

No. 186

September 2006

HISTORY SA

The Newsletter of the Historical Society of South Australia Inc.

HSSA Christmas Festivities 26 November

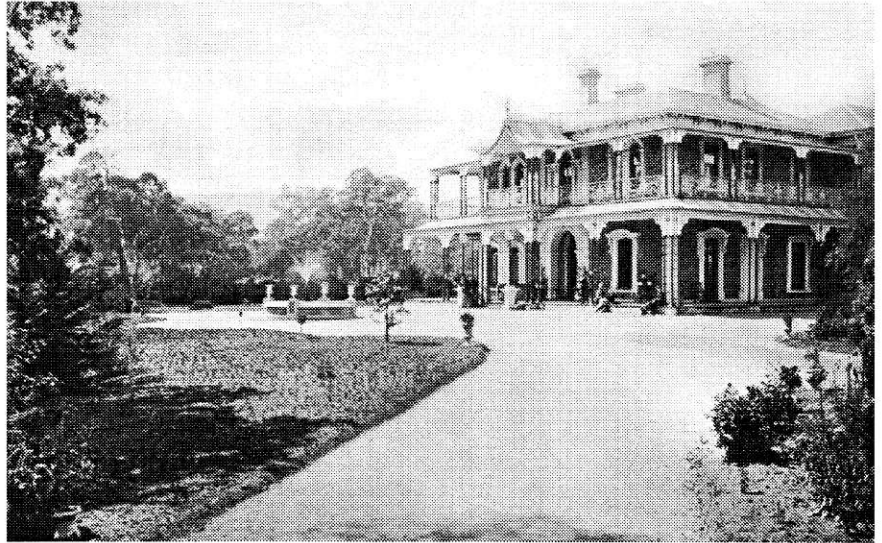
For the Society's Christmas function this year we will be visiting two historic properties, *The Acacias* at Loreto College and Clayton Wesley Uniting Church at Beulah Park. The two properties are linked by Sir Edwin T. Smith, who lived at *The Acacias* and worshipped at Clayton Congregational Church. He was a major benefactor of the church over many decades.

The afternoon will commence at 2.30pm at Clayton Church. Our Vice-President, Geoffrey Bishop, will lead a tour of the 1856 chapel and the current imposing Gothic design church built in 1882. The church has many fine stained glass windows, an imposing pipe organ and an historic churchyard. As this year marks the 150th anniversary of J. Eustace Dodd whose company, J.E.Dodd and Sons of Adelaide, built the 1600 pipe organ, we will hear a short recital by the church's former organist David Annear. From here we will travel the short distance to *The Acacias* at Loreto College on the corner of Kensington and Portrush Road.

This is an interesting property. It was bought by Dr John Michael Gunson in 1874. *The Adelaide Register Supplement* of 12 January 1876 reported that:

Mr M McMullen is the architect for a villa residence for Dr Gunson at Marryatville, containing on the ground floor dining and drawing rooms, hall library, parlour, pantry, and china closet, kitchen, and scullery. The upper floor, for which access is gained from the hall by a large geometrical staircase four feet six inches wide, contains five bedrooms and clothes and bathrooms all of which are entered from a spacious landing. There are also commodious cellars under parlour and hall. At the rear of the house are the necessary stable, coach house, harness rooms and hay shed, and also other out houses. The cost, not including extras, is about £2,500.

The building is Italianate in style and is built of Glen Osmond stone. Glass doors open onto a terrace on three sides of the building. Dr Gunson was a keen gardener and established a park like setting for his home. As wattles covered much of the grounds the property was named the *The Acacias*.



*The Acacias from The Adelaide Register Supplement of 12/1/1876
Image supplied by Loreto College*

In 1878 the property was bought by Sir Edwin Smith, as mentioned. He extended the house, adding a ballroom and underground billiard room. The ballroom and dining room are linked by an atrium with stained glass doors. The butler's residence is currently No.161 Kensington Rd, and nearby villas housed more of the staff. Sir Edwin was on the board of the Botanic Gardens and his garden at *The Acacias* was described in *The Adelaide Chronicle* 29 October 1904 as follows:

Sir Edwin's garden is a perfect picture--with dozens of bright annuals and roses everywhere. From the wire netting of the tennis court hang a great mass of red balls of flowering beauty. Over the arches which cover the little rustic bridges, spanning the natural stream which runs through the grounds, clambered a wonderful display of roses.

