

Dame Roma Mitchell, A.C., D.B.E., C.V.O., Q.C. (1913-2000)

Jurist and Governor of South Australia

Roma Flinders Mitchell was born in Adelaide, South Australia, on 2nd October 1913, the daughter of Harold Flinders Mitchell and his wife Maude (née Wickham). Her father practised law for a short time in Renmark before serving, during the First World War, in France, where he died in April 1918. After the war, the Mitchell family moved back to North Adelaide.

Maude Mitchell was determined that her daughters, unlike herself, would have educations and careers. Roma was educated at St. Aloysius' College and studied music, dancing and law. From a young age she made up her mind to become a lawyer and developed a strong sense of social justice. At the University of Adelaide she was active in student politics and, when barred from joining the Law Students' Society because she was a woman, she became instrumental in the formation of the Women Law Students' Society.

Awarded the David Murray Scholarship as the most brilliant law student of her year, she was admitted to the Bar in 1934 and articulated to the firm of Rollison and Rollison. In 1935 she worked for the firm of Nelligan and Parsons, becoming a partner after six months. She practised as a barrister, resisting the attitude that law was for men only, and in 1940 she assisted with the drafting of the Guardianship of Infants Act.

In 1962 she represented Australia at the United Nations seminar on the status of women in family law and later that year she became Australia's first female Queen's Counsel. She supported the efforts to allow women to sit on juries, eventually persuading the Premier, Thomas Playford (q.v.), to change his mind on that issue. As Q.C. she continuously advocated equal pay for equal work. In 1965 she became a member of the Council of the University of Adelaide and also Australia's first female judge of the Supreme Court. During these years she continued lecturing at the University of Adelaide in family law. From 1970 to 1981 she chaired the South Australian Criminal Law and Penal Methods Reform Committee, which led to major reforms in areas such as rape, suicide, the bail system, protection of the rights of the accused and compensation for victims of crime. She also chaired the Parole Board from 1974 to 1981.

In 1971 Roma Mitchell was appointed C.B.E. and was elected Deputy Chancellor of the University of Adelaide. In 1981 she became the founding Chairwoman of the Australian Human Rights Commission, holding this office until 1986 when it became the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission. By this time she had become a campaigner of international acclaim. She thought the passing and implementation of the Human Rights Commission Act a landmark piece of legislation and considered this the most important committee on which she had served.

In 1982 Roma Mitchell was appointed D.B.E. and in 1983 Acting Chief Justice of South Australia. Also in 1983 she became the first female Chancellor of the University of Adelaide and held this position until 1990. In 1985 she was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of the University. In 1991 she was made a Companion of the Order of Australia and was also appointed Governor of South Australia, again the first woman to hold such a position. She retired in 1996.

Dame Roma Mitchell received her final honour, Commander of the Royal Victorian Order, from the Governor-General, Sir William Deane, on her hospital bed shortly before she died on 5th March 2000. She was accorded a state funeral in recognition of her professional work and as a Governor of South Australia. She was cremated. A statue of her stands in the Prince Henry Gardens on North Terrace, and the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust, of which she was national President, has named a fellowship for excellence in the performing arts after her.



Sir William Mitchell, K.C.M.G. (1861-1962)

Philosopher and Chancellor of the University of Adelaide

William Mitchell was born in Inveravon, Scotland, in March 1861, the son of hill-farmer Peter Mitchell and his wife Margaret (née Ledingham). He entered the University of Edinburgh in 1880, graduating M.A. in 1886 and D.Sc. in 1891. He was a Lecturer in Moral Philosophy at the University of Edinburgh (1887-90) and Lecturer in Education at University College, London (1891-94).

In 1894 he became the Hughes Professor of English Language and Literature and Mental and Moral Philosophy at the University of Adelaide. He soon established himself as a respected intellectual and educational figure. In 1896 he was elected to the Council of the University and continued as a member for fifty-two years. On 18th January 1898 he married Marjorie, the daughter of Robert Barr Smith (q.v.), and they had two children.

William Mitchell was the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Adelaide from 1916 to 1942 and then Chancellor until 1948. He made many contributions to scholarly life, obtaining significant grants for the University, founding the chair of biochemistry and spending large sums on library acquisitions. His administration also saw the establishment of the Dental School, the Waite Agricultural Research Institute and the chair of economics. He believed strongly in the importance of a broad education that involved not just the acquiring of knowledge but also aesthetic, moral and intellectual development. In 1927 he was appointed K.C.M.G. for his services to South Australia.

Mitchell was an outstanding philosopher. He published his first paper in the journal *Mind* while still an under-graduate and later wrote two discursive and wide-ranging books, *Structure and Growth of the Mind* (1907), which dealt with mind and content, philosophical psychology and neuroscience, and *The Place of Minds in the World* (1933), which covered issues of the mind and the philosophy of physics, including the relatively new area of quantum mechanics. According to one reviewer, the latter book 'carried obscurity to the point of outrage'. There are surviving manuscripts of his last book, *The Power of the Mind*, though it was never published. He was the first, and to date the only, philosopher working in Australia to give the Gifford Lectures at the University of Aberdeen (1924 and 1926).

His philosophical views were influenced by the British idealists and by the Scottish 'common sense' theorists. However, he also had a strong interest in empirical work, in particular the neuroscience and psychology of his day, and he was an early proponent of what is now called cognitive science. His philosophical views can be said to mark a transition between the idealist traditions brought to Australia in the early part of the nineteenth century and the radical materialist views which followed.

As a teacher and academic, Mitchell was highly regarded. He was something of a polymath, being engaged to teach economics and education as well as philosophy, psychology and literature. For this reason he described his professorial chair as being more like a sofa. He was also unpretentious. It is said that, as Vice-Chancellor, he had no need for an office. If he wished to see colleagues on administrative matters, he would see them in their rooms. His considerable abilities as an academic, administrator and social commentator led Duncan and Leonard, in *The University of Adelaide, 1874-1974*, to describe Mitchell as 'the nearest approach to a philosopher-king the academic world has ever seen'.

Sir William Mitchell died on 24th June 1962 and was cremated, his ashes being placed near his wife's grave at Mitcham Anglican Cemetery. The Mitchell Building of the University, on North Terrace, is named in his honour and a portrait of him hangs in its great hall.



Daniel Moriarty (1895-1982)

Footballer

Daniel Moriarty was born in Adelaide, South Australia, on 20th August 1895, the son of council worker and milk-roundsman Daniel Moriarty and his wife Jane (née Condon). He was educated at Christian Brothers' College in Wakefield Street but, unlike many other sporting greats, he was not a schoolboy star whose athletic promise was evident at an early age.

Nevertheless, he loved Australian Rules football and pursued it vigorously, playing in the parklands and practising constantly. His early games were with a junior team called Victoria Parks which played its games in the centre of the Victoria Park Racecourse. He also played scratch matches for St. Francis Xavier or simply had a few kicks end-to-end before watching his school team play. In two games after he left school Moriarty played as a substitute for the University and Kenilworth Football Clubs. As a casual observer he was asked to play when those sides were unable to raise a full team. Owing only his boots, he appeared in long trousers and a borrowed guernsey and, when asked what position he played, replied, 'Anywhere.'

At the age of fourteen Moriarty left school and began work in the accounts branch of the Postmaster-General's Department in Victoria Square, remaining in this employment for 26 years. During this time he would walk to the Jubilee Oval behind the Exhibition Building to practise with the South Adelaide Football Club. He still failed to attract notice and, as a shy youth, was not inclined to push himself. Finally in 1915 he was selected to play for the B grade team in the last four matches of the season. He managed to kick a few goals and South won the premiership. It was the only time Moriarty ever played in a premiership team.

With the Football Association in recession during the First World War, he had to wait until 1919 for his first League game at the age of 24. He did play a few games for South Adelaide in the Patriotic League during the war years and established a reputation as a centre half-back. He played his first real League game against North Adelaide at Adelaide Oval on 3rd May 1919. Indeed, he captained the side in the absence of Steve McKee.

Despite his modest beginnings at school, Moriarty established himself quickly as a formidable, no-nonsense defender who played regularly in the backlines of the South Adelaide team. He had an ideal physique for a footballer (5 feet 10 inches tall and weighing 12 stone) and developed his body through frequent exercise and visits to the gymnasium. He was a magnificent mark, had a penetrating drop-kick and was able to anticipate moves on the field with uncanny accuracy. He said later, 'I used to read the play from the other end of the ground and would often take chest marks unopposed between centre and centre half-back while my opponents waited for the ball to come to them.'

In his first year of League football, 1919, he won the Magarey Medal for best and fairest player and repeated that achievement in the two following years. He played in the State team in 1919 and was a regular selection until his retirement in 1925. He was pursued by the Victorian football teams Richmond and Carlton, who offered him three pounds a week to play for them, but he never sought to play for any team other than his beloved South Adelaide. He made several finals appearances from 1921 to 1923, won the first Knuckey Cup at the club in 1923 and captained South Adelaide in 1925.

Dan Moriarty had a lifetime interest in horse racing. He wrote a weekly column for the *Southern Cross* and was later employed as a racing journalist with the *News*. On 5th November 1924 he married Cass Thornton and they had two children.

Named in football historian Bernard Whimpress' Hall of Fame, Moriarty has been acclaimed as South Australia's greatest centre half-back and 'probably the greatest player between the two World Wars'. He died on 12th November 1982 and was buried at Centennial Park Cemetery.



William Ranson Mortlock (c. 1821-1884)

Pastoralist and parliamentarian

William Ranson Mortlock was born in about 1821 at Moat House, Melbourn, Cambridgeshire, England, the son of William Mortlock and his wife Mary (née Newling). His family was deeply involved in banking. In 1843 William emigrated to South Australia on the *Imaum of Muscat*. During the crossing-the-line ceremonies he was thrown overboard wearing a heavy money-belt and had to struggle hard to regain the ship.

This was a time of severe depression in the colony but Mortlock was equipped with both capital and business skills. During his first year in Australia, he journeyed to New South Wales to survey prospects before deciding to settle in South Australia, where he initially set up as a maltster. With as much commercial commonsense as vision, Mortlock invested in the pastoral industry and in 1847 took up the Yalluna run near Tumby Bay, put 5,000 sheep on it and found a suitable manager. At the same time he operated two flour mills, one at Noarlunga and the other in Halifax Street, Adelaide, each of them able to serve prime farming districts. Both milling and sheep farming were very profitable. On 10th May 1850 Mortlock married Margaret Tennant at Port Lincoln and they had a family of six children, including William Tennant Mortlock who was later to own Martindale Hall, near Mintaro in the mid-north.

When the Halifax Street mill was destroyed by fire in 1857, Mortlock abandoned the business and settled on Eyre Peninsula. His pastoral investments expanded further into property on the Peninsula and also, in 1867-68, into the northern areas of South Australia, at Mount Arden, Angorichina and Yudnapinna. The latter station alone stocked 100,000 sheep. Mortlock had the ability to select good overseers for his properties and his own commercial expertise assisted in his pastoral success. He held directorships of a number of companies and amassed a considerable fortune. In August 1858 a parcel of land he sold to John Harvey, a farmer at Tumby Bay, became the first piece of real estate registered under the Torrens (q.v.) Title system after the Real Property Act came into force. Mortlock had another significant interest, horse racing, and he always kept a number of horses in training.

He was noted for his liberal views and in 1868 he won the seat of Flinders in the House of Assembly, holding it, apart from a break during a trip to England, until 1884. He and the Penola pastoralist and member for Victoria, John Riddoch, gained notoriety in November 1872 for an emotion-charged incident at Parliament House. They had been locked out of the chamber during a debate and when they asked to be admitted were refused. Tempers flared and the two excluded members forced the doors open and made their way to their seats. There was great uproar at their behaviour, although others finally admitted that they were entitled to enter the chamber, even though their means of doing so was rather hasty and tempestuous.

Despite this outburst Mortlock was known as a generous and forgiving person. If he heard of anyone in need he was quick to respond and meet the situation. Although he was not seen as a brilliant politician, he was much appreciated by the community he served and perhaps the greatest disappointment of his life was his defeat at the 1884 election. He settled at Medindie in his later years and died on 10th May 1884, shortly after the electoral loss that had so saddened him.

His grandson, John Andrew Tennant Mortlock (1894-1950), kept up the family properties and after the death of his widow in 1979 the State Library of South Australia received a bequest of \$1.8 million from the Mortlock estate. When the Jervois Wing of the Library was restored in 1986, the South Australian collection housed there was named the Mortlock Library of South Australiana as a memorial to him.



