

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SA PUBLICATIONS

Journal

The *Journal of the Historical Society of South Australia* has appeared annually since 1975, with the exception of 1978 and 1980 when there were two issues. Back issues of all numbers except 1, 4, 9 and 10 are available at \$12.00 each (postage included). *Note however that stocks of some issues are running low.*

The contents of each journal are listed in the 'South Australian History in Journals' guidesheets included in Newsletters No's 77 (July 1988) and 79 (November 1988).

Newsletter

Back issues of more recent years' issues are available at \$1.00 each.

Guidesheets

These leaflets are made available gratis by the Society as a community service to promote history beyond its membership. They are issued as supplements to its Newsletters and additional copies are normally available in the Mortlock Library and the History Trust head office.

- No. 1 South Australian Local History 1. Guides, Indexes & Bibliographies (1978, out of print)
- No. 2 Good Reading in South Australian History (Revised edition 1987)
- No. 3 South Australian History in Journals—A Select List of Articles (1981)
- No. 4 Making History (1988)
- No. 5 South Australian History in Journals—2. A Select List of Articles (1988)
- No. 6 More Good Reading in South Australian History (1992)

Occasional Paper

E.J. & J.R. Robbins *A Glossary of Local Government Areas in South Australia 1840-1985* (1987) \$3.00 + \$1.00 postage

Joint Publications

S. Marsden & R. Nicol (eds) *The Politics of Heritage* (1990) [with the History Trust of S.A.] \$7.50 + \$1 postage. Available direct from the History Trust only.

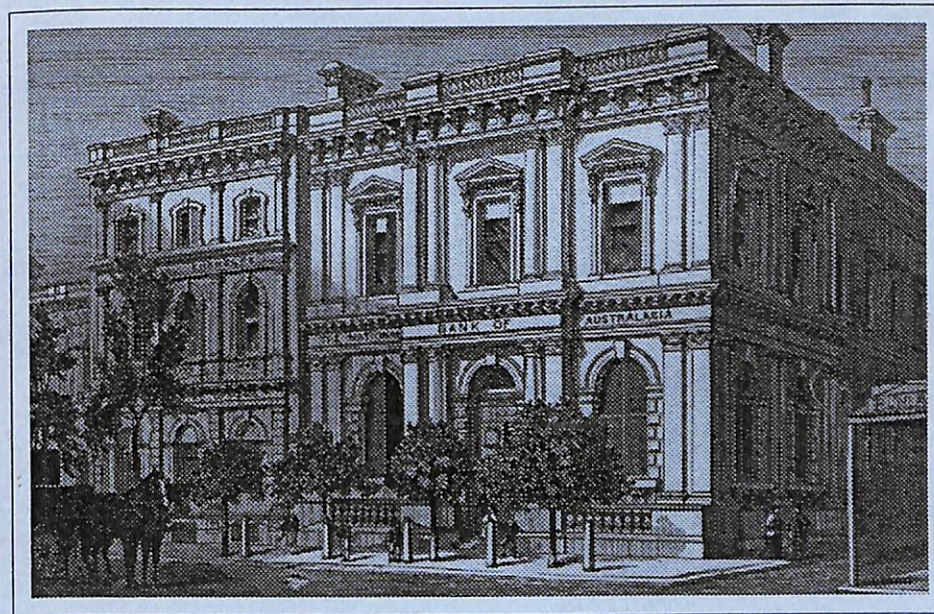
various *South Australian Gazette and Colonial Register* A facsimile reproduction of volume 1, 18 June 1836 to 29 December 1838. (1988) [in association with the S.A. Government Printer] \$35 (limp) or \$75 (hard back). Available direct from the Government Printer and selected Adelaide bookshops.

'Insights' Series

R. Nicol & B. Samuels (eds) *Insights into South Australian History volume one: Selected articles from the Journal of the Historical Society of South Australia* (1992) \$14 postage paid. \$12 for orders of 5 or more.

The Historical Society of South Australia Inc.

Newsletter No. 106 May 1993



Print Post Approved
PP 535806/0005

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.
Institute Building, 122 Kintore Avenue, Adelaide 5000

OBJECTS

- (a) to arouse interest in and to promote the study and discussion of history, especially South Australian and Australian history
- (b) to promote the collection, preservation and classification of source material of all kinds relating to South Australian and Australian history
- (c) to publish historical records and articles
- (d) to promote the interchange of information among members of the Society by lectures, readings, discussions, field trips and exhibitions
- (e) to co-operate with similar societies throughout Australia
- (f) to do all such things as are conducive or incidental to the attainment of any of the above objects

