

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA Inc.

NEWSLETTER

Founded 1974

Institute Building, 122 Kintore Avenue, Adelaide 5000

President: Mr. R.H.B. Kearns, M.B.E.

Editor: Ms. Annely Aeuckens

Registered by Australia Post Publication No. SBH 1254

No. 45

OCTOBER, 1982

CONTENTS

ARTICLES:

15 The Cremation Movement in Adelaide.....Robert Nicol

FEATURES:

- 1 Forthcoming Events (including Next Meetings)
- 4 Historical Society Affairs
- 12 New Books and Publications
- 19 Newsletter Articles
- 19 Newsletter Exchange
- 5 Notices

FORTHCOMING EVENTS - INCLUDING NEXT MEETINGS

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6: H.S.S.A. TOUR OF HISTORICAL CHURCHES

2.00 P.M. Meet at WESLEY UNITING CHURCH at the corner of Fullarton (sharp) Road and Grenfell Street, Kent Town.

⋮⋮⋮ This former Methodist church was built in 1865 and is one of the finest examples of a mid-19th century church of that tradition in Australia. Many tablets. Edmund Wright, architect.

LEADERS - Dr. Arnold Hunt and Ref. F. R. MacDonald.

2.45 P.M. ST. IGNATIUS CATHOLIC CHURCH, 137 William Street, Norwood.

Original Italian-style church opened in 1870.

LEADER - Fr. Sarafa.

3.40 P.M. FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE (to be confirmed), Pennington Terrace, North Adelaide.

Enter by road on western side of St. Peter's Cathedral. Limited parking inside.

The Society of Friends, originating in the 17th Century, has been in S.A. from the beginning. The

meeting house dates from 1840.

LEADER - to be advised.

4.30 P.M. HOLY TRINITY ANGLICAN CHURCH, North Terrace. Near Morphett Street Bridge.

This goes back to the earliest days of settlement and has many associations with the history of S.A.

LEADER - Mr. Phillip Coward and co-members.

5.15 P.M. (approx.) Disperse at close of tour.

Dr. Arnold Hunt
Tour Organiser

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 11.00 A.M. - 5.00 P.M.: NATIONAL TRUST OPEN DAY AT BEAUMONT HOUSE, 631 GLYNBURN ROAD, BEAUMONT

Bring your own lunch and picnic on the lawns. Afternoon tea and cool drinks will be served. There will be an opportunity to meet the committees and enjoy an audio visual display. Christmas books and gifts will be for sale as well. Admission: Adults \$2.00, children \$0.50 (Trust members free). Public transport: Bus 13B from Currie Street to terminus.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17: AN EVENING WITH THE MOUNT LOFTY DISTRICTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The evening will commence with a dinner at the Crafers Hotel. The meeting will then be held at the Stirling East Primary School, 51 Braeside Road, Stirling.

The following information comes from the Mount Lofty Districts Historical Society:

⚡ HISTORY

The Mount Lofty Districts Historical Society was formed in February, 1978. The area of interest roughly coincides with that of the District Council of Stirling. The Society aims to uncover, preserve and publish the history of the Mount Lofty Districts. This is being achieved by research, photography, interviewing of residents, collection of documents, meetings, etc. The Society, by a close association with the District Council of Stirling, supports the local community by providing speakers for meetings, co-operating with centenary and other celebrations and provides access to its research collection.

The Society has received financial and other support from the District Council of Stirling. Particular mention should be made of the grant received from the Council in 1981/82 to employ a research assistant to work towards the compilation of a published history of the district, to coincide with the South Australian Jubilee celebrations in 1986. The grant has been renewed for 1982/83.

⚡ DINNER

The Crafers Hotel, the venue for the 6.00 p.m. dinner before the meeting, was opened in 1839 by David Crafer as the 'Sawyers Arms'. In the early days, the Mount Lofty Range was named 'The Tiers' because of its appearance from the plains. "Crafer's Place in the Tiers" catered for the sawyers and splitters who worked in the Stringy Bark Forest, as that part of the Tiers around Crafers was called, for gardeners and small farmers who established their plots in the area, and for numerous travellers eastwards from Adelaide.

It is requested that all wishing to attend the dinner inform the Secretary of the Mount Lofty Districts Historical Society, Mrs. E.

Campbell (339 3163) by FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH so that a booking can be made.

⚡ THE MEETING

The meeting, which will commence at 8.00 p.m., will include an introduction by the President of the Mount Lofty Districts Historical Society, Professor C. J. Horne, a brief history of the Society, "The World of the Tiersmen" by Mr. Robert Martin, questions and discussion, a photographic display, and finally supper. The meeting should conclude at about 10.30 p.m.

⚡ THE SPEAKER

Mr. Robert Martin, who was appointed research assistant to the Society in November 1981, gained a First Class Honours Degree in History at the University of Adelaide in 1977. One of his Honours specialisations was Australian History and Historiography. In his undergraduate studies English was his second major, and he is currently writing a doctoral thesis on "British Imperialist Ideas about the Romans". His interests include family history, Amnesty International and work with the elderly. He is a member of the H.S.S.A. and of the Australasian Modern British History Association.

⚡ TRANSPORT

The bus and train services are not designed for this sort of outing, however, the 825 bus from the City (Grenfell Street), departing at 5.15 p.m. via the freeway arrives at Crafers at 5.50 p.m. Times and routes are not convenient for travel to and from the Stirling East Primary School, car (or private bus) transport is thus recommended. <N.B. H.S.S.A. members - if you are willing to transport others or are in need of transport, please ring Stephanie Moss, H.S.S.A. Secretary, on 268 5486 by the 10th of November.>

