

Alfred Muller Simpson (1843-1917)

Manufacturer

Like his father before him, Alfred Muller Simpson began his working life as a tinsmith. During his apprenticeship in his father's business he noted that the firm's output ranged from jam tins to snuff scoops but when he died he left a prosperous manufacturing firm with 500 employees in three Adelaide factories. He was born in London on 4th April 1843, the son of Alfred Simpson and his wife Sarah (née Neighbour). The family emigrated to South Australia on the *John Woodhall*, arriving in January 1849. Young Alfred was educated at Martin's Academy, joined his father's business in 1857 and on his 21st birthday the words '& Son' appeared beside 'A. Simpson' above their factory in Gawler Place.

Fire- and thief-resistant safes became an early speciality of the firm and over the next fifty years Simpson safes came to be used in offices and banks throughout South Australia and interstate. The business expanded and in 1871 the former Congregational Chapel in Freeman Street (now part of Gawler Place) was purchased. The workers there came to be known as 'Simpson's Black Angels', from the nature of their premises and the fact that washing on the job was practically unknown in those days. In 1876 another factory was built in Pirie Street and two years later A.M. Simpson visited the Paris Universal Exhibition, which prompted him to mechanize his plant.

In 1885 Simpson's became the first munitions manufacturer in South Australia. Fears of a Russian invasion were rife, and so, armed with a book on the making of submarine mines, Alfred Simpson set about putting them into production. In 1894 a new plant was built in Wakefield Street, which included an electroplating section and furnaces for making hollow-ware and porcelain enamelling, the first such enterprise in Australia. Enamelled street and advertising signs from Simpson's soon appeared in most Australian capitals, making the firm's name known throughout the country. With the outbreak of World War I, Simpson's began making enamelled water bottles for the Australian forces, along with harness fittings, mess-tins, and boilers and enamel ware for hospitals.

Not content with having made his company the largest metal manufacturer in the country, Alfred Muller Simpson was also prominent in public life. He was a leading Freemason, an active promoter of the 1887 Jubilee Exhibition and a founder of the Commercial Travellers' and Warehousemen's Association. In 1887 he was elected to the Legislative Council, representing the Protectionist Party, despite his nomination being received only three days before the election and without his having addressed one political meeting. He was opposed to the payment of members of Parliament and donated his entire salary to the State's defence forces for a shooting prize, which is still contested.

He was a founding Director of the Adelaide and Suburban Tramway Company, a Trustee of the State Bank, Chairman of the Port Adelaide Dock Company and President of the Royal Agricultural and Horticultural Society. As a city benefactor, he donated a tea kiosk for the Botanic Garden and the Edward VII Coronation stained-glass window for the Adelaide City Council Chambers. He still maintained close contact with his business, making a point of paying every worker in person, in gold.

Alfred Muller Simpson married Catherine Allen on 18th October 1871 and they had six children. Catherine died in 1887 and on 23rd August 1888 Simpson married Violet Sheridan. He died on 28th September 1917 and was buried at West Terrace Cemetery. He never owned a car but believed sufficiently in flying to present the Commonwealth with an armed biplane, and his widow provided funds to the University of Adelaide for an aeronautics library in his memory. Simpson Appliances continues to operate today as part of the Electrolux Group.



Sir Edwin Thomas Smith, K.C.M.G. (1830-1919) **Brewer, parliamentarian and philanthropist**

Edwin Thomas Smith was born in Walsall, Staffordshire, England, on 6th April 1830, the son of leather merchant Edwin Smith and his wife Louisa (née Mason). Young Edwin was expected to succeed his ironmonger-uncle but followed his gold-mad schoolfellows to the colonies, buoyed up by a shipload of his uncle's stock and credit. He sailed for Melbourne in 1853 on the *California* but, putting in to Adelaide on the way, decided to stay. On 25th June 1857 he married Florence Stock. His connections launched him, his amiable personality made him friends and his Staffordshire ironware store prospered. In 1860 he exchanged importing for brewing, entering into partnership with Edward Logue at the Old Kent Brewery. Logue's sudden death two years later left Smith the sole proprietor of a business about to boom.

Trading on his reputation as a genial brewer, he was Mayor of Kensington five times between 1867 and 1873. He was certainly a dynamo in the district, though apt to take the credit due to others for the rapid development of the municipality's roads, services and new town hall. His first wife died in 1862 and on 11th November 1869 he married Elizabeth Spicer. Extending his regional sphere of influence, he sat in the House of Assembly as the member for East Torrens from 1871 to 1893 but his business always came first. Overseas trips in the 1870s were primarily to acquire brewing equipment and information on the latest techniques, but investigating urban reform and representing South Australia at international exhibitions were happy side-issues, turned as much to his own benefit as that of the colony. Backed by shrewd investors, he transferred his business to the Kent Town Brewery, built at a cost of £17,000 and opened to great fanfare in 1875.



Smith was the patron or an office-holder of almost every society and club for 'manly sports'. He was a crack rifle shot and held positions in the Hunt Club and the Jockey Club, despite being so short that he could not sit a horse. Charities, hospitals and cultural institutions all benefited from his generosity and he sat on the boards of numerous companies, public societies and commercial groups. He became Adelaide's favourite millionaire.

In 1878 he consolidated his assets to purchase 'The Acacias' at Marryatville, and major extensions and redecoration as well as dramatic landscaping were carried out through the 1880s. Meanwhile, Smith served five terms as Mayor of Adelaide, in 1879-81 and 1886-87, and drove the same rapid spate of city development that he had pushed in Kensington. The squares were enclosed with iron railings, the parklands were planted with trees, the River Torrens was dammed to create a lake and the Rotunda Lawn (now Elder Park) was formed. Smith was also Executive Chairman of the Adelaide Jubilee International Exhibition (1887-88), which he and his brewery investors backed financially in the face of government reluctance. He entertained lavishly at the Town Hall and 'The Acacias', adding a banqueting room at the former and a ballroom at the latter in vain attempts to entertain the royal princes who came for the Exhibition. Smith was appointed K.C.M.G. in 1888 for his Exhibition and municipal services.

This honour signalled the commencement of his thirty-year reign as 'the Grand Old Man of Adelaide'. He merged his business with the West End Brewery and floated the S.A. Brewing Company, serving as its Chairman until his death. After a world tour in the early 1890s, he returned to South Australia and entered the Legislative Council, holding the Southern Districts seat from 1894 to 1902. Philanthropy and public service filled his later years. In 1894 he gave the city of Adelaide its statue of Queen Victoria and in his will left legacies to almost forty institutions and charities.

Sir Edwin Smith died on 25th December 1919 and was buried at Clayton Church, Norwood.

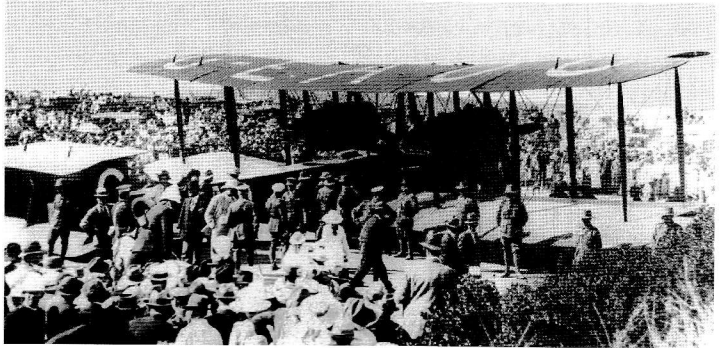
Sir Keith Macpherson Smith, K.B.E. (1890-1955)

Sir Ross Macpherson Smith, K.B.E., M.C.*, D.F.C., A.F.C. (1892-1922)**

Pilots of the first aeroplane flight from England to Australia

In the 1920s Ross and Keith Smith were South Australia's most famous sons, achieving renown when they piloted the first plane flight from England to Australia in 1919. The Australian Government had offered a prize of £10,000 to the first Australian to make the distance within 30 days. The brothers left, with mechanics Bennett and Shiers, from Hounslow, England, on 12th November 1919. Hopping from makeshift landing tracks through Iran, India, Burma, Malaya and Timor, the Vickers Vimy biplane touched down at Fanny Bay, Darwin, on 10th December. They had done it in 27 days and 20 hours. Both pilots were knighted, while the mechanics were commissioned and given bars to their Air Force Medals. On a more egalitarian note, the four divided the prize money equally. Huge crowds met them as they progressed down the eastern seaboard and across to Adelaide, where they landed at Northfield aerodrome. The aircraft became an icon of technological achievement and is preserved in a memorial hangar at Adelaide Airport.

Keith was born in Adelaide on 20th December 1890, and Ross at Semaphore on 4th December 1892, the sons of Andrew Bell



Smith and his wife Jessie (née Macpherson). Their parents were Scottish and the boys were educated at Queen's College, North Adelaide, and, for two years, at Warriston School in Moffat, Scotland. Their father managed a pastoral company and Mutooroo station in the far north of the State, and both boys became confident horsemen, Ross representing South Australia in the Australian Mounted Cadets tour of Britain and the United States in 1910. At the outbreak of war in August 1914, Ross enlisted but when Keith failed the medical examination their respective paths to the skies diverged.

Ross served his war in the Middle East. He spent five months at Gallipoli with the 3rd Light Horse Regiment before being invalided to England. He was promoted lieutenant in March 1916 and briefly returned to the Machine-Gun Corps before responding to recruitment drives for the Flying Corps in 1917. He was initially trained as an observer and photographer in No. 1 Squadron, Australian Flying Corps, operating with General Allenby's forces in Syria and Palestine. He earned a Military Cross when he landed to rescue a stricken pilot. Operating with bombers and fighter craft, he earned another Military Cross, three D.F.C.s and the esteem of his superiors, which held him in good stead at war's end when aircraft companies were seeking pilots to establish pioneering routes.

In contrast, Keith spent the war in England, where he had travelled to bypass the recruitment obstacles. He enlisted in the Royal Flying Corps in July 1917, training as a pilot and continuing as a gunnery instructor. He served in the R.F.C. until November 1919, leaving only a few days before the epic flight to Australia.

Sir Ross Smith was killed on 13th April 1922 at Weybridge, England, during a test flight for an upcoming round-the-world venture with his brother. His reliable mechanic, Bennett, died with him. Sir Ross was given a state funeral and was buried at North Road Cemetery. The tragedy of an early death ensured memorial honours to him and he was immortalized in a masterful bronze statue situated in Creswell Gardens, North Adelaide.

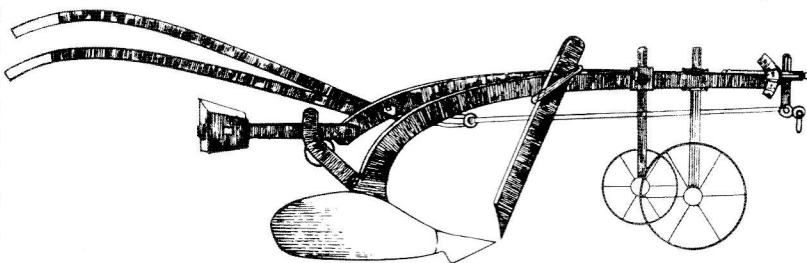
Sir Keith Smith worked for Vickers but the parent company showed little interest in the small Australian market. He was a strong advocate of imperial standardization and an imperial air force, but his efforts were subverted by cheaper, superior American aircraft. On 3rd June 1924 he married Anita Crawford (née Schmidt). He became a Director of Qantas and was a leading proponent of aviation in Australia until his death on 19th December 1955. He too was buried at North Road Cemetery.

Richard Bowyer Smith (1838-1919)

Inventor of the stump-jump plough

Richard Bowyer Smith was born in London, England, in 1837, the son of carpenter Owen Smith and his wife Mary Ann (née Levi), and shortly after the family emigrated to South Australia on the *Trusty*, arriving in May 1838. They settled in Adelaide where Owen Smith erected prefabricated iron and wood houses, which had been brought with them on the ship. Once he was old enough, Richard worked for J.G. Ramsay, an agricultural engineer at Mount Barker, as a pattern and body maker, soon rising to be foreman. He then worked as a blacksmith at Port Wakefield, making ploughs and other agricultural implements. In about 1872 he and his brother, Clarence Henry (1855-1901), bought farm land at Kalkabury (now Artherton) on Yorke Peninsula. Richard later purchased the blacksmith shop in the town and did jobs for other farmers while working his own farm.

At this time farmers on the Kalkabury acreages had a serious problem with the tree-stumps and limestone that caused considerable damage to the existing ploughs. Richard Smith spent hours on his innovative stump-jump plough, and the prototypes were produced in his private blacksmith shop on the farm. Clarence, who was indentured to his brother as an apprentice, also put a great deal into the development of the plough and, indeed, drew the first sketches, but the honour went to Richard as the master.