COUNCIL

PATRON:	Sir Walter Crocker, K.B.E
PRESIDENT:	Dr R.P.J. Nicol 303 3749 Fax: 303 3604 (w), 297 9844 (h)
VICE-PRESIDENT:	Mr B.J. Samuels 207 1071 Fax: 207 1071 (w), 47 2429 (h)
SECRETARY:	Ms M. Dunshore 237 1313 (w) 381 7429 (h)
TREASURER:	Mrs A. Huckel 277 2953 (a h)
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY:	Mrs E. Ulbrich
JOURNAL EDITOR:	Dr Jenny Tilby Stock
MEMBERS:	Mr H. Angas Mr M. Keain Mr J. Loudon Dr P. Payne Ms P. Sumerling Mrs E. Ulbrich
CONSULTANT:	Mr R.M. Gibbs, A.M.
NEWSLETTER EDITOR:	Dr I.A. Harmstorf 303 3739 (w) 272 3642 (h)
AUDITOR:	Mr K. Banfield

FOUNDED IN 1974

Cover Illustration: National Bank, Adelaide c1870s

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Lectures

VENUE: Prince Philip Theatre, Prince Alfred College, Kent Town.

Friday 4 June 1993

Graham Jenkin

The Poet As Historian

Because the discipline of History covers all time and all topics, historians make use of an almost limitless variety of sources in their search for the truth.

Whilst it cannot be used in the same way as supposedly factual documents, poetry does have a role to play in assisting historians in their constant quest for understanding. Poetry is essentially the language of the emotions; and it is therefore particularly useful in elucidating highly emotional or dramatic incidents in our history.

Graham Jenkin will use his own poetry, as well as the works of other Australian poets, to illustrate his argument.

Friday 2 July 1993

Desmond O'Connor

Viva il Duce: The Influence of Fascism on Italians in South Australia in the 1920s and 1930s.

Following Mussolini's rise to power in 1922 the Consulates around the world were instructed to spread the fascist ideology amongst Italian migrants abroad. In 1925 South Australia saw the arrival from Melbourne of the ardent fascist Giuseppe Amerio who after a short time in Adelaide replaced Eric Paterson as SA Italian Consular Agent. Amerio immediately began the task of setting up Fascist Branches in SA, first in Adelaide in 1927 (with a Sub-Branch in Port Wakefield from 1932), then in Port Pirie in 1929 where there was a close-knit community of Italian fishermen from Molfetta.

The talk will examine the activities of the SA Fascist Branches and the extent to which fascist propaganda penetrated the Italian community between the 1920s and June 1940 when the leading SA Italian fascists were arrested and interned.

SOCIETY NEWS

Annual Dinner—Preliminary notice

Saturday 25 September 1993

Venue: The drawing Room, Torrens Park. (Scotch College)

Tickets: \$25 p.p.

Book early to avoid disappointment as the room has a limited capacity.

Bookings: Marcia Dunshore Ph 381 7429 (a.h.)

Fund Raising Tour

6 June 1993—12.00

(Note: earlier start than indicated in program)

'In search of the Boys in Blue'

A joint function with the Police Historical Association.

A tour of some of the locations associated with South Australia's police history.

Itinerary

- 12.00 Meet at the Police Historical Association Museum in Kintore Avenue behind the State Library and museum for tour of the collection.
- 12.45 By bus to West Terrace Cemetery for a picnic lunch and a look at some police graves and monuments (B.Y.O. sandwiches and drinks).
- 3.00 By bus to Fort Largs to inspect this rarely open historic site. Return to the city by 5 p.m.

Tour guides Chief Supt. R. Potts, President of the Police Historical Association and Sgt. R. Clyne, Police Historian.

Cost: \$8.50

Bookings Essential—phone Marcia Dunshore 381 7429 (a.h.)

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA Inc.
Institute Building, 122 Kintore Avenue, Adelaide 5000

RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION (1 JANUARY 1993 TO 31 DECEMBER 1993) ACCOUNT NOW DUE			
Scale of Fees:	Please circle appropriate fee		
1. Ordinary member	\$ 25	5. Institutions	\$ 30
2. Family	\$ 30	6. Associated Societies	\$ 20
3. Student or pensioner	\$ 18	7. Life member	\$500
4. Country member (more than 50 KM from GPO)	\$ 20	8. Term (10 years, to end 2003)	\$200
			Donation \$ _____
AMOUNT ENCLOSED			\$ _____

METHOD OF PAYMENT:

1. Cheques or money orders are payable to the Historical Society of South Australia Inc.

2. Bankcard Payments:

=====

Name: _____

Address: _____

State: _____ Postcode: _____

Amount: \$ _____

Bankcard Number: _____ Expiry Date: _____

Signature: _____

=====

Please return this complete invoice with your remittance to the above address.

Receipts not sent unless requested: YES/NO
(Please enclose S.A.E.)

