

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

FOUNDED 1874

P.O. Box 203, North Adelaide, S.A. 5006

Registered for posting as a publication Category "C"

NEWSLETTER No. 16.

SEPTEMBER, 1977.

NEXT MEETINGS

OCTOBER:

Date: Friday, 7th October, 1977.
Place: State Library Lecture Theatre, Institute Building,
North Terrace, Adelaide.
Time: 8.00 p.m.
Speaker: Mr. W.R. Crocker
Subject: University Life in Adelaide in the 1920's.

This evening will be one of the highlights of the year's programme. Mr. Crocker, the Lieutenant-Governor of S.A., was educated at Adelaide, Oxford and Stanford Universities. He has worked for the British Colonial Service, and for the United Nations Secretariat as Chief of its Africa Section. He was the first Professor of International Relations in the Australian National University and was a career diplomat for Australia holding High Commissioner and Ambassadorial postings.

NOVEMBER:

Date: Friday, 4th November, 1977.
Place: State Library Lecture Theatre.
Time: 8.00 p.m.
Speaker: Mrs. S. Brugger.
Subject: Australian Troops in Egypt in World War I: an Egyptian View.

It has traditionally been the argument that Australia became a 'nation' not in 1901, but in the Great War: as a result of the deeds of Australia's Army in the Middle East in particular. This has caused in recent times especially a great concentration on those men who went away and, by their 'blood sacrifice', made Australia a nation. Mrs. Brugger has concentrated on studying the impact of the AIF on Egypt, the staging post before the ANZAC Campaign. The talk should be very informative and interesting. (Members may like to read the excellent book, now published as a Penguin paperback, written by one of our Society members, Bill Grammage. The book's title is The Broken Years, and is based on the diaries and letters of A.I.F. men in World War I.)

FIELD TRIPS

1. SOUTH EAST OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

This field trip has been delayed until 1978.

2. PORT PIRIE

Members are invited to join this field trip which will leave Adelaide on Friday evening (29 April 1978) and return Sunday afternoon (1 May 1978).

The tour leader will be Ms. Nancy Robinson whose historical work on the mid-North will be well known to most members. She has recently published a history of Port Pirie under the title of Reluctant Harbour.

Highlights of the trip will include :

- (a) a tour of the city's architectural features;
- (b) a visit to the National Trust Museum;
- (c) visits to Pastoralists Point and the local cemetery;
- (d) dinner at the Royal Exchange Hotel on the Saturday night; and
- (e) an excursion into the near countryside including a viewing of the Gulf and city from the hills.

Accommodation is available (free) in the hostel at the city's Education Centre; members may prefer to stay in a hotel or hotel-motel.

If you are interested, could you please inform the Secretary in the near future at the Society's address so that further arrangements can be made. Please indicate the kind of accommodation you would prefer.

COUNCIL NEWS

The Council of the Society meets every month to deal with the administration of the Society. These following items gleaned from the Council's minutes may be of interest to members.

1. Mr. Graeme Loughlin was invited to fill a casual vacancy on the Council; which he accepted.
2. In May, Dr. John Tregenza tendered his resignation as the Editor of the Journal. The Council has since appointed Council members Dr. John Playford and Mr. Graeme Loughlin as joint editors.
3. Mr. Peter Moore has taken the position of Publicity Officer for the Society.
4. A letter was received from Justice Else-Mitchell of the Federation of Australian Historical Societies requesting the Society's participation in planning for celebrations for the 1988 bi-centenary.
5. There has been a recent boost in membership. The Society now has over 320 financial members.

PORT ADELAIDE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Founded in 1972, the Society produces a quarterly journal ("Portomian"), holds meetings on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 8.00 p.m. (United Parish Church Hall, Commercial Road, Port Adelaide) and has been campaigning steadily to protect the remarkable historic heritage of the district, especially buildings in the Lipson/Divett Streets precinct. The retention of the Semaphore Customs Boarding Station is

another recent achievement, while the Society is also represented on the National Trust's Maritime Committee which is aiming to secure a waterfront site for a maritime park.

Non-members are welcome at meetings. Potential members should send \$4.00 ordinary, \$2.00 student and pensioner or \$80.00 life to the Treasurer at Box 254 P.O., Port Adelaide, 5015.

REGISTER OF SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETIES, AUGUST 1977.

The last attempt at a comprehensive listing was published in "South Australiana" in September 1968. The Society wants to fill this gap, and would appreciate being notified of any additional groups as soon as possible.

