

No. 180  
Sept 2005

# HISTORY SA

The Newsletter of the Historical Society of South Australia Inc.

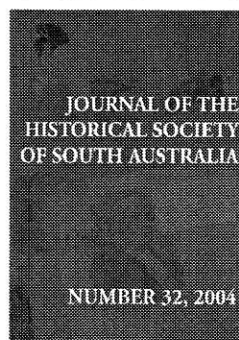
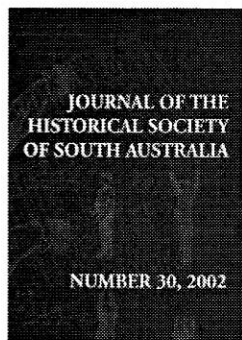
## Your Journal

Members might like to know something of what goes into the production of the annual *Journal*, the flagship publication of the Society and a major vehicle for getting well-written and researched articles on South Australian history into print.

Along with recording the activities of the Society (complementing the Newsletter), the bulk of the *Journal* is taken up with around eight substantial papers, and a similar number of book reviews. From the volumes we receive for review, a selection is made, and Wakefield Press in particular, keeps us supplied. Finding appropriate reviewers is not difficult, although getting them to meet deadlines often is!

Some six or seven years ago the decision was made that the *Journal* become a 'refereed' publication, a formal upgrading of 'quality control' and a necessity if we were to continue to attract high calibre contributors. Each paper submitted, having passed a first screening for suitability of subject and treatment, is prepared for scrutiny by two outside readers or referees. (With less experienced authors, this may involve a certain amount of restructuring and all are asked to comply with the 'Style Guide' sent to all new contributors.)

Quite apart from any work on the actual manuscripts, the locating and approaching of experts both able and willing to undertake this assessment is a considerable part of the editor's work. Once they have agreed, referees are sent the paper, devoid of any identification as to authorship, and asked to make a judgment as to its suitability, with or without extra work, for publication. As people with expertise, they make suggestions as to where the paper may be improved, list further sources worth consulting, correct any errors of fact, point out ambiguities and so on. Most are busy people and do this task as a service to the profession; some therefore require a bit of prompting before they return the paper and their opinion. The editor removes any identifying features and sends back to the author the two reports and further words of advice and encouragement.

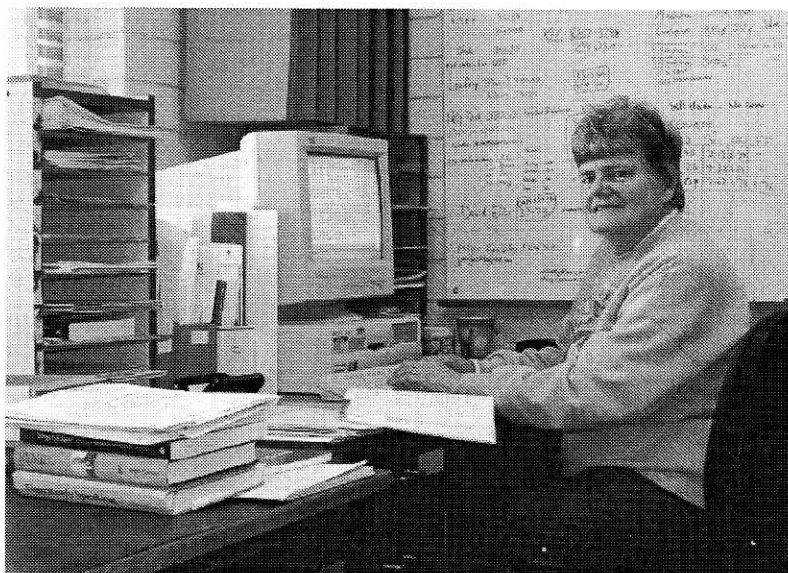


Number 33, 2005 will be available for members at the November Meeting.

Those members unable to attend will have their copy posted shortly after the meeting.

At this stage, while the author is working on a revised version of a paper likely to be acceptable for publication, the search begins for suitable illustrations to accompany the paper. Members will have noticed that the *Journal* now has considerable space devoted to photos, maps, paintings and diagrams, all designed to illuminate the written word. This is the author's responsibility and they are quickly put in touch with our invaluable lay-out editor, Philip Knight. Not only is he able to enhance the authors' offerings, but he is a fount of information about where to locate new and relevant material.

Once the editor has received the revised manuscript (now as an email attachment), she begins the next stage of the editing process, fine-tuning the prose, checking for consistency in the text and endnote references, refining the punctuation and endlessly searching for typos. Queries go back and forth by email and telephone until all parties are satisfied with the text. Once the illustrations have been decided and conveyed to Philip, and their placement along with captions indicated, the text file is sent to him for setting in the format you see in the *Journal* –  
*continued on page 6*



Dr Jenny Tilby Stock working on the 2005 Journal in her office at the University of Adelaide

## From the President

Welcome to the October edition of *History SA*. In this edition you will find details of our final two guest speakers, and of outings scheduled for the last part of the year.

At this time each year Council meets and each member puts forward suggested speakers and topics, destinations for field trips and venues for mid week outings. Options are debated, lists of former speakers and destinations consulted, and great effort to achieve a balanced program expended. By late in the year Council has what it hopes will be another winning program for the Society.