COMING EVENTS

AT THE STATE HISTORY CENTRE

AUTUMN-WINTER 1993

- 2 May - end June "Tough Times in SA: The Beef March and the Great Depression in South Australia." Speakers Corner.
- late May Third Tom Price Memorial Lecture - speaker Dr Neal Blewett. (Phone 207 1077 for details).
- 27 June Ideas for Australia forum "Becoming an Australian". (Phone Susan Marsden 207 1077 for details).
- July Inservice Day for SACE Level 1 and 2 History teachers using local museums and historical resources. (Date to be fixed. Phone Mark Blencowe 207 1077 for details).
- July - Aug Women's Electoral Lobby - free display in Speakers Corner.
- 14 July Second cultural tourism workshop. "Packaging a cultural tourism enterprise". (Phone Robert Jenkins 303 2314).

GUIDED TOURS

Historical societies are invited to make bookings for guided tours (for groups of 10 or more people) of the State History Centre on weekends (12.00 - 5.00) at the group booking rate of \$ 2.00 per head. Phone 207 1099.

LIBRARY LOAN COLLECTION

This is mainly a reference collection which researchers are welcome to use. We are building up a loan collection especially for country and outer suburban residents. Let our librarian Lynn Drew know of your needs. (Phone 207 1077 Mondays, Wednesdays & Thursdays).

State History Centre, Old Parliament House, North Terrace, Adelaide 5000

DOCUMENTS

These documents were kindly sent by Mr W. Simmonds, Kersbrook, SA.

ILLUSTRATED TIMES
15/3/65

THE NEW TOWNHALL AT ADELAIDE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

WE of the old country are sometimes apt to regard the "great public events" which are of so much importance in the lively young towns of our great, healthy colonies as very simple affairs, to be regarded with the same sort of benignant recognition and sense of superiority that we bestow upon the efforts of a fine, growing boy who has just left school and is ready to make a figure in the world. The truth is, however, that our colonists have the same knack as ourselves of driving events so quickly onwards that when we have time to look after them we discover how easily we are mistaken in our estimate of their progressive ability.

Where there was nothing but a forest-clearing, a few months ago, there is now a thriving town, with a mine or two at work in an outlying village; and where yesterday, wild in the bush, the ignoble savage lurked, there is to-day, beyond the outlying patches of scrub, a fine, handsome city, with its townhall, theatre, bank, Government House, bridges, churches, and—so rapid are the effects of civilisation!—its prison. There are few more remarkable examples of a rapidly-established capital than that of Adelaide, the metropolis of South Australia, a town which lies embowered in woods on the narrow sandy belt near St. Vincent Gulf, and whose picturesque streets— quaint and pretty as those of Wiesbaden or Okeltenham—are surrounded or even intersected with park lands. Of course, as the colony of South Australia was only established by Act of Parliament in 1835 and proclaimed in the following year, the capital has at present but little to record in its archives. It was founded in 1840, and, from circumstances over which young colonies have very little control, was unsuccessful in establishing a Corporation until nine years afterwards, when the city was divided into four wards named respectively after Governors Hindmarsh, Gawler, Grey, and Robe. In 1861 an Act provided that the Corporate Chamber should consist of a Mayor and eight Councillors, and that the Mayor should be elected by the citizens on the 1st of December in each year. As the business of the Corporation increased it was found that the council had outgrown the capacities of the existing civic

building, and it was determined to add to the already numerous public edifices the fine Townhall represented in our Engraving.

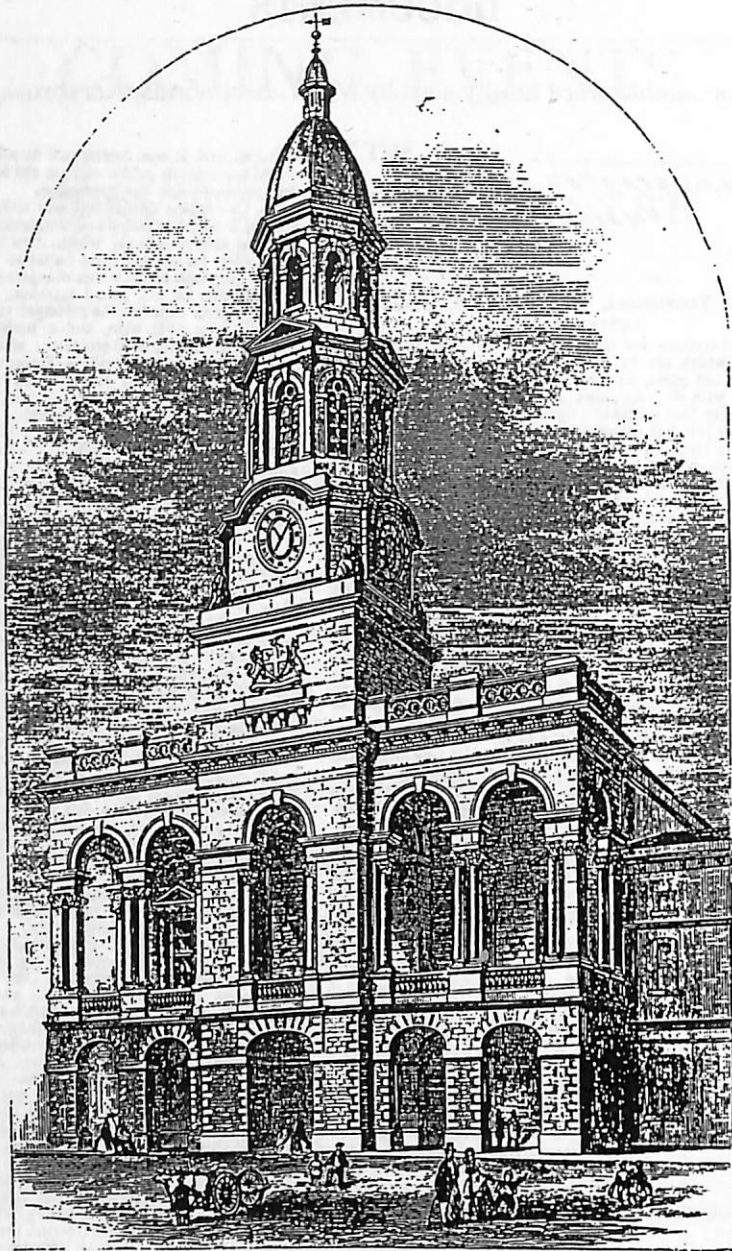
At an expense of £30,000, the citizens have erected a very handsome and commodious building, the excavations for which have been made into cellars for the magnetic batteries belonging to the telegraph office, which occupies a place on the left side of the grand entrance. This entrance, which contains the principal staircase, is 48 ft. long by 27 ft. wide, and a broad passage leads to the city council chamber; while in connection with this apartment a fireproof room is provided for the town clerk's office, where the records are to be kept.