⚡ DIRECTIONS FROM ADELAIDE

To the Crafers Hotel

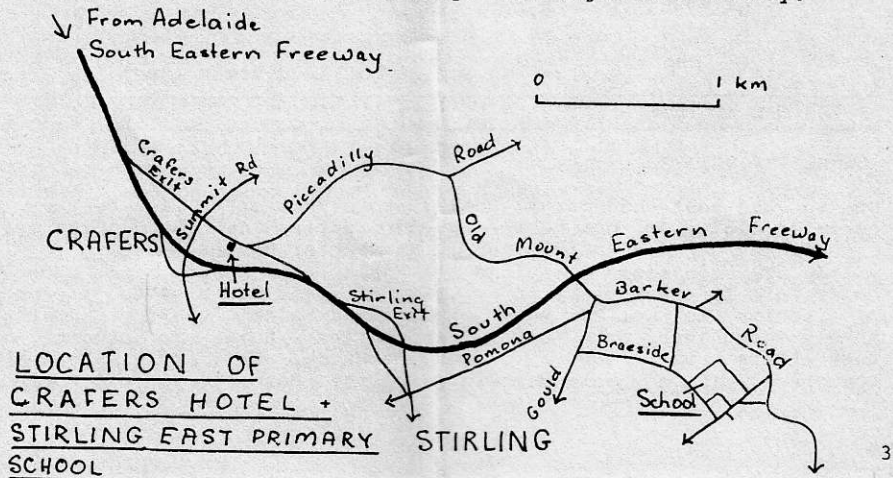
Take the South East Freeway; then the Crafers exit; cross Summit Road to Main Street of Crafers. Crafers Hotel is on the right.

To Stirling East Primary School

From the Crafers Hotel; take the Piccadilly Road; turn right at the Monument along Old Mount Barker Road; cross over Freeway; take the first turn right (Gould Road); then the first turn left (Braeside Road). The School is on the left.

Return to Adelaide

Via Old Mount Barker Road, Piccadilly Road through Crafers; turn left along Summit Road; cross over Freeway; turn right onto Freeway.



MAY 20-23, 1983: AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF ARCHIVISTS FOURTH BIENNIAL
CONFERENCE, GROSVENOR HOTEL, ADELAIDE

From Friday 20th May to Monday 23rd of May, 1983, Archivists, Record Managers, Librarians, Historians, Genealogists and others interested in the creation, care, use and preservation of records are invited to take part in the programme of lectures, workshops, and discussions in the areas of their special interests.

A variety of standards of accommodation is available at rates currently between \$27.00 and \$54.00 per single (bed only) <twin and three bed are also available>.

The conference theme is FUTURE TRENDS. The Society's Biennial General Meeting will be held on Friday 20th and will be followed by the official opening and presidential address in the evening. A feature of the programme for Saturday, which is intended to appeal to professional Archivists as well as a wider audience, is a formal DEBATE: "THE GROWTH OF INTEREST IN GENEALOGY HAS IMPROVED THE LOT OF ARCHIVES IN AUSTRALIA". This will be supplemented by papers relating to future trends in historical research, aspects of management, and terminology. Monday's programme will be more oriented towards the needs of practising Archivists but it is not intended to scare other delegates away. Subjects to be dealt with include creation of records by Electronic Data Processing, electronic devices as tools of the Archivist, co-operation in the field of storage, preservation and the use of obsolete equipment, priorities and allocation of resources. Time has been set aside on both Saturday and Monday for group discussion.

Sunday has been designated a free day to allow delegates time for social interaction, and first or last meetings for the various incoming and outgoing sub-committees. A conference dinner will be held on Saturday night. A programme of informal tours of Archives Repositories and visits is being arranged for Tuesday for those delegates who wish to stay on.

The Archivists will be delighted to welcome other delegates, who are interested in exchanging views on the problems facing both Archivists and Users. Registration forms, detailing the programme and charges, and further enquiries should be addressed to

THE CONVENOR,
1983 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE,
P.O. BOX 119,
WALKERVILLE. S.A. 5081.

G. R. Smith
Secretary

Australian Society of Archivists (Adelaide Branch)

HISTORICAL SOCIETY AFFAIRS

NEWSLETTER ROSTER

Due to the cost of Journal No.10, this Newsletter will be the last one for 1982. As one measure to cut publishing costs next year, Council has decided to institute a Newsletter Roster.

You are, therefore, invited to join the Roster, not just to contribute to the Society in a time of need but also to give you an opportunity to get to know other members and they you. Although Annely Aeuckens, the Newsletter Editor, hopes to produce six newsletters for 1983 (January, March, May, July, September, November), if adequate members join the Roster, you may only be

called upon once in the year.

The Newsletter Roster will fold newsletters, put them into envelopes and sort envelopes into postcode order for Australia Post. These chores are now being done by our Printer, Mr. Trevor Halls, who is only too willing to part with them.

I will be pleased to hear from any members, who accept the invitation to join the Roster, on 268 5486.

Stephanie Moss

NOTICES

A SOUTH AUSTRALIANA LIBRARY

The Minister of Local Government, Mr. Murray Hill recently announced the proposed establishment of a South Australiana library in the Jervois Wing of the State Library. This new library will bring together in one building South Australian books, periodicals, newspapers, photographs, private archival records and manuscripts as a focus for historical research. Mr. Hill said in his media statement that

"awareness of the escalating interest among South Australians in matters of historical research and family history prompted the development of the concept".

Such a centralisation of some of the major collections relating to the study of South Australia's history will be more convenient for researchers and facilitate access to vital source materials.

An Implementation Committee, including representatives from the Libraries Board and the History Trust of South Australia, has been established to plan the development of the new library. The Libraries Board and the History Trust have pledged support for the proposal that the South Australiana Library be located in the Jervois Wing. The use of the Wing for this purpose is in keeping with the spirit of the Edwards Report and it is hoped that the South Australiana Library will become a vital component of the North Terrace cultural complex. The official opening date of the South Australiana Library is expected to be in 1984, the centenary year for the Libraries Board and exactly one hundred years after the original opening of the Jervois Wing on December 18th, 1884.

The first practical moves towards its development have already been initiated within the State Library organisation and will almost immediately result in an improved service. These moves centre on a re-organisation of the Library's Newspaper Section. South Australian newspapers, along with the Newspaper Microfilming Project, have become the responsibility of the South Australian Collection. Australian and overseas newspapers and current newspapers in the Newspaper Reading Room will be administered jointly with the Periodicals Collection.

From the end of October or early November, the "Dickensian" surroundings of the Newspaper Research Area will no longer be used for newspaper research enquiries. South Australian newspaper research enquiries will be directed to the South Australian Collection reading room. Indexes, microfilm readers and desks will be re-located there, and newspapers brought to the South Australian Collection reading room for enquirers upon request.

