914 he controlled an area of land larger than Tasmania.

During the First World War, Kidman gave fighter planes to the armed forces and in 1920 presented the Salvation Army with a half share in one of his cattle stations. He made his main home at Kapunda, at a property called 'Eringa', which he gave to the South Australian Government for use as a high school in 1921, shortly before he was awarded a knighthood. Kapunda was also the site of Kidman's annual horse sales. First held at the rear of the North Kapunda Hotel in October 1900, when 350 horses were auctioned, the event became a fixture for the next thirty years. Kidman charged admission to these world-famous sales and donated the proceeds to local charities. Between 1924 and 1927, despite his philanthropy and gifts to the nation, Kidman was successfully prosecuted by the Federal Government for unpaid land tax.

Never known to have sworn, drunk alcohol or smoked tobacco, Kidman was six feet tall and well-built. He had an easy-going manner and made friends easily. He died on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1935 and was buried at Mitcham General Cemetery.



## Charles Cameron Kingston, P.C., Q.C. (1850-1908)

### Lawyer, parliamentarian and Federalist

Privy Councillor and Queen's Counsel, Premier of South Australia from 1893 to 1899 and member of the first Commonwealth ministry in 1901, Charles Cameron Kingston was one of the most significant fathers of Australian Federation, participating in every crucial convention or event from 1887 until 1901, with the exception of the 1890 Melbourne Conference. A radical liberal democrat, he identified strongly with the emerging labour movement, representing the solidly working-class district based in West Adelaide in both State and Federal Parliaments for over twenty-five years.

He was born in Adelaide, South Australia, on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 1850, the son of George Strickland Kingston (q.v.) and his second wife Ludovina Catherina da Silva (née Cameron). After a prize-winning graduation from school, he was articled as a law clerk and, in 1873, admitted to practice, albeit after the brother of Lucy May McCarthy had unsuccessfully opposed his application on 'moral' grounds, accusing Kingston of seducing Lucy.

She and Charles married on 25<sup>th</sup> June 1873 and remained together, despite numerous later scandals in Kingston's personal life, including his being named as co-respondent in a society divorce early in his parliamentary career. The scandals never seemed to affect his popularity with his constituents nor impede his political progress, although he was shunned by polite Adelaide society. His more respectable passions included Australian Rules football (he helped to formulate the code of the modern game and was President of the South Adelaide Football Club) and the Volunteer Militia, in which he refused to take a commission, finishing his career, while still Premier, as a sergeant.

In public life he aroused great emotion, his combative and ferocious style often landing him in trouble. Most infamously, in 1892 he challenged Legislative Councillor Richard Baker (q.v.) to a duel. He was arrested in Victoria Square and bound over to keep the peace, only a few months before becoming Premier. He was publicly assaulted in the street twice during his premiership, on each occasion getting the best of his assailant by vigorous counter-attack.

Nevertheless his career was productive and successful. In South Australia he promoted much innovative legislation, most of which was subsequently taken up by the new Commonwealth. This included a system of industrial conciliation and arbitration, a universal franchise that included women, protection of wages and working conditions through immigration control (later known as the 'White Australia policy') and development of local industry through government enterprise and protective tariffs. He failed in his attempts to democratize the Legislative Council of South Australia but succeeded in achieving a State-wide electorate and universal franchise for the Australian Senate.

Kingston's greatest cause was Federation. He circulated an influential draft Constitution prior to the 1891 Convention and, with Griffith and Barton, prepared the final document on board the steamship *Lucinda*. When Federation stalled, he drafted the enabling Bill at the Hobart Premiers' Conference of 1895, providing for a new Convention of directly-elected delegates to propose a Constitution to be put to a referendum. He topped the poll in the 1897 Convention election. Securing Adelaide as the host city for the first session, he became Convention President, playing an active part in debate and campaigning vigorously in the subsequent referendums. As a member of the delegation in London when the Constitution was considered by the Imperial Parliament in 1900, he took a hard line against any changes to the Bill.

He topped the State-wide poll for the House of Representatives in 1901 and was appointed Barton's Minister for Trade and Customs, resigning from the ministry in 1903. He continued to be returned unopposed as the member for Adelaide until his death on 11<sup>th</sup> May 1908. Vast crowds stood in the rain to watch his state funeral proceed through the city to West Terrace Cemetery. In 1916 his statue was erected in Victoria Square, surveying his beloved West Adelaide.



## Sir George Strickland Kingston (1807-1880)

### Architect, engineer, surveyor and parliamentarian

George Strickland Kingston was born in Bandon, Cork, Ireland, in August 1807, the son of timber merchant and landowner George Kingston and his wife Hester (née Holland). His future in his native land was curtailed by economic depression and in the 1820s he worked in England gathering experience in civil engineering. He returned briefly to Ireland to marry Henrietta (Harriet) Ann Stuart McDonough on 5<sup>th</sup> November 1829 and then spent two years in Birmingham working for water engineers before he committed himself to the South Australian colonization scheme. He worked as an unpaid assistant from 1834, hoping to secure a position from the Commissioners. Without influence or contacts, his position was tenuous during the parliamentary delays in establishing the new private enterprise colony, but eventually he was offered the post of Deputy Surveyor-General under Colonel William Light (q.v.). He sailed on the *Cygnets* in 1836.

Although Kingston had no experience as a surveyor, he initially formed a good partnership with Light and was the first man to explore the inland plain where Adelaide was eventually sited. It was he who, with John Morphett and Lieutenant William Field, discovered the River Torrens. When Light returned from Port Lincoln in December 1836, Kingston recommended the new site and supported his superior against the opposition of Governor Hindmarsh, who wanted the capital to be closer to its port. An acrimonious dispute erupted and it was Kingston who returned to London with the report that resulted in Hindmarsh's recall. At the same time, the Colonization Commissioners wanted Light to hasten the survey and authorized Kingston to supplant him if he was unwilling to expedite matters. Light resigned and Kingston, despite his lack of surveying experience, took over the task, until he too was replaced. Recent analysis suggests that it was Kingston who was the principal designer of the Adelaide town plan, although the acclaim has gone to Colonel Light.



Under the new Governor, George Gawler, Kingston became Civil Engineer and Inspector of Public Works and began work on Government House, the Adelaide Gaol and a customs house at Glenelg. Government employment stopped with the collapse of the South Australian economy in the early 1840s and Kingston barely survived on the few private commissions he received as a self-taught architect. Surviving examples of his work include Ayers House, the original section of Adelaide Gaol and 'Cummins', the home he built for John Morphett. He also designed his family's seaside home at Brighton, now known as Kingston House, and the first monument to Colonel Light in Light Square.

Fortune smiled again when he became a shareholder in the 'Monster Mine' at Burra, which made him a wealthy man. He eventually became a long-time director of the company and went on to represent the Burra district in the Legislative Council in 1851. His strong democratic leaning led him to fight for a broad franchise for the Lower House and he won a seat in the new House of Assembly in 1857, becoming its first Speaker. Described as an irascible Irishman, he garnered enemies by his persistent opposition to state aid for religion.

His first wife died in 1839 and on 10<sup>th</sup> April 1841 he married Ludovina Cameron, by whom he had six children, including Charles Cameron Kingston (q.v.). Ludovina died in 1851 and Kingston married Emma Lipson on 4<sup>th</sup> December 1856. He became an establishment figure in Adelaide, walking the streets of the city with a silver-topped cane. He received a knighthood in 1870 and held his position as Speaker of the House of Assembly until his death on 26<sup>th</sup> November 1880 on a voyage to India for his health. He was buried at sea.



## Andrew Alexander Kirkpatrick (1848-1928)

### Union leader and parliamentarian

Andrew Alexander Kirkpatrick was born in London, England, on 4<sup>th</sup> January 1848. His mother, Mary Ann Gildin (née Stinton), was a nurse who served in the Crimean War alongside Florence Nightingale. His father, Patrick Alexander Kirkpatrick, an Irish railway policeman, died in 1849 and Andrew, one of thirteen children, began work on a farm at the age of nine. In 1860 he emigrated with his mother to Adelaide, where he became an apprentice printer while attending night school. He worked at the *Advertiser* and at the Government Printing Office before establishing his own business. On 4<sup>th</sup> April 1878 he married Catherine Maria Cooper and they had seven children.

Kirkpatrick was a founding member of the Typographical Society of South Australia in 1874 and its President in 1882. In 1883 he became President of the National Reform League which his union had founded in 1880 to organize the workers into a powerful political association. The following year he was a founding member of the United Trades and Labour Council. His political and union interests were not narrowly industrial; he was dedicated to the broader objectives of the labour movement. However, he had no socialist or revolutionary leanings.