At the southern end of the building a doorway opens on the road which separates the Corporation Acre from the Government offices, and the eastern portion is occupied by a suite of offices for the city surveyor, inspector, and other persons employed by the Corporation. From this end a staircase leads to the refreshment-room, 48 ft. by 24 ft.; and on the right are situated the kitchen and its appurtenances, with a hoist to raise fuel and other supplies from the cellar.

On the right of the grand entrance is the principal entrance to the exchange, which is a very handsome room, measuring 62 ft. by 28 ft. The great staircase leads to a spacious landing, which gives access, by means of alighting doors, to the grand hall, to the robing-rooms, to the open corridor, to the gallery of the hall, and to the staircase of the tower. The grand hall is a magnificent apartment, 107 ft. long and 67 ft. wide, with a height of 43 ft. from the floor to the ornamental ceiling. Immediately opposite the great entrance an arched recess has been prepared for an organ, which is about to be erected. The gallery will contain 200 persons; and the walls are pierced with a series of enriched windows, while the corners of the hall are rounded and niched for statuary. The front of the building (78 ft. in width) shows an arcade, over which is the open colonnade, surmounted with a Corinthian cornice. The arcade itself consists of a series of massive freestone arches.

The tower, which is named the Albert Tower, after the late Prince Consort, is included in the main building until it emerges from the roof. It is 145 ft. high to the top of the vane, and is composed entirely of stone, and, immediately over the cornice of the main building, bears the city arms; while the next compartment shows, on the north, south, and west aspects, clock faces 8 ft. in diameter. Above this comes the belfry, which the ex-Mayor (Mr. English) proposes shall be furnished with a peal of bells similar to those which were so admired at the Great Exhibition, and that they shall be named, with the tower, in honour of the late Prince Consort.

The citizens have taken this matter up very ardently, and a subscription has already been raised for the purchase of the bells, which they are pleased to believe will remind them of the Old Country, to which they are still proud to belong. The whole building, from the capacious cellarage to the lantern of this fine tower, is highly creditable to the architect, Messrs. E. W. Wright and Woods, who have designed a building upon which the colony may well congratulate itself, and which will be a lasting ornament to the capital.



NEW TOWNHALL, ADELAIDE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—(WRIGHT AND WOODS, ARCHITECTS.)

ARTICLES

Tour of the Old Treasury Building

One of Adelaide's lesser known Museums is in the old Treasury Building. The Museum may be visited gratis but the cost of a tour of the building costs \$3.

After walking through the delightful inner courtyard it is upstairs to the old state cabinet room of the South Australian Parliament. It was used for this purpose between 1876 and 1968. Photos of early Adelaide adorn the walls and the original furniture is still in place. After a quick run-through on the history of the building by guide, Mr Michael Taliangis, one proceeds to the cellars and the tunnels joining them. The original government printing works were situated beneath these buildings until the mid nineteen seventies. It must have been cool in summer but cold and damp in winter. However nineteenth century English tradition seemed to dictate that workers, be they domestic or government, worked below street level. From there it was upstairs again, pass the strong room and to the museum where an excellent exhibition of early surveying equipment is to be seen. The commentary by Michael Taliangis is such that the history of the state is interwoven with the discovery of the state by explorers and their surveying equipment. As such the whole exhibition lives and becomes part of an historical process which continues to the present day. An added bonus is the coffee and biscuits served at the end of the tour.