In 1876 Richard Smith finalized his unique invention, the 'Vixen', a strong, steel plough that would cope with the problem of stumps in virgin soil. When the plough hit a stump or rock, it rode over the top of it without breaking. The frame, weighted and hinged, was designed to allow the shares to fall back into the furrows after encountering the stump. Ploughing in this fashion would enable a good, even crop to be grown and harvested. Smith exhibited the plough in November 1876 at the Moonta Show where it won a first prize and attracted considerable interest from newspapers. The *Farmers' Weekly Messenger* commented that it would 'if adopted by agriculturalists, cause a complete revolution in tilling uncleared land'. Acceptance for the plough was slow but, undaunted, Richard Smith continued to make minor improvements and exhibit it at agricultural shows.

With funds running low, he became the first licensee of the Artherton Hotel in 1877. It is presumed that his wife Margaret (née Smith), whom he had married on 23rd May 1863, was managing the hotel, enabling the brothers to run the blacksmithing business and promote the Vixen plough. The patent was registered in 1877 but after a year it was allowed to lapse as Smith and his family were in severe financial straits. In 1884, lured by the great wealth to be made in Western Australia, he moved his family there and set up a manufacturing machinery works at Beverley, where he continued to produce stump-jump ploughs. He died at Subiaco on 5th February 1919. This left Clarence free to manufacture and market the stump-jump plough in South Australia. He set about refining its design and in 1880 built a factory at Ardrossan, which ultimately employed over one hundred workers.

There has been much conjecture over who was really the inventor of the stump-jump plough. Clarence Smith's working drawings, which are still in existence, show that he drew the plans in 1876. During this time Richard had returned to work as a traveller for J.G. Ramsay. Meanwhile, Clarence was working in the blacksmith shops on the farm and in the town, as well as doing some farming. Support for Clarence Smith as the inventor is strong, as he worked continuously on the prototype, making numerous improvements.

The stump-jump plough is considered to have been a major factor in making poor quality land capable of high grain productivity throughout Australia. Thousands of acres were brought under cultivation through its use. Richard Bowyer Smith and his brother Clarence both deserve to be remembered as the authors of this timely invention.

Robert Barr Smith (1824-1915)

Businessman and philanthropist

When Robert Barr Smith died in 1915 at the age of 91, long obituaries extolled his role as an astute merchant, a noted economist, a leading pastoralist and an outstanding philanthropist. A journalist commented, 'There is hardly a religious, educational, philanthropic, or charitable institution to which he has not been a munificent donor.'

Born in Lochwinnoch, Scotland, on 4th February 1824, he was the son of Presbyterian Free Kirk minister, Reverend Dr. Robert Smith and his wife Marjorie (née Barr). Having studied commerce at Glasgow University, he set up business there as a commission agent and cornfactor. He emigrated to Melbourne in 1854 and the following year came to Adelaide to join Elder & Co., a firm established by the four sons of a prosperous ship owner, Capt. George Elder of Kirkaldy, Scotland. Robert Barr Smith was courting their sister Joanna but by the time she arrived to marry him in 1856 all except Thomas Elder (q.v.) had left the colony. The firm was restructured several times and in 1863 took the now famous name of Elder Smith & Co., with Thomas Elder (the visionary) and Robert Barr Smith (the business genius) as partners.

From a firmly established mercantile and shipping base the company expanded into pastoral and mining operations. The risks taken in 1860-61 in undertaking a liability of £80,000 to develop the Wallaroo and Moonta copper mines brought the partners enormous wealth. They opened up vast tracts of agricultural land and set up a trading network of stock and station agencies supplying goods and services to developing communities, implements and equipment for pastoralists and miners, wool stores, shipping facilities and, when needed, financial assistance.

A lifetime love affair between Robert and Joanna produced thirteen children, six of whom died in infancy. They travelled extensively on company business and lived in rented houses before buying, in 1874, the magnificent 'Torrens Park Estate' (now Scotch College) at Mitcham, where they entertained on a grand scale. Another mansion, 'Auchen-darroch' at Mount Barker, was their summer home.

Robert Barr Smith was acknowledged as one of Australia's most distinguished citizens and a brilliant economist, yet he steadfastly refused to enter Parliament or local government. He was a director of several successful financial institutions including banks and insurance companies, was on the Board of Governors of the Botanic Garden, the Council of the University of Adelaide and the Public Libraries Board, and was Consul for Sweden and Norway. He was an ardent supporter of free trade and helped to finance the Overland Telegraph Line.

He was exceedingly modest, shunned publicity and preferred to dispense his generosity anonymously if possible. He funded the beautiful spires of St. Peter's Cathedral, stained-glass windows in churches at Mitcham, Walkerville and Mount Barker, the completion of the Australian Inland Mission at Oodnadatta, and convents for the Sisters of St. Joseph. The University received many donations, there was radium for William Bragg (q.v.), money to establish an observatory on Mt. Kosciusko, art lessons for Hans Heysen (q.v.), paintings for the Art Gallery, a fountain for the Botanic Garden, a steam lifeboat, a new wing for the Queen Victoria Maternity Hospital and a crematorium for West Terrace Cemetery. He also paid off the debt on the Trades Hall, provided funds to equip troops with horses during the Boer War and supplied two ambulances for the front during World War I.

Shortly before he died on 20th November 1915, Robert Barr Smith offered 'Torrens Park' for use as a military hospital, fully furnished and equipped at his expense. Yet he refused a knighthood saying, 'I have done nothing to earn it, and the acceptance of it would be inconsistent with the spirit of my whole life.' He was buried, with his wife Joanna, at Mitcham Anglican Cemetery.



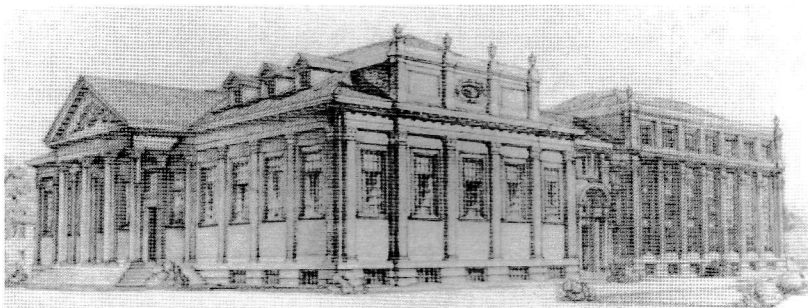
Tom Elder Barr Smith (1863-1941)

Businessman and philanthropist

A gentle man and a gentleman, Tom Barr Smith is often described as 'a chip off the old block' --- referring to his scrupulous honesty, astute business acumen and compassion for those in need, attributes which he derived from his father, Robert Barr Smith (q.v.), and his mother, Joanna. She was the sister of Robert's business partner, Sir Thomas Elder (q.v.), a bachelor, after whom Tom was named. He had great wealth bestowed upon him by both his father and uncle, and, like them, became one of South Australia's great philanthropists.

He was born at Woodville, South Australia, on 8th December 1863 and his formative years were spent at the family mansions, 'Torrens Park' at Mitcham and 'Auchendarroch' at Mount Barker. Educated at St. Peter's College, he later studied law and gained an M.A. from Trinity Hall, Cambridge. He returned to Adelaide in 1885 and devoted his entire working life to the family firm, Elder Smith & Co. He joined the board in 1916 and in January 1921 succeeded Peter Waite (q.v.) as Chairman.

While overseas he had become engaged to Mary (Molly) Isobel Mitchell, a Scottish lass from Ayrshire, and they were married at St. Andrew's Anglican Church, Walkerville, on 5th May 1886, soon after her arrival in Adelaide. Following



Elder's death in 1897, Tom inherited his magnificent 'Birksgate' estate at Glen Osmond. He was a devoted family man, much loved by his four daughters and two sons. The family's summer residence, 'Wairoa', a stately home at Aldgate in the Adelaide hills (now Marbury School), was a gift from his father, as was 'The Hummocks' station near Snowtown.

Tom Barr Smith shared many of his father's interests, becoming a Director of the Adelaide Steamship Company, a member of the Board of Advice of the South Australian Company and Chairman of the boards of various pastoral companies. He was President of the Adelaide Club and a keen participant in, and patron of, many sports. In his youth he 'rode to hounds enthusiastically' and was one of the State's leading polo players. He was President of the Adelaide Hunt Club and the Automobile Club of South Australia, and was a committee member of the S.A. Jockey Club.

But his greatest legacies were in the field of education, particularly to the University of Adelaide, whose initial small library of books had been greatly enlarged through his father's many gifts of money. In 1920 the Barr Smith family gave a further £11,000 to establish a permanent endowment for the library. By 1927 the collection had outgrown the space available in the main building (now the Mitchell Building) and Tom Barr Smith wrote to the Chancellor offering to pay for the erection of a separate structure to house the books. Molly Barr Smith laid the foundation stone of the Barr Smith Library on 29th September 1930 and the completed building (which cost nearly £35,000) was officially opened in March 1932. A deep terrazzo frieze around the magnificent reading room bears Latin inscriptions commemorating the benefactions of Robert and Tom Barr Smith. The son, like his father, refused a knighthood.

Tom Barr Smith gave liberally to many charities and institutions. He was one of four benefactors who donated £1,000 to establish the first university residential college, St. Mark's, at North Adelaide, and he was also a benefactor of the short-lived Presbyterian residential college, St. Andrew's, at Mitcham (now Mercedes College). In 1919 he and his mother Joanna each donated £1,000 to an appeal to found Scotch College in their old family home, 'Torrens Park'.

Tom Barr Smith died on 26th November 1941, five months after his beloved Molly. They were born six days apart, married when they were 22, and were buried together at Mitcham Anglican Cemetery.

Catherine Helen Spence (1825-1910)

Writer and social reformer

In October 1905, at a public gathering in Adelaide to celebrate Catherine Spence's eightieth birthday, South Australia's Chief Justice, Sir Samuel James Way (q.v.), proclaimed her 'the most distinguished woman they had had in Australia'. She responded with an uncompromising statement of her feminism: 'I am a new woman, and I know it. I mean an awakened woman . . . awakened to a sense of capacity and responsibility, not merely to the family and the household, but to the state; to be wise, not for her own selfish interests, but that the world may be glad that she had been born.'

Catherine Helen Spence was born on 31st October 1825 in Melrose, Scotland, the daughter of lawyer and banker David Spence and his wife Helen (née Brodie). In 1839 the family emigrated on the *Palmyra* to South Australia where Catherine gradually built a multi-faceted public career. To have managed this in a period when a woman's ethic was 'duty and renunciation' was probably her most remarkable achievement.

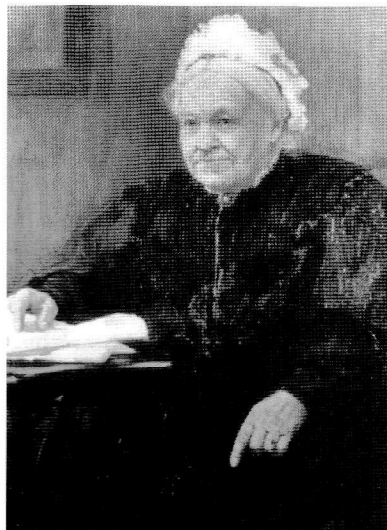
Between 1854 and 1889 she produced seven novels, two novellas and a religious allegory. Her first work, *Clara Morison: A Tale of South Australia during the Gold Fever* (1854), was the first novel about Australia written by a woman. Spence's earliest writings were published anonymously or under her brother's name. However, by the mid-1860s she was publishing under her own name and in 1878 this resulted in an offer of regular employment on the literary pages of the *South Australian Register*. She was an 'outside' contributor, so that she would not trespass upon the masculine world of the newspapermen. Nevertheless, she was jubilant at this appointment.

Her other sphere of interest was social and educational reform. In 1872, with Caroline Emily Clark, she established and ran the Boarding-Out Society for orphaned, destitute and reformed delinquent children committed to the Industrial School. She was a member of the East Torrens School Board and in 1880 wrote the first South Australian social studies textbook for schools, *The Laws We Live Under*. She also participated in the work of the State Children's Council, established in 1886.

Spence had joined the Unitarian Christian Church in the 1850s following a period of religious despair over the doctrine of predestination in the Established Church of Scotland. In 1878, inspired by Martha Turner, pastor of the Unitarian Church in Melbourne, Spence began delivering her own sermons, a practice she extended to congregations in Melbourne and Sydney and, in 1894 when she attended the International Conference on Charities and Correction, throughout the United States.

Short, stout and with a direct, forceful manner, she developed a talent as a public speaker, which won her even wider affection and acclaim when, in 1893, she took to the hustings throughout South Australia in a campaign funded by Joanna and Robert Barr Smith (q.v.) in favour of electoral reform. For the rest of her life she campaigned, unsuccessfully, for the introduction of proportional representation, standing for election to the Federal Convention of 1897 to publicize her cause. This made her the first woman to seek political office in Australia. In 1891 she became Vice-President of the Women's Suffrage League and actively supported the campaign for votes for women, successful in South Australia in 1894. She spoke at meetings of the Women's League (an organization for the political education of women), urged the establishment of the National Council of Women in South Australia and was an instigator and Vice-President of the Kindergarten Union.