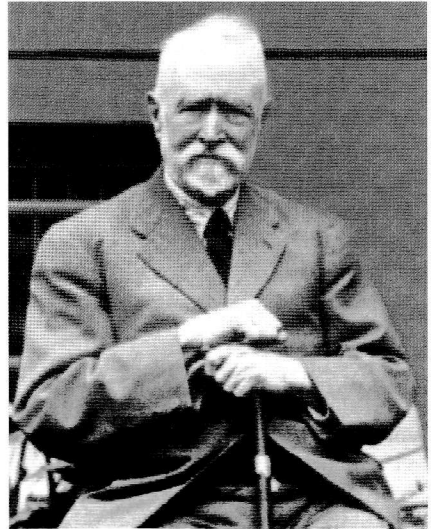
In the late 1880s the U.T.L.C. endorsed, and supported for election, candidates sympathetic to Labor's interests. Kirkpatrick, who strongly supported the Eight Hours Movement, wanted legislative protection for the drivers of horse-drawn trams and their boy assistants, who worked from seventy to eighty hours per week. With the rapid growth in unemployment, Kirkpatrick advocated protection for South Australia's industries, believing that it was better for men to have work and to pay more for goods rather than to have no work at all. For him the payment of politicians was a means of breaking the stranglehold that the wealthy classes had over politics.

In January 1891 the U.T.L.C. set up a Legislative Council Elections Committee, which soon became known as the Council of the United Labor Party of South Australia. It insisted on the principles of unity and accountability of all Labor candidates. With the introduction of payment of politicians, Kirkpatrick became one of three candidates to contest successfully the Legislative Council elections in May 1891, serving a six-year term.

During this time he showed a special interest in constitutional reform, unsuccessfully proposing a radical private member's franchise extension Bill in 1894. He was less radical in his support of the strikers at Broken Hill in 1892, even though he pledged the solidarity of South Australia's unions. On the issue of women's rights, Kirkpatrick promised in 1891 to support the right of all men and women to vote for both Houses of Parliament without any property qualifications. He demonstrated his support for women's equality by pioneering the principle of equal pay.

In 1900 he returned to the Legislative Council, serving as leader of the Government in the Council, and as Chief Secretary and Minister for Industry in the Price-Peake Labor-Liberal coalition Government of 1905-09. In 1909 he resigned to become the State's first Labor Agent-General in London but resumed his political career in 1915 as the member for the House of Assembly seat of Newcastle. With the 1917 split in the U.L.P. over conscription, he became leader of the party for a short time and in 1918 he re-entered the Legislative Council, holding a seat until his death. He held a number of portfolios in the Gunn Labor Government (1924-26) and in the Hill Labor Government (1926-27).

Throughout his political career he was considered a quick-witted, cool and fluent debater. He was a highly respected and faithful Labor leader who was noted for his honest and straightforward approach. After a long illness, Kirkpatrick died on 19<sup>th</sup> August 1928. He was accorded a state funeral and was buried at Payneham Cemetery.



## Mary Lee (1821-1909)

### Suffragist

Mary Lee (née Walsh) was born on 14<sup>th</sup> February 1821 in County Monaghan, Ireland, to landed Protestant parents. Well-educated, she married George Lee in 1844 and they had seven children. In 1879 she came as a widow to Adelaide with her daughter to nurse her sick son, who died the following year. She took in selected boarders for a living in her rented North Adelaide house, devoting herself with compassion to social causes despite her slender means. She worked on the Female Refuge Committee and in 1883 became foundation Secretary of the ladies' committee of the Social Purity Society, which aimed for legislation to raise the age of consent. The campaign succeeded when the age was raised from twelve to sixteen years in 1885.

The ladies of the Social Purity Society recognized that there must be many changes in the law to raise women's legal status. Mary Lee argued forcefully that women's suffrage was essential for such changes. As a result, the Women's Suffrage League was inaugurated at a meeting in Adelaide in July 1888, with Dr. Edward Stirling (q.v.) elected as President. He had presented a successful but limited women's suffrage resolution in the House of Assembly in 1885 and a similar Bill which was defeated in July 1886. The issue aroused strong, conflicting views in Parliament and in the newspapers but traditional opinion was jolted by the advocates of women's rights who argued from social justice and Christian viewpoints. As Secretary, Lee led the campaign for the League's single aim, the parliamentary vote for women on the same terms as men. She spoke eloquently at meetings, despite becoming the target of jokes and sarcasm and sometimes stronger abuse. Short and plump, but always straight-backed, she continued to speak fearlessly and wrote well-argued letters to newspapers.



In 1889 at a public meeting on 'sweating' she proposed the formation of women's trade unions and the following year the Working Women's Trades Union was founded with Lee as Secretary. In December 1892 she visited Broken Hill during a miners' strike, travelling for four days in extreme heat, assessing the needs of families for welfare and organizing a committee to distribute food and clothing from Adelaide women. In 1893, as Vice-President of the W.W.T.U., she was its delegate to the United Trades and Labour Council. She worked harmoniously with the Women's Suffrage League committee and guided it in planning strategies. She organized petitions and deputations, and collected shilling membership subscriptions. Watching political manoeuvres shrewdly, she welcomed the new Labor Party's increasing support, although she once called them 'a lot of nincompoops'.

In 1894 Mary Lee organized a colony-wide suffrage petition which held 11,600 signatures, many gained by the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. It was presented to the House of Assembly on 23<sup>rd</sup> August, tied with a ribbon of yellow, the League's colour. Counter-petitions held few signatures. Six suffrage Bills, all encumbered with conditions, were rejected from 1886 to 1893. Eventually, after careful steering, the Kingston (q.v.) Government's unencumbered Bill passed on 18<sup>th</sup> December 1894, giving women the right to vote on equal terms with men, the right to a postal vote and, by a strange quirk, the right to stand for Parliament. South Australian women thus became the first in Australia to achieve these rights and a jubilant Lee urged women to enrol.

When two trade unions nominated Lee to stand for Parliament in 1895, she declined to be tied to any party. Charles Kingston honoured her publicly and in 1896 the Government appointed her Official Visitor to the Lunatic Asylums, a position she held for twelve years. Poverty-stricken, she died on 18<sup>th</sup> September 1909 and was buried at Walkerville Cemetery with her son Ben, her tombstone inscribed 'Late Hon. Sec. Women's Suffrage League of S.A.' In 1994 her bronze bust was erected in the Prince Henry Gardens on North Terrace, appropriately facing Parliament House.

## **Essington Lewis, C.H. (1881-1961)**

### **Industrialist, Director-General of Munitions W.W. II**

An outstanding work ethic drove Essington Lewis to devote his whole life to developing industry in Australia, in particular the Broken Hill Proprietary Company. For many years he had on his wall a framed text which read: 'I AM WORK.'

He was born at Burra, South Australia, on 13<sup>th</sup> January 1881, the son of stock and station agent John Lewis and his wife Martha Anne (née Brook). He was educated at the Burra school and at St. Peter's College, Adelaide. He was, like his father, a man of powerful physique and great mental determination, and he excelled at many sports, including polo, tennis and football (in which he later represented both Norwood and South Australia). After training at the South Australian School of Mines and Industries, he began a lifetime of work with B.H.P. in January 1904, first underground at Broken Hill for a few shillings a day and then in the smelters at Port Pirie. On 12<sup>th</sup> April 1910 he married Gladys Rosalind Cowan and they had five children.

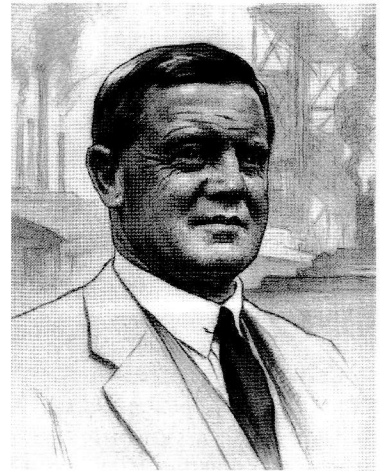
When Guillaume Delprat, the legendary Manager of B.H.P., took the company into steel production at Newcastle in 1913, Lewis was given the task of expanding the output of ore at Iron Knob. His exceptional organizing ability and efficient management style (assisted by a series of meticulously detailed pocket notebooks) encouraged Delprat to bring him to the head office in Melbourne. He lived in Melbourne from 1915 while frequently inspecting work sites throughout Australia.

After travelling overseas with Director Harold Darling in 1920, he succeeded Delprat as General Manager the following year. Demand for steel fell after World War I and when Darling became Chairman in 1922 he and Lewis began a powerful long-term partnership and a close friendship. Lewis' forthrightness, his attention to detail and his personal involvement in all aspects of the business resulted in improved efficiency and reduced costs. In 1926 he was appointed Managing Director and every few years he went overseas, learning the latest techniques. He also sent his senior employees abroad, initiated comprehensive staff training schemes and encouraged overseas companies to establish subsidiaries in Australia using B.H.P. steel. These improvements, as well as the merger with Australian Iron and Steel at Port Kembla, enabled the steel industry to survive the Depression.