Perhaps the reason that this fascinating museum and aspect of South Australia's history remains unknown to us is that it may not spend any money on advertising. There is also a rumour that it may close. What hope is there for cultural tourism, supposedly the coming mode of tourism, when we skimp on the treasures that we already have.

The museum is open from 10a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays and tours are by arrangement. Phone Michael Taliangis on 226 4130

IAN HARMSTORF

Aboriginal POW's of World War One by David Huggonson

... Continued

Rufus Rigney, another 18 year old recruit from Point McLeay, did not share the luck of his mission schoolmates when he was captured with wounds at the end of October 1917. He died in a German field hospital and is buried in Harlebeke Cemetery in Belgium. Ben and Rachel Rigney had already lost their elder son, Cyril in July, when they received notice of Rufus's death. A memorial stained-glass window was unveiled at the church on the mission in 1925 by Brigadier-General S. Price Weir who had commanded South Australia's 10th Battalion at the Gallipoli Landing.¹ Under Weir's leadership the Battalion dug in on the vital 400 Plateau which formed part of the Second Ridge. His actions on the 25th April meant that the AIF was able to hold the beach-head it had established that morning against a determined Turkish counter-attack.² The four-panel memorial window bears the names of the two Rigney brothers, Alban Varcoe and Millar Mack who was invalided home suffering from the dire effects of a German gas attack. He arrived at Adelaide's Bedford Park Military Hospital during the first week of November, 1917. Regrettably, Private Mack died from the effects of the poison gas and influenza in September 1919. He is buried within the precincts of the West Terrace burial ground, however, no mention is made on his headstone that he was an aboriginal soldier.³ Alban Varcoe was killed during the battle of Bullecourt in May 1917. He was 21 years of age when killed a month after joining his unit the 27th Battalion.

Besides the names of the four fallen soldiers from Point McLeay Mission, the memorial window also bore the inscription, 'To the glory of God and in sacred memory of our men who died for justice and freedom.' Ironically, under the Aborigines Act of 1911 and the Aborigines (Training of Children) Act of 1923 the dark residents of South Australia were not to receive much in the way of justice or freedom. The latter act gave the Chief Protector of Aborigines the legal right to control the lives of all 'half-caste' and 'full-blooded' children until they were eighteen years of age, irrespective of the wishes of the child's parents.

Aboriginal returned soldiers like big Arthur Weetra of Balaklava were to find the restrictions of the repressive 'Blackfellows' Act' more than they could bear after the equality they had known in the ranks of the A.I.F. In

March 1925 the Adelaide Advertiser was to report on truculent Arthur's six-month conviction for assaulting police during a brawl at the Royal Hotel. The fisticuffs started over the refusal of the pub to sell the Balaklava Blacks alcohol because of the ban imposed by the 1911 act. Arthur Weetra had enlisted in the Australian Army in August 1916 along with Alban Varcoe and Cliff Wilson. All three of the fit young dark recruits sailed with the 17th Reinforcements for the 27th Battalion on board the 'Afric' in November. Private Varcoe was killed in action the following May and burly Arthur and Cliff were both wounded in action in France before the end of the war. Arthur received a gun-shot wound to the right eye at Passchendaele and Cliff was shot in the left calf in June 1918.

Eustace John Bews was another wounded veteran of the Western Front to suffer under the discriminatory laws of South Australia. In 1924 he was imprisoned in the Inebriates Goal at Gladstone, but having served for nearly two years with the 10th Battalion in France and Flanders, his brother, in a letter to the Adelaide Advertiser on the 9th June said he thought that Eustace deserved more just treatment. The legal discrimination against Aboriginal people in South Australia was not to end until the passing of the Aboriginal Affairs Act of 1962 which aimed to give them the same legal rights and opportunities as other citizens of the state.

In the very early hours of the 5th April, during the final decisive year of a protracted war that was entering its fifth European summer, Bill Williams' company was sent across the Amiens to Albert road to reinforce the 47th Battalion made up of Queenslanders and Tasmanians who were in defensive positions on a railway embankment skirting the village of Dernancourt.¹ 'Cobar' as the dark digger was nicknamed had enlisted in Hillton in outback new South Wales exactly two years previously. The difficulty of sending reinforcements in daylight from the strategically vital heights of Lavieville to the brigade's new forward line was demonstrated when two companies of the 47th Battalion were heavily shelled and machine gunned while moving forward down the slope on the 27th March. Private Richard Martin from Stradbroke Island was killed in this advance. The railway embankment itself, was an exposed position to defend because the garrison had to lie out on top of the embankment and fire over the nearest rail. The 4th Pioneers from Queensland were sent nightly to tunnel under the railway line with the object of opening out T-shaped trenches on the further crest of the embankment.² Tom Jaro a twenty-eight year old Aboriginal stockman from Gayndah was a member of this pioneer unit. Tom had enlisted, in spite of having a wife and a three year old child, in