Branches of the National Trust are not included in this list, as they are listed in the Trust's Annual Report. (Glenelg, Gawler, Morphett Vale, Tea Tree Gully and the 1836 Group are the only metropolitan branches). They were also listed in our August and October Newsletters of 1975.

Nor are natural history groups included, but a select list of those can be found in Green Guide No. 15, published by the Department for the Environment, and the 'umbrella organisation' for them is the Conservation Council of S.A. Inc.), 310 Angas Street, Adelaide, 5000. Ph. 223-4595.

When a museum is listed it indicates that one can belong to a group of people that helps to run it. (Most museums are excluded through being run by National Trust branches or private individuals.)

And finally, residents' associations are included only if they are known to have an active interest in their locality's history.

Anthropological Society of S.A., 213 Greenhill Road, Eastwood, 5063.

Australasian Maritime Historical Society, Box 33 P.O., Magill, 5072.

Australian Electric Transport Museum (S.A.) Inc., Box 2012, G.P.O., Adelaide, 5001.

Australian Railway Historical Society (S.A. Division) Inc., G.P.O. Box 507, Adelaide, 5001.

Barossa Valley Archives & Historical Trust, C/- Mr. P. Houzenroeder, Murray Street, Tanunda, 5163.

Booleroo Steam and Traction Preservation Society Inc.

Broken Hill Historical Society, P.O. Box 212, Broken Hill, N.S.W., 2880.

Geography Teachers Association, C/- S.A. Institute of Teachers, 163A Greenhill Road, Parkside, 5063.

Hindmarsh Historical Society, P.O. Box 22, Hindmarsh, 5007.

Historical Society of South Australia, Box 203, P.O., North Adelaide, 5006.

Historical Society of Woodville, C/- Municipal Offices, Box 1, Woodville, 5011.

History Teachers Association, C/- S.A. Institute of Teachers, 163A Greenhill Road, Parkside, 5063.

Kapunda Historical Society, Cogill Street, Kapunda, 5373.

Kimba & Gawler Ranges Historical Society, C/- P.O. Kimba, 5641.

Lobethal Historical Society, C/- Mrs. L.E. Miller, Lobethal, 5241.

- Loxton Historical Village Society, C/- Mrs. Krupa, 44 Wodonga Street, Loxton, 5333.
- Mallala Historical Society, C/- P.O. Mallala, 5502.
- Mile End Railway Museum (S.A.) Inc., P.O. Box 21, Walkerville, 5081.
- Military Historical Society of Australia (S.A. Branch), 480 Portrush Road, Linden Park,
5065.
- Mitcham Village Arts and Crafts Association Inc., 33 Albert Street, Mitcham, 5062.
- Mt. Lofty Ranges Association, P.O. Box 70, Aldgate, 5154.
- Mt. Lofty Ranges & Precincts Regional Park Association, P.O. Box 66, McLaren Vale,
5171.
- National Trust of S.A. Inc., 288 North Terrace, Adelaide, 5000.
- Northern Yorke Peninsula Conservation Historical Society, 18 Forster Street, Kadina, 5554.
- Pichi Richi Railway Preservation Society Inc., P.O. Box 504, Port Augusta, 5700.
- Pioneers Association of S.A., 22 Greenhill Road, Wayville, 5034.
- Port Adelaide Historical Society, Box 254, P.O., Port Adelaide, 5015.
- Port Lincoln Pioneers & Descendants Association, C/- Mrs. D. Stagg M.B.E., 18 Cook
Street, Port Lincoln, 5606.
- Preserve Kent Town Association, Daynea Hill, 29 Wakefield Street, Kent Town, 5067.
- Riverland Historical Society, Mr. G.R. Woolmer, 1 Langdon Terrace, Barmera, 5345.
- Royal Geographical Society of Australasia (S.A. Branch) Inc., C/- State Library
Buildings, North Terrace, Adelaide, 5000.
- Society for Underwater Historical Research, C/- S.A. Museum, North Terrace,
Adelaide, 5000.
- South Australian Genealogy & Heraldry Society Inc., P.O. Box 13, Marden, 5070.
- South Australian Horsediving Society, Mr. P. Williamson, Box 83, P.O., Hahndorf,
5245.
- South-Eastern Historical & Restoration Society Inc., Box 235, Naracoorte, 5271.
- Torrens Valley & District Historical Society, C/- Mr. A. Phillips, Gould Place,
Cudlee Creek, 5232.
- Uniting Church in S.A. Historical Society, Mr. J. Everett, Uniting Church Office, 33
Pirie Street, Adelaide, 5000.
- Unley Historical Society, C/- 15 Frederick Street, Unley, S.A., 5061.
- West Norwood Residents Association, Mr. R. Hammond, 23 Charles Street,
Norwood, 5067.
- West Torrens Historical Society, C/- West Torrens Library, Brooker Terrace,
Hilton, 5033.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

"Dear Sir,

I am presently engaged in research on volunteer fire fighting in South Australia prior to 1939. I am also compiling a family history on George Alexander Booker, who, between 1888 and 1907, was Superintendent of Fire Brigades in S.A..