A grotto was added to the scene with rills, caves, and holes in which ferns of great beauty filled every crevice. Garden parties were held here and the ladies fell in love with the little winding paths leading under stone arches. Over a century later we will have our own garden party and invite you all to come and learn more about this prestigious venue which is included in the State Heritage Register and the list of the National Estate. This information about *The Acacias* is adapted from a talk given by Sister Josephine Jeffery to the Kensington and Norwood Historical Society in 2005, and reported in their newsletter December 2005.

Tickets for the Christmas party are \$15 and can be booked with Avis at the next meeting, or by ph 8277 2953.

From the President

Once again there is much to report from the Historical Society of South Australia!

Since the last edition of *History SA* the Society has provided for your enjoyment two lectures and a field trip, all of which were successful and enjoyed by members. Unfortunately, I was unable to be present at the July meeting, but have had positive feedback about Elizabeth Caldicott's presentation **Gardens as a reflection of culture**, and I extend sincere thanks to Elizabeth for her presentation.

The August meeting was enjoyed by more than 140 members and guests. Such a large attendance is almost double what we expect in the depths of winter, and I think it can be attributed to several things. Firstly, Dylan Walker has presented at HSSA meetings before and is well known for the enthusiasm he shares with his audience. Secondly, everybody likes silent films, whether drama or showing how life was at the time the film was shot. Thirdly, Council made a conscious effort, as it did with Elizabeth Caldicott's presentation, to extend an invitation to organisations relevant to the guest speaker's topic to attend, and I was delighted to welcome a large number of guests to the August meeting.

The HSSA Council is also keen to promote the work of kindred societies, and is planning to invite the President of an historical society to attend our meeting and to give a brief précis of their group's activities. This process started at the August meeting with an overview of the Burnside Historical Society from its President, Isabel Williams OAM, who was joined by several members from that organisation.

I would like to express appreciation to the Hon John Bannon, former Premier of SA and HSSA member, who escorted a group of very lucky society members on a tour of Parliament House. John shared his knowledge of the building, the colourful characters who have inhabited it, and the events which took place within it, to great acclaim from those present. I'd also like to thank the Clerk, Mr David Bridges, who liaised with me to ensure the tour was a success.

Council member Margaret Ford and I were privileged to attend a reception given by the Rt Hon Michael Harbison, Lord Mayor of Adelaide, to commemorate the birthday of Her Majesty Queen Adelaide (she would have been 214!), after whom our city was named. It was a special occasion and brought back memories of a speech I gave in the Queen Adelaide Room about Queen Adelaide to a large group of women. I must say I was much more relaxed this time!

Through my Presidency of the HSSA and my work at Prince Alfred College I am fortunate to know many interesting people. The downside of this is that I seem to be a regular funeral attendee! Last month I attended the funeral of a special but very humble South Australian, Ross Stanford, DFC, OAM. Ross was a champion cricketer, flew Lancaster

aircraft during World War II as a part of the legendary Dam Buster squadron, and was an active community and charity worker. His well-attended funeral at the Adelaide Oval marked the passing of a charming man, and the playing of Vera Lynn singing 'We'll meet again' reflected an era long past, and one which produced so much sadness, achievement for some, and shaped men like Ross Stanford.

I was also pleased to read a copy of the recently released *More than a Musician – a life of E. Harold Davies*, written by Doreen Bridges and published by Australian Scholarly Publishing. E. Harold Davies (1867-1947) was a name known to me through his son George (who was killed in World War I), and the camps he led at Port Noarlunga for Prince Alfred College boys younger than himself, including my grandfather. Marvellous photos exist of the group leaving by dray from the Davies home in Hutt Street, which still stands today.

More than a Musician tells the story of E. Harold Davies' life as an organist in England, his arrival in South Australia and work in Gawler, Kapunda and Adelaide, and his appointment as Director of the Elder Conservatorium of Music and Professor of Music. Other achievements in the musical life of South Australia included the establishment of the Bach Society and the South Australian Symphony Orchestra. Anyone with interests in music and history will gain much from this book.

I also had the privilege of being shown two volumes on long-term loan to the Saint Peter's College archives. The volumes, which were kept by two sons of lawyer and politician Sir Josiah Symon, document through photographs, menu card and programmes, the lives of two young men in Edwardian Oxford. It was a privileged existence, and Oxford certainly provided them with many opportunities. Despite this, I couldn't help but think of how only a few years later many of the men photographed enjoying the good life would suffer or lose their lives in World War I. The volumes have been beautifully restored by Art Lab SA.