1 Observer, 22/8/1925, Adelaide.

2 Pages 94-98 of C.E.W. Bean's, Anzac to Amiens, Australian War Memorial, 1961.

3 The Register, Adelaide, Monday, 26th January, 1920.

1 AWM 30, B10.5-W. Williams, 'C' Company 45th Battalion and letter from Mr A.H. Bruce of Hillton R.S.L. 22/4/91.

2 Chapter 12, Volume 5 of C.E.W. Bean's Official History of Australia in the War of 1914-1918.

July 1917 once the army began accepting 'half castes' out of the necessity for replacement manpower, Pioneer battalions were an Indian Army innovation to the British Army establishment and while they were viewed as having duties of a more technical nature in the A.I.F. They were armed and equipped much the same as the infantry,¹ Tom Jaro was wounded by shrapnel in the left leg during the artillery bombardment which preceded the determined German attack on the Australian garrison manning the railway embankment. He was evacuated and treated by the 13th Field Ambulance before being shipped to a hospital in the English port city of Bristol. 'Cobar' Williams was captured that morning when the Germans broke through the 47th Battalion and outflanked 'C' Company's position. For three months after he was made to work on the railway line at Valenciennes. On the day the Armistice was signed he was in a workcamp near Namur in Belgium.

A copybook-style counter-attack was mounted just before dusk on the 5th April by the Queenslanders of the 49th Battalion, they recaptured much of the ground that the German had taken that morning. At least ten Aboriginal soldiers served in this battalion during the course of the war. Two are mentioned on the unit's honour roll. They are Private William Perrott of Herberton and Private William Napoleon of Cangal near Grafton. Private George Hill of Rockhampton, who was initially rejected by the Army because of his colour, was wounded in the left arm during the counter-attack of what has come to be recorded in the annals of the war as the Battle of Dernancourt.

On the same April day that the 4th Australian Division was fighting to maintain the heights of Leveville, the 3rd Division were putting payed to the German assault on Villers-Bretonneux, which they had largely broken the previous day thanks to the adequate supply of the highly-mobile Lewis machine gun. However, Archie Johnston of the 35th Battalion was taken prisoner during the continuation of operation 'Michael', the code-name for the Ludendorff-planned assault on the French city of Amiens. When Archie was eventually repatriated to the British lines, he was suffering from a severe case of bronchitis and was placed on the local hospital's dangerously-ill list for two weeks. He returned to the warmer climes of his native Bullahdelah on the north coast of New South Wales in mid 1919.

The restrictive and segregated conditions that many Aboriginal soldiers found in their home communities on their return from the war made many feel that their lives were little better than some of their comrades had experiences in German prisoner-of-war camps. Today, on reading the regulations that accompanied the various state acts of the 'Protection of

¹ Page 11 of M.B.B. Keatinge's War book of the Third Pioneer Battalion, Speciality Press, Melbourne.

Aborigines', it is impossible not to agree with them. In most states Aborigines were forced to wait another forty-nine years before they were to begin to gain legal equality. The successful of the YES vote in 1967 referendum gave the Commonwealth Government power to legislate on Aboriginal matter and slowly the various Commonwealth Governments have utilised this new constitutional power. However, Aboriginal people realise that legal equality and socio-economic equality are quite different concepts. Their struggle for the latter is continuing. By recording the service of a few Aboriginal men in World War One, the Australian public might become more aware of Aborigines in our nation's history and their struggle for human rights.

The RAH and Ayers House—History in the Making

In the 1920's the State government purchased the property located at 288 North Terrace from the Austral entertainment company, and from that time until 1970, Austral House as it was known, became 'home' to many young trainee nurses. During this period, night duty nurses were housed behind its thick walls shielded by the huge Moreton Bay fig



trees. Later the Nurses' Training School was set up within the building and a constant flow of personnel continued across the Terrace. From the early 30's to 1965 the Adelaide Hospital Auxiliary occupied an area in Austral House as a sewing room. From new materials purchased from funds raised in the Auxiliary's kiosk, dressing gowns, doctors' gowns, nightingales, towels and covers of all descriptions were made for the hospital, varying from 6,000 to 14,000 articles in a year.

These details and many more important facts have been disclosed during a research project undertaken by Ms Robyn Taylor, and commissioned by the National Trust.

To celebrate the conclusion of the project into 'Ayers House, its Users and Uses' and to acknowledge the significant occupation and use of the house by RAH personnel, a special exhibition of memorabilia and nurses uniforms is being arranged by the Friends of the National Trust, with the kind co-operation of the History and Heritage Committee of the RAH. This exhibition should have wide appeal, especially to those whose memories include time spent within the walls of the building which they affectionately recall "was Austral House then".