Charles Percy Mountford, O.B.E. (1890-1976)

Anthropologist

Charles Percy Mountford was born on 8th May 1890 at Hallett, South Australia, the son of farmer Charles Mountford and his wife Arabella (née Windsor). Educated at Hallett, Georgetown and Moonta, he began working for his father at the age of ten. After the family moved to Adelaide, Mountford found work as a horse-tram conductor and began correspondence courses in mechanics and engineering at the South Australian School of Mines and Industries. Appointed as an electrical mechanic with the Municipal Tramways Trust, he moved to the Postmaster-General's Department in 1913. On 18th March 1914 he married Florence Purnell at Thebarton and they had two children.

In 1920 Mountford was promoted to the Darwin Post Office as mechanic-in-charge. Contact with Aboriginal people sparked his interest in their ceremonies and tribal lore. Returning to Adelaide, he experienced personal tragedy with the death of his wife in 1925. He consoled himself by making tracings of Aboriginal rock carvings near his parents' farm at Peterborough, furthering this interest by joining the newly-formed Anthropological Society of South Australia in 1926 and surveying more rock engravings. On 28th October 1933 he married Bessie Ilma Johnstone.

In 1935 Mountford served as secretary of a board of enquiry investigating the ill-treatment of Aborigines at Hermannsburg and Ayers Rock. Later that year he joined an expedition to the Warburton Range, Western Australia, as photographer and art recorder. He returned with over 400 crayon drawings depicting mythological sites, and many fine photographs. His reputation as a pictorial ethnographer grew with expeditions to the Granites in the Northern Territory and Nepabunna Mission in the Flinders Ranges. He revisited Nepabunna several times, gathering an unmatched documentary record of the Adnyamathanha people.



During 1940 Mountford took extended leave from the P.M.G., which enabled him to undertake a four-month expedition among the Pitjantjatjara people. The result was the first detailed survey of the art and mythology of Ayers Rock and the Olgas. Mountford's exhibitions of photographs, his book and prize-winning film of the expedition, *Brown Men and Red Sand*, became springboards for his career. During an expedition to the MacDonnell Ranges in 1942 he made another influential film, *Namatjira the Painter*, which accompanied his book on the artist.

Mountford's skilled presentations led to his engagement as a lecturer by the Commonwealth Department of Information and his resulting tours of the United States in 1945 and 1946 brought Aboriginal art to a large international audience for the first time. He subsequently led the National Geographic Society's 1948 anthropological and scientific expedition to Arnhem Land, publishing a detailed account of the region's art and producing three more films. Another National Geographic Society expedition to Melville Island followed in 1954. The resulting collections of bark paintings were distributed to national institutions, greatly influencing the appreciation of Aboriginal art.

On his retirement from the Commonwealth Public Service in 1955, Mountford was appointed O.B.E. He and the artist Ainslie Roberts became widely known for their joint publications, *The Dreamtime*, *The Dawn of Time* and *The First Sunrise*, dealing with Aboriginal mythology, but Mountford concentrated his efforts upon an illustrated analysis of central Australian Aboriginal art and mythology. He completed the 600-page *Nomads of the Australian Desert* at the age of 86.

Charles Mountford died on 16th December 1976 and was cremated. He had lived long enough, however, to see his manuscripts and his 13,000 photographs catalogued and established as a research collection at the State Library of South Australia.

William Muirden (1872-1940)

Founder of Muirden College

In the late nineteenth century many young people were able to enter the urban work force by becoming skilled in shorthand and typing. Pitman's shorthand, by which stenographers, court reporters and journalists could take dictation at up to 180 words per minute, had been developed in the mid-nineteenth century, so in 1887 an enterprising Scot named Alexander Muirden thought it timely to open Adelaide's first business college, the Adelaide Shorthand Institute. Five years later he was joined by his younger brother William, born in Sutherland, Scotland, on 9th May 1872, the son of Alexander Muirden, sheriff-officer and auctioneer, and his wife Catherine (née McKay).

The first practical typewriter came onto the American market in the early 1870s and in 1875 Adelaide saw its first example of the new invention and marvelled at the accomplishment of the woman who operated it. Typing joined shorthand as a core subject at the Shorthand Institute, and Adelaide's first typing agency was established there in 1893. Alexander left Adelaide in that year and William Muirden joined William Hogg in operating the Shorthand and Business Training Academy, which aimed at giving 'a thorough and practical training for actual business life'. It also offered South Australia's first educational course by correspondence in 1895.



In 1900 Muirden parted with Hogg and established, in two small rooms of Ware Chambers in King William Street, the Muirden College for Business Training, with twelve day students and one evening student. By 1906 there were 250 students and by 1912 over 700. As the College strengthened its position, it widened its curriculum and by 1915 was offering what it called 'a thorough English education', preparing students for examinations in the Public Service, University (preliminary, junior and senior), pharmacy and teaching. Its graduates were soon to be found in most Adelaide business houses and in the Commonwealth and State Public Services. The College occupied several premises before moving in 1929 to its present location at 368 King William Street.

William Muirden married Mabel Florence Lambell at Mile End on 14th December 1897 and they had a daughter and three sons, establishing a lineage that has provided principals for the College ever since. Muirden gained his B.A. degree at the University of Adelaide in 1910. He established the William Muirden Book Club, was a Trustee of the Wayville Institute, belonged to the Wayville Literary Society and the Caledonian Society, and was a deacon in the Congregational Church. He taught typing and shorthand at the South Australian School of Mines and Industries and from 1913 to 1934 produced a series of booklets on subjects such as grammar, spelling and commercial practice for students preparing for public examinations throughout Australia. In 1914 he was commissioned by the State Government to report on commercial and technical education in Britain and Europe and in 1924 he helped to establish King's College (now Pembroke School).

He had bought Hassett's Business College in Prahran, Melbourne, in 1923 and two years later moved there to direct it. He was assisted by two of his sons, but another, Hector, remained behind as principal of the Adelaide college.

Tall, robust and handsome, William Muirden impressed those who met him with 'the balanced symmetry' and 'harmony' of his nature. He died at his Melbourne home on 25th November 1940 and was cremated. His great-granddaughter, Bronte Nicholls, is the current principal of Muirden College.

Sir Mellis Napier, K.C.M.G. (1882-1976)

Chief Justice of South Australia

Thomas John Mellis Napier was born at Dunbar, Scotland, on 24th October 1882, the son of medical practitioner Alexander Disney Leith Napier and his wife Jessie (née Mellis). When he was five the family moved to London, where he was educated at the City of London School. In 1896 his father accepted an appointment as Senior Resident Physician at the Adelaide Hospital, despite a 'black ban' by the British Medical Association arising from the 'Hospital Row', a bitter dispute between the medical staff and the Government of Charles Kingston (q.v.). Young Mellis stayed behind to complete his schooling and was reunited with the family in 1898. In Adelaide he found his father socially ostracized and only Kingston willing to train Napier for his chosen profession, the law. He studied at the University of Adelaide and was admitted to the Bar in 1903. He helped to revive the moribund Law Society, lectured at the Law School, drafted several long-lasting statutes and took silk in 1921.

Napier's conduct of important government business was rewarded with appointment as a Supreme Court judge in 1924. He became known for the erudition he displayed in Equity and testamentary cases and for his view that the law should be a servant of the people. Prime Minister Lyons appointed him Chairman of the Royal Commission into Banking (1935-7) which influenced regulatory policy for two decades. In 1942 Napier was made Chief Justice of South Australia and was duly knighted the following year. In 1945 he was appointed K.C.M.G.



Napier's chief justiceship was notable for three reasons. First, his open, friendly manner among his judicial colleagues ensured that he was not overruled on appeal for two decades. Senior counsel, however, went over his head to the High Court and Privy Council, and from about 1960 new colleagues saw things differently. Secondly, Napier pursued the Chief Justice's traditional extra-judicial roles, taking himself very seriously in each. As Lieutenant-Governor of South Australia from 1942 to 1973, he was Acting Governor for a longer aggregate than any governor's term of office, making a point of moving into Government House even for a matter of a few days and parading in cocked hat at every opportunity. He served as Grand Master of the Freemasons, President of the St. John Council and Chancellor of the University of Adelaide (1948-61).

The third noteworthy feature of his term was the Rupert Max Stuart case of 1958-59. Stuart, an Aboriginal with little English, was convicted of the rape of a young girl and sentenced to death. The trial judge was backed up by the Full Court (Napier presiding), the High Court and the Privy Council, as well as the Premier, Thomas Playford (q.v.), who declined to commute the death sentence to life imprisonment --- all despite strong allegations of police brutality and mounting objections to capital punishment. In 1959 Napier displayed a serious lack of judgement in accepting the chairmanship of a Royal Commission into the affair. The Commission's predictable finding against a new trial forced the Premier to defuse the situation by commuting the death sentence against Stuart.

Napier's career had seen its best days. His Banking Commission recommendations were already being overturned and his judicial colleagues were no longer reticent about overruling him. He retired from the bench in 1967. For fifty years he had borne the cross of his father's strike-breaking. Even in 1952 medical men lobbied (unsuccessfully) against his election as President of the Adelaide Club because he was the son of 'that dreadful Dr. Napier!'

Sir Mellis Napier died on 22nd March 1976. He was given a state funeral and was cremated. The Napier Building at the University of Adelaide was named after him and a bust by John Dowie is situated near the gates of Government House.

Marjorie Jackson Nelson, A.C., M.B.E. (born 1931)

Athlete and Governor of South Australia

Marjorie Jackson was born on 13th September 1931 at Coff's Harbour, New South Wales, the daughter of fitter and turner William Jackson and his wife Mary (née Robinson). She was educated at Coff's Harbour and Coerwull Public Schools and at the High School in Lithgow, where she spent most of her childhood.

She attracted attention in 1949 when she defeated the visiting Dutch Olympic champion Fanny Blankers-Koen over 100 yards. In January 1950 she equalled Blankers-Koen's world record of 10.8 seconds for the 100 metres. Between 1950 and 1954 Jackson won every State and Australian title for the 100 and 220 yards. At the 1950 Commonwealth Games in Auckland, New Zealand, she won four gold medals (100 yards, 220 yards, and 2 relays). She equalled the world record of 11.5 seconds in winning the 100 metres at the Olympic Games in Helsinki in 1952 and won another gold medal for the 200 metres.

She was accompanied that day by Peter Nelson (q.v.), an Australian cyclist whom she had met on the plane to Helsinki. He had never seen her run and she recalls that she 'wanted to show off a bit to Peter'. Jackson set a new world record of 23.4 seconds in the semi-final of the 200 metres and went on to win the final by an astonishing five metres. She was expected to win another gold medal in the 4 x 100 metres relay after the Australian team set a world record (46.1 secs.) in their heat. However, the baton was dropped at the final exchange between Winsome Cripps and Jackson, and the Australian team was unplaced. A week after the Olympic Games the Australian team defeated the Americans, who had won the Olympic relay gold medal, but the win and a new world record did little to ease the pain of the loss in Helsinki.



Marjorie Jackson was the first Australian woman to win an Olympic gold medal in athletics and she dominated women's sprints in the early 1950s. In Helsinki, she and Shirley Strickland were the first Australian athletes to win Olympic gold medals since Edwin Flack in 1896. Jackson repeated her Commonwealth Games successes in Vancouver in 1954 but retired at the age of 22 to marry Peter Nelson (on 7th November 1953) and live in Adelaide. In her relatively short career of five years, she dominated her opposition, whether in Australia or overseas, and was dubbed 'The Lithgow Flash' by the national media. She captured ten individual world records and anchored three world-record relay teams. In 1952 she was A.B.C. Sportsman [*sic*] of the Year and was elected to the Helms Hall of Fame in the United States. The following year she was appointed M.B.E.

Peter Nelson died of leukaemia in 1977 and since that date Jackson has raised over \$3 million for research into the disease. This has resulted in a full-time researcher being appointed to the Department of Microbiology and Immunology at the University of Adelaide, as well as many other benefits.

In 1980 Jackson was President of the South Australian Olympic Council. In 1986 the International Amateur Athletics Federation declared her one of the sport's 'most outstanding athletes' and in 1995 she was named 'a legend of Australian sport'. She was made an Officer of the Order of Australia in 1990 for services to sport and health. At the Sydney 2000 Olympics she featured in the opening ceremony, carrying the Olympic flag into the arena with other 'Australian Sporting Legends' and in the same year a statue of her was unveiled in Lithgow to commemorate her link with that city.

In 2001 she was appointed Governor of South Australia and became a Companion of the Order of Australia. She continues to encourage young women who seek to emulate her feats in the Olympic arena and is outspoken about the excesses and disappointments of contemporary sport.