The Society's Council is busy working on the 2007 programme, and I look forward to announcing the lecture series and field trips planned for the new year shortly. Setting the program is a big task and generates much head scratching and discussion at Council meetings, though it is wonderful to watch it unfold and rewarding when it all comes together.

I encourage you to attend the Historical Society of South Australia Christmas function at Loreto College. It will be a unique opportunity to view the charming mansion *The Acacias*, to enjoy good food and wine in the garden, and the opportunity to win a Christmas cake baked by the President!

David Cornish
President

Field Trip

September 2006

Wednesday – 20 September, 10.30am

Royal Adelaide Hospital and Michell Residence

The colony of South Australia's first attempt at a hospital was the Colonial Infirmity, established by the Colonial Surgeon, Dr T. Y. Cotter, in 1837. This was in response to the need for somewhere to care for two bullock drivers who were suffering from injuries, sheltering under an old sail rigged up to keep off the rain. A third man was lying ill on a filthy rug depending on passers by for any care he received. A hut, 12 feet by 18 feet was constructed of rammed earth, and stood in the parklands near North Terrace, almost opposite Holy Trinity Church. This infirmity was replaced by a four-roomed hospital with thirty beds, established by Governor Gawler. The foundation stone was set down in 1840 and can still be seen in the present hospital. The Heritage Department of the Royal Adelaide Hospital came into being 25 years ago when Dr Bernard Nicholson retired as Medical Superintendent of the hospital.

The Michell Residence, located on North Terrace next door to the Masonic Building, was lovingly and faithfully restored as a family home by Rosemary and Raymond Michell in the 1980s. Designed by William McMinn, architect of the nearby Mitchell Building, Austral Hotel and *Diamora*, the second empire style home was built in 1881 for Arthur Waterhouse. It remained a family home until sold in 1926 by Walter Hervey Bagot, himself an influential architect, when it became professional rooms. Rosemary Michell was studying architecture and completing a study of the property when it came on the market, and only a matter of days later it was hers! Rosemary's devotion to the building, along with the discovery of remnants of wallpaper and plasterwork, and her commitment to authenticity, have ensured the preservation of delightful and significant building. It is a privilege to have the opportunity to visit the only private home on North Terrace (other than the Governor's!), and to enjoy morning tea with its owners.

The group will meet at the Royal Adelaide Hospital at 10.30am by the escalators in the front foyer. Half the group will tour the hospital whilst the others visit the Michell residence. The groups will then swap, with the tour concluding at 12.30pm.

The tour is \$5 per person and **bookings can be made with Avis, ph 8277 2953.**

Field Trip

October 2006

Sunday 8 October 9am-3.30pm

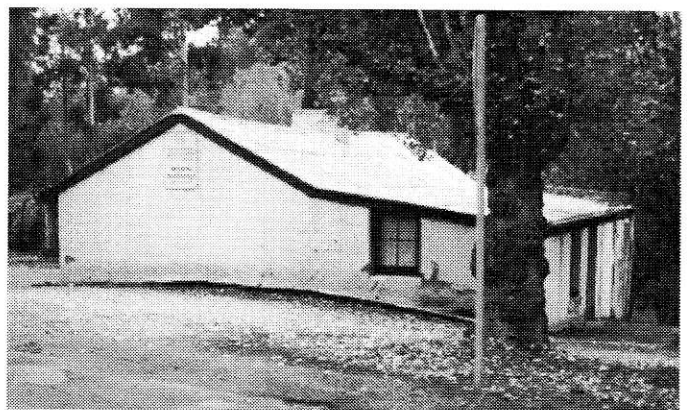
Coromandel Valley

Liz Sawyer of the Coromandel Valley and Districts Branch of the National Trust issues the following invitation:

I welcome you to visit rural Coromandel Valley in suburban Adelaide for a delightful day tour. Have you heard of the story of the sailors who deserted from the ship *Coromandel* in 1837? Do you know why there is an S T Gill memorial in Coromandel Valley? Your visit will unveil some early South Australian history while taking in this delightful picturesque valley. We will start at the cemetery, see the remains of a jam and biscuit-making factory operating from the 1850s and visit war memorial sites and the Institute.