This year Council has had at its finger tips the results of the survey some seventy of you took the time to complete, and we thank you for participating. This has proved an invaluable source of information about the Society's membership, along with many suggestions for inclusion in the program. I would like to use my column to share some of the survey findings with you, and what an interesting lot you are!

The vast majority of the HSSA's membership is over the age of fifty, many of whom have been members for between one and five years or for more than ten years. It is worth noting that we still have a number of Foundation members actively supporting the Society. Our membership is indeed a loyal one.

The Society's membership is quite a social group with many responding that the opportunity to have contact with like minded people through our programme is an important reason for their participation. Our members are richly varied in their interests, with a significant number of respondents belonging to other organisations, with popular associations including the National Trust of South Australia, local history organisations, and the Genealogy and Heraldry Society. Other membership included professional bodies such as Professional Historians, History Teachers Association and ICOMOS. Other groups included environment groups, 'friends of' groups, and support groups for places such as Cummins House and the Adelaide Gaol.

In telling Council what areas of history are of specific interest, the membership showed a strong preference for social and early colonial history, followed by political, regional and family history. This type of information, combined with specific suggestions for speaker and field trips, has been very valuable to Council as it prepares the 2006 program.

The survey findings highlighted the enjoyment members receive from *History SA* and the *Journal*, and strongly endorsed the program of speakers and outings the Society provides. This affirmation was particularly pleasing to Council, who work tirelessly as volunteers to provide a quality program. May I thank those of you who offered

kind remarks, and appreciation to those who volunteered to assist Council in any way they could.

My final remark concerning the survey is that the vast majority of members had heard about the Society through friends or *History SA*. Please play your part in supporting the Society's future by telling friends about the Society, bring them to a function, or give them a copy of the newsletter. It is the responsibility of all of us to welcome new members to the group, and I encourage you to introduce your guests to me (or any member of Council) so that they can be welcomed personally.

At the beginning of each meeting I look forward to greeting members as they arrive. It is a privilege for me as President to undertake this role, and to know and appreciate so many of you. Each meeting I looked forward to a grin and quiet 'G'day' from one member, Professor Ren Potts AO. It is with great sadness I record the passing of this internationally acclaimed mathematician, Rhodes Scholar and all round good bloke whose warmth touched many. I extend sincere sympathy to his wife Barbara, who recently conducted members on a tour of Adelaide University.

Each year at this time I eagerly anticipate the arrival of the Society's annual *Journal*, and its release to members and the many organisations and institutions who subscribe to receive it. It is an exciting moment!

As the article in this edition of *History SA* explains, putting together the *Journal* is an enormous undertaking, and one which takes an ongoing commitment of large amounts of time to ensure that it stays on track. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr Jenny Tilby Stock, whose hard work and commitment results in the magnificent publication which brings such enjoyment to our membership, and commands respect from all with an interest in history. Jenny is ably supported by designer Philip Knight and the Editorial Committee, and I also extend my thanks to these people.

It is also a good time for me to thank Janet Callen for her work in editing each edition of *History SA*. Janet beavers quietly away (giving me a gentle reminder when my report is due!) and is always on the look out for interesting material to include in the newsletter. Please contact Janet should you have an item of historical interest which may be suitable for publication and sharing with the wide audience which reads *History SA*.

I look forward to seeing you at Historical Society functions in the last months of the year, and to your ongoing support in 2006.

**David Cornish**  
President

## Field Trip

**October 2005**

Sunday – October 9, 10am

**Onkaparinga Valley Heritage Tour.**

Weaving, cordials and chocolate

This field trip will be led by Dr Geoffrey Bishop.

Departs Burnside Council carpark (corner Greenhill and Portrush Roads, Tusmore) at 10 am sharp (returning approx. 4 pm)

On the tour we will visit the Adelaide Hills townships of Oakbank and Woodside, both of which were established by the Johnston family of Oakbank, brewers and aerated waters manufacturers, in the 1840s.

Highlights at Oakbank will include:

- Visit to The Oakbank Weavers at the former Pike's Brewery where Mary Cassini and Peter Stapleton will demonstrate the art of loom weaving.
- Walk the Heritage Trail which takes you through the original Oakbank township.
- Visit to J. & A.G. Johnston's historic brewery (not usually open at weekends).

Lunch – given the unpredictable nature of Spring weather and the lack of any sheltered public areas in the district, lunch is included in the cost of the tour. It will be at the Woodside Hotel (a Johnston-owned hotel). Whilst there take a walk across the street and visit Monsoon Antiques and Woodside Bazaar – antiques and collectables of all types.

Our final destination is Woodside Heritage Park at the former milk and cheese factory. This complex houses various businesses including Melba's Chocolates, The Mill Shop (woollen goods and offcuts) and Woodside Cheesewrights, makers of superb cheeses.

Cost: \$35 per person (includes two-course lunch at Woodside Hotel).

Bookings: telephone Mrs Avis Huckel on 82772953 (we have booked a 35-seat coach for the tour as it is already proving to be a popular tour, so reserve your seat soon!).

Please note: if you book and find you are unable to come, please let Avis know as there is always a waiting list. The Society is charged for empty seats so we would sooner see them filled!