When she died on 3rd April 1910, Catherine Spence was mourned as 'The Grand Old Woman of Australia'. She was buried at St. Jude's Cemetery, Brighton, and is now commemorated by a scholarship, an electoral district, a primary school and a statue in Light Square, Adelaide. In the year 2000 her face replaced that of the Queen on the Australian \$5 note.



Margaret Preston:
Portrait of Miss C.H. Spence, 1911

Sir Edward Stirling, C.M.G. (1848-1919)

Surgeon, scientist, educationist and parliamentarian

Edward Charles Stirling was a 'Renaissance man' who possessed a profound interest in and knowledge of many subjects. Trained in medicine and the arts, he was also keenly interested in zoology, anthropology, palaeontology, exploration, horticulture, public health, education, the advancement and accessibility of culture and the arts, the rights of women, and social justice. His prodigious energy led to remarkable achievements in every one of these fields and during his 71 years he made many lasting contributions to South Australian life.

He was born at Strathalbyn, South Australia, on 8th September 1848, the son of pioneer pastoralist Edward Stirling and his wife Harriett (née Taylor). He studied at St. Peter's College, Adelaide, and then gained four degrees from Trinity College, Cambridge: Honours B.A. (1869), M.A. (1873), B.Med. (1874) and M.D. (1880). He became a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons in 1874 and worked as a lecturer and surgeon at two London hospitals.

On 27th June 1877 he married Jane Gilbert and a few years later they settled permanently in South Australia. Stirling became a consulting surgeon at the Adelaide Hospital and was also instrumental in the founding of the Medical School at the University of Adelaide in 1885. He was the first Lecturer in Physiology (1881-1900) and first Professor (1900-19), sat on the University Council from 1881 to 1919 and served as Dean of the Faculty of Medicine from 1908 to 1919. In 1882 he established the house and garden of 'St. Vigeans' at Mount Lofty in the Adelaide hills. The fine two-storey house and part of the remarkable botanic garden he established there are included in the State Heritage Register. The many rare trees and shrubs he planted included South Australia's first rhododendrons.

Stirling also made a significant contribution to the early development of the South Australian Museum, where he was Director (1884-1913) and Honorary Curator of Ethnology (1914-19). He took part in several scientific expeditions, including pioneering explorations in Iceland in 1870 and the crossing of Australia from Darwin to Adelaide with the Earl of Kintore in 1890-91, when he named and described the marsupial mole *Notoryctes typhlops*. He also directed the 1893 expedition to Lake Callabonna in the far north of South Australia, where he unearthed several skeletons of the giant marsupial *Diprotodon australis*, as well as the remains of four huge, flightless birds of a new species which he described and named *Genyornis newtoni*. As anthropologist and medical officer, he took part in the 1894 Horn Expedition from Oodnadatta to the McDonnell Ranges in central Australia. From these expeditions and by establishing a network of contacts throughout the country, he gathered the world's largest collection of Aboriginal artefacts.

A strong supporter of the rights of women, Stirling was the first in Australasia to introduce a Bill for women's suffrage. He represented North Adelaide in the House of Assembly in 1884-87, proposed a motion for women's suffrage in 1885 and a Bill in 1886 which, although not passed, prepared the way for the similar Bill that succeeded in 1894. He was not only committed to the political rights of women but also believed in their right to a proper education. He lectured at the Advanced School for Girls and campaigned for women to be admitted to the School of Medicine at the University.

Edward Stirling received many honours and awards, including Fellow of the Royal Society (1893), C.M.G. (1893) and an Honorary Doctorate in Science from Trinity College, Cambridge (1910). He was made Knight Bachelor in 1917. He died on 20th March 1919 and was cremated. His death was a great loss to his family as well as to the countless organizations which he served so tirelessly --- the Adelaide Hospital, the University, the Public Library, Museum and Art Gallery, the Zoo and the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.



Thomas Quinton Stow (1801-1862)

Founder of the Congregational Church in South Australia

Thomas Quinton Stow was born on 7th July 1801 at Hadleigh, Suffolk, England, a descendant of an old farming family. He became a member of the Hadleigh Congregational Church in November 1815, began preaching at the age of seventeen and later studied at the Missionary College, Gosport. He was minister at Framlingham, Suffolk (1822-1825), Buntingford, Hertfordshire (1828-1833), where he was ordained on 22nd April 1828, and at the Old Independent Church, Halstead, Essex (1833-1837). By 1828 he had married Elizabeth Randolph Eppes of Southampton.

In 1836 Stow was accepted for service in South Australia by the newly formed Congregational Colonial Missionary Society. A valedictory service was held in the King's Weigh House Chapel, London, in May 1837, and Stow, with his wife and four young sons, sailed from Gravesend in the *Hartley*, arriving at Holdfast Bay on 20th October 1837.

He pitched his tent on the southern side of the River Torrens, near the old Morphett Street foot-bridge, and preached his first sermon there on 5th November 1837. The Congregational Church was formed on 19th December 1837 in the tent then located on Acre No. 5, North Terrace, situated midway between West Terrace and Morphett Street. The Church consisted of eleven members, including Stow who was elected pastor. The original compact states, 'The form of the



Church which we now constitute is that of the Congregational or Independent order; but whilst this is its denominational character and the profession of its officers, yet Christians of other denominations we shall esteem it our duty and happiness to admit to its ordinances and privileges.'

In writing to the Colonial Missionary Society in February 1838, Stow said, 'Our first care was, of course, to provide ourselves with a residence. It was well you allowed us a tent, for no house could be had. The tent was our abode for three months. But a trial of this mode of life for a family convinced us that it could only do as an expedient. Centipedes crawled into our beds, the white ants ate up our furniture.' He helped to build, on Acre No. 5, a temporary place of worship, constructed of gum-wood posts, pine rafters and reed thatch. This also served as a temporary residence. It was the first religious edifice built in South Australia and was used as a church from about February 1838 until October 1840.

At the request of some leading colonists, Stow opened a daily classical academy, thus beginning higher education in the colony. In December 1839 the foundation stone of a new Congregational Chapel was laid in Freeman Street (now part of Gawler Place). Opened in November 1840, it carried a heavy debt which caused Stow much embarrassment during the Depression years. He supplemented his income by farming a property, which he named Felixstow, on the River Torrens.

Stow was responsible for forming many new churches and for recruiting and training four ministers. He was the first Chairman of the Congregational Union of South Australia in 1850 and did much to foster friendly relations between all denominations. He was appointed to the first Board of Education in 1846 and served on many other public committees, always ready to promote moral, social and intellectual progress. As the outstanding preacher in early Adelaide, his continuing opposition to state aid to religion had a powerful influence until grants were finally abandoned in 1851.

After a strenuous ministry in Adelaide of nineteen years, Stow was obliged to resign his pastorate in September 1856. He died in Sydney on 19th July 1862 and was buried at West Terrace Cemetery, Adelaide, mourned by the whole city. Parliament and banks closed for the occasion and a public subscription gave him a costly headstone. In 1867 the Stow Memorial Church (now Pilgrim Church) at 12 Flinders Street became his best known memorial.

Padre Arthur Thomas Strange, O.B.E. (1893-1987)

Founder of the Helping Hand Centre

His usual introduction was 'G'day! I'm Padre Strange,' often adding with a grin, 'Strange by name, strange by nature!' Without doubt, Arthur Strange was unique --- a man of great compassion who was blessed with the faith and stamina which enabled him to transform visions into realities. Single-minded and a loner perhaps, but never strange!

He was born on 23rd August 1893 at Cherry Gardens in the Adelaide hills, the son of orchardist Henery Strange and his wife Charlotte Susannah (née Ricks). He contracted pneumonia in childhood but made a remarkable recovery and a few years later began his life's work as a home missionary in the State's remote areas. World War I saw him serving overseas in the Army Medical Corps. Having had personal experience of loneliness while in London, he vowed to minister to people suffering similarly. This emphasis on practical Christianity became the hallmark of his work for more than sixty years.

His marriage to Winifred Elizabeth Mealy took place in 1923 and they had two children, but Winifred died of cancer in 1936. Faced with the responsibility of bringing up his children alone, Arthur heeded the advice of his late wife and sought out Estella Janet Cooper, who had nursed her. Their fifty-year marriage began on 7th June 1937 and they had two daughters. Stella became a partner in every venture that Arthur undertook.

At North Adelaide Arthur Strange laid the foundations of the Helping Hand Centre, his lasting legacy to South Australians. Not discouraged by his struggling congregation, he set about using substantial church property to meet urgent community needs. During a coal strike in the 1950s, he offered to find work for any unemployed men. He enlisted the help of radio stations 5KA and 5AD, and presented a weekly Sunday afternoon broadcast which continued for eleven years. Through the Helping Hand sessions, Padre Strange and his work became known throughout South Australia.

He believed the greatest human ills to be poverty, loneliness and lack of purpose. Whenever a need presented itself, he looked for a practical way to meet it. Homeless men, most of them living in the parklands, came seeking work. Strange converted a disused Sunday school hall into a fifty-bed hostel, with an employment service providing casual work. Country families needed accommodation for their children who were moving to the city, so he bought several large homes in North Adelaide and turned them into hostels too. There were many people lacking basic food and clothing and he channelled the gifts donated by people from across the State to those in need.

Today's Helping Hand Aged Care programme had its genesis in the Padre's recognition that loneliness and boredom increase with age. The programme required large amounts of money to maintain it and Arthur Strange gained a reputation as a fund-raiser. 'Can you spare a few bob for the Helping Hand?' he would ask as he walked into a workshop, rattling a collection tin. At eighteen stone and six feet two inches tall, with a disarming grin, the Padre could not be ignored.

As an Air Force chaplain in World War II, he organized hikes for servicemen and invited young women from local churches to serve as hostesses. After the war he and his wife opened their manse for Sunday teas and over a hundred people regularly packed the Archer Street house. Somehow they were all fed. When the tempo of migration increased, the Helping Hand Centre hosted 'migrants' teas' each Sunday.

Arthur Strange was appointed O.B.E. in 1957. After he retired in 1964, he resolved to help the residents of nursing homes in the eastern suburbs. As a volunteer with the Hackney Mission, he arranged bus tours and entertainments, covering the \$22,000 needed each year by collections at local shopping centres. He died on 18th September 1987 and was cremated.



John McDouall Stuart (1815-1866)

Explorer and surveyor

On 26th November 1862 ten exhausted, gaunt and ragged men, on their limping, emaciated horses, arrived at a remote stock run near Mount Margaret, in northern South Australia. With them, in a horse-drawn litter, was the skeletal figure of their leader, stretched for 1,600 miles, nearly blind, with a crippled right hand and breath which reeked of the corruption of death.

John McDouall Stuart, commander of the South Australian Great Northern Exploring Expedition, had accomplished his life's ambition on this, his third attempt at the first European crossing of Australia from south to north, passing through the centre. He had dipped his feet and washed his face and hands in the sea, as he had promised Governor MacDonnell. On 25th July 1862 he had triumphantly raised the Union Jack on the northern coast at Chambers Bay, after which the party returned along the same route to a heroes' reception in Adelaide on 21st January 1863. Sir Roderick Murchison, President of the Royal Geographical Society, London, said, 'In no time or country has any geographical pioneer more directly advanced the material interests of a colony than Mr. McDouall Stuart has done those of South Australia.'



Descended from a family steeped in military service, Stuart was born in Dysart, Fife, Scotland, on 7th September 1815, in a sixteenth-century home which now houses a museum in his honour. He was the son of William Stuart, an army captain, and his wife Mary (née McDouall). Orphaned in his early teens, he attended the Scottish Naval and Military Academy, Edinburgh, and graduated as a civil engineer. At the age of 23 he embarked on the *Indus* from Dundee, arriving at Holdfast Bay, South Australia, in January 1839. He entered the Government Survey Department and, despite primitive conditions in survey camps, found that nomadic life in the bush appealed to him. His life, though, became a constant battle against ill health and poverty. Assigned as draughtsman for the 1844-46 expedition of Captain Charles Sturt (q.v.) into the interior, Stuart gained valuable experience and received his leader's full approbation. Sturt's failure to reach the centre of the continent inspired Stuart's later achievements.

Returning to Adelaide in January 1846, Stuart was incapacitated with scurvy for twelve months and moved to Port Lincoln for health reasons. He surveyed pastoral leases, worked for fellow Scot and shipmate James Sinclair on his properties and tutored the Sinclair children. In 1854 William Finke and the Chambers brothers, James and John, engaged him to survey leases and prospect for minerals in the northern Flinders Ranges. Between May 1858 and January 1860 Stuart led three expeditions into the Lake Eyre region, seeking new grazing lands and minerals for his sponsors.