Similar arrangements will be made for research enquiries relating to Australian and overseas newspapers. These will be handled through

staff at the Periodicals desk while items will be used in what is currently the government publications area in the basement of the Jervois Wing.

The usual service for current newspapers will continue to be offered through the Newspaper Reading Room.

Specific dates for implementation of these changes are not yet available but publicity leaflets have been prepared for distribution when the date is confirmed.

Apart from the advantages of bringing South Australian newspapers together with other similar South Australian publications, users of the South Australian Collection will benefit from an extension of the hours of opening to include Saturdays from 9.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.

E. Durward

South Australian Collection Librarian

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL HISTORIANS

An awareness of the need for society to know its past has developed into a social and cultural movement across the nation. Communities are seeking their cultural heritage and are concerned with preserving their history.

Local, State and Federal Governments recognise the importance of conservation and heritage studies undertaken by the professional historian, who identifies buildings and areas of historical interest. Furthermore assessments are made of the environmental and cultural impact of large construction projects.

Many existing problems within communities are researched by the professional historian. The historical method presents and explains the human factor. Why things happen and why things are as they are. Knowing and understanding the history of housing, race relations, land use, transportation, water systems, public works, etc., provides a valuable link between the past and the planned future.

Not only government agencies employ the professional historian but the business world is becoming aware of the importance of historical analysis. This diagnostic tool helps to understand past policies and current problems. Corporate histories provide prestige and useful advertising data.

Professional historians explore public records, court documents, newspaper accounts, census records, church documents, administrative rulings and correspondence, committee reports, private letters, political utterances, oral testimony, family records and literary and artistic production.

Materials are scattered in public and University libraries, State repositories, newspaper archives, and many other locations. Expertise is required to locate and identify the appropriate documents. A qualified historian has this expertise and deploys it in the interest of historical knowledge and to the benefit of the community and the employer.

The South Australian Association of Professional Historians is the focus for a qualified and dedicated group of professionals.

The Association aims to:

- ⊕ Create public awareness of the skills and expertise of professional historians.
- ⊕ Encourage and maintain professional standards of historical research and writing.
- ⊕ Insist that all work is conducted in accordance with its code of

ethics.

- ⊗ Provide mutual support for and co-operation among its members.
- ⊗ Generate employment for its members.

The Association publishes a regular newsletter and holds business and work-in-progress meetings each month. It also maintains a register of members, who are available for long-term, short-term or casual employment.

Members work within the community at large rather than in academic institutions. They are employed in their professional capacity by Government Agencies or in private practice. They are proficient in the research and writing of historical projects, whether as individuals or as members of a team.

Members are experienced in all aspects of historical studies:

- Family History;
- Local and Regional Histories;
- Institutional and Corporate History;
- Social, Political and General History;
- Heritage and Conservation Studies; and,
- in the production of Displays, Exhibitions and Reports.

Services offered by the Association to members and clients include advice on

- Negotiation of contracts;
- Copyright Law;
- Management of Projects;
- Printing, Publication, Costing;
- Professional fees.

Members are available to lecture to interested groups on the professional approach to the writing and research of history.

Membership application forms may be obtained from the offices of

THE HISTORY TRUST,
INSTITUTE BUILDINGS,
122 KINTORE AVENUE,
ADELAIDE S.A. 5000.

HISTORY TRUST OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Since its establishment by Act of Parliament in March 1981, the History Trust has maintained a low public profile. It took until December to assemble its core head office staff, and a full-time Director was appointed only early in 1982.

In the meantime it has had an enormous range of issues to deal with. Two of the biggest are the reorganisation of the Birdwood Mill and the planning for the redevelopment of the colonial buildings behind the S.A. Museum and the State Library. Details of these plans, along with information on the Trust's overall planning, which is intended to be finalised by December, will feature in future issues of the Newsletter.

The two most interesting recent developments are the Trust takeover of Shubert's Farm (Monarto), which will be developed as a 1920s farm museum, from the 1st of October and a grant scheme for museums (see below).

Meanwhile, while the Trust is not yet highly visible, it does believe that it is laying solid foundations for what is clearly going to be a most exciting decade of history-related activity in this State.

Currently the trust's head office professional staff comprise:

Dr. Peter Cahalan - Director

Dr. John Tregenza - Historian
Mr. Brian Samuels - Information Officer
Mr. Geoff Wilson - Acting Administrative Officer
Mr. Geoff Speirs - Museums Officer
Ms. Kathleen Patitsas - Research Assistant (part time)

MUSEUMS ACCREDITATION AND GRANTS PROGRAMME

A \$100,000 budget has been set aside for this scheme and the History Trust of South Australia has appointed a Museum Accreditation and Grants Committee, with representatives from the Departments of Tourism and the Arts, in addition to the State Branch of the Museums Association of Australia and Trust staff to implement it.

The present thinking of the committee is that there should be a system of accreditation, which would precede any grants, providing museums with incentives to develop along sound guidelines and also leading to critical self-evaluation on their part. Another is that museums should be given a period of grace before stringent criteria are applied. Two levels of accreditation have thus been proposed: provisional accreditation, which will last for three years and require museums to meet relatively minimal criteria, and accreditation, which is a much tougher hurdle that museums will face in three years' time.

Three booklets will be produced in respect of the scheme:

1. An information booklet, setting out how the scheme will work and what the criteria for both levels of accreditation will be;
2. An application for provisional accreditation;
3. An application for project grants.

The Committee will provide all museums affected by the scheme with copies of the booklets, with 31 December being the deadline for applications.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL MUSEUM OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The Constitutional Museum recently celebrated its second birthday. In the past year, this museum of South Australia's political history has been visited by over 100,000 local, interstate and overseas guests.

Exhibitions at the Museum, both 'in-house' and those organised by outside groups, have aroused interest and often controversy. One time local 'madam' Stormy Summers opened a Speakers Corner display about prostitution, which attracted large crowds and the inevitable outrage of the Festival of Light. A similar response greeted the display "Becoming Visible", the history of homosexuality in South Australia.

Other exhibitions have included "Who was Edith Hubbe?", tracing the life of one woman, and demonstrating research techniques; "Votes for Women"; "Land Rights Now"; the histories of both Liberal and Labor parties; "Who owns the Murray?", "Artists against Uranium". The audio-visual presentation "Bound for South Australia" is the longest-running film in Adelaide. It has been shown 62 times a week since the Museum opened.