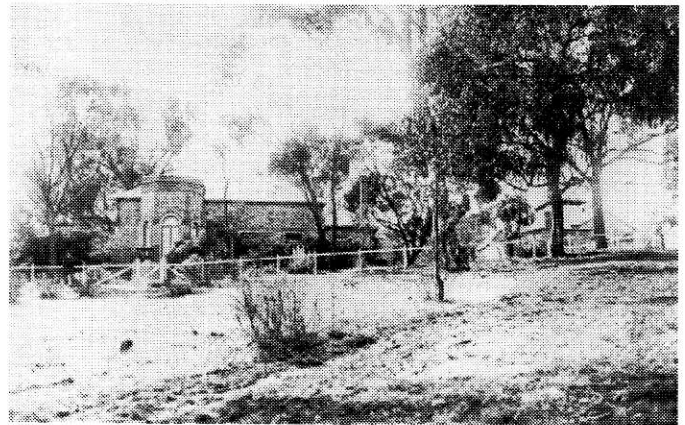
*The tower, former Pike's Brewery, Oakbank (now a private residence).  
Weaving by Mary Cassini, The Oakbank Weavers.*

## Christmas Gathering

**November 2005**

Sunday – November 27, 4-7pm

Members are reminded of the Christmas gathering at Old Government House, Belair, will be held on Sunday 27 November, 4-7 pm. Please book for this event with Mrs Avis Huckel ph 8277 2953.

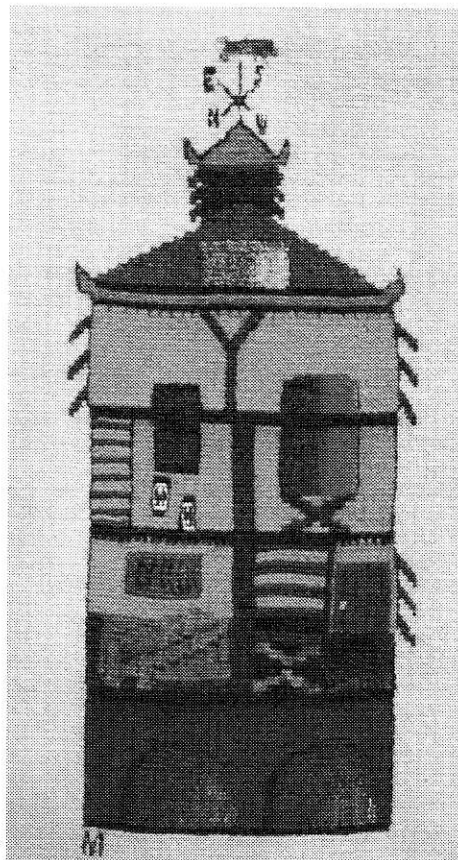


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### Sea Witch Images

The correct phone number of Sea Witch Images, referred to in the July edition of *History SA*, is 8447 8551, or mobile 0411 590 479.

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# Susan Marsden, Peter Bell, Alison Painter, June Donovan and Kathy Gargett

## *25th anniversary showcase –*

## *Professional Historians Association (SA)*

**7.30pm Friday  
7 October  
2005**

**Prince Philip Theatre,  
Prince Alfred College,  
Kent Town**

The Professional Historians Association (SA) is celebrating 25 years as Australia's first association of this kind. What do professional historians do? These talks by Dr Susan Marsden, a PHA founder and current President, and other long-term members, Dr Peter Bell, June Donovan, Kathy Gargett and Alison Painter, will illustrate the diversity of our work.

**Susan Marsden** (right), who will introduce the other speakers, runs her own consultancy firm, and has worked as National Conservation Manager for the Australian Council of National Trusts in Canberra, and as State Historian in SA. She has published more than 30 books and reports, most recently, *The Royal. History of the Royal Newcastle Hospital 1817-2005*, and has just completed co-writing the 50th anniversary history of the National Trust of South Australia.



**Peter Bell** has a background in architectural and industrial history, and is principal of the consulting firm Historical Research Pty Ltd. He works throughout Australia, but mainly in SA or North Queensland. Most clients want 'applied' history, and the majority of projects are related to heritage issues. Peter has carried out heritage surveys of Yorke Peninsula, Upper North, Oodnadatta Track, Birdsville & Strzelecki Tracks and Tatiara regions of SA, and Innisfail and Babinda in tropical Queensland. His work has received several awards, including a recent Edmund Wright Heritage Award. For Peter, much of the pleasure of historical consulting comes from the sheer diversity of things that people want researched: the historical boundaries of wine-making regions, delightful historic towns like Ravenswood in Queensland and Mount Torrens in SA, RAAF bases, CSIRO laboratories, historic cemeteries, a wartime hospital built underground for protection from air raids, the Port Wakefield Artillery Proof Range and Chinese mining settlements throughout Australia.

**Alison Painter** attended Flinders University as a mature age student and graduated with an Honours Degree in History in 1985. Since then she has worked as a researcher and writer of commissioned histories. She joined the Association of Professional Historians (the PHA) in 1984 and later served on the committee for 10-11 years, 6½ as Secretary. She will describe the varied work she has done as a researcher for clients, mostly interstate people. She will then talk about her main interest in breweries and the work involved in researching, writing and producing the books for Coopers (*Jolly Good Ale And Old*) and the Johnstons of Oakbank (*Brewers & Hoteliers*), highlighting some of the problems encountered in finding material.