When, in 1934, the Japanese were reluctant to show him their steelworks, Lewis foresaw that Australia must prepare for war. With W.S. Robinson, he founded the Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation, encouraged a string of aero clubs to train pilots, and established munitions annexes at the steelworks. He urged government and industry to prepare and when war came he served first as business consultant to the Department of Defence and, from May 1940, as Director-General of Munitions, appointed by the Prime Minister, Robert Menzies. As chairman of a large committee of leading businessmen and Defence Department staff, he wielded enormous power over everything essential to the war effort. Some Labor leaders objected but when Curtin succeeded Menzies he widened Lewis' powers to include aircraft production. With war ending, Lewis again went overseas to inspect plants and attract new industries, establishing the steelworks and shipyards at Whyalla and assisting with the long-range weapons project at Salisbury and Woomera, and the production of the Holden car.

Generous to deserving causes, Lewis abhorred idleness, shunned publicity and had a fetish for punctuality, discipline and efficiency. His insistence on dominating every situation could sometimes produce an overbearing aggressiveness. Many honours were awarded him, including the Companion of Honour, which he reluctantly accepted in September 1943.

At 'Landscape', his lovely property north of Melbourne, family, friends and colleagues were always welcome. It was here that Essington Lewis died on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 1961 after suffering a heart attack while horse-riding. He was cremated at Springvale Crematorium, Melbourne.



## Colonel William Light (1786-1839)

### Surveyor and founder of Adelaide

William Light was born on 27<sup>th</sup> April 1786 at Kuala Kedah in Malaya, the son of Captain Francis Light and Martinha Rozells. His mother was not married to Francis Light, who was himself illegitimate and something of an Imperial adventurer.

At the age of six William Light was sent to England for his education and stayed with family friends at Theberton, Suffolk. In 1799 he enlisted in the Navy and was a midshipman by the time he left the service two years later. The completion of his education with a 'Grand Tour' on the Continent was interrupted by the renewal of war between England and France and after a short period in India he returned to England, purchasing a commission in the 4<sup>th</sup> Dragoons in 1808 and serving with distinction in the Peninsular War. In 1821 he sold his commission and on 24<sup>th</sup> May married a Miss E. Perois, about whom little is known. Light then served in the Spanish army, where he reached the rank of lieutenant-colonel.

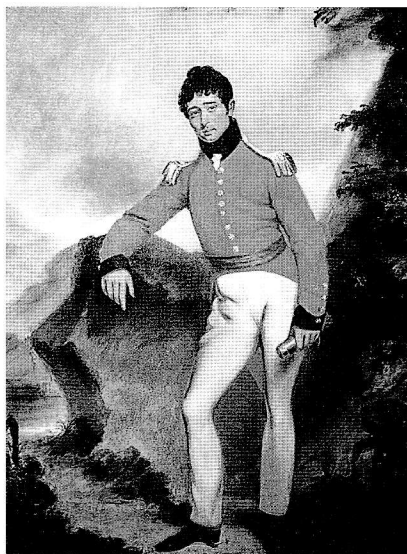
He remarried on 16<sup>th</sup> October 1824, his wife being Mary Bennet, the illegitimate daughter of the Duke of Richmond. Light and his new, wealthy wife resumed the Grand Tour, enabling the colonel to hone his undoubted artistic skills. In Egypt he had his first contacts with the promoters of a new colony in South Australia. He separated from his wife in 1832 after she formed a relationship with another officer and Light himself took as a lover the 21-year-old Maria Gandy, whom he brought with him to South Australia in 1836.

Colonel Light missed out on the governorship of the colony, but was appointed Surveyor-General as a consolation. He sailed with a part of his survey party on the *Rapid*, arriving at Kangaroo Island on 17<sup>th</sup> August 1836. He had the Herculean task of choosing a site for the capital and surveying sufficient town and country land for the fractious first settlers, who had already embarked for South Australia.

Much has been written about Light's 'Vision', about his conflicts with the first Governor, John Hindmarsh, and with his own deputy, George Strickland Kingston (q.v.), and the degree of innovation in his town plan. But it is clear that had he not remained firm in the face of criticism, jealousy and indecision, the colony might not have survived its first two years.

His official career, however, was remarkably short. After a number of disputes over the pace of the survey work, he resigned in 1838 and went into private practice as a surveyor. His health had already begun to deteriorate, his temporary accommodation was burnt down with the loss of most of his papers and art work, and he moved to a new house which he named 'Theberton'. There he was nursed by Maria Gandy but died of tuberculosis on 6<sup>th</sup> October 1839, rich in assets because of the size of his landholdings but poor in income. The factionalism of the early colonists pursued him to his death. A number of them avoided him because of old grudges, and some, including the Colonial Chaplain, refused to visit him, even on his deathbed, because he was living with his mistress.

Ironically, it was Light's death which briefly set aside previous enmities. Governor George Gawler was anxious to show an appropriate level of respect and this resulted in what was, in essence, South Australia's first state funeral. It was the largest assembly of people yet congregated within the colony. The self-styled 'Founder of Adelaide' was carried to his vault in Light Square in Adelaide's first hearse, a two-wheeled jinker recently imported from Tasmania and pulled by the settlement's first black horse. A substantial, gothic revival, sandstone monument, built to a design by Kingston and paid for by public subscription, was erected over the vault in 1843 but severe deterioration led to its being replaced with a granite memorial in 1905. A statue of Light was erected in Victoria Square in 1906 and was moved to its present location on Montefiore Hill, North Adelaide, in 1938.



Col. William Light: *Self Portrait*, c. 1815



## Harold Eustace Hill Ling (1907-1966)

### Manufacturer

Harold Hill Ling was born in Sydney, New South Wales, on 27<sup>th</sup> September 1907, the son of auditor Harry Hill Ling and his wife Alma (née Café). Educated at Mosman Superior Public School and in Melbourne, he then moved to Adelaide and worked as a clerk and salesman for Goldsbrough Mort & Co. Ltd. On 2<sup>nd</sup> November 1929 he married Eileen Winifred Hill and they had three children.

The marriage made Ling a brother-in-law and neighbour of Lance Hill, who had begun building rotary clothes lines in his Glenunga backyard in 1945. On his return from service in the A.I.F. during World War II, Ling could not settle to his former work in real estate but saw great potential in the clothes hoist. The two men formed a partnership in 1946, with Ling responsible for the marketing and bookwork. A wind-up hoist had been patented in South Australia in 1925 but when the patent lapsed in 1946 Hill and Ling secured their own patents on a device which was to become an Australian icon.

While Lance Hill was an unassuming perfectionist, Harold Ling had the ambition, energy and personality to make the business flourish. In 1947 Hills Hoists moved from a Glenunga backyard to a factory, albeit in a rusty tin shed, at Fullarton. The following year a company, Hills Hoists Limited, was formed with Ling as Managing Director. Known among the staff as 'the Chief', he knew everyone and everything in the plant



and cultivated an ethos of mateship and paternalism that lasted his whole life. A need for greater efficiency in manufacturing saw the scattered Adelaide plants consolidated in a former furniture factory at Edwardstown and by 1954 there were branches throughout Australia.

When test television transmissions began in Melbourne in 1956 in readiness for the Olympic Games, Ling realized that no home would be complete without a television set, just as no backyard was complete without a clothes hoist. Soon the company was on its way to becoming the nation's largest maker of television antennas, and a television rental and repair service soon followed. The company now had a staff of 600, and the Edwardstown factory had its own tube mills, galvanizing works, plating plant, aluminium alloy foundry and plastics section. Harold Ling saw diversification as the way to growth, so production expanded to include wheelbarrows, playground equipment, tricycles, electronic accessories and household items such as ironing boards, preserving pans and folding chairs.

In 1958 a new holding company was formed, Hills Industries Limited, with Harold Ling as Chairman, and its first offshore manufacturing facility was established in New Zealand. Ling saw Britain as a huge potential market and a subsidiary company was formed there in 1959. British housewives, however, did not take to the Australian model, so a smaller, lighter hoist was designed, which could be folded up and taken indoors when not in use. Success followed.

Ling believed that people were the company's biggest asset and treated his staff as a father would, with sweets in the top drawer of his desk in case children dropped by. He was the organizer and pianist for the annual staff socials and at an employee's 21<sup>st</sup> birthday party he 'played Rachmaninov on the piano like he was a Russian'. Staff profit-sharing was introduced and Ling established a non-contributory superannuation scheme.

He retired as Managing Director in 1965, to be succeeded by his son Bob. Harold Ling remained Chairman of the Board but died on 12<sup>th</sup> December 1966 as the walls were going up for a new factory at O'Sullivan Beach. He left a group of companies with 1,400 employees, offices in every Australian capital, regional offices in four States and branches in Britain and New Zealand. He was buried at Centennial Park Cemetery and a memorial to him stands outside the O'Sullivan Beach plant.

## **Dame Ruby Litchfield, D.B.E. (1912-2001)**

### **Community worker and charity organizer**

Dame Ruby Litchfield epitomized the saying that if you want something done, ask a busy person. She was the first woman appointed to the Board of the Adelaide Festival Centre Trust, a founder member of Festival City Broadcasters and a board member of numerous other organizations, including the Adelaide Festival of Arts, the South Australian Housing Trust and the Carclew Youth Performing Arts Centre. In 1988 she was quoted in the *Advertiser* as saying, 'I think everyone is born with a gift, although some don't nurture it, and I think I was born as a communicator, an organizer with a love of life. And I've always loved people, especially young people.'