I have spent many weeks in the State Library Archives and have obtained much useful information. However, I feel there must be vast amounts of information still to be traced elsewhere. It is in this area that I would like to seek the assistance of your members.

The attached sheet details those areas in which I am searching. Would it be possible for these details to be published in your newsletter together with a request for your members to notify me if they come across anything of potential interest?

Any assistance you may be able to provide would be greatly appreciated.

Yours etc.,

Richard Barrett. "

Members may contact Mr. Barrett at either the following address or phone number :

73 Boucaut Avenue,
KLEMZIG, S.A., 5087.

Telephone : 261 3407.

The following is the information specifically sought:

GEORGE ALEXANDER BOOKER (1854 - c.1920)

- Any references to G. A. Booker or Superintendent G.A. Booker.
- Any references to Lieutenant or Commander G.A. Booker, S.A. Naval Forces/Commonwealth Naval Forces (S.A.)
- Any references to
 - ELIZABETH MAY BOOKER (Wife),
 - WILLIAM LANE BOOKER (Son),
 - EDWARD CYPRIAN BOOKER (Son),
 - FRANK BOOKER (?)
 - FREDERICK HENRY GODDARD (Son in Law)
 - CHARLES OLDAM (OLDHAM) (Brother in Law)
- "A magnificent painting of himself (G.A. Booker) in copious uniform labelled 'His Excellency the Chief Fire Extinguisher'."
- Uniforms, badges, helmets and other fire brigade equipment.
- Photographs or drawings of any of the above.

INFORMATION SOUGHT BY MR. BARRETT (Cont'd.)VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTERS (Pre 1939)

- Any references to VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTERS
VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADES
FIRES - Outside the Metropolitan area .
- Any references to bush fires :
- | | |
|------------------|---------|
| January/February | 1839 |
| February | 1859 |
| Summer | 1880/81 |
| Summer | 1881/82 |
- Any references to prosecutions under Fire Prevention or Bush Fire Acts.
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NEWSLETTER

Members and others are reminded that there are two sections of the Newsletter in which they can participate. The "Letters to the Editor" section welcomes any short comment on the concerns of the Society, while longer articles related to the history of South Australia are also very welcome. Please feel encouraged to contribute.

As from the next Newsletter (17) the Editor will be Ms. Sue Marsden, a member of the Society's Council. Newsletter correspondence may be addressed to her C/- P.O. Box 203, North Adelaide, S.A., 5006.

The present editor, Craig Campbell would like to thank those members in the Society who have helped consistently with Newsletter items; and especially these people who helped with the collation and posting of the Newsletter :

H. Henning,	J. Dowling,	G. Campbell,
M. Cash,	R. Golding,	L. Ho,
S. Marsden,	M. Campbell,	J. Palmer,
J. Ho,	P. Moore,	G. Addinall.

MEMBERSHIP

The Society is continuing to grow and seeks the assistance of present members in recruiting new membership. For the membership fee one is entitled to attend the regular monthly meetings as well as the field trips. One also receives the Society's Newsletter and the Journal. The Journal alone, the standard of which is very high in comparison with any like Journal in Australia, is an excellent reason for membership.

The following is the schedule of fees and application form for new members. (There

are very few High School Libraries as members; one would think that with the increasing study of South Australian history in this area, membership would be a necessity).

Please tick the appropriate membership category.

Ordinary Member	\$8
Life Member	\$100
Family Membership	\$10
Country Member (50 Km from GPO)	\$5
Junior Member (Under 18)	\$4
Pensioner	\$4

Full name of applicant (Block Letters)

Mr.

Mrs.

Miss

Ms.

Address:

Postcode

Phone:

Date:

Enclosed \$

Please forward to:

The Treasurer,
 Historical Society of S.A.,
 Box 203, P.O.,
NORTH ADELAIDE, S.A., 5006.