**June Donovan** is a history researcher and partner in Donovan & Associates, which is also celebrating its 25th year. June will talk about her work in locating, cataloguing and assessing heritage objects at the Commonwealth Government's Defence Science and Technology Organisation sites in Melbourne and Adelaide, including the large DSTO site at Salisbury. Another component of her work is liaising with major Australian museums in an endeavour to place some of these objects in their collections for better preservation. The project is a fascinating one as an exploration of the history of defence science in Australia as exemplified in objects.

**Kathy Gargett** gained History Honours from Adelaide University in 1983. Rather to her surprise, she has found it an invaluable tool in earning her living in a range of jobs: publisher's editor; curator; researcher and archivist. They have included periods of employment at the History Trust of South Australia and at State Records. She would like, very briefly, to share some thoughts with you about history as cause, trade and world view.

## Katharine Thornton

# Frères ennemi (*Brothers-in-enmity*): Prince Alfred College and St Peter's College, 1867-1958

7.30pm Friday  
4 November  
2005

Prince Philip Theatre,  
Prince Alfred College,  
Kent Town

From the late nineteenth to the mid-twentieth century, two of Adelaide's leading boys' schools were the Church of England Collegiate School of St Peter (also known as St Peter's College or 'Saints') and Prince Alfred College ('Princes'). St Peter's College was founded by Anglican clergy and laymen in 1847. It dominated the South Australian educational landscape until 1867 when Wesleyan Methodists laid the foundation stone of Prince Alfred College, a school for boys of their denomination.

In the 1870s, the two schools developed a rivalry that continues to this day. Historians have explained this rivalry as an inevitable conflict between the establishment (the Anglican St Peter's College) and non-conformist dissenters (the Wesleyan Prince Alfred College). While this interpretation locates the origin of the schools' antagonism, it explains neither its longevity, nor its evolution.

Katherine Thornton sees the Saints-Princes' rivalry as part of the schools' corporate identities. It is the result of institutional communities' need to define themselves, something that is done in opposition to another group. The nature of this cultivated, intercollegiate rivalry is epitomised by the French expression *frères-ennemi* (literally, 'brother enemies') as a fraternal interdependence is at the heart of this competitive relationship between the two schools.

This paper explores ninety years of intercollegiate rivalry in sporting, academic, social, and professional arenas. It draws on public and private events, as well as personal and collective memories, in an effort to understand how and why intercollegiate hostility has continued to be part of the fabric of both schools' cultures, and South Australian history.

Katharine Thornton is a freelance historian. Her current project is a commissioned history of St Peter's College (1847-2004). Her research interests include: French cultural history, imperial and colonial history, the history of war and masculinity, school histories and historiography, and the history of mental disability.



FAREWELL  
TO  
ST. PETER'S  
AND  
PRINCE ALFRED COLLEGE  
OLD BOYS  
LEAVING WITH  
AUSTRALIAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

Town Hall, Adelaide, September 10, 1914.

Chairman:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, SIR HENRY GALWAY,  
K.C.M.G.

Joint Committee:

<i>St. Peter's Collegians' Association—</i>	<i>Prince Alfred Old Collegians' Association—</i>
Sir Lancelot Stirling, K.C.M.G.	Mr. Noel A. Webb, LL.B.
Mr. C. R. Chambers,	Mr. H. W. A. Miller.
Mr. A. E. H. Evans.	Mr. J. W. Blacket.
	M. L. Shuttleworth.

Image supplied by David Cornish, Prince Alfred College

## Our Journal (con't from page 1)

double columns and with headings, subheadings and illustrations in place. This is a delicate business, requiring patience and a good eye. The electronic file with images then goes back to the editor for printing off and is sent in hard copy to the author who for the first time appreciates how it will look, and can make suggestions on the layout. A period of close reading follows, as author and editor continue to check for errors, which are then corrected over the phone by Philip. As a final step, a clean copy is sent to another proof-reader, someone who has not seen the paper before and is more likely to pick up errors to which the author and editor have become inured. (Thanks to the various people who do this, members and friends!)

Meanwhile, book reviews are being chased up, received and edited. They are published along with reproduction of their front covers, scanned in before the books are sent out. The Society President sends in his report, the lecture series is listed and the program of excursions and events recorded.

Because so much of the production work is now done before the printers get to see it, the final printing and binding etc. takes less time at the end. The colour cover

is a composite of illustrations from the articles, skilfully compiled by Philip, and intriguing to decipher. The final print version then still has to be given one last inspection before being signed off on.

The editor has been ably assisted in recent years by her editorial committee, a sounding-board and source of ideas for people to approach for possible contributions, for refereeing and for book reviewing. The committee meets several times a year, keeps in touch by email, and assists with the reading of manuscripts and proofing. Each issue is produced over a period of 7-8 months of the year, the editor at her desk at Adelaide University for 2-3 days a week for much of that time, and Philip putting in many more hours as the process speeds up.

The end result is as a series of *Journals* that will adorn our shelves and those of some libraries for many years to come, both a record of our activities and a showcase of the talents of South Australian historians.

**Jenny Tilby Stock**

## Local Stories

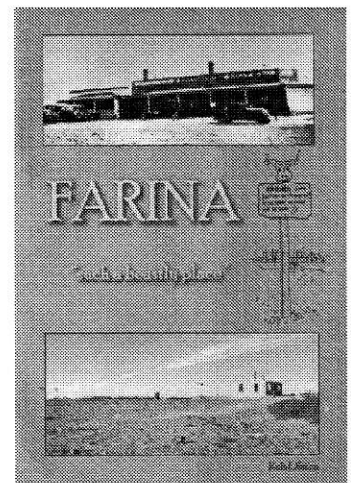
Three small books dealing with local history in South Australia have been drawn to our attention.