Ruby Beatrice Litchfield was born on 5<sup>th</sup> September 1912 in Subiaco, Western Australia, the daughter of Alfred John Skinner and his wife Eva Hanna (née Thomas). She was educated at North Adelaide Primary School and Presbyterian Girls' College. Her mother sent her to dancing and elocution lessons at an early age and she became a champion Scottish dancer and a reciter of poetry at charity functions. This was the foundation for a life-long love of, and involvement in, the arts. Acting was her passion 'although I wasn't any good at it'. She directed thirty-five plays for the Adelaide Repertory Theatre and was made a life member in 1967. Their production of *The Little Foxes*, in which she played the lead role of Regina, won the Commonwealth Jubilee Play Competition at the Hobart Drama Festival in 1951. Her last play for the 'Rep' in 1983 was Barry England's *Conduct Unbecoming*, which Sir Robert Helpmann (q.v.) had been imploring her to do for fifteen years.

On 22<sup>nd</sup> August 1940 she married Kenneth Litchfield and they had one daughter. From 1954 to 1957 she served as Mayoress of Prospect during her husband's term as Mayor. Prominent in the tennis world, she was South Australian hard-court champion three years in a row (1932-35), President of the Sportswomen's Association (1969-74) and a member of South Australia's Davis Cup committee.

Her organizational and communication skills were legend and she used them to serve the needs of over sixty charities in her lifetime. These included the Queen Victoria Maternity Hospital, the Kidney Foundation, the Red Cross Society (S.A.), the Crippled Children's Association, the Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Research Foundation and the Regency Park Centre for Young Disabled. For many years she was a judge of the Miss South Australia and Miss Australia Quests. In 1959 she was awarded an O.B.E. for her services to the community.

She worked for five state premiers and in 1971 became a Trustee of the newly-established Adelaide Festival Centre, a position she held until 1982. In 1981 she was appointed Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire (one of only three Dames in South Australia) and in 1993 the State Government established the Dame Ruby Litchfield Scholarship for performing arts.

She once said, 'I don't seek glory, I just do things. If I've got a challenge, I make a success of it.' Dame Ruby possessed a great deal of determination and her energy was limitless. She was modest in her achievements and had a great generosity of spirit. Invitations to her parties were highly sought, young people found her very approachable and she was a mentor to many. Her eight years chairing the Youth Performing Arts Council gave her great satisfaction.

Her personal philosophy was simple: 'To live and let live . . . it's a simple way of looking at life. To do as much as you can, but if another person wants to live another way, you don't knock it.' Of her relationship with young people, she said, 'If they're way out, I go with them. I guide them but I don't knock what they're doing. I've never been a knocker. I can work with anyone providing they're working for a cause and not just doing it socially.'

Dame Ruby Litchfield died on 14<sup>th</sup> August 2001 and was cremated.



## Mary MacKillop (1842-1909)

### Educationist and co-founder of the Sisters of St. Joseph

Mary Helen MacKillop was born at Fitzroy, Victoria, on 15<sup>th</sup> January 1842, the daughter of Scottish immigrants, Alexander MacKillop and his wife Flora (née MacDonald), from whom she derived her Catholic faith and love for the Church. MacKillop could not support his family, who had to depend on the charity of relatives for survival, and at the age of sixteen Mary became the principal breadwinner. During 1861-1862, she worked as a governess in Penola, South Australia, where she met the local priest, Father Julian Tenison Woods (q.v.).

The Bishop of Adelaide at the time, Patrick Geoghegan, saw the provision of Catholic education as a pressing need and directed his priests to establish Catholic schools. Woods could not find teachers for Penola and decided to found a new religious order, the Sisters of St. Joseph, to run his school. He drew up its rule of life, stipulating that its members be ordinary women living in small groups among the people, with no visible means of support, teaching poor children and managing charitable institutions for destitute and socially disadvantaged women and children. MacKillop felt called to join and, after teaching in Portland, Victoria, for a time, she returned to Penola in 1866 to become the Order's founding member. The first St. Joseph's school was established there in a stable.

In 1867 Woods became the Director of Catholic Education in South Australia. Recognizing MacKillop's teaching ability, he had her formulate a school curriculum and invited her to help him build a system of parochial schools for the children of the diocese. She moved to Adelaide, adopted the distinctive Josephite habit and took charge of the principal Catholic school.



The Order prospered and extended into eastern Australia. By 1871 there were 127 Sisters teaching in 41 schools and managing an orphanage, a house of refuge for 'fallen' women and a home for destitute women of all ages. Many Adelaide people respected the Josephites and gave them generous financial support. The clergy, however, was divided over this radical new Order. Some pressured the then Bishop of Adelaide, Laurence Sheil, to alter its rule of life and to excommunicate MacKillop from the Church for alleged insubordination. After five months (September 1871 - February 1872), he rescinded her sentence and reinstated the Order.

In 1873 Mary MacKillop travelled to Rome to seek papal approval for the Order. Her behaviour, conviction and values impressed Roman officials who made some necessary changes, confirmed the Order's particular form of internal administration, known as central government, and gave it tentative endorsement with a new constitution. Definitive approbation came in 1888.

Woods found the changes unacceptable and so MacKillop lost the friendship of her long-time guide and mentor. Some bishops disagreed with central government and refused to have her Sisters in their dioceses. They established separate Josephite Orders under their own control.

On her return from Rome, Mary MacKillop became the Josephites' first elected Superior-General. She travelled widely, establishing convents, schools and charitable institutions throughout Australia and New Zealand. Banished from Adelaide in 1883 for alleged drunkenness and financial mismanagement, she moved to Sydney. Despite chronic ill health, she persevered in her work for the underprivileged. She was deposed as leader of the Order in 1885 but carried on bravely until her re-election in 1899. In 1901 she suffered a paralytic stroke and thereafter led from her wheelchair until her death on 8<sup>th</sup> August 1909. She was buried in St. Joseph's Memorial Chapel, North Sydney.

In 1926 the Josephites initiated the cause for her beatification. This culminated in 1995 when Pope John Paul II visited Sydney and declared her Blessed, making her the first Australian to be so honoured by the Catholic Church.

## Cecil Thomas Madigan (1889-1947)

### Geologist and explorer

Cecil Thomas Madigan was born on 15<sup>th</sup> October 1889 at Renmark, South Australia, the son of fruitgrower Thomas Madigan and his wife Mary (née Finey), a teacher. He went to Adelaide Boys High School and Prince Alfred College and then to the University of Adelaide, where he studied mining engineering, graduating B.Sc. in 1910. A keen sportsman, he took up rowing and raced in the University eight, which won several championships. He was chosen as Rhodes Scholar in 1911 and went to Oxford University to study geology, but this was interrupted when he was asked by Douglas Mawson (q.v.) to be the meteorologist for the Australasian Antarctic Expedition.

They left Hobart in December 1911 on the S.Y. *Aurora*, commanded by Captain Davis, and on 8<sup>th</sup> January 1912 reached Commonwealth Bay in Adelie Land, where they set up their main camp. Over the next twelve months several excursions were made by sledge into uncharted parts of Adelie Land and King George V Land, with Madigan leading a number of them, including the Eastern Expedition

in the summer of 1912-13. This gathered important information about the ice and discovered a coal-bearing rock formation. When the *Aurora* arrived to collect them, Mawson's party had not returned from its Far Eastern trek and Captain Davis was forced to sail due to deteriorating weather. A relief party, with Madigan in command, remained to wait for Mawson. In fact, they were forced to wait another twelve months for the ship to return.

They finally reached Adelaide in February 1914 and Madigan was awarded the King's Polar Medal. He returned to



Oxford but his studies were interrupted again, this time by World War I. He joined the Royal Engineers and served in France, seeing action at the battles of Loos, where he was wounded, and the Somme. He rose to the rank of captain and was twice mentioned in dispatches. He married Wynnys Wollaston in London on 20<sup>th</sup> August 1915 and they had five children.

After the war Madigan returned to Oxford, taking first-class honours in geology. He then spent a year as Assistant Government Geologist in the Sudan in 1920, mapping well-sites and determining new well locations. Returning to Adelaide, he was appointed Lecturer in Geology at the University of Adelaide in 1922, a position he held until his death. He made a significant contribution to the geology of Fleurieu Peninsula in South Australia and the MacDonnell Ranges in the Northern Territory. His book *Central Australia* (1936) covers his work in the latter region. During this time he pioneered the use of aircraft for scientific reconnaissance and photography.

In 1939 Madigan organized a crossing of the Simpson Desert with nine men and nineteen camels. They left Marree on 25<sup>th</sup> May and proceeded via Charlotte Waters and Andado to the junction of the Hale and Todd Rivers, then turned east across the centre of the desert to reach Birdsville on 6<sup>th</sup> July. It was not, in Madigan's view, an expedition of enormous moment, but the mystery of the sand ridges, the planning and the physical effort involved attracted him greatly. His expeditionary work was hampered by lack of basic data, particularly maps, but his capacity for organization and survival in extreme conditions more than compensated for this. It was the last classic Australian exploration adventure, vividly described in his book *Crossing the Dead Heart* (1946).