Peter Nelson (1931-1977)

Cyclist

Peter Nelson was born on 26th April 1931 at Black Forest, South Australia, the son of wheelwright and automotive manufacturing engineer Frederick Nelson and his wife Winifred (née Mostyn). He was educated at Christian Brothers' College and, when he left school, worked in the retail section of A.G. Healing's sports store in Adelaide. He idolized his older brothers and when they returned from the war in 1946 he followed them into their sports. His brothers remembered him as someone who could take up any sport and excel at it. He was a fine swimmer and was so successful in junior events that he was invited by the State coach to join an elite squad. In the meantime, however, he had discovered cycling.

He won his first race as a sixteen-year-old in 1947 and thereafter committed himself to excellence as a cyclist. Jim Nestor, a dual Olympian, took an interest in him and encouraged him to train as a road racer. Nelson joined the Sturt Cycling Club, which was based at Edwardstown Oval, and followed Nestor's advice about applying himself to training. He rode 500 miles a week and was included in the State junior team in 1949. His training was done after work and, given the mileage he had to cover for adequate workouts, he was often still out riding late into the night. Considered a 'strong rider', he never believed his press and always thought he could be fitter. He regularly attended a gymnasium when it was not fashionable to do so.

His resolution and commitment paid off. In 1950 he was 15, 25 and 50 mile champion and was included in the State senior team. He was successful in the 100 mile Mail Tour and won the Adelaide to Milang road race. He was a popular rider because of his ethical values and his resolute but honest approach to his sport. Cycling was considered a sport of questionable standards, and coaches at that time did not always encourage close fellowship with opponents. Nelson, however, would often billet his interstate rivals when they came to Adelaide to compete against him.

Peter Nelson won the road race in the Olympic trials of 1951 and was included in the Australian cycling team to compete in Helsinki in 1952. He competed in the 4,000 metres team pursuit (Nelson, Caves, Nevin and Pryor) and the 190 kilometre road race. The Australian pursuit team finished seventeenth in the first round of the competition and did not progress to the finals. Nelson was unable to finish the road race. His lack of success at the Olympics was, in part, due to the fact that the Australian team had been based in London prior to the Games with no competitions organized for them. They trained as hard as they could in the large metropolis but needed races to ready them for the Olympic contests. Their diet was also inappropriate for elite sportsmen and they put on weight. Nelson competed in the World Championships in Luxembourg before returning to Australia. He continued his racing in South Australia and in 1953 he was again State champion for the 50 mile road race. He retired in 1954.

Nelson had met and fallen in love with Marjorie Jackson on the flight to Helsinki in 1952 and they were married in Lithgow, New South Wales, on 7th November 1953. Both retired from their sports a year later to open a store in Unley, South Australia. They had too much talent to leave their sports so early in their careers but in the 1950s in Australia there was no financial support for elite performers. Peter Nelson was closely involved in the activities of the Unley Rotary Club and in the mid-1960s was instrumental in establishing the Unley Memorial Swimming Pool, where he taught learn-to-swim classes.

He died of leukaemia on 2nd February 1977 and was cremated. The Peter Nelson Leukemia Research Foundation was established by Marjorie Jackson in his honour.



Paris Nesbit, K.C. (1852-1927)

Barrister

Edward Pariss Nesbit --- he re-invented himself as Paris Nesbit at the age of 44 --- was a leading light in South Australia's legal profession from 1893 to 1915. He was born on 8th August 1852 at Angaston in the Barossa Valley, the son of schoolmaster Edward Planta Nesbit and his wife Ann (née Pariss). He was educated in Light's Pass and Tanunda, easily topping the colony's examination system at the age of thirteen. In 1868 the Nesbits moved to Adelaide and the sixteen-year-old was articled to Rupert Ingleby, Q.C. Five years later Nesbit was admitted to practice.

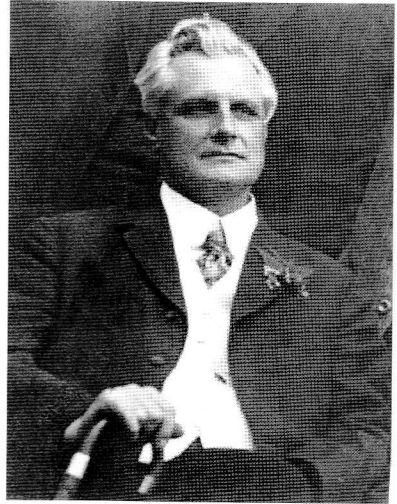
Ten years marked him out for a brilliant career; another ten found him the co-leader, with Josiah Symon, of the South Australian Bar. He became a Queen's Counsel in 1893 and last appeared in the Supreme Court in 1921 at the age of 68. Nesbit's career as counsel included the drafting of numerous parliamentary Bills for the Government but it was his forensic ability and his histrionic courtroom-cabaret style that won him most admirers and most detractors.

Throughout his practising years Nesbit lent his professional prowess to intellectual and political groups, including the Australian Natives' Association, through which he advocated Federation, attending the 1897 Federal Convention. He also attempted a parliamentary career, standing unsuccessfully for East Adelaide and Barossa, losing pre-selection for Federal seats for the United Labor Party in 1906 and as an Independent in 1910. Few electors found much comfort in his eccentricities and the parties could not succour such an independent spirit.

The boy who was said to have dipped into Milton before he was three and, less apochryphally, translated Goethe at ten, had easily outgrown the Barossa. In the bigger pond of the capital, his growing confidence was marked by prodigious memory, sparkling wit and sweeping erudition. He drew on all three to humble, confound and bamboozle judges, fellow lawyers and witnesses alike. With Charles Cameron Kingston (q.v.), he co-founded the Articled Clerks' (later Law Students') Debating Society, regaling his peers with philosophy and politics dramatized with poetry and literature. He extended his intellectual breadth after his admission to the Bar by editing a succession of young men's self-improvement magazines, contributing translations and essays, and lecturing young men's societies on scientific and social matters.

Nesbit also outgrew Adelaide. Emerging liberalism led him to reject conservative Christianity, though not his religious faith. Similarly, he rejected the matrimony into which he had entered with Ellen Logue on 9th December 1874, though not sex. He philandered for the rest of his life and set up house with an 'actress', Cecilia Elizabeth Hughes, whom he married on 22nd February 1921, six days after his wife died. In 1900 he started a newspaper, *Morning*, to attack humbug wherever he saw it. And he found it everywhere in public life and poured vitriol on its practitioners, especially Charles Kingston.

No wonder, then, that the mud of 'madness' began to stick to Nesbit. It certainly killed his political chances, though he kept his legal career aloft, albeit with moods of depression during which he could become belligerent. He did not help himself by a propensity to sue his aggressors and by adding to erratic conduct several erotic episodes. The first two, in 1885, the results of his over-passionate attraction to a young lady, ran him afoul of the law and, for nearly six months, into a Melbourne asylum. In 1896 the Adelaide Asylum received him overnight on the orders of his old legal companion, Kingston, now Premier. In 1898 he returned on three occasions, ranging from one day to four months, again on Kingston's instructions. In each case, some unrestrained mud-slinging at the latter, especially over his private moral delinquencies, added a sour political note to what were clearly plaintive cries for help from a troubled soul. He died on 31st March 1927 and was buried at North Road Cemetery.



Sir Henry Newland, C.B.E., D.S.O. (1873-1969)

Pioneer plastic surgeon

Henry Simpson Newland was born at Kensington, South Australia, on 24th November 1873, the son of pastoralist Simpson Newland of Victor Harbor and his wife Ann Jane Isabella (née Layton). He was educated at St. Peter's College and in 1892 began studying medicine at the University of Adelaide, graduating in 1896. He was also an accomplished oarsman, representing the University. From 1897 to 1902 Newland pursued post-graduate studies at London Hospital, gaining the M.R.C.S. (England), L.R.C.P. (London) and F.R.C.S. (England) and becoming, in 1901, the first Australian to be appointed as the hospital's Surgical Registrar.

Returning to Adelaide in 1902, Newland went into general practice with Dr. Humphrey Marten and became the first person to graduate as Master of Surgery from the University of Adelaide. From Marten, Newland gained an interest in neurology and neurosurgery and became the first Adelaide surgeon to specialize in this field. In 1908 the partnership with Marten ended when Newland became an Honorary Surgeon at the Adelaide Children's Hospital and was also appointed Honorary Assistant Surgeon and Honorary Radiographer at the Adelaide Hospital. He established himself as a surgical consultant and was almost certainly the first Adelaide surgeon to use the title 'Mr'. On 14th July 1910 he married Ellen Mary Lindon and they were to have three children. Between 1912 and 1937 he held four lectureships in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Adelaide and proved to be a notable teacher of clinical surgery.

Newland was prominent in many medical organizations. In 1902 he joined the British Medical Association, of which he was later Vice-President from 1932 to 1965. From 1909 to 1914 he was Honorary Secretary of the South Australian branch and its President from 1919 to 1921. The executive offices of the State branch of the Australian Medical Association are named Newland House in his honour. In 1927 he was a founder of the prestigious Royal Australasian College of Surgeons and was its President from 1929 to 1935.

In November 1914 Newland enlisted in the army and in March 1915 landed in Lemnos as a major with No. 1 Australian Stationary Hospital. After the evacuation of Gallipoli he served in Egypt, Europe and England and was promoted to lieutenant-colonel in command of No. 1 Australian Casualty Clearing Station. He performed military surgery at Ypres and Passchendaele, gaining considerable expertise in the treatment of battle casualties and the repair of facial wounds. In 1917 he was awarded the D.S.O. and mentioned in dispatches. In the same year he was put in command of the Australian section of The Queen's Hospital, Sidcup, which had been established to treat injuries of the face and was renowned for its pioneering work in plastic surgery, then still in its infancy. Newland gained international reputation for his work at Sidcup and wrote highly-regarded articles on plastic and reconstructive surgery.

Returning home in 1919, he served as an Honorary Surgeon at the Adelaide Hospital and the Children's Hospital and as Consultant Surgeon to the Repatriation General Hospital. In addition to his work as a plastic surgeon, he performed pioneering work in thoracic surgery and neurosurgery. He retired from practice in 1951 at the age of seventy-eight.

Henry Newland was appointed C.B.E. in 1919 and knighted in 1928. He was a founding shareholder, and for sixteen years Chairman, of the Mutual Hospital Association, a founder of St. Mark's College and of the S.A. Tuberculosis Association.

He died on 13th November 1969 and was cremated. Portraits of him are displayed in St. Mark's College, the A.M.A. headquarters, Adelaide, the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, Melbourne, and the Royal College of Surgeons, London.



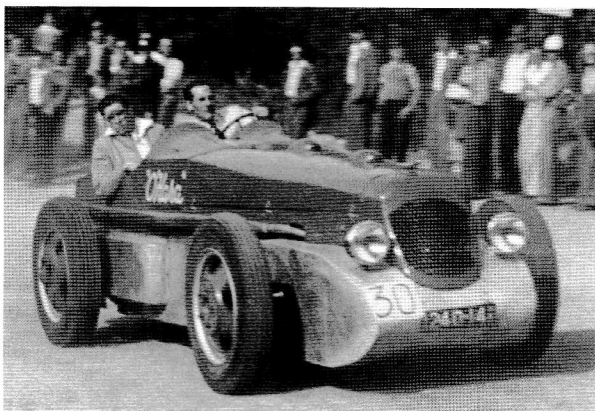
Eldred de Bracton Norman (1914-1971)

Racing car designer and driver

Eldred de Bracton Norman was born in Adelaide, South Australia, on 9th January 1914, the son of solicitor William Ashley Norman and his wife Alma Janet (née Matthews). He attended Scotch College but failed to complete a law degree at the University of Adelaide, as his real interests were in all things mechanical. In 1938 he set up an engineering and car dealership in Halifax Street, Adelaide. At the outbreak of World War II he was rejected for military service due to asthma. Wartime petrol rationing reduced the motor trade to a trickle so Norman manufactured garden implements and Ace gas producers (which enabled cars to run on charcoal rather than petrol).

On 15th May 1941 he married Nancy Cato, a journalist with the *Adelaide News*. They enjoyed a bohemian lifestyle and had a variety of interests. Keen on astronomy, Norman built himself the largest privately-owned telescope in Australia and Nancy painted and wrote poetry. Eldred would take their three children to motor sport activities to leave Nancy free to write.

In 1946 he was dealing in war surplus army vehicles. On a purchasing trip to New Guinea he began building a racing car, the 'double bungler'. Powered by two Ford V8 engines, the large machine had water-cooled brakes that produced spectacular clouds of steam when applied. He constantly rebuilt the car between 1948 and 1951, competing successfully in hill climbs and races in Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia. In both the 1950 and 1951 Australian Grand Prix the 'double bungler' broke down, although it led the field in the latter race. He then bought a 1936 Grand Prix Maserati. Stories abound of him outpacing police in the noisy, unregistered vehicle between his Hope Valley home and the Halifax Street workshop where he would hide the car.