Two exhibitions planned for the near future will examine South Australia's defence systems at two periods in its history, "Colonial Defence" will look at Britain's efforts to defend its colony from foundation to federation. Modern-day enthusiasts from Fort Glanville will add colour to the opening celebrations for this exhibition.

"Australians or Aus-aliens?" will jog people's consciences about the treatment of German settlers during World War I. All school children in South Australia are taught about the internment of Germans at the Torrens Island concentration camp, and the anglicising of names of several German towns. Is our treatment of migrants today very much different?

A major project over the next few months is the co-ordination of "Election 1893", an event to be held in conjunction with Come Out, the Youth Performing Arts Festival, in May next year. School children throughout South Australia (and possibly also the Northern Territory) will re-enact the elections of 1893, and will actually vote for their representatives. Issues faced then included votes for women and the drought, very topical! A similar event during Come Out in 1981, "Election 1855" was a great success.

The Constitutional Museum, has become not only a popular tourist attraction but also a major educational tool in showing the public that history can be anything but dull and dusty. We hope the next two years will be as exiting and yes, as controversial, as the first two.

Reprinted from:

Muse News, September, 1982.

(Muse News is the journal of the Council of Australian Museum Associations.)

THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL DICTIONARY: A DICTIONARY OF AUSTRALIAN ENGLISH ON HISTORICAL PRINCIPLES

A number of recently published dictionaries have provided some coverage of Australian English - particularly those in the Collins and Macquarie families. One might ask, then, why another?

The Australian National Dictionary, scheduled for publication in 1988, will differ from these general reference dictionaries in two respects: it will contain only distinctively Australian words and phrases, and it will display the history of these words and phrases in illustrative citations drawn from Australian writings and arranged chronologically. Thus a word like 'wowser', probably first used by John Norton in the Sydney Truth in 1899, will first be defined, and its use then illustrated by citations which will demonstrate any changes in meaning over the years and will be, in themselves, an anthology of Australian life and culture. The need for such a dictionary can be gauged from the fact that there is as yet no one book in which the full histories of even such commonly used Australian words as those in the first verse of "Waltzing Matilda" - 'swagman', 'billabong', 'coolibah', 'billy' and 'waltzing matilda' - can be found.

It is obviously crucial to the success of this dictionary that it should have drawn as fully as possible on the range of source material available. The dictionary will have about 15,000 headwords and will need to be based on about 500,000 illustrative citations. Collecting began in 1978 and, to date, some 200,000 sentences have been collected from over 5,000 books and newspapers. The dictionary is supported by the Australian National University, where it is housed, and by the Australian Research Grants Scheme. But if it is to be published in 1988, more assistance will be needed.

The sheer bulk of material which might usefully be read is obviously a major problem. We have found that newspapers are particularly useful, but their reading particularly time-consuming. As an example, one trained reader can scan in one day up to three months' issues of Truth: but Truth, a weekly and not a daily

newspaper, runs for over 60 years.

The dictionary staff are reading their way through an extensive bibliography but are unlikely to be able to cope with the huge numbers of newspapers, particularly regional newspapers, in which evidence might be found. We are therefore seeking the help of members of historical societies throughout Australia who might be prepared either to act as voluntary readers on runs of local papers or to give some assessment of source materials with which, in the course of other reading, they have become familiar.

We would be grateful if anyone interested in helping would write to the Editor, Dr. W. S. Ramson, Department of English, The Australian National University, P.O. Box 4, Canberra, A.C.T. 2600. It would be useful if those writing in gave some indication of areas of relevant experience as well as of the particular newspapers and other material they might be willing to read. It goes without saying that any help given will receive proper acknowledgement in the dictionary when it is published.

Dr. W. S. Ramson

AUSTRALIAN BIOGRAPHICAL & GENEALOGICAL RECORD: A BICENTENNIAL RESEARCH & PUBLISHING PROJECT

AN INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE

The Australian Biographical and Genealogical Record is a non-profit, independent research unit established to co-ordinate and compile biographical and genealogical details about Australians. It will also be the name of the published works of the Project, which will be issued as a multi-volume set of reference books of lasting value and will be a fitting way to commemorate Australia's Bicentennial in 1988.

Research Advisory Committees are being established in each State and in New Zealand to co-ordinate local research or to liaise with groups already engaged in biographical projects. The Unit is aware of the S.A. Genealogy & Heraldry Society's Jubilee project but our reason for wishing to make the ABGR project known is so that those people now living in South Australia whose ancestors may have arrived in many other parts of Australia, particularly those who came prior to 1842, can be made aware of it. We do not intend to duplicate material that is being produced by the S.A.G&H.S. but will, in fact, be cross-referencing it in the ABGR as a published work.

SCOPE OF THE PROJECT

Series 1: A Pocket Biography on each person who lived in Australia before 31 December 1841. These will be compiled from two major sources:-

- (a) Information submitted by descendants or other interested persons, please register all eligible persons from your records including children;
- (b) From the transcription of major source records by the Project's research team.

Volumes will be published progressively and entries, alphabetically per volume, will be included on an earliest received/first published basis. Concise Biographies in the above time scale will also be published in Series 1, if they are sponsored by the contributor (see Costs), these may include a photograph.

Series 2: Pocket or Concise Biographies (with photograph of subject where extant), on any Australian submitted and sponsored by individuals, as edited by ABGR. The subject must have

arrived in or been born in Australia after 1841 and must be deceased. All biographies in this Series will need to be financially sponsored. Volumes will be published progressively with entries appearing alphabetically in each volume. A master index will be produced in 1988. Early registration will ensure inclusion in the first volume, which will appear in 1983. As only a limited number of volumes will form Series 2, late entries will be rejected.

Series 3: Group Biographies, i.e. Pioneers of a particular district or professional, ethnic or social group.

Series 4: Associated projects, i.e. Biographical works being compiled by companies, community groups or private individuals who wish to publish their own material but who would like their volume to form part of an overall Biographical Series for the Australian Bicentennial.