In contrast to Sturt, Stuart travelled quickly with limited supplies. Horses were his only means of conveyance. On his first attempt to cross the continent, he reached the geographical centre of Australia on 22nd April 1860, accompanied by two companions and twelve horses --- a feat later described as 'the greatest and pluckiest exploration ever accomplished'. He tried again the following year but it was not until 1862 that he finally made it to the northern shore.

Stuart returned to England in 1864, nearly blind and with a broken constitution. He died on 5th June 1866, a forgotten hero. He was buried at Kensal Green Cemetery, London, with a memorial stone erected by his sister Mary.

As a result of Stuart's expeditions, the nature of the Red Centre was revealed, South Australia gained control of and settled the Northern Territory, and vast areas of the interior were opened up for European settlement. In 1872 the Adelaide-to-Darwin Overland Telegraph Line was completed along Stuart's route. His statue stands in Victoria Square, Adelaide, and Central Mount Stuart, the Stuart Highway and Stuart Range are named in his honour. The John McDouall Stuart Society was founded in 1964 by descendants of his companions to perpetuate his name and achievements.

Captain Charles Sturt (1795-1869)

Soldier and explorer, first to chart the River Murray

Charles Napier Sturt was born in Bengal, India, on 28th April 1795, the son of judge Thomas Napier Lennox Sturt. He was sent to England at the age of four for schooling and did not see his parents for another ten years. In September 1813 he obtained an ensigncy in the 39th Regiment through his aunt's influence, was promoted lieutenant in 1823 and captain in 1825. Subsequently, the regiment was posted to New South Wales, arriving in May 1827.

His appointment as Private and Military Secretary to Governor Darling was the turning point of his career. In 1828-29 he led an expedition to trace the Macquarie River beyond its marshes and discovered the Darling River, correctly deducing that the westward-flowing rivers were its tributaries.

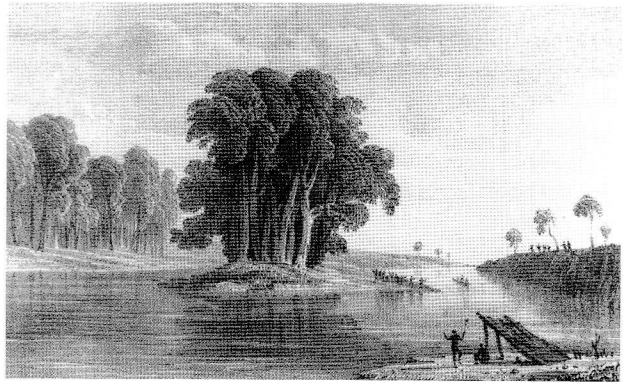
In November 1829 Sturt set out to further explore the western rivers and to determine where the Darling flowed. He hoped that the rivers drained into a central sea. His subsequent discovery of the Murrumbidgee-Murray-Darling river system, and his journey down the Murray to Lake Alexandrina and back, established him as Australia's pre-eminent explorer. He described fertile river flats between the lower Murray and the Mount Lofty Ranges in his book *Two Expeditions into the Interior of Southern Australia* (1833), and he believed that this may have had some influence on the decision to colonize South Australia.

On 20th September 1834 Sturt married Charlotte Greene in England and retired from the army due to ill health incurred in his explorations. He surrendered his pension in return for a grant of 5,000 acres of land in New South Wales. In the following years he would be driven to seek financial security for his family. In 1838 Sturt overlanded stock to South Australia but his hopes of making a handsome profit were not realized. However, Governor George Gawler offered him the post of Surveyor-General. Sturt sold his New South Wales properties and established his home at 'The Grange' in Adelaide. Meanwhile the Colonization Commissioners in London appointed Edward Frome to the same post and consequently Sturt was made Assistant Commissioner of Lands on a reduced salary. In 1841 George Grey was appointed Governor, much to Sturt's displeasure as he believed he had been passed over for the younger man.

In June 1844 permission was given for him to lead an expedition to seek the north-south watershed that appeared to exist between South Australia and New South Wales. This was discovered, although it was not recognized as such, in a series of harrowing journeys. Sturt failed to find the inland sea he had sought for so long but did discover Cooper's Creek. Ultimately repelled by the dunes and gibbers of the deserts, he was forced to return to Adelaide due to scurvy and failing eyesight. He was sympathetic to the Aborigines he encountered in all of his expeditions, realizing that great changes to their way of life would result, an attitude he shared with his great friend and fellow explorer Edward Eyre.

After the publication of the account of his expedition, Sturt resumed the post of Colonial Treasurer, later becoming Colonial Secretary, but his temperament unsuited him for the hurly-burly of politics. In 1847 the Royal Geographical Society of London awarded him their Founder's Medal and in 1851 he retired and was granted a pension of £600 a year for life. He left South Australia in 1852 and spent the remainder of his life in Cheltenham, England, but continued to seek postings in Australia. Charles Sturt died on 16th June 1869, only shortly before his knighthood was gazetted. His widow Charlotte was allowed to bear the title of Lady Sturt.

Two State emblems, Sturt's desert pea (South Australia) and Sturt's desert rose (Northern Territory) honour his name. A fine statue of the explorer stands on the north-west corner of Victoria Square, and his former home, 'The Grange', is administered by the Charles Sturt Memorial Museum Trust.



Doris Irene Taylor, M.B.E. (1901-1968)

Founder and organizer of Meals on Wheels

Doris Irene Taylor was born in Norwood, South Australia, on 25th July 1901, the daughter of bricklayer Thomas Simpkin Taylor and his wife Angelina (née Williams). At the age of twelve she became paralysed when her spine was damaged in a fall while playing with other children, and she spent much of the following five years in hospitals. Despite having to spend the rest of her life in a wheelchair, she refused to be daunted by her own misfortune.

She embarked on a remarkable career of service to people whose needs, she felt, were not being adequately met by governments or other authorities. In doing so she set an example of courage and determination in the face of adversity which inspired others to follow her lead. The result was the hugely successful Meals on Wheels operation, which now provides five hot meals each week to 4,500 people throughout the State. It is an organization unique in the world in the extent of its reliance on over 10,000 volunteers whose efforts as cooks, deliverers and organizers make it possible. As Taylor pointed out with some force in 1954 to the Federal Minister for Social Services, William McMahon, it is not a charity but an essential service. Recipients pay for what they get, they do not accept a charitable handout.

Doris Taylor first showed her concern for the disadvantaged in a practical way by organizing a small soup kitchen for Norwood children during the Depression. After the Second World War, as public relations officer of the South Australian division of the Australian Pensioners League, she became a vigorous campaigner for the aged and disadvantaged. From that background came the notion of Meals on Wheels. It started as a grass roots, self-help operation, as described by Taylor herself in an article published ten years later. She recalled the meeting in the Rechabite Hall, Norwood, on 6th October 1953, at which she told 96 aged and invalid pensioners of her plan. Her listeners confirmed that they would rather stay in their homes and have a hot three-course meal brought to them five days a week than go to an institution. They contributed £5 from their club's social fund for initial expenses.

'That was the beginning, and it must always be remembered that Meals on Wheels sprang from the help given by the poorest, the weakest, the most vulnerable group in our community,' Taylor wrote. The organization began its service at Port Adelaide in August 1954.

Doris Taylor realized that, despite such enthusiasm, help would also be needed from other sources, particularly in the early stages. It was natural that she should turn first to Don Dunstan (q.v.), then a young solicitor and newly-elected Labor member for Norwood, whose election campaign she had helped to manage. Dunstan, only too ready to help, drafted the organization's first constitution and became its first Chairman. Once it was launched, Taylor was tireless in promoting and seeking to expand it. She refused to take no for an answer from anyone whose help she needed. In time, Meals on Wheels came, almost wholly through Doris Taylor's own efforts, to enjoy the support of governments, the media and many of Adelaide's most influential citizens.

She gave regular radio broadcasts to spread the message, addressed hundreds of meetings and was invited to Sydney and Broken Hill, where news of her achievements had spread. She travelled around Adelaide in all weathers in an unprotected motor-powered wheelchair, which she steered with her shoulders, having it loaded onto a taxi truck for longer journeys. She did all this in an honorary capacity, living on her disability pension until appointed as a paid organizer in 1958. The following year she was appointed M.B.E.

Doris Taylor died on 25th May 1968 and was cremated. The upstairs hall at the Meals on Wheels headquarters, Wayville, is named in her honour.



Norman Barnett Tindale, A.O. (1900-1993)

Anthropologist

Norman Barnett Tindale was born in Perth, Western Australia, on 12th October 1900, the son of Salvation Army accountant James Hepburn Tindale and his missionary wife Mary Jane (née Barnett). In 1907 his parents' work took them to Tokyo, Japan, and the family lived there for eight years. As well as learning Japanese, German and French, Tindale developed a keen interest in natural history. Returning to Adelaide, he was appointed Entomologist's Assistant at the South Australian Museum in 1919. A few months later he lost the sight of one eye in an acetylene gas explosion while assisting his father with limelight photographic work, but the accident dulled none of his enthusiasm for science. His boyhood passion for entomology gave way to anthropology during a field trip to Groote Eylandt in the Gulf of Carpentaria in 1921-22. On 27th December 1924 he married Dorothy May Gibson and they had two children.

He studied natural science at the University of Adelaide and participated in annual expeditions of the Board for Anthropological Research to central Australia from 1928 until 1937. Tindale documented Aboriginal society within its environmental context, recording material culture and techniques under threat of transformation through European contact. His scientific training enabled him to undertake the first systematic archaeological excavation in Australia at Devon Downs on the River Murray in 1929. He used the data to formulate the first cultural chronology of Aboriginal prehistory.

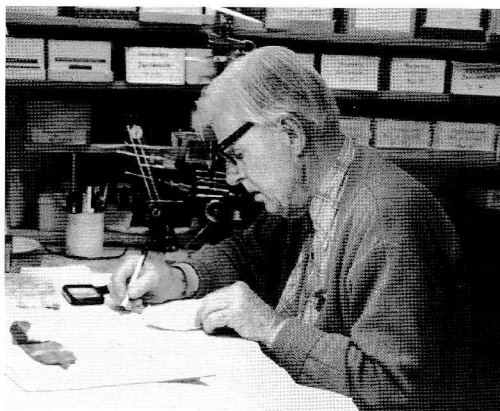
By the late 1930s Tindale had worked with senior indigenous men and women from all major cultural and ecological zones of Aboriginal Australia. He produced the first comprehensive regional survey of Australian tribes in 1940, later refined in 1974. His resulting map, depicting the country's division into 250 Aboriginal tribal territories, played a decisive role in overturning the concept of *terra nullius*.

Tindale published more than 170 scientific papers, reflecting a range of research interests spanning geology, entomology, material culture, archaeology and social anthropology. Officially retiring from the South Australian Museum in 1965, he continued his research, making his home in California, United States, and, after the death of his first wife, marrying Muriel Nevin on 1st August 1970. He received honorary doctorates from the University of Colorado (1967) and the Australian National University (1980). He returned to Australia periodically for further research trips, making close observations in all the fields that interested him, from archaeology and anthropology to the study of butterflies and moths. He became a world authority on the Hepialid moth.

Meticulous record-keeping was a hallmark of Tindale's scientific career. He maintained indexed journals of his working life and ensured that the South Australian Museum's collections were precisely documented, greatly increasing their research value. He personally collected and documented more than 3,000 artefacts and many natural history specimens. He also made some of Australia's earliest and finest ethnographic films and made unique recordings of Aboriginal songs. He was the first Australian anthropologist to realize the potential of collecting Aboriginal drawings on paper as a means of documenting traditions and relationships to land.

A little known aspect of Tindale's life was his period of service during the Second World War. As one of a handful of Westerners who could speak Japanese at the outbreak of the war, Tindale enlisted in the Australian and then the American intelligence services. Promoted to wing commander by the Pentagon, he played a crucial role in the Pacific War by breaking Japanese codes and identifying the origins of parts from crashed Japanese aircraft.

Norman Tindale died in Palo Alto, California, on 19th November 1993 and was cremated. He was awarded the A.O. posthumously in the Australia Day honours, 1994.



Sir Charles Heavitree Todd, K.C.M.G. (1826-1910)

Astronomer, meteorologist, telegraph and telephone engineer

Charles Heavitree Todd was one of the most notable public servants of Australia in the nineteenth century. Superintendent of Telegraphs, Government Astronomer, Postmaster-General, meteorologist and engineer, he served his adopted State unstintingly for more than fifty years.

He was born on 7th July 1826 in London, England, the son of grocer and tea merchant Griffith Todd and his wife Mary (née Parker). Educated locally, he was then employed by the Astronomer Royal, (Sir) George Airy, at the Greenwich Observatory as an astronomical calculator. In January 1848 he was appointed Assistant Astronomer to Professor Challis at the University Observatory, Cambridge, where he also met a distant cousin, Alice Gillam Bell. In 1854 he was given responsibility for the telegraphic time signals and time balls at Greenwich.