When World War II was declared, Madigan was asked to develop a school of military engineering in Liverpool, New South Wales, and was promoted to lieutenant-colonel. On retiring from the army in 1943, he returned to continue teaching at the University of Adelaide. He was President of the Royal Society of South Australia in 1936 and was awarded its Verco Medal in 1945.

Cecil Madigan died on 14<sup>th</sup> January 1947 and was buried at Centennial Park Cemetery.



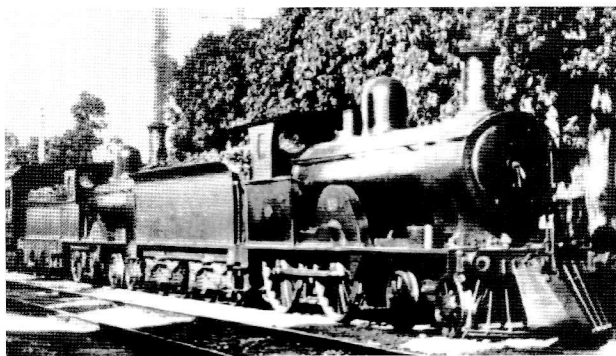
## James Martin (1821-1899)

### Manufacturer and 'The Father of Gawler'

Inventor, politician, philanthropist and founder of a famous engineering firm, James Martin was outstanding among the remarkable individuals who established Gawler's renown in the latter half of the nineteenth century as a thriving industrial and cultural centre. He was also pre-eminent among the thousands of Cornish immigrants who, attracted by South Australia's mining activities, made a distinctive contribution to the character of the colony.

Mining and inventive engineering were in Martin's blood. His grandfather had set up a foundry that gave its name, Foundry, to a village in Cornwall, England, where James was born on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 1821. Apprenticed to a millwright, the young man had little formal education, but his prodigious talent for innovation was first shown by his involvement in the invention of a 'man engine' (lift) which was widely adopted and must have saved the lives of hundreds of workers in the hazardous mine shafts.

Martin arrived in South Australia on the *Belle Alliance* in July 1847, seeking better opportunities and relief from asthma. He was employed for a time by John Ridley (q.v.) but, as local legend has it, moved north to Gawler in June 1848 in a dray carrying his wife, his furniture and his tools. He felled a red gum by Galton Street and made his first lathe. As a blacksmith, he could turn his hand to anything and was soon noted for the quality of his work. He expanded



into the manufacture of farm implements, bullock drays and iron work, and James Martin & Co. was soon operating in other towns such as Quorn and Gladstone. In 1874 he went into partnership with Frederick May (q.v.) and began making mining machinery.

Martin reached the summit of his engineering success when he moved into railway rolling stock and rode the railways boom. In 1888 he won a government contract of £167,000 for the construction of 52 locomotives. He was to build a great many more and his beautifully designed trains steamed all over Australia. A special branch line was built to his Phoenix Foundry in the heart of Gawler, which, at its peak in 1898, covered eighteen acres and employed 700 workers. Only fragments remain of this manufacturing centre, which amounted to an industrial inner city. Competition came from other foundries, such as that of the May Brothers, but the Phoenix was the largest.

Martin built himself a fine villa, 'Trévu' (which still stands), and, as was expected of captains of industry, he moved into public affairs. He was elected Mayor of Gawler several times. He represented Barossa in the House of Assembly in 1865-68 and North-Eastern Province in the Legislative Council in 1885-99. He is best remembered as a parliamentarian for bringing about the construction of the Barossa Reservoir, which began to supply Gawler and the district in 1902.

He died on 27<sup>th</sup> December 1899, to 'much mourning', and was buried at the Willaston Cemetery. The local newspaper, the *Bunyip*, printed a long and sincere tribute to Gawler's great benefactor, who had provided industrial pride, economic spin-offs and steady work for many people. James Martin was thrice a widower, having married Christiana Fox on 28<sup>th</sup> March 1848 (she bore him two children), Ann Lock on 6<sup>th</sup> March 1853 and Charlotte Bradley on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 1858.

He left an estate of £27,000, of which the landed property went to his son John, a farmer, and the business to a nephew, John Felix Martin. After the turn of the century, James Martin & Co. declined amid changing economic circumstances and was eventually absorbed by Perry Engineering.

James Martin can be seen as a bright exemplar of the kind of respectable, hard working, politically aware people that George Fife Angas (q.v.) wanted to attract to the 'Paradise of Dissent'. He is still warmly remembered in the local folk memory as a likeable and loyal Gawlerite. By the river there stands a statue of this fine engineer, who was popularly hailed as 'The Father of Gawler'.

## Sir Douglas Mawson, O.B.E. (1882-1958)

### Geologist and Antarctic explorer

Sir Douglas Mawson was a colossus of the heroic age of Antarctic exploration, who carried the banner of scientific research to the great white continent and established Australia's territorial claim.

He was born in Shipley, West Yorkshire, England, on 5<sup>th</sup> May 1882, the son of cloth merchant Robert Ellis Mawson and his wife Margaret Ann (née Moore). The family emigrated to New South Wales in 1884. A graduate of Sydney University with degrees in engineering and science, Mawson came to South Australia in 1905 when he was offered a lectureship in mineralogy and petrology at the University of Adelaide. He had already begun his career as a scientific explorer when only 21, joining an expedition to map the geology of Vanuatu. The Antarctic, however, was the bright frontier and the opportunity to investigate it arrived with Ernest Shackleton's expedition to the South Pole in 1907. Mawson established himself as a valuable member of the team. He was chosen as one of those to ascend Mt. Erebus and was in the party of three that was the first to reach the vicinity of the South Magnetic Pole.

His leadership abilities were noted by Shackleton who recommended him to Capt. Robert Scott. But glory hunting was not attractive to Mawson and he turned down Scott's offer of a place in his polar sledge party, preferring to organize the exploration of the untouched coastline directly south of Australia. The Australasian Antarctic Expedition of 1911 established a base on the blizzard-scourged slopes of Commonwealth Bay and amassed more scientific information than all of the contemporary polar expeditions combined. Mawson's story of the expedition was published as *The Home of the Blizzard* in 1915. It included the remarkable tale

of his lone trek to safety after losing one companion and his food supplies in a crevasse, and the other companion to malnutrition as they retraced their steps, being forced to eat the sled dogs. The skeletal Mawson staggered back to base only to see the relief ship sailing away, marooning him for a further twelve months with the handful of men who had volunteered to wait for him.

The scientific success of the expedition did not pay the expenses and Mawson was saddled with worry and debts. He was knighted in 1914 and on 31<sup>st</sup> March of that year married his patient fiancée Francisca (Paquita) Delprat. During World War I he was attached to the British Ministry of Munitions, holding the rank of major, and in 1920 he was appointed O.B.E.

After the war, Mawson returned to the University of Adelaide, becoming Professor of Geology and Mineralogy in 1921. The geology of South Australia was his life's work. He mapped the ancient landscapes of the Flinders Ranges and discovered the first notable deposit of uranium at Radium Hill. The vast resources of the Antarctic were also apparent to him and he was a tireless lobbyist for government control of the vast southern regions. Eyewitness to the profligate slaughter of penguins and seals on Macquarie Island, he argued passionately for limits on the wildlife harvest and careful monitoring. In 1929 and 1930 he led two voyages, the British Australian and New Zealand Antarctic Research Expeditions, conducting oceanographic surveys but also making territorial claim to the empty coastline. Australia's interest and involvement in Antarctica has continued ever since. It has established three permanent bases on the continent, one of them named in Mawson's honour.

Sir Douglas Mawson died on 14<sup>th</sup> October 1958 and was buried at St. Jude's Cemetery, Brighton. He was awarded scores of honours, decorations and medals, and was commemorated on the first Australian \$100 note. On the centenary of his birth, a bronze bust was erected in front of the University of Adelaide, flanked by granite boulders, one from Mawson Base, Antarctica, and the other from Mawson Valley in the Flinders Ranges, two regions where his endeavours placed his name upon the earth.



## Frederick May (1840-1897)

### Engineer and manufacturer

John Frederick May was born in 1840 in Perranzabuloe, Cornwall, England, the son of copper miner Henry May and his wife Mary Ann (née Trenery). He had little schooling and worked in the Cornish mines from an early age. In 1858 he emigrated with his family to South Australia aboard the *Melbourne*, with no qualifications other than an uncanny gift for engineering. The family settled at Burra and May worked in the copper mines, his ability at solving engineering problems soon resulting in his promotion to engineer, for which his wage was doubled. He was put in charge of the erection of Morphet's famous winding engine.