He competed successfully throughout Australia in various forms of motor sport. In 1954 he fitted a Triumph TR2 sports car with a supercharger and drove it to Queensland, towing a trailer of racing fuel. Winning a support race on the morning of the Australian Grand Prix gained him entry to the race itself and he came fourth.

Norman was an active member of the Sporting Car Club of South Australia and, when racing on public roads was banned in South Australia in 1951, he worked to establish a racing circuit at the Port Wakefield airport. For the 1955 Australian Grand Prix there he built a new car in ten weeks. The Zephyr Special was noteworthy for its use of proprietary parts and the revolutionary use of the engine as a stressed chassis member. Despite catching fire, the new car finished eighth in the Grand Prix and was one of the last Australian built 'Specials' to hold its own against imported racing cars.

Norman stopped racing in 1956, believing that he had insufficient resources to continue in top-level competition. Although lacking formal training, he thought deeply about engineering problems and would hurl himself into constructing innovative solutions. He patented a number of inventions, including a car tow-bar and a device for photographing burglars. In 1964 he began production of a supercharger of his own design that dramatically improved the performance of Holden engines. He gave potential customers terrifying demonstrations of its efficacy in an old utility, hurtling between other cars along major roads near his Payneham service station. In 1967 he and his wife (by then a successful novelist) moved to Noosa Heads, Queensland. Two years later he published a book on supercharging.

Nancy Cato described her husband as 'a tall, spare man with immensely strong wrists and hands'. He was a racing driver of considerable ability. Although his solutions to engineering problems were audacious and inventive, his actual mechanical work could be crude.

Eldred Norman died on 27th June 1971 and was cremated.

Sir Mark Oliphant, A.C., K.B.E. (1901-2000) Scientist and Governor of South Australia

State Governor from 1971-1976, Sir Mark Oliphant was a man of conscience, not content with the purely ceremonial role of the vice-regal position. His appointment was criticized by opposition M.P.s as an attempt by the Dunstan (q.v.) administration to discredit and eliminate the traditional role of the Governor but, ironically, Oliphant is now credited with reinvigorating the governorship. His forthright, commonsense opinions appealed to middle Australia and often challenged those in authority. No stranger to controversy, his frequent forays into the newspapers earned him the sobriquet of 'the people's Governor' and this period of his life tends to overshadow his scientific achievements.

He was born Marcus Lawrence Elwin Oliphant, in Adelaide, South Australia, on 8th October 1901, the son of civil servant Harold George Oliphant and his wife Beatrice Edith Fanny (née Tucker), a schoolteacher. He was educated at Goodwood Primary School and at Unley and Adelaide High Schools. After matriculating, he attempted to support himself as a part-time student at the University of Adelaide. His remarkable experimental skills were recognized by Professor Kerr Grant and he was offered a cadetship in the physics department, which provided him with free tuition in return for his maintaining the laboratory. He completed his Bachelor of Science in 1921, with honours the following year.

Oliphant became full-time assistant in the physics department and published his first scientific papers in Adelaide, but the frontiers of physics were overseas. On 23rd May 1925 he married Rosa Wilbraham and in the same year he won an Exhibition Scholarship, which took him to the Cavendish Laboratories in Cambridge. This famous research facility, under the directorship of Ernest Rutherford, was unlocking the secrets of the atom and producing Nobel Laureates. Oliphant's technical skills were ideally suited to the construction of the equipment required to accelerate and smash apart atoms.

Oliphant remained at the forefront of nuclear physics for the next twenty-five years. In 1937 he was made a Fellow of the Royal Society and, on Rutherford's recommendation, appointed to the Poynting chair of physics in Birmingham. Here he continued his atom-smashing investigations. The potential for an atomic bomb was apparent to the researchers long before World War II and Oliphant was recruited into the Manhattan project in late 1943. His experimental expertise was crucial in producing the enriched uranium for the first bombs. The military use of nuclear power always distressed him. Initially he was hopeful that the peaceful use of nuclear energy might balance the scales but in later years he came to believe that the risks outweighed the benefits. He became an outspoken anti-nuclear campaigner during the 1970s when the French conducted atomic bomb tests in the Pacific Ocean.

Oliphant was consulted by the Curtin Government (1941-45) on nuclear issues and was asked to join the Australian delegation to the United Nations treaty discussions. The Federal Government recruited him to help establish the Australian National University and in 1950 he returned to Australia to become its first Director of Physical Sciences. Most of his time was spent establishing the new facility in Canberra and navigating the bureaucratic seas of Federal politics. He championed Australian science at a time when it was generally ignored and poorly funded. A founding member of the Australian Academy of Science, he initially refused a knighthood but accepted it in 1959. He retired in 1966, staying on as an Honorary Research Fellow at the A.N.U. until appointed Governor of South Australia in 1971. In 1977 he was made a Companion of the Order of Australia.

Sir Mark Oliphant died on 14th July 2000 and was cremated in Canberra. A bronze bust of him, by John Dowie, is situated on North Terrace, beside the gates of Government House.



Sir Thomas Playford, G.C.M.G. (1896-1981)

Premier of South Australia

Thomas Playford was Premier of South Australia from 1938 to 1965. He led his party to victory in eight successive elections, presiding for 26½ years over a State in transition, one that was struggling to survive against the dominance of the larger, more economically powerful States. His premiership remains the longest in the history of the British Commonwealth.

He was born at Norton Summit, South Australia, on 5th July 1896, the son of orchardist Thomas Playford and his wife Elizabeth Annie (née Pellew). His grandfather, 'Honest Tom' Playford (1837-1915), was also a Premier of South Australia and a Federal senator. Tom Playford went to the Norton Summit School but left at the age of fourteen to manage the family business. In May 1915 he enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force and served with the 27th Battalion. He was severely wounded in November 1916 at Flers, France, and at the end of the war, with the rank of lieutenant, he returned home to his market gardening. On 11th January 1928 he married Lorna Clark and they had three children.

In 1933 Playford entered the House of Assembly as the Liberal and Country League member for Murray. Five years later, in November 1938, he was elected leader of his party, becoming Premier, Treasurer and Minister for Immigration, portfolios that he retained until 1965. One of his first acts on taking office was to issue a public statement in which he promised to work in the interests of the people as a whole, rather than being bound by blind party loyalties. Although socially and morally conservative, he was determined to make South Australia economically progressive and his policies were always driven by this commitment.

Realizing that the State was vulnerable to drought, he began a programme of industrialization to reduce its dependence on primary production. His skilful negotiations with the Federal Government and with leading industrialists and international companies secured for the State the Long Range Weapons Establishment at Salisbury, the shipbuilding yards at Whyalla, the Morgan-Whyalla pipeline, the Port Stanvac oil refinery and the development of the Leigh Creek coalfield. He introduced industries from overseas and used the reliability of the South Australian workforce as an incentive to entice industries from other States.

He pursued policies of price and rent control and, through the Housing Trust, had thousands of low-cost homes built as a means of attracting a larger workforce to the State. The town of Elizabeth, founded in the 1950s, attracted British migrants in particular and provided them with jobs at the General Motors-Holden's plant, also a Playford initiative. He was, however, notoriously indifferent to what he saw as non-productive areas of government responsibility --- social services, health, the arts and education.

Playford was able to hold power for as long as he did because of the malapportionment of the electoral system, the so-called 'Playmander'. This was a legacy of the electoral redistribution carried out in 1936 whereby the vote of each country elector was worth almost four times as much as that of a city elector. Since rural voters were traditionally strong supporters of the Liberal and Country League, Playford had no desire to interfere with the imbalance that ensured his political survival. He finally lost power to the Labor Party in 1965 and retired from politics the following year. He had been appointed G.C.M.G. in 1957.

Sir Thomas Playford died on 16th June 1981 and was buried at Norton Summit Cemetery. He has been variously described as 'a shrewd politician', 'a wily old scallywag' and as a man who 'knew what he wanted, knew what was desirable and knew what was possible'. Whatever he did, he did it for the sake of South Australia. The wording on his gravestone reads: 'A good man who did good things.'



James Arthur Prescott, C.B.E. (1890-1987)

Founder of soil science in Australia

James Arthur Prescott was born on 9th October 1890 at Bolton, Lancashire, England, the son of textile engineer Joseph Arthur Prescott and his wife Mary Alice (née Garsden). His blue-collar background, of which he was very proud, was in the cotton industry, and five members of the family served as trade union secretaries over almost one hundred years. His primary schooling began in Lille, France, and he remained fluent in French throughout his life. He graduated from Manchester University with first class honours in chemistry in 1912 and subsequently gained his M.Sc. from Manchester (1919) and his D.Sc. from the University of Adelaide (1932).

In 1912 he received the first British Government post-graduate scholarship for agricultural science, which took him first to the celebrated Rothamstead Experimental Station and subsequently to Leipzig, Germany, from where he barely managed to escape on the eve of World War I. Returning to Rothamstead, he developed his ideas on the application of chemistry to agriculture, and his first scientific paper, 'The estimation of phosphates in soil extracts', was prophetic of his work on Australia's phosphate-deficient soils.

On 12th October 1915 he married Elsie Mason and the following year, after an exciting wartime sea journey, he began work as Chief Chemist for the Sultanic Agricultural Society of Egypt. His duties involved the quality control of fertilizers and the conducting of field trials at the Bahtim experimental farm near Cairo.

In 1924 Prescott took up the post of Professor of Agricultural Chemistry at the newly-endowed Waite (q.v.) Agricultural Research Institute of the University of Adelaide. He succeeded Professor A.E.V. Richardson (q.v.) as Director of the Institute in 1938 and held that position until his retirement in 1955. In 1927 the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research set up its Division of Soils with Prescott as its first Chief, a position he held in addition to his University post until 1947. He began the mapping of Australian soils, introducing the concept of 'profiles' of the great soil groups, first conceived by Dorguchae in Russia. He travelled widely throughout Australia, looking at soils and landscape, often informed by the journals of the early explorers. He was the first to suggest aerial photography as a soil survey resource and his rapport with farmers was well-known. Perhaps the most outstanding of his publications is the famous C.S.I.R. Bulletin No. 52, *The Soils of Australia in relation to Vegetation and Climate* (1930). In it Prescott set out the need to establish scientific lines for soil classification and mapping, to be related to land forms and land use, foreshadowing his later work on agricultural climatology. This bulletin is generally regarded as the foundation of Australian soil science.

Prescott was active at all levels of education --- school, university, adult education and agricultural courses --- and the following quotation encapsulates his attitude to teaching: 'In my own work, each piece of published work carries or should carry the germ of the next project. There is, however, the inspiration that comes from incompleteness of one's knowledge. When one realizes that one is teaching students an untruth or an inadequate explanation, then it is about time something was done about it.'

He received many honours --- C.B.E. (1947), Fellow of the Royal Society of London (1951), foundation Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science (1954), Honorary Fellow of the International Society of Soil Science (1964), and six scientific medals. In 1971 the Australian Society of Soil Science established the Prescott Medal, to be awarded to senior scientists for contributions to soil science and climatology.

James Prescott died on 6th February 1987 and was cremated.



Margaret Preston (1875-1963)

Artist

Margaret Rose Preston was born on 29th April 1875 at Port Adelaide, South Australia, the daughter of marine engineer David McPherson and his wife Prudence (née Lyle). In 1885 she moved to Sydney with her family, later studying painting there with William Lister Lister. In the 1890s she studied at the National Gallery's school of painting in Melbourne under Bernard Hall before coming to Adelaide to study with H.P. Gill at the School of Design, Painting and Technical Arts. It was during the 1890s in Adelaide that she first exhibited professionally as an artist, showing paintings at the South Australian Society of Arts. From 1899 to 1904 and again from 1907 to 1912 Preston taught in Adelaide. Her concentration on tonalism in her early work influenced the art of her students, the most notable of whom were Bessie Davidson, Stella Bowen, May Grigg and Gladys Reynell. Her still-life *The tea urn* (c. 1909) is typical of this style of painting.

Preston travelled extensively in 1904-1907 and in 1912-1919. On her first trip she went to Europe with Bessie Davidson, exhibiting with her in Adelaide on their return. On her second trip, with Gladys Reynell, she spent over a year in France, studied pottery in London and then taught rehabilitating soldiers. In 1912-13 she was adviser (with Will Ashton) to the Art Gallery of South Australia on purchases of art-works. On 31st December 1919 she married William Preston, thereafter exhibiting as Margaret Preston (rather than as either Rose or Margaret McPherson). After their marriage the couple lived in Sydney and, from 1932 to 1939, in Berowra.

