

# HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

NEWSLETTER NO. 3

APRIL, 1975

POSTAL ADDRESS BOX 203, POST OFFICE, NORTH ADELAIDE, S.A. 5006

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## NEXT MEETING

Date: Friday, May 2nd, 1975.

Time: 8.00 p.m.

Place: State Library Lecture Theatre.

Speakers: Mrs. Joy Chilman: "The History of the Monarto Area"

and

Mr. Colin Sibly: "The Rise and Fall of a Colonial Port -  
Port Elliot 1848 - 1864"

Mrs. Chilman has been interested in the Monarto area, and in the Aborigines and Aboriginal prehistory. Mr. Sibly is an Honours History graduate of the University of Adelaide, and has a deep interest in the Port Elliot story. Slides will be shown, and supper will follow the meeting.

## RESCUING HISTORY SEMINAR

Dates: Friday, 6th June, 1975, at 7.30 p.m.  
and  
Saturday, 7th June 1975, at 9.30 a.m.

Place: The University of Adelaide.

The Historical Society of South Australia, together with the Department of Adult Education, University of Adelaide, is organising a two-day seminar for members and others interested. Emphasis will be on the conservation of our national heritage in its various aspects and forms. His Excellency the Governor has kindly consented to open the seminar at 8 p.m. on the Friday evening.

We hope to have a speaker from other states and several of our local archivists will describe their activities and problems. Others will speak on oral history and industrial archaeology and we expect that members will participate in discussion after the talks. In fact, we plan to have a final discussion session on the Saturday afternoon when the audience can express its own ideas for the record (i.e. published Proceedings) and meet the lecturers on a more informal basis.

Brochures will shortly be printed and enquiries should be made to Dr. Derek Whitelock, Department of Adult Education, University of Adelaide, who asks that you mark your envelope "Rescuing History Seminar".

We hope that this occasion will fill a need felt by many of our members, and the Society's Council looks forward to meeting you there.

FIELD TRIP - GAWLER AND BEYOND

A most successful field trip was undertaken by the Society on April 5th. Dr. Michael Williams did not spare himself in explaining to two busloads of people much of the background of Gawler's history, the agricultural expansion of the post-1869 period and the Kapunda copper field. In addition, members were shown, from the range east of Salisbury, something of the traces of man in the landscape - the plain has been denuded of its Peachey Belt of trees, and successfully conquered far from its early limit of human settlement at Grand Junction Road. At Smithfield, an early village, man's impact was again noted. Here in Augusta Square nothing remains of the church which stood until about two years ago.

Dr. Williams showed us the first streets in Gawler, with their background of survey by William Light, and the churches in the squares. Adjacent to Murray Street is the site of James Martin's engineering works to bring forth visions of Gawler's earlier manufacturing enterprise, and much more besides. Beyond Gawler are Roseworthy and Owen, where more of the area's agricultural background was discussed. The party moved to the Gilbert Valley, where survey patterns are still clear, and to Kapunda, where the site of the copper mine and its surface workings was visited.

It is hard in a few lines to do justice to an excellent field trip. Those who missed out must try to persuade Dr. Williams to repeat the trip at a future date. Meanwhile they can prepare for it by reading his outstanding work The Making of the South Australian Landscape (Academic Press). Those who went on the trip would like to extend hearty thanks to him.

HISTORICAL SOCIETIES MEETING, MELBOURNE : APRIL 11 - 12, 1975.

Delegates from all the state central historical societies were invited to Melbourne on the 11th - 12th April for a seminar on the Role of Historical Societies in the National Estate. The host society was the Royal Historical Society of Victoria, which conducted the seminar most sociably and effectively in its fine rooms in the heart of Melbourne.

A reception was given on Friday evening, the highlight of the evening being a photographic exhibition by Irvine Green: "The Environment - Then and Now". On Saturday morning addresses were given by Mr. David Yencken (Chairman, the Interim Committee for the National Estate): "The National Heritage Estate Programme"; Mr. E.E. Payne (Secretary and Executive Member, Committee of Enquiry on Museums): "Is Museum Fervour a Dangerous Disease?" and Dr. F.J. Allen (Dept. of Prehistory, A.N.U.): "Preserving the National Heritage : An Exercise in the Co-ordination of Goodwill". These addresses and the discussion which followed did much to make delegates better informed about the National Estate. In the afternoon delegates from the societies discussed a number of matters, including collective action, government assistance to the societies, publishing, libraries and affiliated societies.