POCKET AND CONCISE BIOGRAPHIES

A Pocket Biography will contain up to 130 words, compiled from information submitted on the special Biographical Detail Forms supplied to contributors. A Concise Biography will commence with the same details as a Pocket Biography, followed by additional material written by the contributor. The maximum length will be 750 words.

YOUR PARTICIPATION

This is your opportunity to see in print the results of your research. Your participation, information and sponsorship will aid the creation of a series of reference works of national importance.

To assist with administrative costs a small annual fee is charged for Associate Membership. This will help cover the cost of maintaining a Register of Interests, printing the Biographical Detail Forms, which will be sent to you after your registration, postage, and two News Bulletins per year reporting the progress of the Project.

ADMINISTRATION

The ABGR is administered by an Executive Committee. Its Constitution dictates that on completion of the Project, all property, including research records, will be transferred to the Society of Australian Genealogists and similar bodies interstate in the case of locally collected material.

COSTS

(Subject to revision)

Associate Member's
Annual Fee.....\$4.00
Pocket Biography.....FREE in Series 1 (i.e. to 1841)
(No restriction on number of registrations)
\$15.00 in Series 2 (i.e. after 1841)
Concise Biography.....\$30.00 per Half page (either Series)
(Registration free and without obligation)
Photograph.....\$15.00 (either series)

N.B. Where more than one contributor sponsors the same subject person, they may elect to share the costs.

For registration forms and other correspondence, please write to:

AUSTRALIAN BIOGRAPHICAL & GENEALOGICAL RECORD
P.O. BOX 795

NORTH SYDNEY N.S.W. 2060

Malcolm Sainty
Secretary ABGR

HUTS OF THE HIGH COUNTRY

by

Klaus Hueneke

"A colourful mosaic of anecdotes, bush verse, personal impressions and historical facts about the huts and homesteads scattered throughout the Snowy Mountains of New South Wales, and the personalities who built and used them in earlier days. They recall the days of droving on Kiandra butterpats, feuding, loss of life in blizzards and miners buried in their own tunnels.

The character of the huts reflects 150 years of mountain occupation. The gold and tin miners preferred compact weatherboard shacks, the squatters rambling homesteads, the stockmen opted for slab huts with dirt floors and the Snowy Mountain Authority surveyors built air and weather pre-fabs. All are different, all have a unique life story.

Today the miners and stockmen of old have been replaced by bushwalkers, ski tourers, fishermen, horse riders and others. To them the huts mean shelter, comfort and warmth, where they boil the billy, dry out wet gear or rest. A map shows their locations.

The charm and character of the huts and life in an isolated mountain setting are captured in over 150 dramatic black and white photographs."

Available for \$3.00 from

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY PRESS,
P.O. BOX 4,
CANBERRA. A.C.T. 2600.
Telephone: (062) 49 2812.

If using cheque or money order, etc., please add postage and packing. The surface mail rate within Australia for a single copy is \$1.20.

* * * *

AUSTRALIAN CONSERVATION FOUNDATION PUBLICATIONS

ACF publications range from beautifully illustrated books and magazines for the general reader to conference reports and in-depth studies of special areas.

Listed below are some recent releases, which can be ordered from the ACF, let them know if you would like further information on publications or membership.

"Australia's Natural Heritage - a spectacular book dealing with 99 areas given top rating by the ACF. Detailed accounts of landscapes, plants and animals, with 119 colour photographs, 161 black and white photographs and 94 maps...\$37.

The World of Olegas Truchanas - now in its seventh edition, this widely acclaimed book is a hallmark in Australian publishing history. A magnificent collection of photographs including 44 full colour plates. The Lake Pedder photographs alone make this a book collector's must...\$33.50.

Rainforest Habitat - a selection of the best articles and superb full colour rainforest photographs that have appeared in the ACF's magazine "Habitat Australia". This book is recommended to anyone concerned about the fight to rescue our rainforests...\$4.50.

Power in Tasmania - Peter Thompson's informative book is essential

reading for anyone with an interest in the politics of energy, wilderness and resources...\$19.95 hardcover; \$13.95 soft cover.

The South West Book - an invaluable reference source for anyone wishing to gain insight into why Tasmania's South West has become a burning national issue. Covering history and pre-history, the natural environment, recreation, industry and conservation. Over 400 illustrations and features a large colour map of the area...\$17.99 hardcover; \$12.70 soft cover.

Habitat Australia - the bi-monthly colour magazine of the ACF which provides information on environmental issues, together with high quality colour photographs. Subscription (1 year - 6 issues): General public \$18.00; ACF member rate \$15.00.

ACF Newsletter - Monthly newsletter and annual report giving current reports and background information on national conservation issues: Annual subscriptions: Organisations (including libraries) \$25.00; Individuals \$18.00; Student/pensioners \$8.00.

The New Green Pages - is the only Australian directory of Non-Government environmental groups. It lists over 800 groups with a total membership of 487,807. The interests of these groups cover the whole spectrum of environment concerns from local to international. The size of the groups is similarly far ranging from a handful of members to those with several thousands.

Since the publication of the last edition in 1978, entries have expanded in detail, i.e. contact persons and telephone numbers are included plus membership figures, newsletters and/or journal published.

The directory is an invaluable source for other environmental groups, public libraries, government departments, educational institutions, individuals and overseas organisations. It is also a useful source for information and a practical aid for both government and conservation bodies. (Incorporated in the 1982 edition are ACF policies and recommendations). Copies are available at \$15.90 including postage."

ACF ORDER FORM

(All prices include postage)

Title	Price	Quantity	Amount
<u>Australia's Natural Heritage</u>	\$37.00		
<u>The World of Olegas Truchanas</u>	\$33.50		
<u>Rainforest Habitat</u>	\$4.50		
<u>Power in Tasmania</u> - hard cover.....	\$19.95		
- soft cover.....	\$13.95		
<u>The South West Book</u> - hard cover.....	\$17.99		
- soft cover.....	\$12.70		
'Habitat Australia' magazine			
annual subscription - non-member rate....	\$18.00		
- member rate.....	\$15.00		
Membership/Newsletter			
annual subscription - ordinary.....	\$18.00		
- organisation.....	\$25.00		
- pensioner/student...\$8.00			
<u>The New Green Pages</u>	\$15.90		

Please make cheques/ money orders payable to:

Australian Conservation Foundation

Send completed form to:

The Australian Conservation Foundation,
672b Glenferrie Road,
Hawthorn. VIC. 3122.