We will arrive at Gamble Cottage for a buffet lunch at 12.30pm. Following lunch we will proceed to the Bakehouse Museum set in a rich historical precinct near a ford, Linear Park walk along the Sturt, and one of the old stone bridges in the area. The day will be packed with interest and there will be a handout for those wishing to return for a longer visit later. Time permitting there may be an add on visit during the return journey home. Hope you can come!

The tour leaves Burnside Council Chamber carpark at 9am sharp and returns at approximately 3.30 pm. Liz advises that you will need to bring your own morning tea. For further details and **bookings can be made with Avis, ph 8277 2953.**



Winns Bakehouse Coromandel Valley, photo supplied by Liz Sawyer

My-Van Tran, AM

Understanding Vietnam and overseas Vietnamese

**7.30pm Friday
6 Oct 2006**

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

Dr My-Van Tran received her M.A. from Duke University under the Fulbright program; Dip. TESL from the University of Papua New Guinea and Ph.D. from the Australian National University in 1976 under the Colombo Plan. She was one of the first Vietnamese to be granted Australian citizenship (1976) after the fall of South Vietnam. In 1985 she was honoured with the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in recognition of her service to Australia-Asia Relations. In 1992 she received from the Premier and Minister of Ethnic Affairs the **Certificate of Appreciation for Valuable Contribution towards the Promotion of a Multicultural South Australia**. In 2002 she was honoured as Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for her service to the Vietnamese community, and the promotion of multiculturalism and Asian Studies. In 2004 she was awarded with a certificate **Citizen of Humanity** for her work on human rights.



She has written three books, and many monographs and articles in the field of Asian Studies. She has travelled the world many times to present papers and to teach. She has been appointed to many Advisory Councils and committees at federal and states levels; Board Director for the Special Broadcasting Service (SBS); Member of the National Population Council, the Commonwealth-State Council for NESB Women Issues; and the National Multicultural Advisory Council; Ambassador for the Recognition of Women under the Prime Minister's Honouring Women Program.

Currently Dr My-Van Tran is Associate Professor and Convenor, International Studies, University of South Australia; Counsellor, Vietnamese Community, SA Chapter; Adviser to the SA Teachers' Association; Adviser to the Australian-Vietnamese Veterans' War memorial project; Ministerial Appointee for the South Australian Multicultural Education Committee and Chair of Education Working Party; Academician of the Vietnamese Royal Academy of Humanities and Arts.

Dr My-Van Tran's talk is entitled **Understanding Vietnam and Overseas Vietnamese**. She will discuss our understanding of the Vietnamese in South Australia and will include a brief introduction about the country of Vietnam. She will outline a case study of a Vietnamese family in South Australia and conclude with a DVD entitled *Images of Vietnamese Culture* featuring Vietnamese activities in South Australia.

Tom Gara

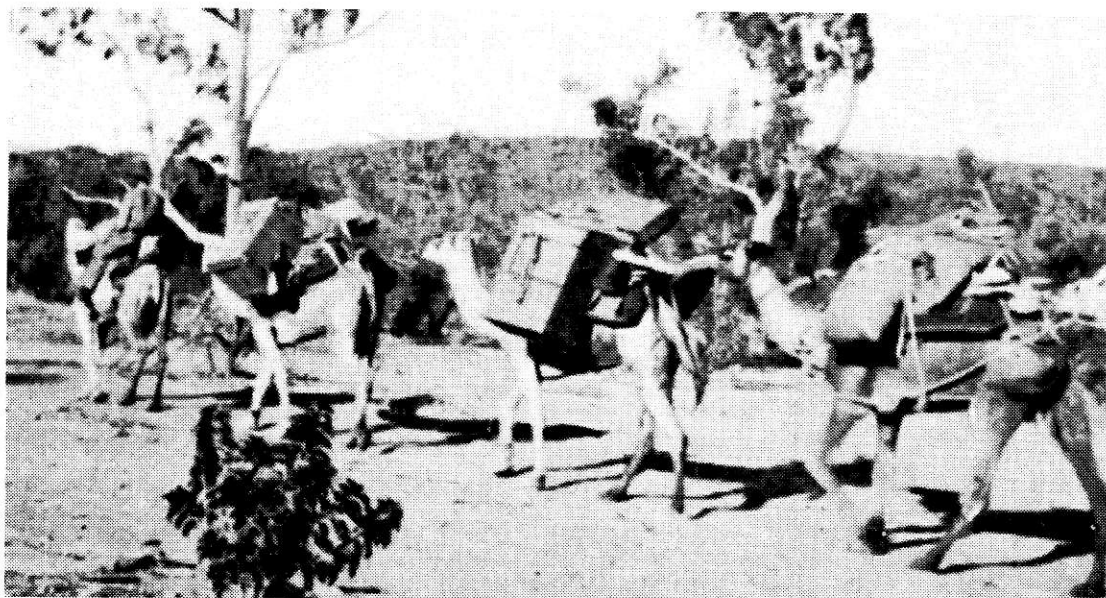
7/6 per scalp; The dogging industry in the north-west of South Australia in the 1930s