The Jamestown Local History Group recently launched a book entitled *The Street Names of Jamestown*. The Secretary, Julie Humphris, explains that the town was named by Sir James Fergusson, Governor of South Australia 1869-1873. His family home was in Ayrshire, Scotland, so many place names in that county were given to the streets in the centre of Jamestown. As the town spread beyond its belt of parklands the streets and roads acquired a mix of family names, nostalgic association, and more recently names honouring prominent citizens. The stories of these names are outlined in the book, compiled and printed by the History Group. Details can be obtained from the Secretary, PO Box 153, Jamestown.

The life of John Gifford, who arrived in South Australia in 1869, is described in *Full Circle*, a recent book by Enid Sutton. John came from Blackford in Somerset and worked in Mt Barker, near Murray Bridge, and at Guichen Bay and Kingston in the South East. He struggled with adversity as a pioneer. Enid can be contacted on Ph. 8264 2350.

*Farina*, by Rob Olston, Ballarat, self published, 2nd expanded edition 2004, is reviewed by Marie Steiner.

Staff, students and parents from Ballarat Grammar School have enjoyed bush camping at Farina over recent years. Consequently this very attractively presented 40 page booklet has been produced, with a reproduction of a lithograph by Kenneth Jack on the back cover, to acknowledge the harsh environment endured by early settlers. There are plenty of telling photos, some from the Mortlock Library, some from sources which could not be identified, and many taken recently in colour. Information is based on reports in the *Port Augusta Dispatch*, published local stories, and stories from former local residents. There are lively snippets about early travellers to "this beastly place", explorers, railways, mines and road trains, Afghans and camels, dust storms and flood. Rob Olston writes that he hopes these notes will ignite the interest of a serious researcher. He certainly provokes curiosity and provides entertaining reading with this publication.



# HSSA Visit to the Thebarton Police Barracks

Forty members gathered on a pleasant sunny afternoon in July in the main hall of the former amenities block. Geoff Rawson, President of the Police Historical Society, welcomed us and introduced his colleague Jim Sykes, who also guided us around the Museum set up by their society. It was pleasant to have present HSSA member Dorothy Pyatt, who for many years has worked on the collections of the Police Historical Society. Dorothy was a police officer in Port Augusta and for a long while covered out back areas. Also present were Elees Pick and Helen Ward who supplied a tasty afternoon tea.

The two buildings used by the Police Historical Society were built around 1916 when the Thebarton Barracks became operational. Both are substantial two storey structures facing the parade ground. The museum is in the very long former troopers barracks, where more than 200 people lived early in the twentieth century. The Thebarton Barracks was the main site for police training. The cadets lived in the barracks and in the 1930s the "new" accommodation block came into use.

Many of us would have welcomed a longer stay in the Museum, with its hundreds of photographs of police activities and personnel. There are comprehensive displays of police uniforms, badges, and restraining devices.

The Mounted Police Cadre and the Dog Squad are currently based in the barracks. We were shown two videos depicting their activities. The German Shepherds, however, were not present as they go home with their handlers. Some of us went on a walk around the spotless and airy stables. There were 23 of the police greys in residence, while 27 live at Bolivar on a rotational basis. There is an exercise apparatus for several horses at a time. Routine patrols go out from the Barracks daily from Thursdays to Sundays and the police greys are popular at special events. The Mounted Police Cadre symbolises the mainly reliable and steady hand of the police force in South Australia.

Our hosts made us very welcome and it is plain that they are very proud of the police force and its history.

**Denis Harper**



*Society members enjoy the display concerning the history of women in the South Australian Police Force.*



*The collections includes examples of police head gear from South Australia, interstate and overseas forces.*



*Equipment used by camel mounted police in the outback of South Australia.*

# Heritage Resource: The Searcy Photographic Collection

The State Library has many notable pictorial collections. None is as large as that collection named after its creator Arthur Searcy. Though the collection is notable for its images of South Australian life, it was held out of this state for the majority of its existence and was only returned in the 1990s to its place of origin.

Arthur Searcy was born at Mount Barker on 6 January 1852, son of William Searcy who became Chief Inspector of Police. He had a long and successful career in the South Australian Public Service, joining the Customs Department on 1 October 1873. In a *Register* newspaper article 50 years later, the story was told of his joining that department. He was visiting his brother Alfred, already in Customs, while he was on the wharf checking sugar from Mauritius, and decided to apply for a position in the same government department. His early positions included the quaint sounding titles of Tide Waiter, Locker, Landing Waiter and Measurer of Ships, before rising through many responsibilities to become President of the Marine Board (1902), Chairman of the Harbours Board Commissioners (1914) and President of the Public Service Association.