Telephone: (03) 819 2888

THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE
DEPARTMENT OF CONTINUING EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Our Built Heritage - edited by Jim Warburton

"There is nothing new about our attachment to places. Indeed, our unsurpassing heritage of the written word shows that as long as we have articulated our feelings, we have been preoccupied with places as well as with people.

These special feelings for buildings and settings are impossible to measure in heritage surveys or properly to estimate when preparing heritage registers. The best one can hope is that such intimate feelings are transmitted to a younger generation or that they become transmuted into the actions of an enlightened government. More generally they are the kinds of feelings which inform the best endeavours of bodies like the National Trust, which sparked into effective action the ANZ Bank Defence Committee and which made politically possible in the mid-1970s the establishment of Government Heritage Commissions and Heritage Units.

Not that planning regulations and heritage units can ever be enough as you will read in this book. Comprehensive care of our built environment needs as well, sensitive architects to design new structures in harmony with the old. It needs bodies like the South Australian Housing Trust and entrepreneurs effectively restoring domestic buildings that would never be considered for a heritage list. It needs imaginative architects and developers to see that it makes good economic as well as environmental sense to transform factories and offices and warehouses into schools.

Our Built Heritage examines these issues and discusses examples of successful preservation. It also considers the question of what to do if you cannot find new uses for old buildings which are architecturally interesting, which have been made to last and which have been fashioned with loving care."...\$5.00 plus postage.

Martindale Hall - by Elizabeth Warburton. The history of the Bowman Family and how they came to build Martindale Hall...\$8.95 plus postage.

Southern Heritage - edited by David Corbett & John Sibley. Containing important features of South Australia's natural and built environment...\$6.00 plus postage.

Alitji in the Dreamtime - adapted & translated by Nancy Sheppard & illustrated by Byron S. Sewell. A Pitjanjatjara and English version of Lewis Carroll's story 'Alice in Wonderland'...\$6.75 plus postage.

Darwin and evolution - by David Corbett. Darwin's life and work and impact on mid-nineteenth century science and society...\$3.00 plus postage.

Heritage Walks - edited by Ron Gibbs & Derek Whitelock. Adelaide's historical buildings, exploring Adelaide's heritage on foot....\$6.00 plus postage.

Planning Issues in Adelaide - Edited by Jim Warburton. Views of planners, architects, environmentalists, councillors, etc...\$4.00 plus postage.

Please make cheques/postal orders payable to:

The Department of Continuing Education,
The University of Adelaide,
G.P.O. Box 498,

Adelaide. 5001.

or call at the above office Level 4, Wills Building,
The University of Adelaide.
Telephone: 228 5014.

THE CREMATION MOVEMENT IN ADELAIDE

The last major development to affect the West Terrace Cemetery in the 19th century was the movement to make provision for cremation rather than burial. This was very much influenced by the poor reputation which the cemetery had developed, the continuing poor conditions for burial and the problem of overcrowding which even the re-use of old sites seemed unable to solve. In the 1890s these problems became a topic for parliamentary discussion.

PARSONS' CREMATION BILL, 1890

In 1890 the Hon. J. L. Parsons put before parliament a Cremation Bill. Parsons had himself conducted an extensive investigation into the question of cremation and the degree of public demand for and acceptance of what he called "permissive cremation". In parliament he argued that cremation was

"A subject of great practical importance, involving the question of hygiene, and receiving the most earnest attention of the most advanced sanitary reformers of this progressive age".

He then went on to a detailed exposition of the problem of disposing of decayed matter, using as his basic reference the work of Sir Henry Thompson in England. Parliamentarians were also blessed with a summary of the disposal methods used by other civilizations. Parsons then contrasted the romantic notion, prevalent in South Australia, of the sleeping dead, with the actual situation.

"The body must putrefy, decay and return to the constituent elements of the earth. When we thought of it, nothing could be more loathsome".

The case for cremation to replace or at least provide an alternative to this was, he argued, incontestable.<1>

A cremation society had already been formed in England by the time Parsons placed his bill before the South Australian legislature. In Vienna, a crematorium had been built and various appliances developed for "reducing the body rapidly to ashes". Parsons recognized that there had been some opposition in England to the concept of cremation despite the work of people like Thompson. In fact the question had finally been tested in the courts where Mr. Justice Stephens had judged that the disposal of the dead by burning was perfectly legal so long as no nuisance resulted to any person. To provide added sanction a bill was put before the House of Commons, and though it was not passed, it received considerable support and further popularised the notion of cremation. Parsons quoted these facts at length and also the work of other leading English supporters of cremation such as Dr. Cameron, M.P. for Glasgow, Sir Lyon Playfair, Dr. Edmund Parkes, professor of military hygiene, and Sir Spencer Wells, one of the leading physicians in England. He stressed the sanitary benefits of cremation and also rejected the argument that it was unchristian, quoting a number of prominent English churchmen to support his case.

"The only serious objection raised to the universal adoption of cremation was the possible destruction of all traces of crime by the consignment of the bodies to the crematorium".

Parson's bill, however, made allowance for this. Nobody could be cremated except at the express will of the person who died or his or her friends or relatives. Before

the cremation took place, there would have to be two certificates from medical men, one from the physician who had attended the deceased and another from the physician who had been called in and had certified that death was the result of natural causes.

The over-riding principle of Parson's bill was that cremation should be permissive and that the right to please themselves on the matter should be conceded to the public. In this form, it received the support of the government. The Chief Secretary, Sir J. C. Bray, argued that few people would avail themselves of cremation at present, but that the feeling in favour of this method of disposing of the dead was growing. Bray agreed that all members were

"anxious to pay respect to the dead, but a still higher duty was to respect and look after the living, and undoubtedly if the dangers of the present system were as great as had been represented, it was the bounden duty of Parliament to consider how best to do away with them".

However some reservations were expressed by some members about rushing the bill through before the views of the people were consulted and debate was adjourned.

The Cremation Bill continued its path through the South Australian parliament and was debated in the House of Assembly in October 1891.<2> Its champion in this House was the Hon. J. H. Gordon, who said

"the Bill dealt with the disposal of the mortal body after the curtain had run down in the last act. It was generally admitted that the present mode of dealing with the dead might lead to serious consequences, and the Bill proposed to resort to another method".