Approached by the Colonial Office in London, Airy hesitantly recommended Todd as Government Astronomer and Superintendent of Telegraphs for the young colony of South Australia. Todd accepted early in 1855, proposed to Alice Bell, was married in April and sailed in July. The newlyweds arrived at Port Adelaide in November 1855. Over the next five decades Todd revolutionized communication (by telegraph, post and telephone), pioneered meteorology, promoted astronomy, undertook important surveying and served numerous public institutions.

The Adelaide Observatory, established on West Terrace in 1860, became a popular venue for local societies and the public. It boasted refracting and transit telescopes, a time service, a seismograph, geodetic surveys and observations of comets, planetary satellites and other astronomical phenomena. Todd was an early advocate of standardized time in Australia. In 1868 he accurately determined the position of meridian 141 and showed that the Victorian-South Australian border was misplaced. He made observations of the transit of Venus in 1874 and 1882.

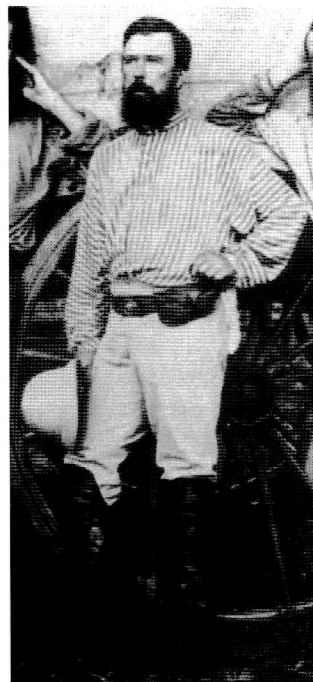
He is best remembered for the telegraph. Having completed the Adelaide-Port Adelaide line, Todd joined Adelaide and Melbourne (1858), Adelaide and Sydney (1867), and in August 1872 completed the monumental Overland Telegraph Line from Darwin to Adelaide.

Accomplished in two years over country traversed only once before, the 2,000-mile-long single wire, supported on 36,000 wooden poles, connected Australia with Britain and thereby cut communication time from months to hours. The line to Eucla was completed in 1877, joining Adelaide and Perth.

From 1856 Todd had planned a system of weather recording using the telegraph stations and, after his additional appointment as Postmaster-General in January 1870, also obtained daily reports from country post offices. As the science of meteorology developed, the Observatory published regular weather forecasts and maps. Todd was also responsible for the rapidly expanding postal services and the new telephone system. He was a central figure in the many intercolonial conferences held on a variety of scientific and technological subjects, pioneered the development of radio in Australia with his son-in-law, Professor William Bragg (q.v.), and promoted the introduction of electricity. He retired in January 1905.

Todd was a prominent member of the Royal Society of South Australia, the Astronomical Society of South Australia, the Board of Governors of the Public Library, Museum and Art Gallery, and the Councils of the University of Adelaide and the South Australian School of Mines and Industries. Small but robust, he was shrewd, resourceful and hard-working, but also kindly and playful, delighting especially in puns. A benevolent autocrat, he inspired confidence and enthusiasm in his staff.

He was made C.M.G. in 1872, a Fellow of the Royal Society, London, in 1889, and K.C.M.G. in 1893. He died at Semaphore on 29th January 1910 and was buried at North Road Cemetery.



Alexander Tolmer (1815-1890)

Police Commissioner and initiator of the gold escorts

By any account, Alexander Tolmer was a colourful character whose thirst for action and adventure was matched only by his determination to win recognition and respect from his peers. Throughout his 'adventurous and chequered career', Tolmer could be variously described as sailor, mercenary, cavalryman, policeman, artist, violinist and author.

The son of a French officer who had fought under Napoleon, Alexander Tolmer was born in 1815 in London, where his parents had fled, having switched allegiance to the Bourbons. He was an only child and his mother died two months after his birth. He had a complicated and difficult childhood, which saw him educated at a number of French and English schools, where he was taunted and bullied for being either English or French. Through necessity, he learnt early to use his fists and assert himself. Initially raised by relatives in France, he returned to England when he was eight to rejoin his father but ran away from school, saw work on colliers plying the coast, returned to become an articled teacher and then enlisted in a cavalry unit being raised in England to fight in a civil war in Portugal. Here he was twice wounded but sufficiently distinguished himself to be personally presented with the Order of the Tower and Sword by the Portuguese Emperor and Empress while in hospital. He was just seventeen.

Small of stature, bilingual and with a distinctive French accent, Tolmer enlisted in the 16th Lancers in Kent as a private soldier and advanced to acting adjutant and riding master. In 1836 he married Mary Carter and, failing to get the promotion he coveted, emigrated to South Australia on the *Brankenmoor*, arriving in February 1840.

Presenting his credentials to Governor Gawler on arrival, he obtained a position as Sub-Inspector with the Mounted Police, which had been formed less than two years earlier. He was soon promoted to Inspector and also appointed captain and adjutant of cavalry in the Volunteer Militia. Ambitious, talented and hardworking, Tolmer relished his new career in policing and enjoyed a strong public following. He spent much of his time in the bush and became noted for his vigorous pursuit of bushrangers, murderers, smugglers and cattle duffers.

With the respect and prestige he had achieved, he was difficult to overlook when the office of Police Commissioner became vacant, and he was duly appointed in January 1852. One of the most brilliant ever to hold the office, his appointment would last for just 22 months and was destined to be one of the shortest but most turbulent in South Australian police history. He remodelled the police force and introduced a number of innovative reforms, including native police.

From 1851 the exodus of South Australian men to the Victorian goldfields had created a critical labour shortage and a potentially disastrous drain of currency from the colony. Tolmer initiated the overland escort to bring the gold back to Adelaide. The first escort by police troopers took place, under Tolmer's personal supervision, in February 1852 and the service continued until December of the following year. The gold was smelted in the basement of the Treasury Building in Victoria Square and either minted into coins or exported to England, thus reviving the South Australian economy.

Through his quick temper and intolerance of criticism, Tolmer created enemies both within his own ranks and in the Government, and he was dismissed as Commissioner in November 1853, demoted to Superintendent and then had his position abolished altogether. He subsequently served as a Crown Lands Ranger and Sub-Inspector of Credit Lands before retiring in 1885. His first wife died in 1867, leaving him three children, and on 14th October 1869 he married Jane Douglas, with whom he had six children. He died on 7th March 1890 and was buried at Mitcham Anglican Cemetery.

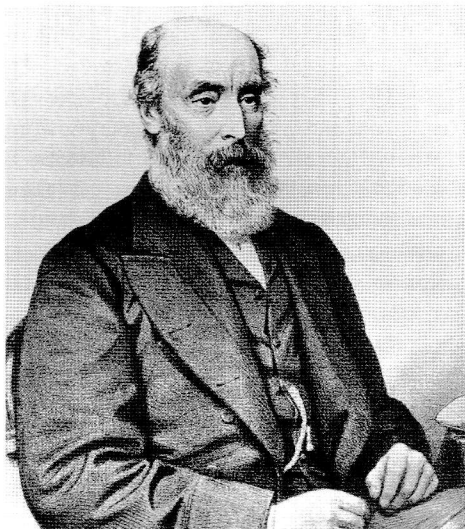


Sir Robert Richard Torrens, G.C.M.G. (1812-1884)

Land titles reformer

Robert Richard Chute Torrens was born on 31st May 1812 in Cork, Ireland, the son of Robert Torrens, of the Royal Marines and the petty Derry gentry, and Charity Herbert Chute, of the greater Kerry gentry. Divorced by 1819, the father pursued his interests in England and the son stayed within the maternal sphere, attending a private academy in Cork and then Trinity College, Dublin, graduating B.A. in 1835 (M.A. by grace 1839). Father and son teamed up in 1836 when young Torrens went to London to learn about customs collection by working as a landing waiter in the Port, and Torrens senior chaired the South Australian Colonization Commission. Together they worked on raising customs duties to finance the new colony and on promoting Irish investment and emigration. On 19th February 1839 young Torrens married Barbara Ainslie Anson (née Park) and in 1840 they emigrated on the *Brightman* to South Australia where the father had had the son appointed Collector of Customs.

There Torrens plunged into 'a pattern of unorthodoxy'. Notorious squabbles with settlers, shipowners, merchants and customs staff led to acrimonious disagreements with successive Governors. Such discord did not slow his advancement, however. A nominated Legislative Councillor in 1851-57 and an Executive Councillor in 1855-57, Torrens had become Colonial Treasurer as well as Registrar-General of Deeds in 1852. The next six years he spent agitating to reform the slow, expensive and highly ineffective transfer of land by deed. In 1857, on the strength of his radical proposals, he topped the polls for the seat of Adelaide in the first Parliament under responsible government and was Premier for a tumultuous week in September of that year. His Real Property Act, whereby every transfer of real estate was to be registered with the Government, was stormily passed on 27th January 1858 and took effect on 1st July.



The system encompassed free trade in land and borrowings from ship bottom administration, as well as Torrens' working knowledge as Registrar-General and as a landowner in his own right. It also incorporated the radical ideas of fellow colonists, in particular the principles of land transfer registration of the Hanseatic League cities. The package was supported in principle by the 1857 English enquiry into title registration. Torrens marshalled these elements behind the scenes, politicized the programme in public and fought off its detractors (mainly lawyers) everywhere. He also brought the scheme into practice as Registrar-General of Titles, earning one of the highest colonial salaries.

He oversaw considerable amendments in 1859 and in 1861, mainly administrative details but also relating to the handling of equitable interests. Not even complete overhaul as the Real Property Act 1886 (still in force in South Australia) can deny the reality that Torrens' dedication to his cause had given life to the package of influences and factors that lay within it. Meanwhile, Queensland adopted the unreformed version in 1861 and, with Torrens' direct involvement, New South Wales, Tasmania and Victoria implemented the reformed version.

Returning to the United Kingdom, Torrens lectured on land title registration and lobbied for its implementation, especially in Ireland. In 1868 he won the House of Commons seat for Cambridge, only to lose it in 1874, after which he largely withdrew from public life. For his services 'in connection with the Registration of Titles to Land Act' he was knighted (K.C.M.G. 1872, G.C.M.G. 1884). The Queensland, New South Wales, Victorian and Tasmanian Parliaments all voted him their thanks, though South Australians declined in 1880 to give him an annuity of £500. He had built 'Torrens Park' (now Scotch College) near Mitcham in 1854 and, in retirement, 'Hannaford' in a remote Devon village. He died at Falmouth on 31st August 1884 and was buried at nearby Leusdon Churchyard.

Alfred Hermann Traeger, O.B.E. (1895-1980)

Inventor of the pedal wireless

In late 1928 a friendly but self-effacing Adelaide man, Alf Traeger, revolutionized communications in the Australian outback by inventing the pedal wireless. Working in close association with John Flynn (q.v.) of the Australian Inland Mission, he provided people in remote areas with a simple, cheap and reliable way of communicating with each other and, if necessary, requesting medical help.

Alfred Hermann Traeger was born on 2nd August 1895 at Glenlee, near Dimboola, Victoria, the son of South Australian-born farmers Johann Hermann Traeger and his wife Louisa (née Zerna). In 1902 the family returned to South Australia and Alfred attended the Balaklava Public School and the Martin Luther School, Adelaide. At the age of twelve he built a telephone line from his house to the toolshed, improvising the diaphragms from tobacco tins, the magnet from the prongs of a pitchfork and the carbon granules for the microphone from the charcoal of the kitchen stove.

In 1915 he gained his Associate Diploma in Mechanical and Electrical Engineering from the South Australian School of Mines and Industries. By 1923 he was working for Hannan Brothers in Wakefield Street, Adelaide, doing car generator and electrical repairs. In addition, he was building his own crystal sets, valve radios and transceivers, and in 1926 he obtained his Amateur Operators Proficiency Certificate.

At this time John Flynn was also experimenting with radio for the A.I.M. and in 1926 he engaged Traeger as his assistant, at a wage of £6 per week. Over the next two years Flynn and Traeger toured the outback together, testing and attempting to improve the cumbersome and expensive transceivers then in use. What was needed was a set that could be easily operated, powered and maintained by people who knew nothing about radio. The pedal wireless, developed by Traeger in 1928-29, was essentially a floor-mounted generator (driven with bicycle pedals), which powered a radio transceiver capable of sending and receiving Morse code. In 1929 a base station was established at Cloncurry, Queensland, and the first pedal wireless set was installed at Augustus Downs station, 150 miles north. The first transmission was made on 19th June 1929 by Gertrude Rothery, the manager's wife, to Traeger's assistant, Harry Kinzbrunner, at Cloncurry. Due to Mrs. Rothery's unfamiliarity with the equipment, the message, intended to be 'Hello, Harry', came out as 'O hell, O hell, O Harry'.