Perhaps a major decision was to form some kind of federal body comprising the central historical societies. The setting-up of such a body will be undertaken probably later this year. On other matters, a good deal of useful discussion took place which will be of much benefit to this Society.

PROFESSOR ERIC RICHARDS

The Society would like to offer its congratulations to one of its members, Dr. Eric Richards, who has been appointed to the second Chair of History in the School of Social Sciences at Flinders University. Dr. Richards, at present on study leave in Scotland, gave the address at the Inaugural Meeting of this Society in July last year. (The address, "History from Below", will be published in the Society's journal at the end of this year.) We hope that those who address our Society in the future can be encouraged by this example! Congratulations, Eric!

ORGANIZATION OF COFFEE AND SUPPER AT MEETINGS

In the February Newsletter a general request was made for volunteers to help the Society. We have a specific need for willing helpers to prepare coffee and supper, and to do the inevitable washing-up at meetings. Two helpers per meeting are required. Volunteers should contact the President or come forward at the next meeting. The Council is very grateful to Mrs. Sally Hopton, who has kindly offered to organize supper rosters.

Anyone interested .... ??

NOTES:

We can reproduce photographs of historical note in the Newsletter. Those interested please contact the Editor (phone 269 1951; 65 Clifton Street, Prospect).

The Fourth Biennial Conference of Australasian Historians of Early Modern Europe will be held at the University of Adelaide from 10th - 13th May, 1976. Papers are invited, and further enquiries should be directed to Dr. A. L. Martin of the History Department, University of Adelaide.

The Reference Services branch of the State Library of South Australia will supply free copies of Reference Services bibliographies on request. Bibliography No. 1/1975 is entitled "South Australian Regional History and Geography : a bibliography of published material ... compiled in the South Australian Collection", and should be of special interest to members. At the 21st April the bibliography was temporarily out of supply, but further copies were to be available shortly. Requests should be directed to The Reference Library Desk, or c/- The Reference Library, State Library of South Australia, North Terrace, Adelaide, S.A. 5000.

FORGOTTEN ARTISTS : 1836 - 1900

An exhibition of rarely seen historical drawings and watercolours by early South Australian artists is currently being held at the Historical Museum, Art Gallery of South Australia. The exhibition will be of particular interest to our members as it presents an artistic record of the colonial environment of these early settlers.

Among those artists represented are:-

Alexander Murray (1803 - 1880) who arrived in S.A. aboard "The India" in 1840, and later became the first colonist to produce biscuits on a large scale, from his factory in Coromandel Valley.

Frank H. Bartels (1867 - 1895), son of the Mayor of Adelaide, who was a member of the Society of Arts, and left for posterity a pen and ink drawing of Hallett Cove.

Joseph Hergott (1823 - 1861), who came to S.A. in 1853, and accompanied Stuart on his 1859 expedition as a naturalist.

Frederick Miller Needham (1840 - 1910), who was employed as a surveyor in the S.A. Survey Department in 1876. Much of his leisure time was devoted to landscape painting, mainly of the south-east of S.A.

Members are urged to view this exhibition while they may. The works are generally considered to be of less artistic merit than other early S.A. examples, and are thus rarely on public display.

#### CENTENARY HISTORY : WOODVILLE

The Woodville Council has announced that it intends to publish an official history of Woodville, for the City's Centenary, commencing 30th December, 1975. Miss Sue Marsden, who recently completed final Honours in History at the University of Adelaide, has been appointed writer of the History of Woodville, with acknowledgements to Miss Mabel Hardy. The history will not be restricted to Council affairs; it is intended that it should include the urban history of the interplay of social, political and economic factors and their development through time.

The Council wishes to maintain a continuing history of Woodville including the publication "Abridged History of Woodville and Local Government".

Other items of interest connected with the Centenary are as follows:

- (a) The establishment of an Historical Museum at "The Brocas", a fine old two-storey house on Woodville Road.
- (b) Brick or Clay Products Museum at Toogood Avenue, Beverley. This will include a number of dome kilns, and one round kiln.
- (c) The establishment of an obelisk to mark the first flagstaff at Semaphore Park.
- (d) The construction of a memorial horse trough at Albert Park, to commemorate early transport along the main highway.
- (e) Placing of a commemorative plaque at Port Misery.
- (f) The creation of "Woodville Day", to be celebrated annually.