**7.30pm Friday
3 Nov 2006**

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

Tom is currently enrolled for a PhD in History at the University of Adelaide on the effects of the Maralinga nuclear tests on Aboriginal people. He was the historian with the Aboriginal Heritage Branch of the SA Department of Environment and Planning from 1989-1994, and the historian with the Native Title Unit of the Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement (SA) from 1995-2000. He has published several papers on post-contact Aboriginal history in South Australia and contributed to the *Wakefield Companion to the History of South Australia* and the *Australian Dictionary of Biography*.

In an attempt to eliminate dingoes in the country beyond the Dog Fence the South Australian Government in 1912 passed the Wild Dogs Act, which allowed for bounties to be paid on dingo scalps. Dogging, the practice of shooting, trapping, and poisoning dingoes for bounty, soon became a profitable industry in the outback. By the early 1930s several enterprising doggers in the Oodnadatta district had amassed considerable profits by trading flour, sugar, tea and other items with the Aboriginal people of the North-West Aboriginal Reserve in exchange for dingo scalps. Tom will discuss the impact of the doggers on the Aboriginal people of the reserve and also document the efforts by the South Australian Aborigines Department to control the doggers' activities. He will explain the important role the doggers played in the establishment of the pastoral industry in north-western South Australia and as guides for missionaries, prospectors, anthropologists, scientists and other travellers.



*The doggers and
their camels.
Photo supplied by
Tom Gara*

Parliament House, Wednesday 26 July

A vigorous John Bannon met 30 of us on the steps of Parliament House. We entered the domed Centre Hall which could have graced a palace in Europe. The original design of Parliament House in 1874 also included a grand tower surmounted by a dome but these could not be afforded.

We made our way along one of the lengthy corridors and through the connection to the old Legislative Council Building. This building accommodated both houses of parliament after the commencement of responsible government in 1857. The large room where we stood was the home of the House of Assembly for about 32 years. As the population of the colony of South Australia increased, the number of members grew. Soon this hall was too small and the sittings were often noisy and chaotic. It was soon apparent that a new and bigger parliament house should be constructed.

Parliament House was built in two separate stages because of limited finance. The western wing was opened in 1889, housing the House of Assembly. Meanwhile the Legislative Council continued to meet in the old building. Construction of the eastern wing commenced in the 1930s partly as a work creation scheme. The Legislative Council occupied it in 1939, a half a century after the opening of the western wing!

As we approached the chambers we saw the busts of former premiers and speakers. Some of them were intriguing characters, for example Charles Cameron Kingston who got into trouble for arranging to fight a duel in Victoria Square. Despite still being under a court order he was elected Premier and dominated South Australian politics during the 1890s. Then there was Sir Thomas Playford, South Australia's longest serving premier, whose bust was sculpted by John Dowie. On the Labor side was the mercurial Don Dunstan. John Bannon reminded us that one John Bannon was the State's third longest-serving premier!



Former Premier of SA and active HSSA member John Bannon welcomes society members on his tour of Parliament House



Sir Langdon Bonython casts an approving eye as HSSA members learn of his generosity in completing Parliament House



John Bannon explains the history and role of the Parliamentary Library

Parliament House (continued)

We visited both chambers of the parliament. The House of Assembly has green carpets and seats and we tried both for comfort. Both were deep and soft. The red sword lines in the carpet divide the two sides of the chamber and are designed to safeguard opposing members by keeping them a sword-thrust apart. When not in the chamber members are on a two minute alert. After the bells begin ringing they have only two minutes to enter the hall before the doors are locked. There is no excuse as they ring loudly throughout the building, even in the toilets.

The Legislative Council Chamber is more modern in design. It has natural lighting through the ceiling. The carpets and seats are all red. Although the same size as the Assembly this chamber has more seating around the periphery to accommodate all the members, and representatives of the judiciary (appropriately robed and wigged) who attend when the Parliamentary session is opened by the Governor.