Again it was stressed that the Bill was permissive and that it covered all the possible difficulties. On October 21, 1891, the Cremation Bill was passed by the House of Assembly and received the Governor's assent on December 19th.

THE CREMATION ACT, 1891

The South Australian act is itself quite interesting. It was styled "An Act to Regulate the process of Cremation" (Act No.520, Dec.19, 1891). It provided firstly for the establishment of a crematorium by any person,

"provided the site and plans of such crematorium be approved by the Board of Health...and that the apparatus to be employed for cremation be also approved by such Board".

A crematorium could only be used if it was licensed by the Governor and strict conditions were laid out for the issue of such licences. The act also stipulated that cremation would only be legal if it were carried out in a licensed crematorium, and again strict regulations were to be adhered to before the actual cremation could take place. A "Cremation Permit" was necessary, and this would only be issued on production of two medical certificates relating to the cause of death or after a post mortem or a coroner's inquest showed that the body was not required for further examination. The penalty for non-compliance with these provisions was £500 and/or up to 2 years' gaol. Most of the further provisions related to ensuring that no crime could be concealed by cremation, the possibility of crematoria being sited in existing cemeteries and the fixing and publication of cremation fees.

THE ADELAIDE CREMATION SOCIETY

Despite this apparently promising start, the cremation movement languished somewhat for the next decade. The government had supported the legislation of cremation, but was unwilling to provide the money needed to establish a crematorium according to the Act. This was left to private citizens and to a group which had been established while the original bill was before parliament. This group was the Adelaide Cremation Society. The society was started with what its 1903 chairman, Mr. G. Marks, called

"pure benevolent and patriotic motives, and with no idea of making it dividend paying".<3>

The society began by promoting the idea of cremation, seeking new members and calling for donations so that a crematorium could be built. Prominent Adelaide philanthropist, Robert Barr-Smith, donated £1,000 to the cause, but the biggest difficulty was that of finding a suitable site.

THE ADELAIDE CREMATORIUM, 1903-1969

Eventually the government was approached and it was agreed to make a piece of land on the edge of West Terrace Cemetery available. A design by architect A. Barham Black was chosen and construction was started by Messrs. Isley & Co., the foundation stone being laid by the South Australian premier, J. G. Jenkins, in October, 1902. The occasion was, of course, used for speech making during which the benefits of cremation were extolled and some interesting statistics were quoted.

"It was in 1885 that the first crematorium was established in Great Britain, at Woking, and in the first year only three cremations took place. Last Year [1901] 300 bodies were treated, and there were now seven crematoriums in Great Britain. In America there were 26, and last year 2,595 bodies were cremated. On the Continent of Europe there were 35 institutions, and the record of bodies disposed of by cremation was 25,000 in all parts of the world".<4>

Much was made of the lead to Australia Adelaide was giving. Indeed the Adelaide Crematorium was the first to be built in Australia, and remained the only one until Rookwood Crematorium was built in 1925.

The Adelaide Crematorium was handed over to the government by the society on its completion in 1903. It consisted of a chapel 32 ft. x 19 ft. and a furnace room containing a single cremation chamber. The society had sent to London for the latest appliances to complete the work of cremation. The furnace and ancillary equipment alone cost £600. In later years when there were moves to build new crematoriums at Centennial Park Cemetery and at the new Enfield General Cemetery, the Adelaide Crematorium came in for considerable criticism.

"The chapel building is plain and not very attractive... As a whole, the Crematorium does not lend itself to a ceremony of reverence and dignity".<5>

However, a photograph taken when the building was completed shows an attractive chapel with a chimney cleverly disguised as an Italianate bell tower.<6> Unfortunately, the Crematorium was allowed to deteriorate when it was superseded and in 1969 it was demolished by the Public Buildings Department.

The furnace for the Crematorium used a mixture of 2 parts coke, 1 part mallee wood and the first trial on January 21st, 1903, involved the cremation of a sheep found

dead on the railway track.<7> This and the first human cremation on Monday, May 4th 1903, received considerable press coverage. Ironically, the first person cremated was a Sikh, whose religion required that he should have been burned between two piles of wood. The actual process involved in cremation was widely reported.

"Thanks to the able arrangements of the officials the cremation was carried out without a hitch. From the room in which the service was performed nothing in any way unpleasant or revolting to the most refined onlooker, could be seen of the act of cremation".<8>

When the foundation stone of the Crematorium was laid the speakers had claimed that within 50 years all Christians would have their bodies disposed of in this way. In fact the bulk of South Australia's population continued for a long period to prefer the traditional burial. From 1903 to 1930, only 386 bodies were cremated at the Adelaide Crematorium. One of the problems remained the small size of the Crematorium and the fact that its facilities were quickly superseded. By 1947 only 3.5% of Adelaide funerals ended at the Crematorium, compared with an average of over 30% in the Eastern states.<9> This lack of popularity also stemmed, to some degree, however, from the fact that the government had finally begun a concerted effort to reform conditions at West Terrace Cemetery.

In 1897 the West Terrace Cemetery was taken from under the control of the Commissioner of Crown Lands and placed under that of the Commissioner of Public Works with the Superintendent of Public Buildings in charge. Mr. Brookes (first appointed in 1861) was still superintendent at the cemetery and the government decided not to move him because of his age and long service (he had been a total of 52 years in the government service). The Superintendent of Public Buildings, C. E. Owen-Smyth, reported that he found the cemetery in a shocking state of confusion,

"and by hook or by crook, the Public Buildings Department had to pull it through into some sort of shape, to carry out the wishes of the House of Assembly; and with the minimum of expenditure, utilizing the labour of the permanent men as far as possible".