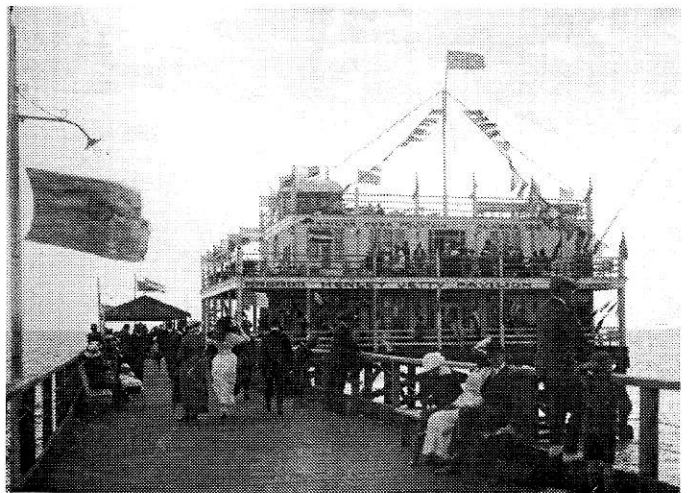
During his professional life Searcy had amassed a collection of photographs, mostly covering the period ca. 1900-1923, nearly 20,000 images of mainly South Australian subjects. It is believed a few of these were taken by him, some are of his Searcy family, but how he came by the rest is unknown. Possibly his long career in the Civil Service gave him opportunity to obtain access to public and private collections. He may have acquired others that were published in contemporary Adelaide newspapers like the *Observer*. Photographic images as early as 1862 are to be found in the collection; he also collected images in other formats that were of earlier date. Some of the contemporary photographers' names were known to Searcy, professionals as well as amateurs. The prints covered a range of processes expected for that period – albumen, printout papers and gelatine.

By 1923, Searcy had assembled the collection into 44 leather-bound albums, and added his own captions. These varied widely in detail and accuracy, some just guesswork on his part - suggesting possibly that some time had passed between his acquisition of the material and his adding captions later. The subject matter was diverse, and as could be expected, had a large number of maritime images, in particular lighthouses. Many of the albums included other items beside photographs. Papers about Searcy's career, invitations, maps, engravings, mining share certificates and even sheets of S.A. revenue stamps were pasted in.

After his death in 1935 the collection was acquired by the State Library of New South Wales, where it languished, deteriorating and little used because of its largely South Australian content, and the fact that its contents were not indexed or catalogued. Visiting South Australian researchers learnt of its existence in Sydney but until the



*Arthur Searcy, President of the South Australian Marine Board and Chairman of the Harbours Board, in his office c. 1922 PRG 280/1/37/90*



*People enjoying a visit to Henley Beach jetty and refreshment pavilion with its American Soda Fountain and Alaska icecream c. 1914 PRG 280/1/8/428*



*A horse-drawn wagon carrying a trade union banner in the Eight Hour Day procession, Grote Street, Adelaide 1914 PRG 280/1/8/432*

## Heritage Resource: The Searcy Photographic Collection

late 1980s it seemed it was destined to remain relatively unappreciated in the collections of the State Library of New South Wales. In 1994 it was offered to the State Library of South Australia and acquired from funds in the Library's Somerville bequest, which supports archival projects. The collection was made into a personal record group as number PRG 280.

In 1995 a three-year long project began to conserve and catalogue the images, through further allocation of Somerville bequest funds. The photographs, some of which showed evidence of the "silvering out" process of deterioration, were removed from the old pages in the bound volumes and mounted on archival-quality pages between interleaved acid-free tissue. The original sewn sections structure and order of Searcy's original albums was retained. Solander boxes were made to hold parts of the conserved volume sections. The other non-photographic items that Searcy had mounted in the albums were included in their original positions.

The Library's Pictorial Curator at that time, Barbara Hobbourn, spent about 18 months cataloguing the collection to Library of Congress Subject Headings standards, with an assistant to research the content of images, and correcting Searcy's sometimes inaccurate captions and date ascriptions. Just one example is from his Album 16, where an image purporting to show "Far Northern Blackfellows 1912", actually shows Aboriginal men photographed during the Elder Scientific Expedition in 1891 by Dr Frederick Elliot.

Digitisation was seen as the best way to make the Searcy Collection more readily available to researchers and removing the need to retrieve precious old original photographs. The digitisation program was undertaken over four years by Library staff and the images placed on the Library's South Australian Database and made available progressively over the Web from March this year. The Library has spent over \$100,000 in total to make this collection accessible, when labour costs, conservation and digitisation are taken into account.

The Searcy collection is an important photographic record of mainly South Australian life and events during much of Searcy's own working life, particularly the first quarter of the last century. Inevitably many placenames associated with events, sports team photographs, crowd or family scenes could not be positively identified, and dates offered are approximate only. Some images already exist in other placename or subject collections on the database. Obvious interstate or overseas subjects were easy to catalogue, and there are many images taken locally during World War One.



*Women members of the Australasian Ornithologists' Union expedition to Kangaroo Island outside their tent at "Correa Camp" 1905 PRG 280/1/1/152*



*A group of women engaged in fundraising activities during World War I. The booth behind carries the sign 'V E Smokers Retreat' and advertisements for 'Three Castles' cigarettes c. 1917 PRG 280/1/15/143*



*The quarantine camp set up at Jubilee Oval, Adelaide during the Spanish influenza epidemic of 1919 PRG 280/1/9/374*

## The Searcy Photographic Collection (con't)

I was interested in a wedding portrait of a distant relative in 1922, taken outside the Ayers family home *Dimora* which showed the bridal party and all the guests arranged five tiers high on platforms assembled for the day. A scene c. 1913 of children by a goatcart laden with firewood could have come from another century. In 1919 an influenza epidemic hit Adelaide and a quarantine camp was erected on the old Jubilee Oval; a photograph shows a ring of small tents around the oval perimeter. In 1914 visitors could enjoy the refreshment pavilion at the end of Henley jetty and partake of a drink from the American soda fountain and *Alaska* ice-cream. The route of the Eight Hour Day procession that year included Grote Street where one of the floats, drawn by four decorated horses, was 'snapped' during a pause in the proceedings. The banner supported on the large cart is of similar size to a trade union banner currently on display in the Library's Mortlock Wing exhibitions.