When he visited the Copper Triangle (Kadina, Moonta, Wallaroo) in 1861, he found that he was already known there and was offered the job of engineer of the smelting works at the Wallaroo Mine. On 14<sup>th</sup> September 1862 he married Mary Ann Mitchell and they were to have eight children. In 1863 he transferred to the Moonta

Mine as Superintending Engineer, working under 'Captain' Henry Hancock (q.v.). He held that position for eleven years, during which time he worked on the concentration of ore by mechanical (instead of chemical) means. The automatic jig was first put into operation at the mine under May's direction and several large pumping and other engines were erected. The machinery

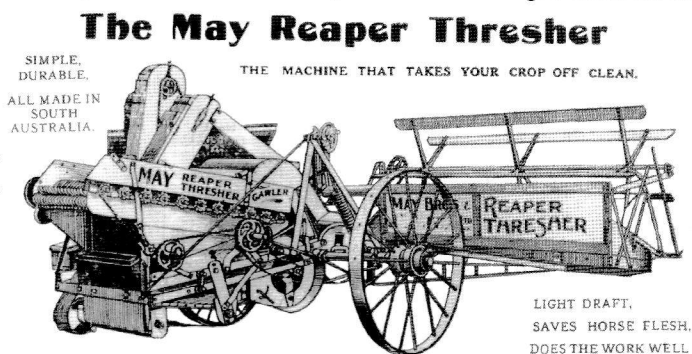
department at Moonta became one of the most advanced in Australia, partly due to May's efforts.

His achievements attracted the attention of Gawler industrialist James Martin (q.v.) and in 1874 May became a partner in James Martin & Co. The firm was already well-known and its fine reputation continued to grow with the added impetus provided by May. The company became successful manufacturers of railway locomotives and railway rolling stock in addition to its range of agricultural implements and mining machinery.

In 1885 May resigned his partnership and, with his brother Alfred, established the firm of May Brothers. Buying land near the Gawler railway station, they designed and built a workshop and a huge smelting works. Specializing in the manufacture of agricultural implements and mining and smelting equipment, May Brothers was an outstanding success. In 1886 the brothers patented stripping and reaping machines. The following July they gained their first order from Broken Hill and from then on were rarely without work from B.H.P. during the time the Barrier mines were developed. May was a recognized expert on the treatment of ores and in 1888 the May Brothers Patent Compound Jig, capable of handling 500 tons of ore per hour, was erected at the Victory Mine near Beltana. Between 1890 and 1895 the brothers patented at least fourteen machines and mechanical items for mining and agriculture. At this time the firm was employing up to 250 men.

After his wife died in June 1896, May arranged to be relieved of the oversight of the extensive works and on 14<sup>th</sup> October 1897 he married a widow Margaret Maxwell Dick (née Aitchison). They set up home at Semaphore but May died there only two months later on 15<sup>th</sup> December. He was buried at the Willaston Cemetery, Gawler. Both the May Brothers and Martin works closed for the day and hundreds of workers marched in the biggest funeral procession ever seen in the town. The employees of May Brothers presented a large framed photograph of Frederick May to the Gawler Institute as a memorial.

Fred May was the archetypal 'quiet achiever'. He carried out many of his projects while in the employ of others, who therefore enjoyed the resulting fame and success. He was qualified to be nothing more than a miner but his value to a developing South Australia was considerable --- as an engineer, manufacturer and inventor, as well as the employer of hundreds of workers.



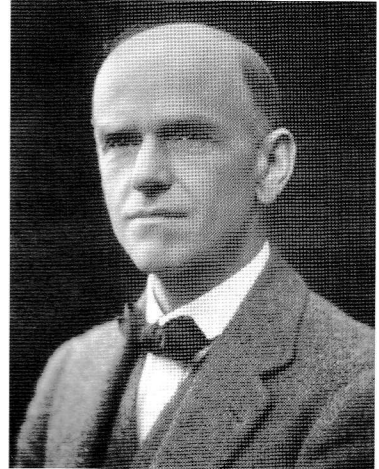
## George Elton Mayo (1880-1949)

### Pioneer in human relations and management studies

George Elton Mayo was born in Adelaide, South Australia, on 26<sup>th</sup> December 1880, the son of engineer George Gibbes Mayo and his wife Henrietta Mary (née Donaldson). His career should be an inspiration to all who struggled at school or who were slow starters in life. Educated at Queen's School and St. Peter's College, he failed his second year of medical school not once but three times, in Adelaide, Edinburgh and London. He tried working with a gold mining company in what is now Ghana but was invalided out and worked in London for a time in journalism and adult education.

Returning to Adelaide he studied philosophy and psychology under William Mitchell (q.v.) at the University of Adelaide, graduating in 1911 with an Honours B.A. He then became the founding Lecturer in Logic, Psychology and Ethics at the new University of Queensland. On 18<sup>th</sup> April 1913 he married Dorothea McConnel. He was a successful, though extremely demanding, teacher and was rewarded with promotion to the professorship of philosophy in 1919. Elton Mayo's vision combined philosophy, psychology and economics. He rapidly absorbed the new ideas of psychoanalysis and advocated an industrial society in which capitalism was controlled and social stability, unity and health fostered. He lectured for the Workers' Educational Association and after the First World War pioneered the use of psychoanalysis and other new techniques in the rehabilitation of soldiers with shell-shock.

He left for the United States in 1922 and was employed there by major industrial companies to use his psychological approach on problems of excessive labour turnover. Many of the remedies he suggested seem obvious and familiar now. For example, he recommended regular breaks to combat low morale and low productivity, a solution which was soon found to work.



After a highly productive period at the University of Pennsylvania, he was invited to join the Harvard School of Business Administration where he was appointed Associate Professor in 1926 and Professor of Industrial Research in 1929. One of the major features of Mayo's approach was that he visited and worked in factories and behaved like a consultant clinician. At Harvard he was asked to run experiments already under way at the Western Electric Company, and here he made the discovery that is most associated with his name, the 'Hawthorne effect', so called because it was the result of observations made at the Hawthorne plant in Chicago. Mayo and his colleagues found that improved productivity followed improvements in working conditions but could also follow reversion to the original conditions provided that the researchers and management continued to show concern for the workers' well-being. In other words, treating workers as human beings with intelligence and interests of their own is effective in ensuring a contented work force and high productivity.

The Hawthorne experiments were extremely influential but many of Mayo's own conclusions were not popular. For example, he believed and stated publicly that industrial management was, by and large, very poor. This view was more popular with those educating managers than with managers themselves. However, respect for his contributions to industrial psychology steadily increased and the twenty years that he spent in the United States were extremely productive, although the Depression made it much harder to continue direct experimentation in factories. Despite lecturing to organizations ranging from the F.B.I. to the Child Study Association, he continued to work as a psychoanalyst and to explore the relationship between the family environment, individual growth and development, and the specific problems of modern industrial society. He published *The Human Problems of an Industrial Civilization* in 1933 and *The Social Problems of an Industrial Civilization* in 1945.

He retired to England in 1947 and died on 1<sup>st</sup> September 1949 at Guildford, Surrey. The Elton Mayo School of Management at the former South Australian Institute of Technology was established in his memory.

## **Helen Mary Mayo, O.B.E. (1878-1967)**

### **Medical practitioner and promoter of child health services**

Helen Mary Mayo was born in Adelaide, South Australia, on 1<sup>st</sup> October 1878, the daughter of civil engineer George Gibbes Mayo and his wife Henrietta Mary (née Donaldson). She was educated privately and at the Advanced School for Girls, matriculating in 1895. She began medical studies in 1898 and won several prizes and scholarships before graduating in 1902. After a year at the Adelaide Hospital she went to England and until 1906 worked mainly in women's and children's health in London, Dublin and Delhi.

Returning to Adelaide, she entered private practice and was Honorary Anaesthetist at the Adelaide Children's Hospital. In 1909 she was a foundation member of the Women's Non-Party Political Association and through that body put pressure on Adelaide's Central Board of Health to initiate the reform of laws relating to mothers and babies. In 1909 she and social worker Harriet Stirling established the Adelaide School for Mothers, designed to reduce the disturbingly high infant mortality rate by teaching mothers how to care for babies, particularly in the first year of life. This became the highly effective Mothers' and Babies' Health Association in 1927 and still exists today as Child and Youth Health.

In 1911 she was appointed Clinical Bacteriologist at the Adelaide Hospital, where she established a vaccine department. She held this appointment for 22 years and the experience provided material for a thesis for which she was awarded the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1926, the first M.D. awarded to a woman by the University of Adelaide. In 1914 she was the first woman to be elected to the Council of the University, serving for 46 years.

During the First World War, Dr. Mayo called a meeting of doctors whose practices included paediatrics to discuss the problem of medical patients under the age of two who were not admitted to hospital because of the risk of cross-infection. The Hospital Board refused the doctors' offer to pay for a babies' ward to be built in the grounds, so the doctors established their own babies' hospital in Winchester Street, St. Peter's. A few years later the Government took over the hospital and transferred it to Woodville, where in 1917 it became the Mareeba Babies Hospital. Dr. Mayo was appointed Honorary Responsible Medical Officer.