Margaret Preston was highly influential both as a painter and as a printmaker. After 1910 she moved away from her initial tonalism and by the 1920s was exploring decorative elements and vivid colour. Her paintings took on vigorous, overall patterning, as can be seen in *White and red hibiscus* (1925). Also able to use remarkable restraint in colour and composition, she produced highly stylized paintings, *Implement Blue* (1927) being the best known example.

Pronounced by Sydney Ure Smith in 1927 as 'a natural enemy of the dull', Preston also strongly advocated the use of Aboriginal design in all forms of visual art and crafts in order to achieve a national Australian style. Her paintings and her hand-coloured woodcuts frequently included native flora and fauna as subjects. Her assertive form of modernism, in which she reduced compositions to their decorative elements, was widely accepted during the 1920s and 1930s and she was the first Australian modernist to achieve a significant reputation.

She wrote frequently for such publications as *Art in Australia* and was included in Australian exhibitions shown overseas, such as the Australian Art Exhibition in London in 1923. In the exhibition 'Art of Australia: 1788 to 1941', shown in Canada and the United States in 1941, she was represented by three works, including the 1941 painting *Aboriginal landscape*. In 1942 her work was shown in 'William Dobell and Margaret Preston' at the Art Gallery of New South Wales. She exhibited regularly throughout Australia and her last solo exhibition was in Sydney in 1953. She continued to produce work during the 1950s, in particular colour stencils of Aboriginal subjects in a range of ochre colours combined with dramatic areas of black.

Margaret Preston died in Mosman, New South Wales, on 28th May 1963 and was cremated. The first Australian art museum to acquire her work was the Art Gallery of South Australia in 1907. She is represented in the National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, and all State art galleries, as well as in private and university collections throughout the country.



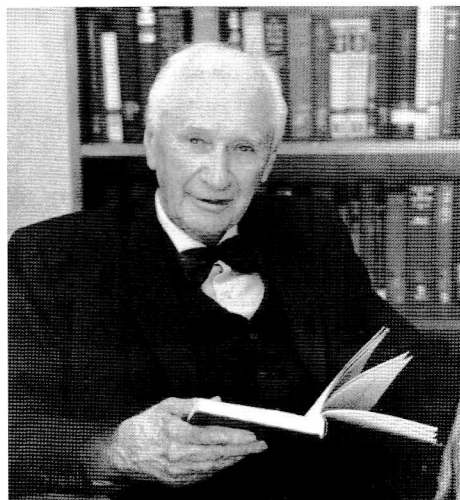
Sir Archibald Grenfell Price, C.M.G. (1892-1977)

Geographer, historian and educationist

Archibald Grenfell Price was born at 'Tutuila', near Crafers in the Adelaide hills, on 28th January 1892, the son of bank manager Henry Archibald Price and his wife Elizabeth Jane (née Harris). He was an only child, his father dying when he was three. He was educated at St. Peter's College, Adelaide, and at Magdalen College, Oxford, where he gained an honours history degree. Rejected by the army because of poor eyesight, he returned to St. Peter's College as geography and athletics master from 1916 to 1924. Interested in the human as well as the physical aspects of geography and dissatisfied with the available textbooks, he wrote *A Causal Geography of the World* (published in 1918), so beginning his lifetime pursuit of writing on historical and geographical subjects.

His marriage to Kitty Pauline Hayward on 20th January 1917 began a remarkable relationship. He was a devoted son and a caring father, delighting in fishing and exploring the south coast with his sons.

In 1925 he helped Canon Bickersteth establish St. Mark's College, the first residential college of the University of Adelaide, and was its founding Master. The College, using the Oxford tutorial system, grew from an initial 13 students to 100 in 1957 when he retired. By then, eighteen of its residents had won Rhodes scholarships. 'Archie', as he was known to many, was noted for his firmness but also for his genuine interest in the students and for his good humour. His portrait now hangs in the dining hall named in his honour.



Fellow geographer Kenneth Peake-Jones said that Archie Price was a man of 'vast enthusiasm' and 'an energetic, humorous, bubbling personality'. His great laugh was unmistakable. Another colleague described working with him as 'like hanging on the tail of a comet'.

In 1932 his early books on South Australian settlement led to the award of the University's first D. Litt. *The Foundation and Settlement of South Australia* (1924) still remains an authoritative source.

In 1931-32 he chaired the South Australian Emergency Committee, galvanizing the community to tackle the economic disaster of the Depression. This earned him his C.M.G. in 1933. He gave years of public service to education and the community, serving St. Peter's College, the University of Adelaide, the State Library Board, the Anglican Church and the Royal Geographical Society of Australasia (S.A. Branch), which awarded him its John Lewis Gold Medal.

A Rockefeller Scholarship in 1932 to visit tropical countries led to his influential writing on white settlement in the tropics. His firsthand knowledge of relations between European colonists and indigenous people, and his experience leading an expedition looking for Leichhardt's remains in central Australia, developed his interest in the Aborigines and he was one of the first historians to show concern for their treatment.

During World War II, with St. Mark's leased to the R.A.A.F., Price broadcast daily on the war situation. From 1941 to 1943 he was the United Australia Party member for the Federal seat of Boothby. He was appointed in 1953 to the Commonwealth Literary Fund and later to the Australian Humanities Research Council. In 1960 he became the founding Chairman of the National Library of Australia, working hard for the building to be opened in 1968. His literary work continued. He edited Cook's Pacific journals and wrote on the work of Douglas Mawson (q.v.) in Antarctica, the Australian mandate for New Guinea and the flight of Ross and Keith Smith (qq.v.) to Australia in 1919.

In 1963 Archibald Grenfell Price was knighted for services to education. In 1969 *Settlement and Encounter*, a book of geographical studies by his former staff and students, was dedicated to him as 'Friend and Mentor, whose contagious enthusiasm stimulated many friends and colleagues to envisage wider horizons'. He died on 20th July 1977 and was buried at North Road Cemetery.

Tom Price (1852-1909)

First Labor Premier of South Australia

Tom Price was born on the 19th January 1852 at Brymbo, North Wales, the son of stonemason John Price and his wife Jane (née Morris). His father's intemperance forced him to start work at the age of nine and he became a stonemason. The Mechanics' Institute and the Wesleyan Methodist Sunday schools furthered his education and the Liberal Reform Association taught him much about politics and social reform.

On the 14th April 1881 he married Anne Elizabeth Lloyd. Poor health compelled him to emigrate and, with hopes of becoming a farmer, he paid his own way to South Australia. The family arrived in May 1883 and settled in Unley. Price took up work as a stonemason. It was he who cut the stone and shaped the capitals on the columns of the new Parliament House. Joining the Operative Masons' and Bricklayers' Society, he became its President in 1887 and its delegate in 1890 to the United Trades and Labour Council. He believed in a conciliatory approach to industrial relations but often spoke forcefully against injustice.

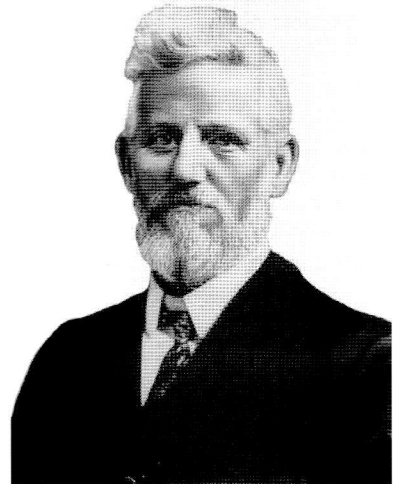
In 1891 he joined the fledgling United Labor Party and was elected to the House of Assembly seat of Sturt in 1893. He advocated land reform, compulsory education and better accommodation for workers. He claimed that he was 'not ashamed to be a delegate of labour' for an equitable redistribution of wealth and he supported equality for women because society had made it impossible for them to remain in the home.

During the 1890s the small U.L.P. was obliged to support liberal administrations because it could expect little sympathy from conservatives. In 1899 Price became the leader of the U.L.P. and, because he knew Labor needed to win rural electorates to gain power, he broadened his party's base with country branches. He was convinced that a truly reformist government could only be achieved with a U.L.P. victory at the polls. In the election of 1905 Labor increased its representation in the House of Assembly but had to share power in a Labor-Liberal coalition. Price became Premier and also took on the portfolios of education and public works.

His main objective was reform of the Legislative Council, which, because of the property-based franchise, was dominated by the conservatives. In opposition, Price had called for its abolition but, as Premier of a coalition, he was forced to compromise. The Price-Peake Government aimed at enlarging the numbers entitled to vote for the Legislative Council by reducing the property qualification to £15 for household rentals. The Council rejected this moderate reform and a double dissolution followed in 1906. At the elections the U.L.P. gained additional seats but the Government reached a compromise by agreeing to make the franchise £17.

The Price-Peake coalition achieved some noteworthy legislation, including the establishment of a minimum wage, the electrification of the tramways, a Government Produce Export Department for the manufacture and export of butter and frozen meat, the construction of Outer Harbour, improved apprenticeship training and in 1908 the introduction of free state secondary education. Price had disarmed those conservatives who had believed that Labor could not rule responsibly and his success paved the way for the subsequent Verran Labor Government to rule in its own right.

Nevertheless, the Price-Peake administration was committed to a period of financial austerity to overcome the effects of excessive overseas borrowing in the 1890s. Moreover, the limits of co-operation between the U.L.P. and the Liberals were being tested and it was only Price's authority that kept the coalition functioning. For him the function of the state was to raise mankind both individually and collectively but for the Liberals the state was to provide the conditions by which individuals could prosper by their own efforts. The coalition ended with Price's death on 31st May 1909. He was given a state funeral and was buried at Mitcham General Cemetery.



Alexander Maurice Ramsay, C.B.E. (1914-1978)

General Manager of the South Australian Housing Trust

Alexander Maurice Ramsay was born in Adelaide, South Australia, on 27th October 1914, the son of boot machinist Alexander Ramsay and his wife Bessie (née Smee). He attended the Adelaide Teachers' College and the University of Adelaide. On 27th December 1939 he married Amy Woithe and they had four children. Ramsay continued studying while teaching at Berri Higher Primary School and Adelaide Boys High School, and gained a B.Ec. in 1941 from the University of Adelaide.

In 1943 he helped to launch the South Australian 'Common Cause', aiming to encourage collective effort to win the war and work for a world in which social evils such as poverty and bad housing would be banished. The movement had over 3,000 members and carried out a programme of community projects and public education. Ramsay threw himself into the cause until it was disbanded in 1949.

In 1936 the S.A. Housing Trust was established as the country's first public housing authority. The State Government aimed to promote secondary industry by keeping wages lower than elsewhere and providing low-cost rental housing to workers. In 1943, with senior public servants aware of his talents, Ramsay was employed as economic planner at the Trust and in 1949 became General Manager, a position he held until his death. Operations were greatly expanded by the Premier, Thomas Playford (q.v.), who considered Ramsay 'a brilliant find' for the Housing Trust as he was intelligent, articulate and compassionate.

Ramsay soon became renowned as a negotiator and manager. In historian Hugh Stretton's words, 'Finding people with appropriate qualities, motivating them . . . keeping them conventionally efficient but urging them always to treat each other and all the Trust's customers as . . . real people . . . was the core of the managerial task as this exceptionally successful manager saw it.' These attributes were vital, given the heavy demands on staff arising from the size of the operation and the acute post-war housing need. Former employees remember Ramsay with affection and respect.

South Australia's 'Mr. Housing' served the successive Governments of Playford, Walsh, Hall and Dunstan, gaining a C.B.E. in 1958. By supplying huge numbers of rental and purchase houses, he helped to restrain the cost of all housing and suburban land in South Australia. During the 1950s and 1960s he was fully engaged in the Trust's construction of the new town of Elizabeth and promoted its social development. He gave the Trust a welfare dimension that it originally lacked, setting up homes for handicapped people, the elderly, single mothers and boarders. He retained half of the Trust's housing for future welfare needs and gained an amendment of the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement to allow the Trust to buy and rehabilitate old houses for low-income tenants in the inner city.

Ramsay was a man of great personal charm and practical Christianity for whom the Public Service was a vocation combining his economic training and religious principles. His greatest satisfaction was that the Housing Trust ran at a profit, yet built homes as cheaply as any other housing authority. He served the community in many other ways. He was a Chairman of the Australian Institute of International Affairs and a member of the Municipal Tramways Trust, the Australian Housing Corporation, the Australian Broadcasting Commission and Meals on Wheels. He suffered severe asthma and, as the first head of Asthmatic Children's Aid and the Asthma Foundation of South Australia, helped to establish the State as a leading centre for asthma management. Even his leisure interests were energetic. He was a keen yachtsman, building his own sloop *Aroona*.