*A white goat pulls a wood cart full of firewood, surrounded by children, c. 1913. Searcy's caption for this image was 'a fair turn out' PRG 280/1/11/257*

Images directly connected to Arthur Searcy include a view c. 1922 of him in his office, standing behind his desk, with papers neatly arranged in front of him. About a year before he was photographed with his seven sons; one of them rejoiced in the given names Peroomba Rochester Basil. In 1920 Searcy was a guest at a Government House garden party with his brother Alfred and they were pictured talking to the young daughters of Mr Giddings, both dressed in white. The hemlines of young women's dresses that year were raised enough to show off the ankle and lower leg.

A search of the database using 'Searcy' in the *Collection* entry point on the *Search For* page will show the captions arranged alphabetically in year sequence over 1657 screen

pages, enabling a researcher at a glance – or two - to assess the variety of images available. A *Subject* or *Keywords* search will locate images within the Searcy collection in the same way as for the rest of the State Library's collection of images available on the South Australiana Database. All the images are now considered to be out of copyright. The Searcy Collection is well worth the time spent in discovering its many treasures.

Neil Thomas  
State Library of South Australia



**Government  
of South Australia**

***In History We Trust***  
**15<sup>th</sup> State History Conference**  
**27-28 May 2006**

**Adelaide**



**HISTORY TRUST OF  
SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

The History Trust has announced details of the 15<sup>th</sup> State History Conference, to be held in Adelaide, 27th -28th May 2006. In 2006 the History Trust will mark its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. In keeping with this significant anniversary, the Conference will reflect on history making in South Australia, with a special focus on the past 25 years.

A Call for Papers has been made and possible topics and issues can be found at [http://www.history.sa.gov.au/history/conference/06Call\\_for\\_papers.pdf](http://www.history.sa.gov.au/history/conference/06Call_for_papers.pdf)

Abstracts should be no longer than 250 words and must be submitted by 31st December 2005. Abstracts should be submitted by email to: [jmudge@history.sa.gov.au](mailto:jmudge@history.sa.gov.au) or posted to: State History Conference, History Trust of South Australia, GPO Box 1836, Adelaide, SA 5001

Further details can be obtained from either Kate Walsh or Jan Mudge, Community History Unit, History Trust of South Australia on 8203 9888 or [kwalsh@history.sa.gov.au](mailto:kwalsh@history.sa.gov.au) or [jmudge@history.sa.gov.au](mailto:jmudge@history.sa.gov.au).

## THE CATHERINE MARY GILBERT ESSAY PRIZE

By Neil Thomas

Recent additions include:

The letters of James Campbell Nelson Whittington, written over August and September 1931 to his friend Nurse Jean Barrie at the Adelaide Hospital, describe his work at Wirrealpa Station near Blinman and Bulgunnia Station via Tarcoola. He mentions his rail trips, the donkey and camel teams used for transport and station life at the time. Photographs illustrate his travels from South Australia into New South Wales and Queensland. The reminiscences written down in 2001 by Helen Scott, nee Woodrow of her childhood life near the Murray Mouth include her memories of the special physical environment, the Woodrow house, fishing and the activities and family events she remembered as a child. The Woodrow family boat the MV *Helen* is the subject of another paper compiled by Colin Hill, its present owner and restorer. Built by Searle's boat builders at Port Adelaide for Jack Woodrow of Milang, the *Helen* was launched at Goolwa in 1936 and used originally to carry passengers and cargo between Milang and Narrung. From 1940 it was used as a fishing boat, pleasure and salvage craft by later owners; now restored, it is used for boating out of Mannum. The paper includes photographs of the boat during its 70-odd years life.

An address by artist Valamanesh Hossein at the opening of an exhibition this year entitled *Home*, at the Nexus Gallery, has been added to the collection. The exhibition featured the art of Afghani refugees living and working in Murray Bridge; the Library bought three of the works – *Tailor's Shop*, *Camel Train* and *My Mother*. Another Magarey Medal has been donated, that of West Torrens player Max Pontifex 1910-1998, who won the best and fairest award in 1932.

Interviews added include one conducted by the National Library of Australia's *Eminent Australians* Interviewing Program with our present Lieut.-Governor Mr Bruno Krumins. He was born in Latvia in 1924 and arrived in Australia in 1949. After working as an industrial chemist he became the Inaugural Chairman and Chief Executive of the SA Ethnic Affairs Commission from 1986-2000. Warren Bonython, well known conservationist, Flinders Ranges bush walker and historian, has also been interviewed about his life and many interests.