In 1919 she was appointed Honorary Assistant Physician in charge of out-patients at the Adelaide Children's Hospital. The M.D. qualification led to her appointment as Physician to in-patients in 1926 when she also began an eight-year appointment at the University as Clinical Lecturer in the medical diseases of children. During the Second World War, although past retirement age, she set up a donor service for the Red Cross Transfusion Service, returned to duties at the Children's Hospital and in 1943 was appointed to a committee advising the Government on post-war health services. Attempts in the late 1930s to establish a women's university college were not realized until 1947 when St. Ann's College was opened, Dr. Mayo having served as Chairman of the original committee since 1939.

Her many honours included Fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine (1920), O.B.E. (1935), foundation Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (1938) and President of the Australian Federation of University Women (1939-45).

Helen Mayo was short and plump, with dark curly hair and an infectious laugh. She had a strong social conscience and the energy and tenacity to achieve her objectives. She never married but shared a house at North Adelaide with her partner, Dr. Constance Finlayson, and Miss Gertrude Young. She died on 13<sup>th</sup> November 1967 and was cremated. A portrait by William Dargie hangs at St. Ann's College, where the main hall is named in her honour.





## **Murdoch Stanley McLeod (1893-1981)**

### **Businessman**

Murdoch McLeod was born at Carrieton, South Australia, on 18<sup>th</sup> October 1893, the son of farmer John McLeod and his wife Harriett (née Symonds). He spent his first five years at Carrieton but when his parents moved to Jamestown he was sent to his grandfather's farmhouse to live. His childhood experiences of strict discipline, difficult living conditions and financial hardship, with family members working long hours to augment their income, formed a lasting determination in the young boy to strive hard for a better existence. He walked twelve miles each day to attend school but left at the age of fourteen to begin work as a store-hand, labouring sixty hours a week for five shillings. Prior experience as a farmhand and a deep passion for mechanics made him return to farm labouring, where he gained some knowledge of early motors. Against parental advice, he purchased a motorcycle, which he saw as an escape from farm employment and as an opportunity to become involved in the emerging motor trade in Adelaide. He also studied fitting and turning at night school.

In 1915 hundreds of motor trade employees in Adelaide were retrenched, due to difficult economic conditions. Murdoch McLeod returned to Jamestown and in January 1916, with his limited savings, put a deposit on a struggling cycle shop. He then worked harder and even longer hours than before and with diligence, acumen and a resolve to make the most of his opportunities, started building up his business.

After fifteen years of hard work and careful saving, he opened the McLeod Tyre Store in Currie Street, Adelaide, in July 1931, selling car tyres and bicycles. Aware of his own lack of higher education, he attended W.E.A. classes over a period of twenty years in order to broaden his general knowledge. On 23<sup>rd</sup> March 1920 he had married Catherine Hunter and they had three children.



Murdoch McLeod was determined to set and achieve high standards and his business expanded rapidly. Although World War II forced the closure of some of his branches, he was able to keep those in Adelaide and Jamestown. With the opportunities offering in the post-war period, he again set about increasing his staff to manage expansion and changed the business from sole proprietorship into a public company, though he retained approximately 50% ownership. While still struggling to establish a sound management structure and to use the available funds to establish branches in all capital cities, he consistently gave his managers authority to make and stand by their own decisions.

He placed business development before pursuit of personal pleasures and his modest, unflamboyant lifestyle earned him an undeserved reputation (among those who knew little of him) of being antisocial. He avoided personal publicity and donated a substantial sum each year for ten years to the Post-graduate Foundation in Medicine at the University of Adelaide, before he finally agreed, with some reluctance, to allow his name to be linked to further annual donations.

In 1936 he expressed his intention to leave a substantial portion of his estate to the Adelaide Children's Hospital. Subsequently, as his wealth increased through his holdings in the public company, he made major bequests to the Waite (q.v.) Agricultural Research Institute and the Julia Farr (q.v.) Centre (formerly the Home for Incurables). In recognition of their bequest, the University of Adelaide established the McLeod Lecture Theatre at the Waite Institute, as well as a students' gathering area known as McLeod Square. The Julia Farr Centre established the M.S. McLeod Foundation, and the Women's and Children's Hospital set up the M.S. McLeod Research Fund. These bequests have resulted in many tangible benefits for future generations of South Australians.

After a very industrious and conservative life, Murdoch McLeod died on 24<sup>th</sup> April 1981 and was cremated.

## John Abel McPherson (1860-1897)

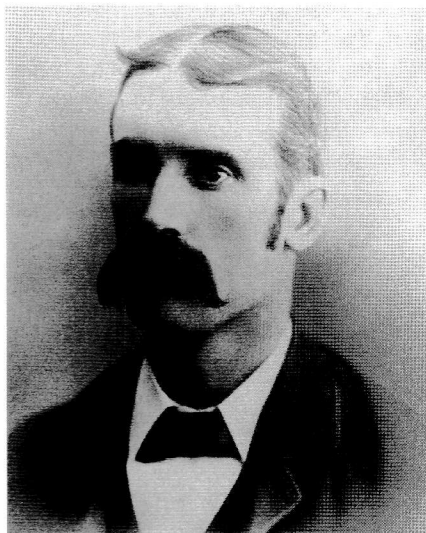
### Union official, first leader of the S.A. Parliamentary Labor Party

John Abel McPherson was born on the 28<sup>th</sup> January 1860 in Aberdeen, Scotland, the son of domestic servant Ann McPherson. He was educated at St. Paul's Street School and the Mechanics' Institute, and at the age of fourteen he became an apprentice typographer.

In 1881 he married Mary Ann Wight and the following year they emigrated to South Australia, where McPherson worked on the composing staff of the *South Australian Register*. He left in 1889 as a consequence of his involvement in a strike over the right of workers to join unions and was unemployed for some time. As a result of this incident, he became convinced that the labour movement needed its own newspaper and in 1894 he was on the managing committee of the *Weekly Herald*.

McPherson became very active in the union movement. Before emigrating he had been a member of the Scottish Typographical Association and soon after his arrival in the colony he joined the South Australian Typographical Society, of which he was President from 1893 to 1895. In 1890 he was Honorary Secretary to the United Trades and Labour Council and for his services during the maritime strike of that year the U.T.L.C. gave him an honorarium.

His approach to industrial issues was not confrontational. He was an effective conciliator in disputes between employers and a number of trades (butchers, drivers, and tanners) over shorter hours and wage regulation. When conciliation failed he became convinced of the need to use political power to achieve the union movement's objectives. He was the founding Secretary of the United Labor Party in 1891 and in a by-election in February 1892 he became the first Labor member in the South Australian House of Assembly, representing East Adelaide.



McPherson was neither a socialist nor a revolutionary. He was, however, opposed to conservatism that stood in the way of vital social reforms. Re-elected in 1893, he became the leader of the Parliamentary Labor Party, a position he held until his death. The U.L.P.'s moderation was shown in its platform, which aimed simply at creating a fairer society for all. Indeed, the *Advertiser*, on the 17<sup>th</sup> April 1893, portrayed McPherson as a man who avoided extremes in thought and speech, who spoke calmly and logically, and could find virtue even in a millionaire. He was actively involved in the building and management of the Trades Hall, which opened in 1896.

McPherson was deeply concerned about the impact of unemployment during the 1890s and in 1894 urged the Kingston (q.v.) Government to relieve the plight of the poor by providing workingmen's blocks to make them more self-sufficient. As leader of the U.L.P., McPherson also pushed hard for factory reforms, especially on issues relating to health and safety. As one of the first secretaries of the Working Women's Trades Union, he fought for the franchise for women in 1894, and on the issue of temperance, to curb the social evil of excessive drinking, he sided with the women's movement. He was particularly disturbed by the continuing practice of 'sweating' in industries where women were employed. He gave cautious support to the idea of Federation, his main reservation being that women might lose the right to vote.

McPherson was admired for his honest, broad-minded yet principled approach to politics. As the first Parliamentary Labor leader, he helped lay the foundations of the Australian Labor Party in South Australia and set a tone of moderation that has largely characterized the Party since.

He died on the 13<sup>th</sup> December 1897 and a thousand mourners followed his coffin to West Terrace Cemetery. An oil painting of him by Mrs. Emily Anson was presented to the Trades Hall and a memorial fund of £600 was collected to assist his wife and four children. An inscription from Robert Browning was engraved on his tombstone: 'One who never turned his back but marched breast forward.'

## Sir John Melrose (1860-1938)

### Pastoralist and philanthropist

John Melrose was born on 12<sup>th</sup> January 1860 at Rosebank station, Mount Pleasant, South Australia, the son of station owner George Melrose and his wife Euphemia Medina (née Thompson). He was educated at Prince Alfred College and, after spending a year working for an Adelaide commercial firm, was employed by his father as assistant manager of the family property 'Wangaraleedini' at Franklin Harbour. In 1884 he began management of another Melrose property, Ulooloo, which was a combination of two stations, Kadlunga and Wookongarie, in the mid-north. On 17<sup>th</sup> April 1886 he married Emily Eliza Edhouse and they had two children.