Alexander Ramsay died on 25th May 1978 and was cremated. Thousands of mourners attended his funeral at St. Peter's Cathedral, North Adelaide, and the large sum of money they donated instead of flowers has endowed university scholarships for asthma research.



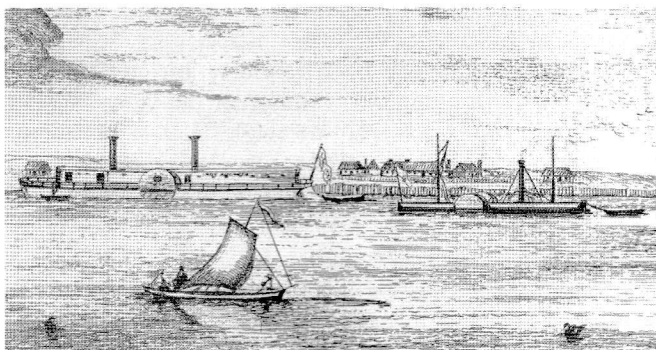
William Richard Randell (1824-1911)

Pioneer of River Murray paddle-steamers

William Richard Randell was born on 2nd May 1824 at Sidbury, Devon, England, the son of William Beavis Randell and his wife Mary Ann. The family emigrated to South Australia on the *Hartley* in 1837 and lived in primitive conditions until Randell senior, who was a general stock manager for the South Australian Company, built a house near Hackney Bridge. Shortly afterwards he took up land at Gumeracha, where he built a flour mill.

Educated at Exeter, England, and in Adelaide, W.R. Randell, with his father, held land along the banks of the Murray and it was here, while minding cattle, that he became determined to be the first man to put a steamboat on the river. On 10th December 1849 he married Elizabeth McConnell. With his brother John he rented his father's flour mill and in 1852, hearing of the Victorian gold-diggings, he 'thought it time to start the steamboat', although he had never seen one and his father

opposed the plan. Carpenters and his brothers, Thomas and Elliott, cut timber for the hull at Gumeracha and the frame was carted by bullocks over the hills to Mannum. The engine was built by a German engineer, and a blacksmith made the boiler to a novel design by Randell himself. The 56-foot hull was completed in February 1853 and in March the steamboat *Mary Ann*, having cost about £1,800, made a successful trial run. Randell's



first trading voyage began on 25th March but low water below Lake Bonney forced him to return to Mannum. On 15th August he set off again with about twelve tons of stores. Near Swan Hill in Victoria the *Mary Ann* was overtaken by Francis Cadell's *Lady Augusta* with the Lieutenant-Governor of South Australia, Sir Henry Fox Young, and his party on board. Continuing upstream further than the *Lady Augusta*, Randell reached Maiden's Punt (now Moama). For his feat the South Australian Government gave him £300. A further £400 and a testimonial were later presented to him by the citizens, who felt that he had been insufficiently rewarded.

In 1854 Randell extended the *Mary Ann* to 75 feet but it was still not big enough for his purposes. The following year he joined it with a new hull, mounted a single paddle-wheel between the two hulls and renamed it *Gemini*. In this unconventional vessel he steamed up the Murrumbidgee River to Lang's Crossing (Hay) where he established a trading store. On later voyages up the Darling River he went as far as Walgett, 1,650 river miles from the sea. He then gave up milling and built a house at Mannum.

On 24th December 1853 Randell married Elizabeth Ann Nickels and they made their home at Gumeracha. Later he moved to Wentworth to supervise his trading interests and his growing fleet. In 1861 he was appointed a Justice of the Peace for New South Wales. In the 1870s he returned to South Australia, living first at Mannum, where he installed a dry dock, and later at Gumeracha, where he lived in the family home, Kenton Park, with a redecorated dining room resembling a paddle-steamer saloon. In 1873 he became a Justice of the Peace for South Australia. He controlled his various activities until 1899 when he handed responsibilities over to his son Murray. His most serious loss, costing £6,000, occurred in 1863 when his paddle-steamer *Bunyip* and its barges were destroyed by fire on the River Murray, Randell being lucky to escape with his life.

In 1893-96 and 1896-99 he represented Gumeracha in the House of Assembly, where he favoured water conservation and irrigation, village settlements, workingmen's blocks and women's suffrage, and opposed protection and taxation change. Though the oldest member of the House, he was still agile, travelling each week from Gumeracha while Parliament was in session.

William Randell died on 4th March 1911 and was buried at Salem Baptist Cemetery. The No. 1 weir and lock at Blanchetown on the River Murray were named in his honour.

Arnold Edwin Victor Richardson, C.M.G. (1883-1949)

Agricultural scientist

Arnold Edwin Victor Richardson was born in Thebarton, South Australia, on 12th September 1883, the son of ironfounder George Edwin Richardson and his wife Louisa (née Mansfield). He was educated at Currie Street Public School and Roseworthy Agricultural College, where he obtained a first class diploma in 1902. He then studied at the University of Adelaide, graduating B.A. in 1907, B.Sc. in 1908 and M.A. in 1910. He completed his formal education in 1924 when he received the first Doctor of Science degree awarded in agriculture by the University of Melbourne.

On 30th September 1909 he married composer and singer Lilian Moonta Lucas. In the same year he began a remarkable and distinguished career in agricultural science when he was appointed Assistant Director of Agriculture in South Australia. In 1911 he joined the Victorian Department of Agriculture, where he served as Superintendent. During this time he consolidated the department's work in three main areas, the central research farm at Werribee, the experimental farm at Rutherglen and Longerenong Agricultural College. At the latter Richardson was responsible for the introduction of improved cultivation methods in wheat farming, and his book, *Wheat and its Cultivation*, became a standard text on the subject. In 1918 he visited the United States and Canada on behalf of the Victorian Government to study agricultural research and education and on his return was appointed first Dean of the Faculty and Director of the School of Agriculture at the University of Melbourne, holding these positions as well as his post at the department.



When the Waite (q.v.) Agricultural Research Institute was established in 1924 at Urrbrae by the University of Adelaide, Richardson was appointed as its first Director. He took the view that research work involved the patient and painstaking examination of agricultural problems. This allowed him to link the programme at the Waite Institute directly to the experiences of farmers, enabling them to see scientific research as a direct benefit in improving their results. In addition, Richardson's skills in communication allowed him to successfully promote the new Institute and gain the support that was necessary to establish a strong reputation for it at all levels of the community. In 1938 he became Deputy Chief Executive Officer of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research and returned to Victoria. In 1946 he was appointed Chief Executive Officer, retiring in 1949.

Richardson's main legacy to science lies in his original work on the water requirements of Australian farm crops and on wheat and wheat breeding. But in South Australia he is best remembered for his successful establishment of the Waite Institute and the building of a secure foundation for the national and international reputation that it enjoys today. Richardson was regularly described as a genial man, big in stature and mind, who was well-liked and had many friends. He achieved the highest regard from his fellow scientists, members of the farming community and his staff and colleagues.

A life such as Richardson's inevitably attracted honours and acclaim from many areas, one of the most notable being his appointment as C.M.G. in 1938. He was also the first President of the Australian Institute of Agricultural Science in 1935-36 and President of the Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science in 1947-49. He died on 5th December 1949 in Melbourne and was cremated. In 1977 the A.E.V. Richardson Laboratory at the Waite Institute was named in his honour.

Victor York Richardson, O.B.E. (1894-1969)

All-round sportsman

Vic Richardson remains South Australia's greatest all-round sportsman. Educated at Kyre (now Scotch) College, he became an entertaining personality and was an heroic character on the fields of play. Best known for his first class cricket career, which spanned most of the years between the First and Second World Wars, and saw him captain Australia on its tour of South Africa in 1935-36, Richardson was unchallenged in his versatility as an athlete. He captained the South Australian football team, represented the State at baseball, played top grade lacrosse, tennis and basketball, and was also a brilliant gymnast. In 1925 he was awarded the U.S.-based Paul Helms Athlete of the World trophy for the outstanding Australasian sportsman.

He was born on 7th September 1894 at Unley, South Australia, the son of accountant and house painter Valentine Yaxley Richardson and his wife Rebecca (née Malloney). Tall and handsome, with a military bearing, Richardson played cricket aggressively, hit a brilliant 138 in his second Test against England at the Melbourne Cricket Ground in January 1925, and was one of the players least daunted by England's bodyline tactics in 1932-33, scoring solidly against Harold Larwood and Bill Voce. He had been made South Australian captain in 1921. His captaincy was rarely orthodox but he led South Australia to Sheffield Shield success in 1926-27 and was the second highest run-scorer for the State until the mid-1960s. His total included 27 centuries. He was Australian vice-captain under Bill Woodfull on the 1930 tour of England and the 1932-33 series at home, and captained an Australian side to New Zealand in 1928 as well as to South Africa in 1935-36.

Apart from captaining Australia and South Australia at cricket, Richardson led the State and Sturt Football Club in League football. He played in three Sturt premiership sides in 1915, 1919 and 1926, and captained South Australia in 1923 and 1924. Originally a ruck-rover and defender, he was a centreman when he tied for the 1920 Magarey Medal (South Australia's highest football award) and was defeated on a re-vote. He was posthumously awarded a medal in 1998.

After his retirement from major sport Richardson became a perceptive sporting journalist on the *Advertiser* and had a long career as a radio commentator. He was sporting editor of Radio 5AD and an outstanding cricket commentator in his A.B.C. Test broadcasts with former English captain Arthur Gilligan. In 1954 he was appointed O.B.E. for his services to cricket. In 1966 a road leading to Adelaide Oval was named after him and the following year the eastern entrance gates, designed by Ian Hannaford and featuring sculptures by John Dowie, were named the Victor Richardson Gates. A book of reminiscences, *The Victor Richardson Story*, published in 1967, brought to life many of his sporting experiences.

In addition to his sporting interests Richardson had some involvement in political issues. He was unpopular in the Port Adelaide district and Labor circles for many years following his role in 1930 as a strikebreaker during a wharf dispute. He later became a prominent member of the Liberal and Country League and was a President of the Kingston sub-branch. During World War II he served with the R.A.A.F. in Australia, India and Burma, rising to flight lieutenant.

Richardson was married twice. His first marriage to Vida Yvonne Knapman on 29th January 1919 produced one son and three daughters. His second wife was Peggy Chandler (née Herbert), whom he married on 30th May 1946. Three of his grandchildren carried on his sporting prowess, with Ian and Greg Chappell becoming leading Australian Test cricketers and captains, and Trevor Chappell also playing in the Australian eleven. Victor Richardson died on 30th October 1969 and was cremated.



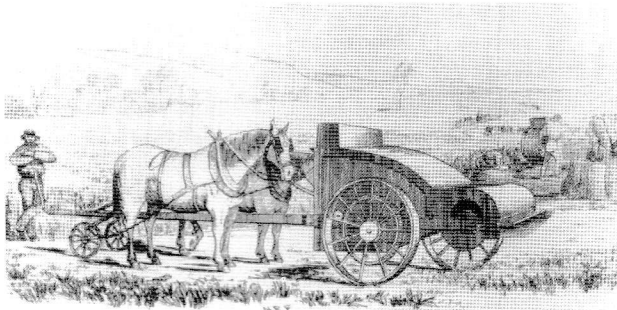
John Ridley (1806-1887)

Miller and inventor of the Ridley stripper

John Ridley was born on 26th May 1806 at West Boldon, Durham, England, the son of flour miller John Ridley and his wife Mary. At the age of fifteen he took over the management of the mill, which his mother had run since his father's early death, and he also became a Wesleyan Methodist preacher. In 1835 he married Mary Pybus, the daughter of a boarding school owner, and they were to have five children, though three died in infancy. In 1839 Ridley sold the mill and emigrated with his family to South Australia, arriving aboard the *Warrior* in April 1840. He settled in Hindmarsh and within a few months had built the colony's first flour mill, using a steam engine he had brought from England.

Ridley was an avid reader and collector of books and he maintained at the mill a 300-volume library which he placed at the disposal of the public, free of charge. He was also a compulsive inventor and became involved in assisting the agricultural, horticultural and mining industries with various mechanical aids. By 1842 he had acquired 300 acres of land in three separate blocks, had begun share-farming ventures and was exporting flour to New Zealand. He was soon employing seventeen men --- seven in the mill and ten in his well-equipped workshop.