We learnt that Parliament usually sits for 60 days each year divided into three periods, Autumn, Budget (May-July) and Spring. As proceedings can continue late into the night there are of course lounges and dining rooms which we visited, also the Members Bar which is a popular place for some. We visited the library with its huge globe and a copy of the Magna Carta on the wall to remind members that their duty is to the people. In days past parliamentarians, arriving by horse or train from the bush, were able to reside in the hotel-like facilities in Parliament House, and a house-keeper attended to their needs and was even able to sew a button onto John Bannon's coat just before she retired.

John Bannon gave us an intriguing insider's view of Parliament House. For him this vital institution remains rich in drama and social significance.

Denis Harper

St Jude's Cemetery Brighton, Sunday 13 August

Thirty Society members made the most of a sunny afternoon to tour St Jude's Cemetery with local historian Jill Golley, who was ably assisted by HSSA member Mary Carver.

Set behind St Jude's Church and well away from the noise of Brighton Road, the cemetery occupies a large piece of land, and contains many interesting graves. Catherine Helen Spence is buried there, as is Sir

Douglas Mawson and his wife Paquita, who always took a parasol and wore ear rings when she bathed in the sea at Brighton beach! Members of the Hardy family have a plot, including the legendary Eileen and her husband Tom, who was killed when the airliner Kyeema crashed into Mount Dandenong. The protestant Lady Daly occupies a lonely grave, her husband and Governor of South Australia Sir Dominic Daly, rests in the Catholic section of the West Terrace Cemetery. James Ashton, local artist and teacher of Sir Ivor Hele, Sir Hans Heysen and countless young people, can also be found at St Jude's. The Brown family, who owned and operated the cemetery for seventy years, occupy a large vault at the front of the cemetery.

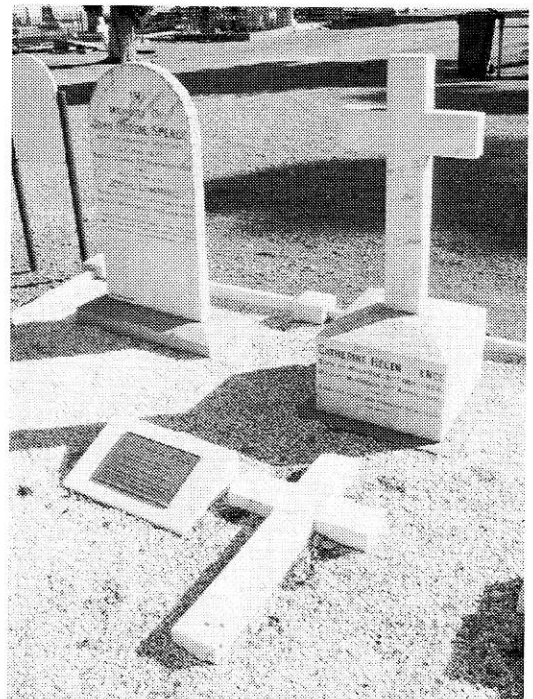
Jill and Mary were only able to begin to share the history of the cemetery with us, and their knowledge and enthusiasm for St Jude's was greatly appreciated by the group.

Colin Deed

There are many notable people buried in St Jude's cemetery, including great Australian Catherine Helen Spence



Jill Golley's enthusiasm for and knowledge of St Jude's cemetery was greatly appreciated by field trip participants. She was ably assisted by HSSA and Brighton Historical Society member Mary Carver (left)



The passing of Alison Mary Dolling, 29 August 1917 - 25 July 2006

Alison Dolling will be remembered for the contribution she made to local and community history. She was a long standing member of HSSA and several other local history societies. After teaching in NSW and Adelaide, in the mid 1960s she became Editor of the Womens' Pages of the *Advertiser* newspaper's weekly rural newspaper, *The Chronicle*. As 'Mary Broughton' she motivated many country women to research, record, and write about local and family history. Without her quiet encouragement much of South Australia's rural heritage would have remained unrecorded.