After his father died in 1894, Melrose took over Ulooloo from his father's estate and lived there for the rest of his life. In 1895 he was the first to import horned Dorset sheep into Australia in an endeavour to improve the quality of prime lamb production. With the Kapunda grazier Henry Dutton, Melrose purchased the 12,900 hectare North Booborowie station in 1897 for £98,000, taking responsibility for its management.

About a year after buying North Booborowie, Melrose began to lose his sight and at the age of 41 he was completely blind. After six months in hospital, he determined to learn how to read and write Braille. With the aid of a Braille typewriter and a number of other contrivances, including a special frame to write cheques, he conducted his business affairs as he had done before. Despite the disability, he continued to work with his stock and exhibited at agricultural shows with great success. His heightened sense of touch enabled him to continue assessing the quality of his stud sheep and their wool. The day-to-day management of his properties was achieved with the assistance of his daughter Margaret Lily. His persistence in the face of adversity earned him a certain public interest and newspapers referred to him as 'the Blind Squatter'. He wrote to leading stock and station journals on a variety of subjects and was known for his ability to get to the core of topical issues. In 1913 he imported the first French Percheron draught horses and in 1928 the first Wensleydale sheep into Australia.

Melrose was also a director of various pastoral companies and a significant shareholder in the Broken Hill Proprietary Co. Ltd. In 1910 the Government, anxious to achieve closer settlement and provide farmers with a greater amount of good land, had purchased the North Booborowie property. Provided with ample wealth, Melrose became a prominent philanthropist, giving generously to a number of charities and institutions. His best known bequest was £10,000, given to the Waite (q.v.) Agricultural Research Institute in 1927 to finance its chemistry laboratory. This donation earned him great praise and public affection and he was called 'a man of big horizons and high ideals'. He was knighted in 1928 and the following year the laboratory at the Waite Institute was named in his honour.

Like his father before him, John Melrose was known for his bluff, straightforward character. Prior to his disability he was rather sharp-tempered and did not suffer fools gladly. Friends noted that blindness altered him. He grew in compassion and understanding, being publicly acclaimed for his 'honesty of purpose, his kindly disposition and his generous heart'.

Sir John Melrose died on 16<sup>th</sup> September 1938 and was buried alongside his kin at the Church of England cemetery at Mount Pleasant. There, the tall, straight Ionian crosses bear testimony to the Scottish heritage and fortitude of a remarkable family.



## Adelaide Laetitia Miethke, O.B.E. (1881-1962)

### Educationist

Adelaide Miethke was born on 8<sup>th</sup> June 1881 at Manoora, South Australia, the daughter of Prussian-born schoolteacher Carl Rudolph Miethke and his wife Emma Caroline (née Schultze). After attending country schools and Woodville Public School, she became a pupil-teacher in 1899 and subsequently studied at the University Training College for teachers. She began her sustained interest in teachers' conditions and union affairs while teaching at Lefevre Peninsula Primary School. In 1915 she was appointed to Woodville High School, becoming senior mistress of the girls' section in 1920.

From 1914 she led a campaign to raise the status of female high school teachers and in May 1915 she presided at the Women Teachers' Association conference, which focused on the plight of new teachers facing classes of 60 or 70. She spoke sympathetically on behalf of teachers, parents and children, arousing much public interest, and the Director of Education gradually began making better use of women's talents. Confident, highly organized and a stickler for protocol, Miethke became the first woman Vice-President of the South Australian Public School Teachers' Union in 1916 and at its 1919 annual conference she criticized government inaction, moving urgently for salary increases to meet the rising cost of living. The following year small increases were paid. Studying part-time, she attended evening lectures and gained her B.A. degree in 1924. In November of that year she was appointed as the first female Inspector of High Schools.



Her brief included inspection of domestic arts classes, and in 1925 new girls' home-making schools, later called Girls' Central Schools, were established, mainly teaching domestic subjects but increasingly offering commercial ones. Miethke believed that girls needed domestic skills and broad general knowledge as well as special training for a career. As Inspector she was both welcomed and feared for she could be formidable, checking minutely every detail of work, classrooms and courses. But her guidance helped girls enter careers in office work and, during the Second World War, in the armed forces and auxiliaries. Some became dressmakers or milliners, while most learned household skills.

From 1925 to 1939 Miethke was Commissioner of the Girl Guides' schools division. As State President of the National Council of Women from 1934 (and national President from 1936 to 1941), she presided over the S.A. Women's Centenary Council, comprising representatives of women's organizations. They planned imaginative celebrations, including the dramatic Pageant of Empire, which Miethke designed and organized, backed by numerous committees and 600 voluntary helpers. Through a megaphone she marshalled 13,600 metropolitan schoolchildren, who gave performances at the Adelaide Oval on 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> November 1936, each attracting 40,000 spectators. The pageant depicted the development of the British Empire, portrayed in rhythmic movement with changing masses of colour. Miethke's name became a household word and she was appointed O.B.E. in 1937. The Women's Centenary Council raised money to establish the Alice Springs base of the Australian Aerial Medical Service (later the Royal Flying Doctor Service), to build the Pioneer Women's Memorial Garden in Adelaide and to produce an illustrated history of women in South Australia.

In 1941 she resigned from the Education Department and until 1945 directed the Schools Patriotic Fund, which raised over £400,000. Some of this went towards a city hostel, Adelaide Miethke House, for country girl students, and after the war part went to the Royal Flying Doctor Service, of which she was State President. From 1941 to 1946 she edited the much-loved magazine *Children's Hour*, distributed monthly to school children, and in 1950 she conceived and established the world's first School of the Air, to 'bridge the lonely distance' for outback children.

Active to the end, she died at her Woodville home on 4<sup>th</sup> February 1962 and was buried at Cheltenham Cemetery. The Adelaide Miethke Kindergarten, opened in 1953, is named in her honour.

## May Mills, O.B.E. (1890-1984)

### Educationist and sports administrator

May Mills was born on 19<sup>th</sup> July 1890 on her family's sheep property 'Millbrae', near Kanmantoo, South Australia. She was the daughter of William George James Mills and his wife Lizzie Martha (née Champion). She attended Native Valley school, then boarded at Methodist Ladies College. Slight and energetic, she worked on the farm until she took a short Teachers' College course in 1914 and was appointed provisional teacher to three small country schools. Her first inspector's report read, 'enthusiastic, inspiring, sympathetic and successful' --- qualities that she possessed throughout her life. In 1918-19 she completed full teacher training and became junior assistant at Unley High School, where she remained until her retirement, except for spending 1921 at Wallaroo Mines High School. From 1918 to 1939 she studied part-time at the University of Adelaide and graduated with a B.A.

Having also gained physical culture qualifications, she volunteered as unpaid sportsmistress at Unley High School, a role she continued after hours for over twenty years. She coached tennis as well as the hockey team, which played not in the schoolgirls' competition but in the South Australian Women's Hockey Association. Mills was a specialist geography teacher. She taught imaginatively, encouraging students to make local observations and incorporating both human and economic geography ('living people and real things'). In 1933 she was the first woman to present a paper at a meeting of the Royal Geographical Society of Australasia (S.A. Branch). She served on the Education Department's geography and map-making committees and revised primary text books.

As President of the High School Women Teachers' Combined Association in 1937, she successfully advised against their splitting from the teachers' union on issues including unequal male/female salaries. Vice-President of the South Australian Public Teachers' Union in 1939-43, she was its first woman President in 1943-45. At the 1943 Australian Public Teachers' Federation Conference she advocated better teacher recruitment and training, saying that 'teaching *how* to think is more important than teaching *what* to think'. Appointed senior mistress at Unley High School in 1942, she taught geography, botany and geology, and presided over the Geography Teachers' Association. On her compulsory retirement at the age of 60, the staff farewelled her with a barometer but she continued teaching there 'temporarily' until 1953.

With her sister, she had managed 'Sturtbrae', the family's grazing property on Shepherds Hill Road, south of Adelaide, and was its stud-master, after their father, a Country Party member of the Legislative Council, died in 1933. She held office on numerous service committees, including the National Council of Women, where she convened the cinema viewing committee on children's behalf. She also initiated and served on the South Australian Film and Television Council.

Believing that 'the wholesome development of a nation largely depends on well-organized and widely-played sport', May Mills supported women's sport strongly. She presided over both the State and National Women's Cricket Councils and in 1953 was founding President of the South Australian Women's Amateur Sports Council. She was largely instrumental in establishing and developing the South Australian Women's Memorial Playing Fields at St. Mary's, which were officially opened in 1959. She herself cleared stones for the first oval and was labelled 'Playing Fields May'. In 1967 the Playing Fields Trust opened the well-equipped May Mills Pavilion and Mills worked devotedly chairing the maintenance committee into her nineties.

May Mills was appointed O.B.E. in 1960. She died on 26<sup>th</sup> January 1984 and was buried at Blakiston Cemetery. She bequeathed her half-share in 'Sturtbrae' to Flinders University.