However, it was his timely invention of the world's first successful mobile grain-harvesting machine that earned him the everlasting respect and gratitude of his fellow colonists. In August 1843 South Australia was faced with an emergency. A bumper crop was assured in the coming



wheat harvest but the workforce was totally inadequate to handle it with sickle and scythe. It seemed inevitable that there would be enormous waste at a time when the economy was in dire distress. It was then that Ridley stepped in and devised his ingenious harvester, which both reaped and thrashed the grain. But he immediately went one step further. On the day following the successful trial of his machine, he lodged a caveat specifically phrased to allow his design to be copied but not patented. He did not take out a patent himself because he knew that he alone could not build sufficient machines to meet the urgent needs of the wheatgrowers.

The invention of the Ridley stripper had an great impact on the lives and morale of the pioneers. It revolutionized the wheat industry and triggered the rapid expansion of other industries, particularly flour milling and the manufacture of farm machinery. This in turn meant huge increases in the colony's export marketing ventures, giving the struggling economy a much-needed boost. By the mid-1850s South Australia had become known as the granary of Australia. It was the first place in the world to harvest grain directly from a standing crop --- a giant step forward.

Ridley was regarded as a remarkable man by his contemporaries and revered for his unselfish caveat decision. He was variously described as 'unostentatious', 'a warm-hearted philanthropist' and 'a man of integrity and wisdom'. He was also regarded as 'a true Christian' but he came into conflict with the Wesleyan Church elders who considered his religious views to be 'too liberal'.

In 1853 he returned with his family to England, where he resumed his lay preaching. In 1861 he was presented with a magnificent silver candelabrum, topped with a small golden replica of the stripper. It was made entirely from South Australian materials by a South Australian silversmith and paid for by public subscription. It is now on display in Urrbrae House at the Waite (q.v.) Institute.

John Ridley died in London on 25th November 1887. 'So long as wheat farming is carried out in South Australia,' said the editor of the *South Australian Register* in 1849, 'Mr. Ridley's name will never be forgotten, for he has established a monument to himself more enduring than any that can be raised in his memory.' Nevertheless, his name is honoured by the Ridley Scholarship at the Roseworthy Agricultural College and the Ridley Gates at the Wayville Showgrounds, as well as by two streets, a reserve, a suburb and an electoral district.

Luther Robert Scammell (1858-1940)

Manufacturing chemist

Luther Robert Scammell was born at Hindmarsh, South Australia, on 20th March 1858, the son of pharmacist Luther Scammell and his wife Lavinia Annette (née Bean). He was educated at J.L. Young's Adelaide Educational Institution at Parkside and immediately afterwards joined the pharmaceutical manufacturing firm, F.H. Faulding & Co. The business had been founded in 1845 by Francis Hardy Faulding (q.v.) but had passed to his partner, Luther Scammell, senior, on Faulding's death in 1868. Luther Robert Scammell studied chemistry under public analyst George Francis before being sent to London in 1877 with his elder brother, William, to study pharmacy under Dr. John Muter at the South London School of Pharmacy. He successfully passed the Pharmaceutical Society examinations as a chemist and druggist in 1879 before returning to Adelaide and rejoining Faulding's as a manufacturing chemist. He became responsible for preparing many compounds previously imported.

The manufacturing and retail pharmaceutical business prospered, though it faced bankruptcy in the late 1880s following disastrous pastoral and mining speculations by Luther Scammell, senior. The Bank of Adelaide demanded the sale of the business but Luther Robert and his brother succeeded in acquiring the manufacturing and wholesaling operations, as well as the business name, in 1888, though the retail operations were sold to reduce the debt to the bank. On 8th August 1888 Scammell married Elizabeth Alice Gray.

The brothers greatly expanded the business, establishing agencies in Perth, Sydney and Melbourne. Much of Faulding's success was due to their products made from eucalyptus oil, which formed the basis of an antiseptic marketed as 'Solyptol'. Scammell had helped to underpin this success by extending the work of a Faulding chemist, Samuel Barbour, and in 1892 developed a method for determining the eucalyptol content of the oil. His test became the industry standard and was included in the British Pharmacopoeia in 1893. He also took credit for coining the name 'Solyptol' --- an abbreviation of 'soluble eucalyptus oil' --- for Faulding's eucalyptus products.

Scammell and Faulding were associated with the introduction of the first X-ray tubes into Australia after Barbour returned to Adelaide with two tubes. They succeeded in producing the first X-ray pictures in Australia in May 1896. Barbour left Faulding the following year and established himself as a radiographer, taking the new technology with him.

The Scammell brothers opened a London office in 1900 and five years later had agencies in South Africa, India and Canada. They manufactured and sold a wide range of products, including Pectoral Drops, Kalmint Toothpaste, Quinine and Iron Tonic, Diphtheria Powder, Salts of Lemon, Vinegar, Baking Powder, Cloudy Ammonia and Curry Powder. The First World War provided new opportunities, particularly the need to manufacture epsom salts, which represented Faulding's first venture into industrial chemical production. F.H. Faulding & Co. became a private company on 28th June 1921, with Scammell as Chairman of Directors and Managing Director of the business. He continued to oversee Faulding's affairs until 1935, when day-to-day management passed to his son Alfred, though he continued as Chairman of the Board.

Scammell was primarily concerned with fostering F.H. Faulding & Co. and took no part in public life. He was a member and great supporter of the Pharmaceutical Society of South Australia and was one of the two South Australian representatives at the first Intercolonial Pharmaceutical Conference in Melbourne in October 1886. His contribution to pharmacy was recognized by his election as a Fellow of the Chemical Society of Great Britain.

He died on 8th April 1940, survived by his wife and two sons, and was cremated.



Richard Moritz Schomburgk (1811-1891) Botanist, horticulturist and Director of the Adelaide Botanic Garden

Richard Schomburgk was born on 5th October 1811 in Freyburg, Saxony, the son of Johann Friedrich Ludwig Schomburgk, an assistant Lutheran pastor, and his wife Christiane Juliane Wilhelmine (née Krippendorff). He was apprenticed as a gardener at a time when German gardeners held positions of note throughout northern Europe, and from 1840 to 1844 was the botanist on an expedition to British Guiana led by his brother Robert. Returning to Berlin to carry out further research, Richard joined his brother Otto in supporting the liberal cause in the revolutionary year of 1848 and in about December of that year he married Pauline Henriette Kneip of Potsdam. Advised to leave Germany, the brothers and their wives emigrated to South Australia on the *Princess Louise*, arriving in August 1849 and taking up land at Buchfelde, near Gawler.

In 1865 Richard Schomburgk was appointed as the second Director of the Adelaide Botanic Garden, following the death of George Francis, who had established it in 1855. Schomburgk was in a strong position. The British Guiana expedition had given him an international reputation, and sixteen years at Buchfelde had provided practical experience of managing a farm, vines and an orchard under Australian conditions. Though he was not academically brilliant, he was capable, enthusiastic and had good communication skills.

A balanced approach saw him start by improving the rosery and the tropical plant displays, developing animal houses, aviaries and an avenue of Moreton Bay fig trees, and working on experimental plots of pasture grasses and other utilitarian plants. He combined European traditions with the use of indigenous plants, maintained good relationships with local nurserymen and developed popular features for the public, as well as carrying out scientifically important work.



Up to 300,000 visitors to the Botanic Garden per year were recorded when the population of the whole colony was about 163,000. An early success was the giant water-lily *Victoria regia* (later *Victoria amazonica*), which attracted extraordinary attention, with people visiting during their lunch-breaks and hour-by-hour descriptions in the newspapers of the opening of the flowers.

In the prosperous 1870s Schomburgk obtained funds to import a tropical palm house, opened in 1877. Prefabricated from wrought and cast iron, and technologically advanced for its time, it was designed by Gustav Runge and manufactured in Bremen, Germany. It is now the only one of its kind outside Europe and has recently been restored. In 1884 the Museum of Economic Botany, solidly constructed in classical style, opened to exhibit specimens of economic plants and to house Schomburgk's herbarium. It displayed plant materials used for cordage, dyes, fibres, timber, resins, oils, beverages and medicines, including plants used by Aboriginal people. Unique in Australia, the Museum still retains its original display cases and stencilled ceiling decoration.

Schomburgk's success lay in the balance he maintained between the scientific, educational and recreational roles of the Botanic Garden. Visitors enjoyed the walks, vistas, statues and parterre plantings while learning what could be grown under South Australian conditions. Many people sent specimens from remote parts of the colony for identification and up to 12,000 trees were distributed annually by the Garden to farmers and civic bodies. Schomburgk's lengthy annual reports included much agricultural and viticultural advice. His own publications included *Reisen [Travels] in Britisch-Guiana* (1847-8), two catalogues of plants in the Botanic Garden, papers on pasture grasses, forestry, phylloxera, flower farming, sericulture and rust in cereals, as well as an overview of possible crop plants for the colony.

Richard Schomburgk received several honours from European rulers but above all was honoured locally as 'the people's pet'. He died in office on 24th March 1891 and was buried at North Road Cemetery.

Adolf John Schulz (1883-1956)

Educationist and first Principal of Adelaide Teachers' College

Adolf John Schulz was a significant early twentieth-century educationist who made important contributions to the development of the University Training College and to the advancement of education in South Australia. He was born on 6th August 1883 at Stepney, S.A., the son of Silesian barber and tobacconist Johann Karl Heinrich Schulz and his wife Maria (née Bagung). He had a varied education which included his early years at the Flinders Street Lutheran Church, a year at school in Germany and experience at several Adelaide public schools, including acting as monitor and tutor at Rose Park Public School. He began studying at the University of Adelaide in 1902 and entered the University Training College in 1904, gaining his B.A. in 1905 and his M.A. in 1909. He also won a scholarship to the University of Zurich, Switzerland, where he completed a Ph.D. in two years (1907-8).

On his return to South Australia in 1909, he was appointed Superintendent of Students at the University Training College. Although only 25 at the time, his academic achievements and impressive demeanour had obviously recommended him to the Director of Education, Alfred Williams, who was concerned that South Australia was the only State that did not have a well-organized teacher training college with a properly qualified director.

Schulz's excellent grasp of psychology, philosophy and education outweighed his youth and lack of practical experience. He took his new responsibilities very seriously and during the forty years he served as Director of the College he made a long-lasting impact on its development, as well as on the development of the University and ultimately on educational standards in the State.

Schulz realized that the education system could be much improved by the better training of teachers. He altered the teacher training programmes to ensure that trainee teachers would have a well-balanced combination of university education and specialized educational training with a substantial practical component. By 1922 he was in charge of one of Australia's earliest Diploma of Education courses.



His role as Director was a complex one. On the academic side he lectured in education, educational psychology and German at the University of Adelaide, and was renowned for his clear and perceptive teaching methods. As an administrator, he initiated and supervised most aspects of the day-to-day running of the Training College. Constant liaising between the Education Department and the University was required to achieve the best for his students and Schulz organized programmes where academic and professional training were interwoven. However, he also recognized that 'aptness for study and aptness for teaching are not inseparable concomitants. Either may be present without much of the other.' Although he wanted his students to succeed both academically and practically, he did not give up on those who were better teachers than they were university students. As a manager, he spent many years fighting for adequate premises for the College but it was not until May 1927 that a permanent building, named after John Anderson Hartley (q.v.), was constructed on Kintore Avenue.

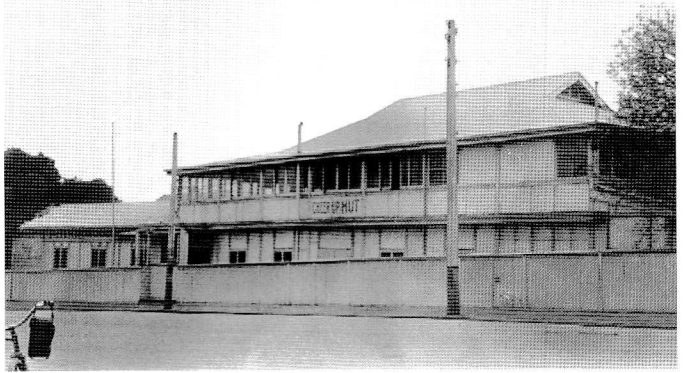
Schulz served as head of the University Training College (later called the Adelaide Teachers' College) until his retirement in 1948. He was the first President of the South Australian Institute of Educational Research (1930), as well as the author of various publications on educational theory. He died on 5th February 1956 and was buried at West Terrace Cemetery. He made bequests to the University of Adelaide for research into educational theory and German language and culture. He is commemorated by the landmark skyscraper, the Schulz Building, adjacent to the Hartley Building.

Alexandrine Seager (1870-1950) Founder of the Cheer-Up Society

Alexandrine Seager was born at Ballarat, Victoria, on 10th November 1870, the daughter of miner and farmer William Laidlaw and his wife Helen Mickel (née Dickson). Called Ina or Alexandra, she grew up at Powlett Plains in central Victoria and was educated at home. On 16th June 1891 she married Clarendon James Seager, a former British cavalry officer, and they had six children. In 1908 they moved to Adelaide and a year later Alexandra Seager started a prosperous business, the Scholastic Agency, which supplied governesses and servants to country people.