The History Trust of South Australia is keen to stimulate further research and writing about the history of Adelaide and to this end offers an annual prize of \$1,000 for the best article or essay. The work can encompass any aspect of the history of the city. Eligibility is entirely open: everyone -- from professional journalists to tertiary students, from professors of history to photographers and creative writers -- is invited to apply. We seek well researched, well written essays, that will help to advance our understanding of the city. A publication of the best entries over several years may be produced. Submissions will be judged by a panel appointed by the History Trust.

Authors are limited to one entry of between 3,000 and 5,000 words. All sources of information must be appropriately acknowledged. A style-guide is available from the History Trust. Four copies of the entry must be lodged with the History Trust of South Australia GPO Box 1836 Adelaide 5001 by 4.30pm on 31 March 2006. The winner of the prize will be announced during SA History Week, the last week in May 2006. For copies of the style guide consult the History Trust's web site on [www.history.sa.gov.au](http://www.history.sa.gov.au), or telephone Joylyne Teh on 8203 9888.

The prize is funded by Adjunct-Professor Susan Magarey of the Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences at Adelaide University.

**Deadline for newsletter articles and entries October 14, 2005.**

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## Coming Events

### **Brighton Historical Society**

Meets at 8 pm on the first Thursday of the month in the Kingston Room, 24 Jetty Rd., Brighton. Speakers are announced in the Community Noticeboard section of the *Messenger* newspaper. Contact ph. 8298 1959.

### **Burnside Historical Society**

Meets Burnside Community Centre 8pm third Monday of the month.

Monday 19 September "Radio, a History as I see it".  
Speaker Tony Ryan.

Monday 17 October "The University of the Third Age in South Australia." Speaker Dr Jack Cross.

Contact Ph. 8379 4090.

### **Campbelltown Historical Society**

Meetings are held at 8 pm at 2 Newton Rd Campbelltown.

13 September Marj Bowyer, aged 92 years, will discuss farming life in the Riverland over the years. The town of Loxton was named after her grandfather.

11 October Don Catford, CEO of the former Port Adelaide City Mission, will describe the changes that have occurred over the years. Contact ph. 8336 6959.

### **East Torrens Historical Society**

Meets 8pm at the Adelaide Hills Natural Resource Centre, Crescent Avenue, Norton Summit. Contact ph. 83903138. On 14 September David Wotton will speak about the Dunn family, and their influence on the development of the Adelaide Hills. Contact ph. 8390 3138.

### **Enfield and Districts Historical Society Inc.**

Meetings 7.15 pm 4th Wednesday of the month at Enfield Community Centre, 540 Regency Rd, Enfield. Contact ph. 8340 0962.

### **Kensington and Norwood Historical Society**

The Society meets at 8 pm on the 1st Wednesday of the month in the Don Pyatt Room of Norwood Town Hall. Details are available from Rachel McInnes ph 8363 9003.

### **Mt Lofty and Districts Historical Society**

On October 29-30 a weekend Historical Adventure Tour is planned. Participants will visit Jabuk, Lameroo, Pinaroo, and Karoonda. Contact ph. 8388 6279.

### **Port Adelaide Historical Society**

Meets the third Wednesday of the month in the Semaphore Library at 8 pm. Contact ph. 8248 3344.

21 September Mr Bob Thorjussen will speak about "Photography".

19 October Mr Tony Harris will speak about "India".  
Contact ph. 8248 3344

### **Postal Stationery and Postal History Society of Australia**

Meets on the second Tuesday of the month in the Campbelltown Uniting Church Hall, 609 Lower North East Rd., at 7.45 pm.

Contact ph. 8260 3352

### **Royal Geographical Society of SA.**

Meets the 4th Thursday of the month at the State Library.

22 September 5.10 pm "Pollution and the City, are we surrounded?" Speaker Ms Diane Kotrotos, from the Environmental Protection Authority.

20 October 7.30 pm "Infiltration from the North, the SA dog fence." Speaker Mr Don Nicolson, Chairman of the Dog Fence Board. Contact ph. 8207 7265

### **Salisbury and District Historical Society**

Meets on the second Wednesday of the month at the Folk Museum, Ann St., Salisbury, at 7 pm.

14 September there will be a talk about Local History.

25 September there will be a day excursion to Moonta.

12 October there will be a talk about Family Trees.

Contact ph. 8250 1250

### **Tea Tree Gully and District Historical Society**

Meets 3rd Thursday of the month at the Old Highercombe Hotel Folk Museum, 3 Perseverance Rd, Tea Tree Gully at 7 pm.

15 September Mr Bob Swarbrick, "Introduction to the Barossa Gold Fields."

19 October, Wednesday, there will be a Bring and Tell morning at 9.45 am at the City of Tea Tree Gully Community Learning Centre in the Tea Tree Gully Library. Contact Ph. 8251 4191

### **The History Council of South Australia**

The second annual lecture of the HCSA will be held on 14 September 6.00-7.30 pm and is followed by light refreshments. It is free and is to be held in the Lecture Theatre in the Institute Building, State Library. Emeritus Professor Jill Roe's lecture is entitled "I Danced for the Queen. Exuberance and otherwise in regional history since the 1950s." Bookings are essential. Ph. 8302 4119, e-mail karen.hewitt@unisa.edu.au

### **Walkerville Historical Society**

Meets 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7.30 pm in the Walkerville Town Hall.

21 September "Bishop Short and the Short Family."  
Speaker Judith Brown.

19 October "A History of Kangaroo Island." Speaker Dr Dick Rischbieth Contact ph. 8269 5982