A champagne opening will take place in Ayers House on Sunday, 23rd May, 1993, at 5 p.m. and the exhibition will continue for one week. Mrs Diana Tostevin (Vice-Chairman, RAH Board) will be Guest Speaker. Entry to the Champagne Preview is \$15 and bookings can be made by phoning 223 1 655. Tickets to the preview or the exhibition during the following week are available at the National Trust Office, Ayers House, 288 North Terrace.

THE FUNERAL OF COLONEL WILLIAM LIGHT

Robert Nicol

The first opportunity for official funereal display came very early in the history of the colony of South Australia, with the death of Colonel William Light on 6 October 1839. Generally referred to today as the founder of Adelaide, Light was in his own time a controversial figure viewed with considerable enmity by other colonists and officials. His time in Adelaide was plagued with problems and bitterness. In January 1839, he lost all his possessions in a fire. Thereafter, his health declined rapidly. Even on his death bed, the colonel was not free from hostility. B.T.Finniss visited him, and afterwards suggested to the Colonial Chaplain, the Rev.C.B.Howard, that he might call on Light and offer prayer at his bedside. Light was, however, living openly with his mistress, Maria Gandy, with whom he had come to the colony. Howard was not about to condone such an arrangement, and responded abruptly to Finniss:

"It is not the practice of our church to attend to the sick and dying unless they express penitence and desire the services of the church".

Finniss was present at Light's death and in his reminiscences left a moving description of the scene:

"... On my last visit I found him in bed, evidently gasping for breath - in articulo mortis, as medical men call this stage. Dr.Woodforde had just quitted a chair by the bedside and was moistening the Colonel's tongue by applying brandy to the open mouth by means of a feather. The doctor ceased on my approach, when I said 'Had you not better continue your kind office? He seems to like it.' The doctor said 'It's no use. He is too far gone to feel pleasure or pain.' I then continued the administration of the brandy myself, when he turned his eyes towards me and gave me a look expressive of thankfulness. Thus ended the life of one who had deserved well of his country."

The death of Light provided an opportunity for the rifts which had developed among the early settlers to be put aside. Governor Gawler, on hearing the news, summoned a special meeting of the Executive Council to meet the following day to consider how best

the government could show its respect. Those present at that meeting were Gawler, the Advocate-General, Robert Bernard, the Surveyor-General, E.C.Frome, and the Assistant Commissioner, Charles Sturt. Gawler used the opportunity first to consider the question of the Police Bill, but then moved on to consider how the government should mark the occasion of Light's death. Recalling the events years later, Captain Sturt described the meeting.

Gawler was at first of the opinion that the government should make a public gesture and assume responsibility for the cost of the funeral arrangements, but it transpired that this had already been taken in hand by Light's executors. The meeting finally agreed that 100 pounds be made available by the government for the erection of a monument over Light's grave or to be used in whatever other manner his friends might wish. Sturt, together with the Advocate-General, was asked to liaise with those responsible for arranging the funeral to determine the order of procession and the degree of involvement by government officers, and to communicate the government's offer of the 100 pounds. In the strict sense, Light's funeral was not, therefore, a state funeral. Nevertheless, later writers and public figures frequently recalled it as the first public or state funeral in South Australia. In another sense, it was a state occasion, since it was certainly accorded official government recognition.

In the press, Light's death was greeted with expressions of sorrow. The edition of the Register which gave the details of the death and of the funeral arrangements, had each page and each column edged with heavy black mourning borders. The arrangements were extensively reported. They marked the first great funeral display in South Australia. Details were published in a government notice dated 8 October 1839 and in the Government Gazette of 10 October 1839. Gawler invited public officers to attend the funeral and to assemble beforehand at the Old Native Location. This occupied the northern flat of the River Torrens, between the site of the present railway bridge and Montefiore Hill. He also requested that all shops in Adelaide be closed for the duration of the funeral and announced that all public offices would be closed. The Southern Australian reported that it was the intention of shopkeepers to suspend business altogether for the day, that the banks would be closed, and that the various ministers in the colony proposed to preach funeral sermons in Light's honour on the following Sunday.

Colonel William Light was buried on 10 October 1839. A few of his friends met at his cottage at Thebarton from which the procession began at 11.50am. From the time it left Thebarton until its arrival at Trinity Church on North Terrace, minute guns were fired by a party at Hindmarsh. The flags at Government House were brought to half mast and at the Old Native location the cortege was joined by the Governor and the assembled government officers, together with what the Register described as the largest body of colonists ever congregated within the province. In all, there were four hundred and twenty three gentlemen in deep mourning. As the procession moved nearer the city, more colonists joined it. The Southern Australian estimated that by the time the church was reached, there were a thousand people present besides those actually in the cortege. The final order of the official procession which had been formed at the Old Native Location differed slightly from that printed beforehand in the Government Gazette. It consisted of:

The undertaker

The Colonial Chaplain and other Clergymen

Walking either side of the body of Colonel Light :

Mr.J.W.Nicholls	Lieutenant Mundy
Captain Litchfield	Mr.McPherson
Captain O'Halloran	Captain Berkeley
Mr.Field	Dr.Woodforde
Mr.W.Jacob	Mr.B.T.Finniss
Mr.H.Nixon	Mr.J.H.Fisher
Mr.E.Stephens	Mr.J.Brown
Mr.D.McLaren	Mr.J.Morphett
Mr.T.Gilbert	Mr.C.Mann
Dr.Wright	Mr.S.Stephens
Mr.G.O.Ormsby	Captain Duff
Mr.R.G.Thomas	Captain Walker

The Servants of the Colonel's Household	
The different Government Departments	
Government Architect	Colonial Surgeon

Colonial Storekeeper

Protector of Aborigines

to be continued ...