The closure of the *Chronicle* in 1975 enabled her to begin writing. *Chronicle Cameos* was published in 1977 followed by *The History of Marion on the Sturt* in 1981. This was the first history of this metropolitan area tracing its development from rural richness to an urban community. Next, in partnership with her cousins the Dolling family history, *Hand to the Plough*, was written and gained second place in the SA Genealogy and Heraldry Society family history award. Alison's appreciation of art is reflected in *From Shadow into Light-SA Women Artists since Colonisation*, a book celebrating women artists produced when Alison worked with Shirley Cameron Wilson in the preparation and editing of the book. Alison's view of the passage of time is reflected in verses she wrote:

*Nature needs no Clock
To tell the time
It tells the moment
When to Chime*

*The Sun and Moon
The Starts in Time
Come not too late
Nor too soon.*



Alison Dolling captured by her long time friend from Salisbury, Pat Harvey and found on the dust jacket of Alison's book The History of Marion on the Sturt.

Maggy Ragless

Photograph Identity

The "Peace Day" photograph has been identified by member Sue Scheiffers as the High St in Strathalbyn on Armistice Day World War One. The original photograph is held in an antique shop in the town and details can be found in the book *Old Strathalbyn and its People* by Nancy Gilmour. Thank you to other members who rang on the subject.



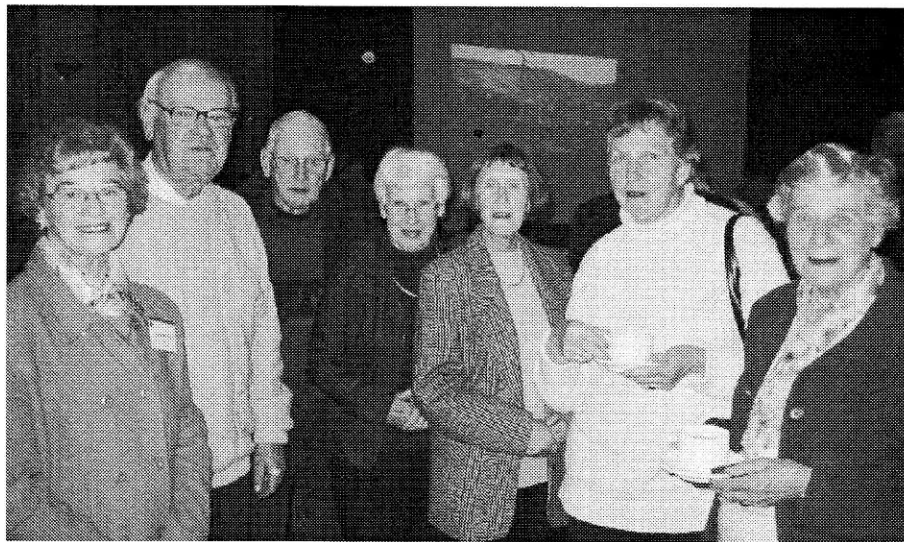
State Library Family History Courses

Family history forums are held at the State Library on the second Wednesday of each month in the Bray Study Room from 6-7.30 pm. Also interesting sessions are being held during the day time. They are entitled "Introduction to the Family Search Website," "Introduction to Ancestry Library Edition," and "Useful Websites for Family History." Tours of the Family History area are conducted every Thursday morning from the meeting point in the glass foyer on the ground floor. Further information about tracing Irish and Scottish ancestors will be presented by Graham Jaunay between July and December. For details and bookings contact Ph 8207 7269, or www.slsa.sa.gov.au.

News from the Family History Group Yorke Peninsula

This group informs us that they meet on the first Thursday of each month in the Town Hall, Taylor St, Kadina at 7.30pm. There is a group member on duty at the Local History Room in the Kadina Community Library, TAFE Complex, in Doswell Tce on Tuesdays 10am-12 noon, and Wednesdays 2pm-4pm. For members of the public living elsewhere they offer a research service costing \$20 for the first hour and source references are provided with your reply. Inquiries should be directed to Secretary YPFHG, PO Box 260 Kadina SA 5554 or ph. 8821 1075

Burnside Historical Society President Isabel Williams OAM (left) is joined by fellow Burnside members Peter Davies, Ken and Margaret Price, Wendy Davies, Mary Wilson and Shirley Copley, at the August HSSA meeting.



2006 Journal nearing completion

The 2006 Journal is in the final stages of preparation, and promises to live up to the standards set in previous years.

Major papers cover Anglicans in SA's public life, the Park Lands as Adelaide's 'lovers' lane', the early years of poet C.J. Dennis, the coming of jazz and the opening of the Palais on North Terrace, the SA Brewing Company's post-war expansion, the Queen's visit to Eyre Peninsula in 1954 and an architect's perspective on the SA School of Art building.

Along with our usual suite of book reviews and the HSSA President's report, we have a photo piece on the Port Adelaide railway, the whole production well illustrated. Number 34, 2006 will be available for members at the November Meeting.