Over the next eight years Traeger continued to manufacture and improve the pedal sets. He usually spent six months in his Adelaide workshop, followed by six months in the outback, installing the sets at homesteads, hospitals, missions and the bases of the Aerial Medical Service (later the Royal Flying Doctor Service). In 1931 he developed the automatic Morse keyboard (so that operators would not need to learn Morse code) and in 1935 telephony was introduced to the network. By the 1950s hundreds of Traeger sets were in use throughout the remote areas.

On 11th September 1937 Traeger married Olga Emilie Schodde and they had two daughters. He became an independent radio contractor, operating his business, Traeger Transceivers, from a factory at Marryatville. In 1944 he was appointed O.B.E. His first wife died in 1948 and on 2nd August 1956 he married Joyce Edna Mibus (née Traeger), a distant relation. She was a widow with two daughters, and she and Traeger had one son.

A quiet, unassuming man, Alf Traeger thought himself lucky because his hobby was his job. He died on 31st July 1980 and was buried at Centennial Park Cemetery. He is commemorated by the Alfred Traeger Cultural Centre in Cloncurry, a park in Alice Springs and memorabilia in many R.F.D.S. bases.



David Unaipon (1872-1967)

Aboriginal leader and writer

David Unaipon was born on 28th September 1872 at Point McLeay Mission, South Australia, the son of evangelist James Ngunaitponi, who had been the mission's first Christian convert, and his wife Nymbulda, both Yaralde people from the Lower Murray River. The mission schoolteacher, Walter Hutley, provoked Unaipon's interest in popular science, introducing him to the chimera of perpetual motion. In 1885, with his parents' permission, he was taken into the Kanmantoo home of C.B. Young, patron of the Aborigines' Friends' Association, and was introduced to classical literature, Greek and Latin.

Unaipon joined other young literate Ngarrindjeri men seeking alternatives to the mission's limited employment opportunities. He avoided physical labour, working as a book-keeper in the mission store. His relations with mission authorities deteriorated but friendships with members of Adelaide society enabled him to avoid the legislation restricting Aboriginal freedom of movement.

On 4th January 1902 Unaipon married Catherine Carter (née Sumner), a Tangani woman. A son was born later in the year but Unaipon's marriage was not happy and his mission home served mainly as a base for his frequent travels. His speaking skills were in demand and he addressed church congregations in Melbourne, Sydney and Adelaide. His social and political message was conservative, reflecting the A.F.A.'s view that Aboriginal people should join mainstream Australian society, assisted by enlightened paternalism, and would soon respond to the effects of a favourable environment.

During the 1920s Unaipon supported the utopian scheme of a model Aboriginal State proposed for central Australia but criticized attempts to insulate Aboriginal people by creating reserves. He appeared before a number of commissions and enquiries and in 1934 proposed that South Australia's Chief Protector of Aborigines be replaced by an independent board. He did not support the voice of Aboriginal activism arising from eastern Australia and rejected calls for a national day of mourning in 1938.

Precocious, urbane and self-possessed, Unaipon subverted popular notions of an inarticulate and primitive Aboriginality. When steamer-loads of tourists visited Point McLeay to see the natives, Unaipon demonstrated his prototype 'perpetual motion machine', lectured on Aboriginal astronomy, botany and bushcraft, and called for donations. The press hailed him, perhaps ironically, as 'the Black Leonardo'. Unaipon took out nine patent applications between 1909 and 1944 but they all lapsed. His particular interest lay in converting rotary to linear motion and he drew inspiration from the flight of the boomerang. He produced a prototype of a shearing handpiece but it did not go into production.

Unaipon's contact with anthropologists encouraged his interest in Aboriginal and European mythology and embellished his romantic view of the past. He began gathering Aboriginal legends while working as an itinerant pedlar for the A.F.A. He signed a book contract with Angus & Robertson but they balked at his blend of fairy tale, popular science, Aboriginal legend and Christian morality. With two legends in print before 1930, Unaipon became the first published Aboriginal author but sold most of his stories to William Ramsay Smith, who published them, without acknowledgement, as *Myths and Legends of the Australian Aborigines* (1930). They were eventually published under Unaipon's name in 2001 as *Legendary Tales of the Australian Aborigines*.

Unaipon continued to confound popular stereotypes of Aboriginal Australians, selling A.F.A. pamphlets door-to-door throughout rural South Australia until the 1950s. He died on 7th February 1967 and was buried at Point McLeay Cemetery. In 1992 his portrait appeared on the Australian \$50 note.



William Charles Douglas Veale, C.B.E., M.C., D.C.M. (1895-1971) **Soldier, engineer and Town Clerk of Adelaide**

William Charles Douglas Veale was born on 16th May 1895 at Eaglehawk, near Bendigo, Victoria, the son of John Veale and his wife Mary Jane (née Christian). He was educated at St. Andrews College, Bendigo, and in 1914 joined the Australian Imperial Force as a sapper, serving for four years in Egypt and Europe. He reached the rank of lieutenant and was twice decorated, winning the Distinguished Conduct Medal at Passchendaele and the Military Cross for constructing bridgeworks on the Somme while under fire.

After the war he became a civil engineer and gained experience in England before returning to Australia in 1920 to take up the position of Engineer to the Shire of Kowree, Edenhope, Victoria. On 12th February 1923 he married Eileen Guest and the same year he was appointed Assistant City Engineer and Surveyor to the Adelaide City Council, becoming Deputy City Engineer in 1926 and City Engineer and Building Surveyor in 1929. As City Engineer, Veale supervised the construction of the new Adelaide Bridge, completed in 1931, and the landscaping of a significant portion of the River Torrens' banks.

Veale was on war service leave from the Council from 1940 to 1946, during which time he was promoted to the rank of brigadier. He served as Chief Engineer in the Northern Territory during 1941-42, was leader of the so-called 'Sparrow Force', which carried out commando operations behind enemy lines in Timor in 1942, commanded the Royal Australian Engineer Training Centre, and was Chief Engineer of the 2nd and then the 1st Australian Army in New Guinea.

Following the war he was appointed Town Clerk of Adelaide in January 1947, a position he held until his retirement in 1965. As head of the Town Hall administration, he initiated and presided over much of Adelaide's post-war development. Underground drainage was upgraded to overcome problems of flooding, streets were widened to improve traffic flow, and car parking problems were eased by the introduction of on-street parking meters and the provision of greater off-street parking facilities. In 1957, after a five-month overseas study tour visiting some forty cities in Europe and North America, Veale made numerous recommendations for further improving the city's functional and aesthetic character, most of which were implemented. His most notable achievement was to transform Adelaide's sadly-neglected parklands through an extensive programme of landscaping and beautification and the creation of new parks and gardens, boating lakes and picnic grounds. He also represented the Council on a number of government town planning bodies, in particular serving from 1956 to 1965 as Deputy Chairman of the Town Planning Committee, which produced the Metropolitan Adelaide Development Plan.

A short, solid, shy man who shunned the limelight, Bill Veale was a prodigious worker, arriving at the Town Hall at dawn each day and working long into the night. He was a meticulous administrator, whose abrasive, authoritarian style of management often made him a difficult man to work with. He was blunt and abrupt and had a violent temper which he sometimes lost. His relations with lord mayors and councillors were not always harmonious and he was hard on his staff.

'No other man since Colonel Light has left his imprint so ineffacably on the city of Adelaide, or so transformed its character' was how the *Advertiser* summed up his 42 years of Council service. In 1954, in recognition of his distinguished military and municipal career, he was appointed C.B.E. He died on 17th August 1971 and was cremated. His name is perpetuated by the ornamental Veale Gardens, which he had laid out in Adelaide's south parklands.



Peter Waite (1834-1922)

Pastoralist and philanthropist

Peter Waite was born on 9th May 1834 at Pitcairn, near Kirkcaldy, Fife, Scotland, the son of farmer James Waite and his wife Elizabeth (née Stocks). He trained and worked as an ironmonger in Edinburgh and Aberdeen before emigrating to Australia in 1859, arriving in Port Melbourne on the *British Trident* and from there travelling to South Australia. He joined his elder brother James, who held Pandappa station, near Terowie in the mid-north, and in 1862 bought the adjoining Paratoo run with Thomas Elder (q.v.). In 1863 he took over the lease of Pandappa when his brother died. On 21st November 1864 he married Matilda Methuen, to whom he had become engaged before leaving Scotland, and they had eight children.

From 1869 Waite, Elder and N.E. Phillipson built up an empire of sheep and cattle runs that stretched from Beltana to the Queensland border. Waite was known for his innovative management of pastoral properties in the semi-arid country of the far north. He fenced his properties into paddocks, established permanent water supplies and reduced the numbers of vermin by poisoning, all of which enabled him to achieve huge sheep flocks. He also emphasized the importance of breeding, the rotation of paddocks and flexible stock movement.

In 1874 he pressed for a northern rail link with Adelaide and also advocated large leases of long tenure, with close personal supervision. He was Vice-President of the Federated Employers' Council of South Australia and of the Pastoralists' Association of South Australia and West Darling.

In 1883 he became Chairman of Elder's Wool and Produce Co. Ltd., a subsidiary of Elder Smith and Co. When the companies amalgamated in 1888, Waite became Chairman of Directors of Elder Smith and Co. Ltd., holding this position until his retirement in 1921. He was largely responsible for the policies which allowed the company to surmount grave difficulties and expand on a truly remarkable scale. He was Managing Director of the Beltana Pastoral Co. Ltd. following Elder's death in 1897, and of the Mutooroo Pastoral Co. Ltd. from 1898 to 1911. He also held directorships in the British Broken Hill Co. Ltd. and the South Australian Woollen Co. Ltd.

In 1874 Waite purchased an estate for his family at Urrbrae. In the late 1880s he demolished the original house on the property to build his own grand residence. Completed in 1891, it featured a number of innovations, including a tiled roof, electric light and Australia's first domestic refrigeration plant.

In October 1913 Waite established the gift of his Urrbrae estate to the University of Adelaide, subject to life tenancy for himself and his wife. Half of the estate was to be for agricultural research and teaching and the rest for a public park. In 1915 Waite purchased the adjoining estate of Claremont and part of the estate of Netherby, adding it to his gift, and in 1918 set aside 5,880 shares in Elder Smith to be invested, with the income to be used for the advancement of agricultural education. Waite's gifts to the University, which amounted to £100,000, constituted one of the largest public benefactions ever made by a South Australian colonist. He also donated 114 acres to the State Government to found what is now the Urrbrae Agricultural High School.

Peter Waite was offered a knighthood when he was 83 but rejected it on the grounds of age. He died on 4th April 1922 and was buried at Mitcham Anglican Cemetery. His estate passed to the University of Adelaide and two years later the Waite Agricultural Research Institute was established. His legacy has surpassed even his vision as the Institute has achieved not only prominence in Australia but international renown as a centre of scientific excellence. Urrbrae House has permanent exhibitions on Peter Waite and on the adjacent arboretum, and guided tours are given of the house and grounds.



Mary Jane Warnes, M.B.E. (1877-1959)

Founder of the South Australian Country Women's Association

Although financial hardship was seldom the personal problem for Mary Warnes that it was for many of her contemporaries, she was never to forget the loneliness of her early married life. She was physically isolated from other women and childless for the first years of her marriage. On the occasional sale-day trips to Burra (a 100-mile round trip by horse and trap), she would fabricate excuses to talk to other women by buying such trifles as a few pennyworth of ribbon.

She was born Mary Jane Fairbrother at Fullarton, South Australia, on 18th July 1877, the youngest daughter of gardener Thomas Fairbrother and his wife Jane Mears (née Clarke). Following her education at the Misses Newman's private school at Parkside, she assisted with the family's thriving Fullarton Jam Factory in Fern Avenue until on 12th February 1900 she married pastoralist Isaac Warnes. This was to bring about a complete change of environment and lifestyle, for Warnes took his bride to live at Old Koomooloo Station, a vast and isolated property east of Burra in the mid-north, where she became an accomplished side-saddle horse-woman, though not (as her grandchildren attest) a notable cook, for this was the era of servants for Australian women of her class.

In 1908 the Warnes moved to their property 'Wahroonga' at Leighton, only twelve miles west of Burra, where Mary gave birth to three sons. Her husband became prominent in local government and pastoral circles, and Mary could have continued to live in the style of a gracious hostess had her concern for the welfare of less fortunate women not been so keen.

She was fully attuned to the potential for an organization embracing the needs of rural women, a movement which by the mid-1920s had become established in Australia's eastern States as part of a global movement to improve conditions for countrywomen. In 1926 Mrs. R.T. Bowman, President of the National Council of Women, invited a group of well-known South Australian women to afternoon tea at the Queen Adelaide Club, where she explained the fledgling movement. Of those present, only Mary Warnes had the vision and the courage to pioneer the concept in South Australia by forming at Burra the first branch of what was to become the Country Women's Association of South Australia. She was the founding President of this branch and from 1929 the State President. For twelve years she held that office, travelling widely within South Australia and far beyond --- to many interstate meetings and as a delegate to the 1929 Rural Women's Conference in London. In 1930 the *Register* commented, 'Hers is often the guiding hand that steers a smooth path for women on whom the burdens of drought and bad seasons have weighed too heavily.'