ACQUISITIONS

Mortlock Library

Gartrell, E.G.

James and Jante, The Milnes of 'Appila West'.
West Brookton, W. Aust.: E.G. Gartrell, 1992.

Hore, Clarence F.

Descendants of Charles March—Fifth Child of Joseph and Sophia March: Arrived in South Australia on 31st July 1846—With Their Five Sons and Two Daughters Valley View, S. Aust.: C.F. Hore, 1993?

Peake, Andrew Guy.

Penola 1888–1890: A Window into Penola's History.
Armidale, NSW: University of New England, 1992.

Samuels, Brian.

The South Australian Institute Building: A Life History.
[Adelaide]: History Trust of S.A., 1986.

South Australian Institute of Technology. School of Architecture and Building
The Barossa Survey: Final report of a Research Project/By the School of Architecture, S.A. Institute of Technology, and the Department of History, Adelaide College of Advanced Education; for the Australian Heritage Commission; Gordon Young, Ian Harmstorf, Donald Langmead.
Adelaide: S.A.I.T., 1977.

Staude, Lorna Staub

Memoirs of an AWAS Driver/Lorna Staub Staude.
Naracoorte, S.Aust.: Naracoorte Herald, 1989.

Women's Suffrage Centenary South Australia 1894–1994.

An Introductory Bibliography: Written Histories of Women's Organisations in South Australia and Australia.

Woodville, S.Aust.: I.W.D. Committee, 1993.

Wood, John.

The Centenary History of the North Adelaide Football Club
Prospect, S.Aust.: North Adelaide Football Club, 1993

COMMUNITY HISTORY CALENDAR

On-Going Events

1st & 3rd Sundays Adelaide Gaol: Guided tours available Port Road, Adelaide. Booked of each month group tours on Thursdays and Fridays Further information 10.00–3.30 Ph. 207 2383.

1st Thursday of the Aurora Heritage Action Inc. Meetings, Metropolitan Hotel, month 7.30 Grote Street

Weekdays 11.00–2.00 Australia Post Postal Museum, Ground floor, 2 Franklin Street.

3rd Sunday of each Glen Osmond Mines Tours: tours are conducted by members of the month 2.00–4.00 Burnside Historical Society. Bookings on 366 4200 (ask for Angela).

Last Wednesday of the month State Conservation Centre of SA. Clinic Day for advice on preservation, restoration and repair of historical and artistic works. Ph. (08) 223 1766

Every Sunday 2.00–4.30 Historic Cummins: The Cummins Society conducts Open Days with guided tours. Sheoak Ave., Novar Gardens.

To August Art Gallery of SA. South Australia Decorative Arts. Contemporary South Australian decorative arts have been collected by the Gallery since 1884 when a silver presentation casket made by Henry Steiner was donated. Both historical and contemporary works have been acquired since then, for display and reference, in order to develop a comprehensive collection of decorative arts produced in this state. South Australia furniture, ceramics, metalwork and jewellery will be featured. Historical works from the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries as well as recently-made works will be on display until August/September 1992.

Saturdays 2.00–4.00 National Trust of South Australia. Burra Burra Branch: Market Square Museum. Adult \$1.00, Child \$0.50, Family \$2.50

Wed/Sat/Sun 1.30–4.00 National Trust of SA. Moonta Branch Museum.

Sundays 11.00–4.00 National Trust of SA. Victor Harbor Branch. The Old Customs and Station Master's House.

Thursdays 10.00 South Australian Cricket Association Inc. Adelaide Oval Tours. Conducted tours from the South Gate. Approx. 2hr duration.

Tuesdays 2.00–4.00 Yorke Peninsula Family History Group's library is housed within the N.Y.P. Public Library and is available to members during library opening hours. Volunteers are available Tuesday afternoons to assist the public or members. Fees apply to non-members.

Saturdays, Sundays & Public Holidays 10.00–5 p.m. This museum was opened on 28 April 1988, the 150th anniversary of the founding of the South Australian Police Force—the first centrally based police service in Australia. Exhibits will change on a regular basis so that the public will be able to view displays on different themes. This unique social history museum is a tribute to the men and women who have served and continue to serve in the South Australian Police Department. Entry is Free.