The plans of the cemetery were re-drawn by Josiah Paull, a surveyor, who had already surveyed and laid out the Parafield Cemetery, and efforts were made to lay out new areas for burial at West Terrace. By these means, the organisation of the cemetery was considerably improved and its usefulness considerably extended.<10>

Robert Nicol

REFERENCES:

1. *S.A. Parliamentary Debates*, Dec.17, 1890, 2483-2487.
2. *S.A. Parliamentary Debates*, Aug.19, 1891, 809-812.
3. *S.A. Advertiser*, Oct. 18, 1902, p.10.
4. *Ibid.*
5. *S.A. Advertiser*, Jan. 28, 1947.
6. *Adelaide Observer*, Jan.31, 1903, p.25.
7. S.A. Archives, GRG 38/43, Box 8/2.
8. *S.A. Register*, May 5, 1903, p.5.
9. S.A. Archives, GRG 38/43, Box 8/2.
10. C.E. Owen Smyth, "West Terrace Cemetery, Light on its History", *Register*, Oct.11th, 1924.

NEWSLETTER EXCHANGE

Since June, 1982, the following Newsletters and Journals have been received:

- a) *Ancestor*, Quarterly Journal of the Genealogical Society of Victoria, Vol.14, No.4, September, 1982.
- b) Australian Conservation Foundation *Newsletter*, Vol.14, No.5, June, 1982.
- c) *Bicentenary '88, Newsletter* of the Australian Bicentennial Authority, Vol.2, No.2, July, 1982.
- d) Canberra and District Historical Society *Newsletter*, No.237, September, 1982.
- e) *Environment and Planning, Journal* of the (S.A.) Department of Environment and Planning, No.1, July, 1982.
- f) *Heritage Newsletter*, Newsletter of the Australian Heritage Commission, Vol.5, No.3, August, 1982.
- g) John McDouall Stuart Society *Circular Letter*, August, 1982.
- h) *Journal* of the Royal Australian Historical Society, Vol.68, Pt.2, September, 1982.
- i) *Newsletter* of the Royal Australian Historical Society and Affiliated Societies, No.10, August, 1982.
- j) Royal Geographical Society of Australasia, South Australian Branch (Inc.), *Newsletter*, Vol. 18, No.7, August, 1982.
- k) Royal Western Australian Historical Society *Newsletter*, Vol.21, Nos.6&7, July, 1982 and September, 1982.
- l) South East Family History Group *Newsletter*, Vol.2, Nos.3&4, June, 1982 and August, 1982.
- m) The Cape Horner *Journal*, No.79, June, 1982.
- n) *The South Australian Genealogist*, Vol.9, No.2, April, 1982.
- o) The Uniting Church in South Australia Historical Society *Newsletter*, No.15, August, 1982.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

- a) In an article dedicated to a late president of the Society, there is a statement to the effect that the Victorian Genealogical Society is now the second largest genealogical society in Australia.
- b) Book review by Jean Edgecombe, "Bushfires — their effect on Australian Life and Landscape". Edited by Peter Stanbury, published by the Macleay Museum, The University of Sydney, 1981. 125 pgs. \$7.50 plus postage and packing.
"The theme of this book is that, in Australia, we must learn to live with bushfires and to do so successfully we must find out as much as possible about them. ... If we must learn to live with bushfires, then this very practical manual gives us the means to understand them and survive. Strongly recommended for those interested in the bush, and those who live near the bush."
- c) "Some milestones in Australian Entertainment", e.g. "1838 - Adelaide's first theatre, the Theatre Royale opened". 1 pg.
- e) A 19 pg. illustrated booklet containing the following articles;
"Historical Shipwrecks in South Australia", W. F. Jeffrey;
"Bushland Protection: A new approach", Jill Tideman;
"The Gammon Ranges: Story of a New National Park", Julia Robinson;
"The Adelaide Coastline: A Natural and Man-made Landscape", Bryan Moulds;

"The Murray River: Responding to Change", Anne Jensen;
"Aboriginal Heritage Sites on the Nullabor", Sarah Martin.
Copies of the booklet may be obtained from the Department of Environment and Planning located in the Savings Bank Building, 55 Grenfell Street, Adelaide, Telephone: 216 7777.

- f) This issue concentrates on the Year of the Tree. There is a 3½ pg. article by R. D. Johnson & D. J. Boland of the Division of Forest Research in the C.S.I.R.O. on "Endangered Tree Species in Australia".
- h) "The Father of National Identity: An explanation of the differing reactions of Australia and the United States to Mass Migration" by Sandra Rennie, Post Graduate Student at the A.N.U. An interesting 9 pg. article & footnotes.
- k) September Newsletter - Book Review; "France Australe" by Leslie Marchant, 1982. Published by Artlook Books. Cost \$24.95.
"Every local historian will want to read Professor Leslie Marchant's recent book, 'France Australe', the result of 25 years' research into the original documents concerning French exploration of the western coast of the continent from the early 16th century.
Professor Marchant clarifies the changing policy of France regarding her maritime expeditions, ...and he records fully the short period of less than a decade when France did actually have an interest in establishing a settlement somewhere on the west coast".
- l) August Newsletter: Address of the New Zealand Family History Society is P.O. Box 13301, Armagh, Christchurch, New Zealand.
"Current membership is \$10.00 per annum, and covers subscription to a magazine, free advertising therein, access to shipping and Cemetery inscription lists and indexes."
- n) "Passengers arriving - Port Adelaide, 1846-1850 Part 12".
- o) "Some interesting graves at Walkerville" Arnold D. Hunt.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED:

Col. William Light in India, 1805 by David Elder, The Pioneers' Association of South Australia, 1982. 15 pg. booklet.

A History of Stuckeys by Malcolm Wood, Canberra, 1982. 20 pg. booklet.

Bennet Memorial Reserve, Marvingham, South Australia, A History by W. A. Pretty, 1981. 20 pg. booklet.

Towards a National Conservation Strategy, A South Australian Perspective, The Environmental Protection Council of South Australia, 1982. 16 pg. booklet.

STOP PRESS

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 8.00 P.M.: 1982 GORDON ROWE MEMORIAL LECTURE - DR. DAVID HILLIARD, "POPULAR REVIVALISM IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA", AT WESTBOURNE PARK UNITING CHURCH HALL, SUSSEX TERRACE, WESTBOURNE PARK

From about 1870, South Australia was visited by a succession of evangelists. The greatest campaigns prior to World War I were those of J. W. Chapman and C. F. Alexander. Most of the revivalists came from overseas. Some were very unusual; in fact quite bizarre.

An invitation is extended by the Uniting Church of South Australia Historical Society to H.S.S.A. members to attend this lecture.

Light refreshments will be served after the lecture.