Perceiving that the new medium of radio broadcasting could be a valuable element in fighting rural isolation, she began, as early as 1934, to give friendly and informative radio talks. In recognition of her work within the C.W.A., as well as with a range of other community, church and political organizations, she was appointed M.B.E. in 1936. The following year she went to Alice Springs and Darwin on the largely unmade roads of the era, travelling in a utility driven by her second son Jim, speaking with women in isolated areas and conferring with members of the Australian Inland Mission, established by John Flynn (q.v.). 'I am grateful,' she said at the time, 'that I have been spared to live long enough to serve members so far away.'

She was a member of the National Council of Women of South Australia and of the League of Nations Union and a councillor and President of the women's branch of the State Liberal Federation. Mary Warnes died on 19th June 1959 and was buried at Burra Cemetery. Memorials to her exist at the C.W.A. complex in Kent Town, at St. Mary's Church, Burra, and in the National Pioneer Women's Hall of Fame at Alice Springs.



Sir Samuel James Way, Bart., P.C. (1836-1916)

Chief Justice of South Australia

Samuel James Way was born in Portsmouth, Hampshire, England, on 11th April 1836, the son of a poor Bible Christian preacher, James Way, and his wife Jane (née Willis). He was educated in Devon and Kent and in 1853 joined his family in Adelaide, where they had settled three years before. In 1856 he was articled to Alfred Aktinson, who was declared insane just before Way's admission to practice in 1861 and died soon afterwards --- the first of four deaths that abetted great natural abilities to catapult Way to the top of colonial society. Way rebuilt the firm with James Brook until the latter's untimely death in 1872 left Way with a strong practice all his own.

He had taken silk in 1871 and was soon earning over £6,000 a year. In 1875 he was elected to the House of Assembly as the member for Sturt. Barely four months later he was Attorney-General in the Boucaut Ministry and, nine months on, exercised the Attorney-General's prerogative of appointing himself to the chief justiceship, left vacant by Sir Richard Hanson's demise. He took his seat on the bench of the Supreme Court in March 1876 and dominated it for almost forty years.

Indeed, after 1876 Way came to dominate almost every important cultural, educational, artistic, scientific and charitable body in the colony and sat several times as a Royal Commissioner. Already Vice-Chancellor of the University of Adelaide, Way succeeded Chancellor Short (q.v.) when he died in 1883. As Chief Justice, he was the obvious choice as Acting Governor, serving in that role so often that in 1890 he was made Lieutenant-Governor for life, placing him next after the Governor in colonial precedence. In 1896 he was made a Privy Councillor, with imperial status next after the royal family, and in 1897 sat as Australia's only representative on the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. No wonder local wags dubbed him a 'Pooh-Bah'.

Meanwhile, he turned down at least four offers of knighthood, holding out for an hereditary honour, or possibly a peerage, though he had no lawful heirs. On 11th April 1898, his 62nd birthday, he married the 44-year-old widow, Katherine Blue (née Gordon) and the following year accepted a baronetcy 'to please Mrs. Way'.

Polished, cultured and proud, Way was a jumble of aspirations and contradictions. Wearing judicial robes at University events covered his lack of a degree and he appears this way in the bronze statue that stands in front of the University of Adelaide. His residence 'Montefiore' at North Adelaide, set in an exotic if miniature garden, was a monument to his hospitality, bibliophilia and the arts and crafts movement. He also had two country properties for relaxation, income and scientific experiment.

Way knew both joy and regret. Behind the glory lurked the secret life of a devoted family man --- with a difference. From about 1868 Way passed his summers in Tasmania with former chambermaid Susannah Gooding (1842-88). He was the father of at least five of her six children, all named after his parents, siblings and associates, and each given his own surname. He set the family up at good addresses in Hobart and then in Melbourne. When he presented his commission as Chief Justice in Adelaide, he adjourned the court for a fortnight to attend the christening of his fifth child in Hobart. Susannah's death provoked a breakdown in Way, explained as being due to pressure of work, and he undertook a world tour for a year.

Way supported Federation but not a High Court unless he could be its Chief Justice. When he failed to achieve this, his star began to fall. After 1907 he was occasionally appealed against and once over-ruled by his own Full Court. In 1914 he had his left arm amputated in Sydney, due to cancer, but he nevertheless succumbed on 8th January 1916. A state funeral was held three days later and he was buried at West Terrace Cemetery, Adelaide.



Lawrence Allen Wells, O.B.E. (1860-1938)

Explorer and surveyor

Lawrence Allen Wells was born on 30th April 1860 at Yallum Station, near Penola, South Australia, the son of squatter Thomas Allen Wells and his wife Isabella Elizabeth (née Kelsh). He grew up in the Mount Gambier district and after a short stint in a merchant's office joined the South Australian Survey Department in October 1878. In 1883 the Surveyor-General, George Goyder (q.v.), offered him the position of Assistant-Surveyor to the Northern Territory and Queensland Border Survey Expedition under Augustus Poeppel. This task took almost three years to complete, after which Wells spent two years in the far north of South Australia and the Northern Territory, surveying pastoral boundaries.

In 1891 he was appointed surveyor to the Elder Scientific Exploring Expedition, led by David Lindsay under the auspices of the Royal Geographical Society of Australasia (S.A. Branch). Lindsay's instructions were to investigate the remaining 'blank spaces on the map of Australia' (essentially the Great Victoria, Little Sandy, Great Sandy, Tanami and Simpson Deserts). After a good start the expedition suffered severe hardships and personnel problems, which resulted in Lindsay's returning to Adelaide leaving Wells in charge of the remnants of the expedition. Wells discovered evidence of gold at what was to become the East Murchison goldfields (near present-day Wiluna) but the expedition was disbanded in March 1892. Only Wells and the cook, Warren, came away with clean slates. Wells returned to the Survey Department and on 22nd September 1892 he married Alice Marion Woods.

In 1896 Albert Calvert, a London mining engineer, offered to fund an expedition to complete the task of the Elder venture. Wells was selected to lead the Calvert Scientific Exploring Expedition, again supervised by the South Australian branch of the Royal Geographical Society of Australasia. He engaged the Afghan camel-driver Bejah Dervish (q.v.), and the party of seven men and twenty camels left Lake Way on 16th July 1896 and headed north-east into uncharted country.

After a substantial reconnaissance trip, the party was just over halfway through the two Sandy Deserts in October when it was decided that Wells' older cousin Charles Wells and George Jones, the 18-year-old nephew of David Lindsay, would make a 'flying trip' to the west and then rendezvous with the main party at Joanna Spring, 200 miles further north. The increasing heat of the advancing summer, scant water and lack of feed for the camels caused both parties extreme hardship. The main party was soon travelling only at night and was forced to abandon most of the equipment at Adverse Well and the remainder of it the following day. Low on water and unable to locate Joanna Spring (which had been innocently mis-mapped by Warburton), they made a desperate dash for the Fitzroy River. Charles Wells and Jones had abandoned the flying trip and, following the main party but about twelve days behind it, they perished. Their sun-dried bodies were finally found on May 27th 1897 after five search expeditions by Lawrence Wells.

In August 1897 Wells transferred to the Pastoral Board but from March to September 1903 led the Government North-West Prospecting Expedition, after which he returned to the Surveyor-General's Office and spent three years on a trigonometric survey in the north-west of the Northern Territory. In 1909 he joined the State Taxation Department and the following year became the Federal Deputy Commissioner of Land Tax for South Australia. He rejoined the Land Board as Chairman in 1918 and held this position until his retirement in 1930.

He pulled on his explorer's boots again to lead the privately-organized Quest (1930), Endeavour (1932) and Tarcoola (1933) Expeditions. In 1935 he received the Jubilee Medal and in 1937 was appointed O.B.E. Lawrence Wells died after being struck by a railcar near Blackwood railway station on 11th May 1938 and was buried at Mitcham Anglican Cemetery.



Joachim Matthias Wendt (1830-1917)

Silversmith

Joachim Matthias Wendt was Danish, born in Dägeling, Holstein, on 26th June 1830, the son of Joachim Matthias Wendt, a smith, and his wife Christina (née Schlichting). By the time he had completed his apprenticeship as a watchmaker and jeweller, his home had come under Prussian rule. Hating this, and excited by news of the Australian gold rushes, he set out for Adelaide, arriving in 1854.

Wendt was ambitious and skilful, soon moving out of his first shop and into the building at 70 Rundle Street that his firm would occupy for over a century. His work was first shown overseas in 1862 at the London International Exhibition but by the end of the century it had been exhibited from New Zealand to Paris, Philadelphia to London. There was a growing demand for the trophies and presentation pieces that the Wendt workshop produced in a mixture of English and European styles, increasingly ornamented with Australian motifs and ranging from the useful to the grandly symbolic.

With keen business judgement Wendt joined the organizing committee for the royal visit of the Duke of Edinburgh in 1867 and so reaped valuable orders both for and from the Duke's party. He was subsequently appointed 'Jeweller to His Royal Highness' in the colony of South Australia.

By retaining talented workshop staff he could produce stylish jewellery using local gold and precious stones, while at the same time importing a wide range of stock. Wendt's silverwork included extravagant naturalistic creations, stylish Edwardian

domestic designs and pieces that showed restrained Regency taste. At its best, it ranks with the finest produced in Australia in the second half of the nineteenth century.

The year 1869 saw him open his first country branch at Mount Gambier and on Christmas Day he married the widow Johanna Koeppen (née Ohlmeyer). The decade of the 1870s saw booming demand for silverwork, with the Wendt productions being exhibited on three continents and Joachim courting and using publicity at every turn for his business whilst avoiding it for himself. His interests extended into property and he was part of the syndicate which developed the Adelaide Arcade (which he later owned) and the Theatre Royal in Hindley Street.

Wendt's business was, for more than two decades, locked in rivalry with his main competitor, Henry Steiner. Both had wealthy patrons and both courted the vice-regal customer. In *Town Life in Australia* (London, 1883), Richard Twopeny was to write of these 'jewellers and silversmiths, the work in which is original and artistic, throwing altogether into the shade similar shops in Melbourne and Sydney'.

At about this time Wendt wanted to retire, to give more time to his other interests, but by the mid-1880s drought and the many failures in farming and banking meant there were no buyers for such a business. This was the decade which saw the rise of the Broken Hill silver fields, where in 1888 Wendt opened a branch in the first stone building there and gathered further orders. His finely wrought model of the Block 10 Mine was executed five years later. He also extended his interests into the Triumph Plough Company and land development in the south-east.

In 1903 his son and stepson joined him as partners in the family firm, taking on much of the work load and consolidating their position as Adelaide's leading jewellers well into the twentieth century. Joachim Wendt died on 7th September 1917 and was buried at North Road Cemetery. His most visible legacy to the city is the Adelaide Arcade and his contribution to the art of the silversmith can be seen in the range of masterworks and small domestic wares at the Art Gallery of South Australia and in public and private collections around the country.



Sir Kenneth Wills, K.B.E., M.C. (1896-1977)

Businessman and soldier, Controller of Allied Intelligence Bureau W.W. II

Kenneth Agnew Wills was born in Adelaide, South Australia, on 3rd March 1896. His father, R.J.H. Wills, was a partner in the family firm of G. & R. Wills & Co., importers and wholesale distributors, which was established in 1849. When Kenneth was four years old, his father died of typhoid and his mother Caroline (née Fedden) took the family back to London, where Kenneth was brought up by a governess and later attended the London University School.

When World War I broke out, he enlisted and his regiment was sent to Macedonia to garrison the mountain passes against a possible drive by the German army into Greece. The regiment was then sent to Egypt where Wills was promoted captain and took part in the campaign to drive the Turks out of Palestine. He was present at the crucial Battle of Beersheba where the Australian Light Horse made its famous charge, routing the Turkish infantry. At the successful conclusion of this campaign Captain Wills had been awarded the Military Cross and had been mentioned in dispatches. His regiment was sent to the front in France, where he was badly gassed and invalided back to England.

On being discharged in 1919, he joined the family firm of George Wills & Sons in London and operated on the floor of the Baltic Exchange, canvassing for shipping cargoes. On 1st September 1920 he married Viola Ethel Crossland and later that year they emigrated to Adelaide where Wills joined his family's Australian company.

He was far from impressed with what he found and in 1924 returned to London to report his findings to the partners, who accepted his offer to return to Australia as General Manager and restructure the company. In Adelaide, he gathered a group of ex-servicemen, entrusting them with the middle-management positions. When the Depression struck in 1929 and many firms collapsed, his staff remained loyal to him, accepting, as he did, a 10% reduction in wages, enabling the company to survive.