In November 1914, after visiting the Morphettville camp to see her eldest son, who had enlisted in the A.I.F., Mrs. Seager appealed in the press for South Australian women to give greater support to the war effort. With the support of William Sowden, editor of the *Register*, she formed the Cheer-Up Society to provide 'general comfort, welfare, and entertainment' for the soldiers.

As organizer and secretary of the Society, she assembled a group of volunteer women helpers of high moral character, most with relations serving overseas. They visited army camps and hospitals, befriended lonely recruits, arranged luncheons, concerts and spirited farewells; they sent small gifts and comforts to the men at the front; they welcomed the wounded from Gallipoli and encouraged recruiting and fund-raising. Like the much larger League of Loyal Women, the Cheer-Up women fostered patriotism and support for the war effort on the home front.



From 1915 the Society offered refreshment and recreation to soldiers in a large tent behind the Adelaide railway station. This was soon replaced by the Cheer-Up Hut which the Society erected with the help of local businesses in nearby Elder Park. The hut opened on 14th November 1915 and for the next four years over 200,000 servicemen enjoyed cheap meals and free entertainment there, courtesy of Mrs. Seager and her dedicated band of women helpers, all dressed in long, gleaming white uniforms.

With three sons in the A.I.F. and her husband a recruiting officer, Alexandra Seager said she felt duty bound to play her part in providing for the welfare of the enlisted men. Despite losing her youngest son George at Gallipoli, she continued to work full-time with the movement, recruiting volunteers and organizing activities. She co-ordinated the Society's eighty country branches and its fund-raising, including the annual Violet Day Appeal. This was first held on 2nd July 1915 and became a local remembrance day for the fallen. She also wrote stirring war verses, which were published in pamphlets and sung by South Australian soldiers at the front.

A petite, sweet-faced woman with blue eyes and great vivacity, Seager was loved by Australian servicemen, especially the young recruits who saw her as something of a mother figure. Her concern for their well-being led her at the end of 1915 to call the foundation meeting of the South Australian Returned Soldiers' Association. She gave the Association its first grant, of £50, from Cheer-Up funds and served as its Vice-President until 1919 when she resigned in favour of an ex-serviceman.

After 1920 the Society and the hut were closed and Mrs. Seager returned to her business. During the Depression she was involved in charity work, providing meals to unemployed and homeless former soldiers from a room at the rear of the hut. Weakened by arthritis, she later retired with her husband to their sons' soldier-settler property on Kangaroo Island, where she wrote poetry and learned Italian.

The Cheer-Up Society was revived in 1939, carrying on its work on a much grander scale during the Second World War, though Mrs. Seager, who was then a virtual invalid, took no part in its activities. She died on 12th March 1950 and was buried at Kingscote Cemetery. The Cheer-Up Society was finally disbanded in 1964.

Ronald Max'y Sharpe (1905-1972)

Baseballer

Ronald Sharpe was born at Goodwood, South Australia, on 11th March 1905, the son of chargineman John Crutchfield Sharpe and his wife Caroline (née McAllister). He began playing baseball as a junior with the Goodwood Club. His older brother Rupert captained the club and encouraged Ronald's involvement. Reputed to be one of Australia's leading pitchers, Sharpe was the club's leading player for over two decades (1922-1946) and during his playing days the club won twelve premierships in the Major A grade. He was captain/coach of the Goodwood Club through most of those years and won many best player awards. The Capps Medal for the best player in the South Australian Baseball League was not instituted until 1936 but Sharpe won the P.L. Dooland Medal, its earlier equivalent.

Ron Sharpe was included in the South Australian baseball team in 1921 as a sixteen-year-old and from then on played in the State side every year except one until 1938. He played again for the State in 1946, giving him an extraordinary record of eighteen State caps. He captained the team in 1932, 1936-1938 and 1946.

In 1931 he pitched the complete eleven innings in South Australia's 2-2 tie with New South Wales, striking out 19 batters, walking 4 and giving up only 3 hits. The first Claxton Shield competition (Australian Championships) was held in 1934 and South Australia won the national title, defeating New South Wales 2-1 in eleven innings and Victoria 8-5. Sharpe pitched the full eleven innings against New South Wales and saved the game against Victoria in the fifth with loaded bases and one down.

Although predominantly a pitcher, Sharpe was often in the leading League hitters. His batting average was usually over .300 and in 1928 was .422.

He was selected for the Australian team in 1925 and 1928. When the Japanese visited Australia in 1928 Sharpe pitched 6 innings for no hits in South Australia's 12-0 win. After 27 years as the most recognizable name in the game, he retired in 1946. From 1923 to 1953 he was the *News* baseball writer.

Ron Sharpe was an accountant at the Islington works of the South Australian Railways and was instrumental in establishing the Railways Baseball Club. In 1935 he was made a life member of the Goodwood Baseball Club and in 1949 a life member of the South Australian Baseball League. In 1962 the Helms Foundation in the United States provided an award for the best player in the Claxton Shield. It was given 'in honour of Ron Sharpe'. The medal for the best player in Division 3 of the S.A.B.L. is the Ron Sharpe Medal.

Sharpe also played for the Adelaide Cricket Club (1927/28 to 1947/48), was a selector during the war years and led one of the teams of pooled players (Sharpe's XI) who played exhibition games in the period 1943-46. He played at a time when it was much easier to be a first class player in two sports each year --- cricket in summer, baseball in winter. He was an outstanding leg spinner and could have played for South Australia but the presence of Australian spin bowler Clarrie Grimmett kept Sharpe out of the State side. He led the South Australian bowling aggregate in 1935/36 with 56 wickets and in 1937/38 with 48 wickets. He made 1,656 runs (average 13.14) and took 587 wickets (average 20.38) in his first-class career. His best tally was 8 for 25 against University in 1935/36. He took 13 wickets against Kensington in 1943 and is credited with two hat tricks, in 1937/38 and 1943/44. He was made a life member of the Adelaide Cricket Club.

Ronald Sharpe died of Parkinson's disease on 24th October 1972. He was cremated and his ashes interred at Centennial Park Cemetery.



David Shearer (1850-1936)

Manufacturer of agricultural machinery

David Shearer dedicated his life to the manufacture of farm machinery but is usually remembered for the steam car that he built as a hobby in the late 1890s. He was born on 7th November 1850 in the Orkney Islands, Scotland, the son of stonemason and blacksmith Peter Shearer and his wife Mary (née Kirkness). In 1852 the family emigrated to South Australia aboard the *Omega* and settled in the Clare Valley. After leaving school, David and his brothers, William and John, took up blacksmithing, purchasing their own businesses.

David and John entered into a partnership in 1877, establishing an agricultural implement factory at Mannum which produced ploughs, harrows, wagons and general blacksmithing items. Their first wheat stripper was built in 1883 and on 28th February of that year David married Mary Elizabeth Williams; their family consisted of two sons and a daughter. In 1888 John invented and patented wrought-steel ploughshares, which became a major product for the firm. He later visited the Meadows Steel Co. in England to obtain information about a particularly resilient form of steel and this subsequently became the backbone of all future Shearer implements.

In the 1890s David Shearer designed and built a steam-driven car (or, as it was described at the time, a 'horseless four-wheeled carriage'). According to the *Chronicle*, it had its first official road trial on the 5th June 1899. It could carry eight passengers and the running cost was estimated at less than a penny per mile for wood and water. Almost everything for the Shearer car was made at Mannum. David's nephew, John Albert Shearer, built the motor, which was a twin-cylinder steam engine, developing 15 horse-power and propelling the car easily at 15 miles per hour. In 1900 David was invited to display the car at the Adelaide Chamber of Manufactures Exhibition. It was driven to Adelaide with John at the controls, David tending the boiler, and members of their families and the housekeeper as passengers. David travelled many miles in the car before retiring it to a shed at his factory. The engine and boiler were then removed and installed in the launch *Keith* until 1924, when David retrieved them with the intention of reconstructing the car with pneumatic tyres to see what effect it would have on its performance. The Shearer steam car was donated to the National Motor Museum at Birdwood in 1975 and, after full restoration by the Sporting Car Club of South Australia, has taken part in many veteran and vintage car rallies, including the famous 'London to Brighton'.



The Shearers maintained a wharf on the banks of the River Murray for loading machinery onto paddle steamers for delivery to the railway at Murray Bridge. David gave evidence to the Commission on Railways in 1904 and to the parliamentary committee in 1916 in support of a train line to Mannum, but to no avail. The railway never came. The manufacture of tillage and seeding implements was transferred to Kilkenny under the management of John in 1904, while David stayed at Mannum, concentrating on the manufacture of harvesting machinery. Their partnership was dissolved in 1910.

David Shearer was also interested in astronomy, constructing an observatory adjacent to his home, and was a keen artist, producing works in oils, water colours and crayons. He was a Freemason and an active member of the Mannum community, serving on the Council for forty years as a councillor and at times Chairman. He was also a member of the local Institute Committee, Progress Association, Hospital Building Committee, Rowing Club and Rifle Club. He earned himself the title of 'Mannum's Grand Old Man'.

He died on 15th October 1936 and was buried at West Terrace Cemetery. He is commemorated by the David Shearer Sports Park at Mannum. His son Crawford succeeded him in the management of the firm and in 1972 the Mannum plant was taken over by Horwood Bagshaw.

Augustus Short (1802-1883)

Educationist and first Anglican Bishop of Adelaide

Augustus Short was born on 11th June 1802 at 'Bickham', near Exeter, Devon, England, the son of barrister Charles Short and his wife Grace (née Millett). He was educated at Westminster School, London, and at Oxford University, where he graduated with a B.A. in 1824. After two years as a private tutor to the sons of gentlemen, he was ordained in the Church of England (deacon 1826, priest 1827) and was curate of Culham in Oxfordshire. In 1833 he returned to academic life as a tutor at his old college of Christ Church and two years later was appointed vicar of Ravensthorpe, a quiet rural parish in Northamptonshire. On 10th December 1835 he married Millicent Phillips and they had ten children, of whom six survived to adulthood.

During the 1840s the Church of England founded a number of new bishoprics in British colonies and the huge diocese of Australia was subdivided. In 1847 Short was invited by the Archbishop of Canterbury to accept appointment as Bishop of either Newcastle or Adelaide. He chose Adelaide. After being awarded the degree of Doctor of Divinity by Oxford University, he was consecrated Bishop in Westminster Abbey in June 1847 and shortly after he and his family embarked for South Australia on the *Derwent*.

As the first Bishop of the Church of England in South Australia, Short arrived to find the organization and morale of the church in a weakened state. He soon provided new energy and direction, assisted by state aid from 1846 to 1851. Many new churches were built in rural settlements near Adelaide and additional clergy were recruited for work in the colony. Short's principal goal was to create the institutions through which the Church of England in South Australia could manage its own affairs, hold property and regulate its clergy. This was an unusually difficult process, largely because an influential group of Anglican laymen, suspicious of Short's high church views, believed that self-government would amount to the creation of an independent Church which would not be firmly anchored in the Protestant principles of the Reformation. Short, having conceded some ground to the laity, eventually succeeded in his objective. In 1855 a diocesan synod was formed by the voluntary agreement of representatives of each congregation in the diocese. Upon this structure Short created a network of diocesan funds and organizations. In 1869 he laid the foundation stone of St. Peter's Cathedral, the first part of which was completed in 1877.

Short was actively involved in many areas of colonial life. Concerned about the position of the Aborigines, he did much for the Poonindie Native Institution, near Port Lincoln, and served on the committees of several charitable organizations. In 1849, with the lure of £2,000 granted by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, he persuaded the proprietors of a grammar school for boys to turn it into a Church of England institution, the Collegiate School of St. Peter, with himself as President of its Council of Governors. He was prominent among the founders of the University of Adelaide and in 1874 was its first Vice-Chancellor and in 1876 Chancellor.

Short was energetic and warm-hearted, but also irascible and pugnacious; in his younger days he quite enjoyed a fight. Until his seventies he undertook lengthy pastoral visits by horse and trap to all parts of the colony and ministered to settlers of all backgrounds without condescension. However, in a colony where Methodists, Baptists and Congregationalists were unusually numerous, he aroused resentment for his insistence that the Church of England embodied the purest form of Christianity and that Nonconformist bodies, lacking the apostolic succession through bishops, were outside the true Church.

Short resigned as Bishop of Adelaide at the end of 1881 and returned with his wife to England. He died on 5th October 1883 and was buried in the parish graveyard at Warblington, Hampshire.