#### STEAM TRAIN TRIPS

The S.A. Division of the Australian Railway Historical Society has an extensive program of trips from May until October, including visits to Victor Harbour, Taillem Bend, Clare, Angaston, Cambrai, Loxton and Kapunda. Tour circulars can be obtained on application at the front counter of the Tourist Bureau or you can be put on the mailing list by writing to Mr. B.C. Hogben, 32 Maurice Ave., Rostrevor, S.A. 5073.

#### USEFUL GUIDES

The very useful brochure "South Australian Museums and Art Galleries" is available free from the Tourist Bureau, as is "Coming Events in S.A." which, among other items, has country shows, regional festivals and centenaries. The R.A.A. have recently published "Touring Adelaide's History" which covers many parts of the metropolitan area, while their book display, and that of the National Trust, are always worth browsing through.

STEAM LIVES AT BOOLEROO

The annual rally of the Booleroo Steam and Traction Preservation Society on 6th April was a great success, with over 3,000 people attending.

Many early tractors were seen in action in the grand parade and in the regular Le Mans, Obstacle and Slow Tractor races. However, the steam vehicles take some beating and this year they included a Shand Mason Steam Fire Pump, a Yorkshire Steam Truck and a 26 ton Fowler Compound Ploughing Engine.

Another regular feature was the S.A. Penny Farthing Championship. The Society welcomes new exhibitors, who should contact the Secretary, Mr. J.W. McCallum, 16 West Terrace, Orroroo, S.A. 5431. The objects of the Society are "To foster the restoration and preservation of antique steam engines, vehicles, farm tractors and implements which show technical developments and skills of an era now past".

NEW MEMBERS

Mr. J.F. Faulf	6 Boundy Road, Highbury 5089.
Mrs. J.M. Nairn	258 Lady Gowrie Drive, Largs North 5016.
Mr. & Mrs. H. Simon	23 Harvey Street, Woodville Park 5011.
Mrs. E.H. Kwan	9 Brandreth Street, Tusmore 5065.
N. & E.M. Milburn	Scenic Court, Belair 5051.
Mrs. H.R. Pearce	9 Gumbrae Avenue, Beaumont 5066.
Mrs. R.M. Webling	Honorary Secretary, Northern Yorke Peninsula Conservation Historical Society, 18 Forster Street, Kadina 5554.
Mr. & Mrs. R.W. Glenn	11 Buchan Street, Seaton 5023.
Mr. R.J. Golding	28 Arcowie Road, Dernancourt 5075.
Mr. G.R. Addinall	7 Loch Street, Stepney 5069.
Dr. M.E. Schild	Luther Seminary, 104 Jeffcott Street, North Adelaide 5006.
Mrs. D.E. Love	6 Clarence Drive, Athelstone 5076.
Ms. J.M. Lange	73 Thorngate Drive, Belair 5052.
Ms. A.M. Dolling	23 Garden Avenue, Burnside 5066.
Mr. R.K. Hancock	City of Marion Public Library, cnr. Sturt and Seacombe Roads, Seacombe Gardens 5047.
Mr. J.R. Adam	104 Watson Avenue, Toorak Gardens 5065.
Mrs. I.M. Nesdale	9 Yalanda Street, Eden Hills 5050.
Mrs. G.J. Willcocks	17 Pultney Road, Reynella 5161.
Ms. S. Pruul	13 Tennyson Street, Medindie 5081.
Mrs. M. Eatts	Box 134, Kimba 5641.
Mrs. N. Phillips	c/- ADB, RSSS, Australian National University, Canberra, A.C.T. 2601.
Mrs. A.M. Kelly	78 West Parkway, Col. Light Gardens 5041.
Mr. & Mrs. M.L. Holding	100 Collins Street, Clearview 5085.
Mr. P.J. Wyld	11 McLachlan Avenue, Glenelg North 5045.
Mr. W.B. Pitcher	15 Osborne Street, Hackney 5069.
Senior Master, History Dept.	Elizabeth High School, Phillip Highway, Elizabeth 5112.
Mr. & Mrs. K. Ulbrich	32 Murtoa Road, Eden Hills 5050.
Mrs. C. Whelan-Shreeve	100 Collins Street, Clearview 5085.
Mr. R.J. Stuart	6 Warru Court, Kidman Park 5025.