At the outbreak of World War II he was still on the British Army Reserve of Officers but when he presented himself at Keswick Barracks the staff were at a loss to know what to do with him, so they put him in charge of the Intelligence Section. One of his immediate tasks was to round up all the Nazi activists in South Australia.



In 1940, as a member of the 2/10 Infantry Battalion, he was attached to H.Q. 1st Australian Corps as Air Liaison Officer and sailed with the 6th Australian Division to the Middle East. He took part in the first Libyan campaign, which included the capture of Tobruk, and was subsequently appointed Deputy Director of Military Intelligence. In November 1944 he was promoted to brigadier and appointed Controller Allied Intelligence Bureau, which position he held until the end of the war. The Bureau was responsible for co-ordinating all the intelligence probes and clandestine operations behind the Japanese lines in the south-west Pacific area. His army service earned him the O.B.E. in 1946. On being demobilized in September 1945 he resumed his role as Chairman and Managing Director of the Wills Group of Companies based in Adelaide.

He was a member of the Council of the University of Adelaide from 1946 to 1968 and in 1961 he was appointed Deputy Chancellor of the University and later Chancellor from 1966 to 1968. He was Chairman of Advertiser Newspapers Ltd. from 1950 to 1971 and was also Deputy Chairman of the St. John Council of South Australia.

His first wife died in 1956 and on 14th January 1959 he married Mavis Catherine Gilfillan. He was appointed K.B.E. in 1960 and retired in 1976 after 55 years of service to his company. He died on 13th May 1977 and was cremated.

Julian Edmund Tenison Woods (1832-1889)

Educationist, scientist and co-founder of the Sisters of St. Joseph

This creative priest who has left an enduring legacy to education, to science and to the history of the Catholic Church in Australia, was born in London, England, on 15th November 1832, the son of James Dominick Woods, of the Middle Temple, and his wife Henrietta Maria (née Tenison). In 1855 he accompanied Bishop Willson of Hobart on the *Berenicia* in order to work in the new Van Diemen's Land diocese. After a short time he went to Adelaide, where he was ordained priest in 1857. Since 1851 he had studied for ordination in England with the Passionist order, then in France as a Marist novice and finally under Jesuit guidance at Sevenhill, South Australia.

He served for ten years as the first pastor in the parish of Penola, which then extended over thousands of square miles. During those years he began his scientific field work and writing. Woods was self-educated, corresponding with several noted English and Australian scientists. He wrote books on Australian exploration and on the geology of the south-east of South Australia, as well as describing the limestone deposits and caves at Naracoorte and identifying the soil around the Coonawarra region as *terra rossa*, ideal for viticulture. All this scientific work accompanied his pastoral care for the scattered Catholics of the district.

At Penola he first conceived the plan for founding a religious order of women to teach the children of the bush and underprivileged town areas. His collaborator and first recruit in 1866 was Mary MacKillop (q.v.), who was to carry forward their work as founders of the Sisters of St. Joseph. After Woods was made Director of Education in Catholic schools, moving to Adelaide in 1867, the numbers of Sisters grew quickly, staffing schools and charitable houses in Adelaide and further afield. Woods also began the Catholic paper, the *Southern Cross*.

In 1871 he went to New South Wales, chiefly to arrange for Sisters to begin teaching in the Bathurst diocese. He left Adelaide permanently in 1872 and from then until 1883 his role of priest-scientist took him through Queensland, New South Wales and Tasmania. He supervised the founding of Josephite convents in New South Wales and New Zealand, all the while working as a travelling missionary in churches from Townsville to the Huon Valley and continuing his research and writing for scientific journals and newspapers. A general naturalist, he had now begun to specialize in marine biology, palaeontology and geology. He was President of the Linnaean Society of New South Wales, a Fellow of the Geological Society of London and a Trustee of the Australian Museum.

In 1883 he was invited by the Governor of the Straits Settlements to explore possible mineral deposits in Perak and Malacca. En route through Indonesia he sent back to Sydney an eye-witness account of the eruption of Krakatoa. Besides his Malayan explorations, he travelled on vessels of the Royal Navy to Borneo, the Philippines, Hong Kong, China and Japan, returning to Port Darwin in 1886. He made some exploratory trips for the Northern Territory administration before returning to Sydney. After three years of failing health, during which he continued to write and publish, he died on 7th October 1889. His memorial at Waverley Cemetery, New South Wales, was erected by fellow scientists.

Woods produced over two hundred papers and articles, published four books and was a gifted musician and artist. His capacity for work matched his intellectual powers and his fidelity to his spiritual duties. Not always prudent, at times even stubborn, he saw himself as God-directed and was therefore impervious to criticism. A poor judge of character in others, he was sometimes misled by them. But Mary MacKillop, who perhaps knew him best, called him 'the gentle, learned priest'.



Edmund William Wright (1824-1888)

Architect

Edmund William Wright was born on 4th April 1824 near London, England, the son of Stephen Wright, who is said to have worked as the Master of Ordnance at the Tower of London. The family was of French descent and retained a summer house in the north of France, where Wright was strongly influenced by the Renaissance architecture of Paris and Touraine. He learnt the trades of architect, surveyor and engineer while articled to a borough surveyor in the London suburb of Bermondsey, and in 1849 emigrated to South Australia, where he established a business as an architect and engineer. Commissions, however, were slow in coming and Wright worked with his brother Edward as a land agent and broker, and later as an insurance agent and for a building society.

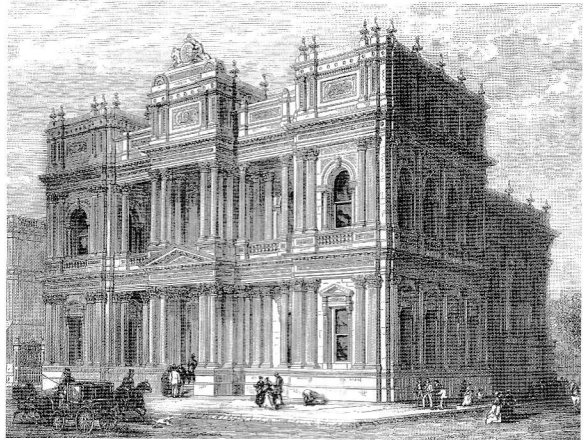
In the early 1850s he tried his luck on the Victorian goldfields, along with thousands of other hopefuls, but by 1852 had returned to Adelaide. On 26th October 1852 he married a widow, Agnes Jane Stuckey (née Rippingville), and they had four children, three of whom survived to adulthood. Architectural work for Wright slowly increased, as did his standing in the community. In 1859 he was Mayor of the City of Adelaide and by 1860 had a well established practice as well as several other interests. He was managing his brother's insurance business and was on the boards of various mining companies.

Edmund Wright was typical of the new breed of versatile Victorian architects. He was capable of designing any building --- civic, ecclesiastical, domestic or commercial --- in any style, but was most comfortable when using French or Italian Renaissance idioms. He was one of the founding members of the short-lived Society of Architects, Engineers and Surveyors, established in Adelaide in 1858. In a speech to the Society he spoke of the need to adopt an architectural philosophy reminiscent of northern Italy, given its similarity in climate and environment to Adelaide. He advocated flat roofs rather than steeply-pitched ones, lofty well-proportioned rooms for coolness, and windows 'possessing a judicious amount of decoration so as to reduce the quantity of glass without producing a gaol-like external appearance'.

Wright worked in association with a number of architects during his career and many of Adelaide's best known city buildings were designed by a practice that included him. He was the architect for 'Belmont' in Brougham Place, North Adelaide (1858), the Methodist Meeting Hall off Pirie Street (1863) and the Adelaide Town Hall (1863-66). With E.J. Woods and the Hamilton brothers, he designed St. Laurence's Church and Priory in Buxton Street, North Adelaide (1867-68), the General Post Office (1867-72) and the Jewish Synagogue (1871). He was also the co-designer of the Congregational Church in Brougham Place, North Adelaide (1861), the Bank of Adelaide at 81 King William Street (1878-80) and the west wing of Parliament House (1883-89). Wright was responsible for many other buildings outside the city area, including 'Linden' at Burnside, 'Paringa Hall' at Brighton, 'Athelney' at College Park and the Princess Royal homestead at Burra.

Perhaps the finest example of his work is the elegant Edmund Wright House, designed in conjunction with Edward Tayler and built in 1878 for the Bank of South Australia. It features marble columns and floor tiles in the entrance hall, a magnificent banking chamber with an elaborately decorated ceiling, and richly carved stonework by Scottish sculptor William Maxwell and London sculptor Joseph Durham. Threatened with demolition in 1971, it was saved by a public campaign to preserve it as one of Adelaide's irreplaceable treasures.

Wright was highly regarded by his peers and in 1886 was elected first Vice-President of the South Australian Institute of Architects. He died on 5th August 1888 and was buried at North Road Cemetery.



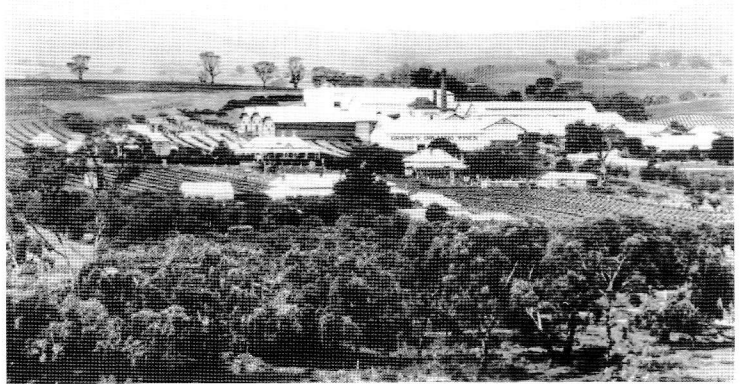
The Pioneer Vignerons

Johann Gramp (1819-1903)

Johann Gramp was born at Eichigt, near Kulmbach, Bavaria, on 28th August 1819. He emigrated to South Australia on the *Solway*, arriving at Kangaroo Island in October 1837 and working there for about a year before moving to Adelaide, where he was engaged on the construction of the South Australian Company's wharf at Port Adelaide. He then moved to a small German settlement at Hope Valley, where he farmed for several years.

In November 1846 Gramp purchased 83 acres of land for £83 at Jacob's Creek, near Rowland Flat in the Barossa Valley, and the following June he bought a further 97 acres costing him £185. His naturalization papers, which are dated 2nd May 1848, record that he was a farmer on part of the Wiltshire Special survey. Wheat was his main crop but he also planted a garden and vineyard.

Family tradition says that Gramp made his first wine, an octave of Hock, in 1850. However, the first documented evidence of his wine dates from 1859 when he exhibited at the Lyndoch Valley Agricultural and Horticultural Society Show. He was awarded a first prize for the best



collection of wine grapes, was unplaced in the class for the best wine of the 1858 vintage, in which he exhibited two wines, and obtained the first prize in the class for wine of any vintage. Grape growing was expanding rapidly in the Barossa Valley at this time and the local shows attracted large numbers of exhibitors.

Johann Gramp married Johanne Eleanore Nitschke, from Brandenburg, Prussia, on 25th November 1825. Their family comprised three daughters and four sons. The Gramps were active in the Lutheran Church, and in the 1860s Johann was a member of the Barossa East District Council, serving for a time as its Chairman. He was also one of those who proposed that a public school be established at Rowland Flat.

Gramp remained a farmer all his life but gradually increased the size of his vineyard. In 1876 he had six acres of vines and by 1892 he had extended it to eight acres. The cultivars he was growing were Hermitage, Shiraz, Mataro, Verdelho, Blanquette, Sherry (Albillo), Malaga, Black Portugal, Madeira and Pedro Ximines. In 1876 he produced 2,000 gallons of wine and his output remained around this volume for the next 30 years.

He exhibited regularly in local wine shows, winning numerous awards, though he did not show his wines at the annual Adelaide Wine Show. The best known of his products was a dry table wine of a Hock style which was sold by Adelaide wine merchant W.P. Auld under the name 'Carte Blanche'.

The Gramps' eldest son Gustav established his own vineyard at Rowland Flat in 1874 on a property he named 'Orlando'. He built large wine cellars at Orlando Vineyards in 1886 and by 1892 had 23 acres of vines, 17 of which were in full production. In that vintage he produced 3,200 gallons of wine. Production doubled to 7,500 gallons in 1903, the wines produced being Blanquette, Sherry and Mataro.

Johann Gramp died at his Rowland Flat home on 9th August 1903 and was buried at the local Lutheran cemetery. The wine business established by him and his son Gustav was still a relatively small affair at the time of Johann's death but Messrs. G. Gramp & Sons Ltd. was to grow into one of the giants of the Australian wine industry by the 1930s under the direction of Gustav's sons Hugo and Fred.