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

Development at West Terrace Cemetery

A Conservation Management Plan has recently been accepted by the Board of Adelaide Cemeteries Authority. Signage will be improved throughout the cemetery. The first new sign has been installed at the West Terrace entrance. Maps, road and sectional signs will compliment the grave location maps printed off from the touch screen and will assist visitors to find their way through all parts of the cemetery. Also in partnership with the Adelaide City Council there are plans to wind the Parklands bike and walking trail from an entry point near the Smyth Chapel, through the Catholic section of the graveyard, past the Carl Linger Memorial, and out through the old net ball courts near Anzac Highway. It would be important to maintain the integrity of the area when this plan comes to fruition. For more details see the West Terrace Cemetery Newsletter June 2006.

From the History Trust of South Australia

Following the very successful History Week and Conference this year the History Trust is giving advance notice of next year's events. The fourth SA History Week will be held from Friday 18 May to Sunday 27 May 2007. The sixteenth State History Conference will be held in the Barossa Valley 3-5 August. It will focus on the history of South Australia's country towns especially in the 20th century. Papers are required. For more detail contact Kate Walsh on ph 8203 9888 or kwalsh@history.sa.gov.au

Adelaide Parklands Symposium

Friday 10 - Sun 12 November 2006

Co-presented by the Centre for Settlement Studies, Louis Laybourne Smith School of Architecture and Design, University of South Australia; the Hawke Centre, University of South Australia; and the Adelaide Parklands Preservation Association. All events in the three-day programme are open to the public. A registration fee applies for the symposium and tours. The public lecture is free but bookings are required.

Symposium: Friday 10 November 2006

A programme of 17 papers presented by academic, practitioners, professional and community historians. Proceedings will be available to registrants. UniSA, City East Campus: Basil Hetzel Building Mutual Community Theatre (H2-02)

Tours: Saturday 11 November 2006

Walking, coach and bike tours will take in aspects of the Parklands' Indigenous and European history and uses, and provoke thought about their future.

Public Lecture: Sunday 12 November 2006

Free public lecture to be held at the Adelaide Town Hall during the afternoon with Sarah Whyte, Chair of the Centennial Parklands Foundation, Sydney.

The programme, registration fee and other details will be posted on the Hawke Centre website: http://www.unisa.edu.au/hawke/events/2006events/ParkLands_Symp.asp

Copies of Sue Scheiffer's book *Inside, a brief history of the Adelaide Gaol*, are available. For some years Sue worked with the Adelaide Gaol Preservation Society, a band of volunteers dedicated to maintaining the gaol and conducting guided tours. The society's membership was made up of former gaol staff, former inmates, and interested members of the public. This facilitated accurate interpretation of artifacts left at the gaol when it closed in 1988 and the reconstruction of the life and times in various areas of the complex. These times are brought to life in the book which is illustrated with photos and reproductions of various documents. In 1857 on 18 April a reporter from the *Adelaide Observer* visited the gaol and described it as follows:

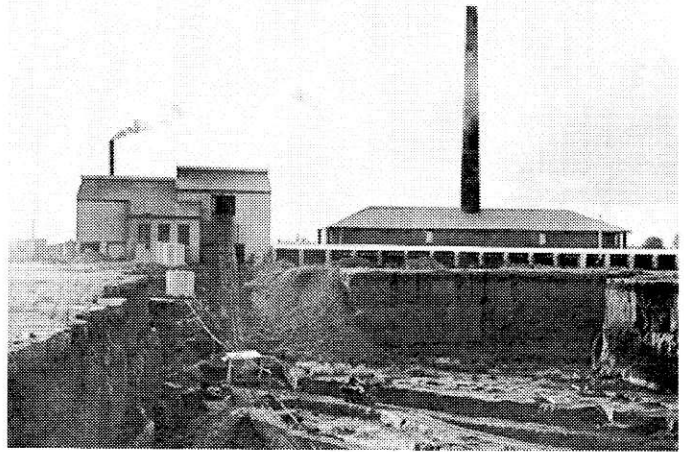
We paid a visit to the Adelaide Gaol on Saturday morning where we found 71 prisoners, viz, Males, hard labour ward, 16; committed for trial, 12; debtors' ward, 7; hospital, 8, total 28. The men are in four wards-the first to the right containing those under sentence of hard labour; the second, the imprisoned debtors; the third, those committed for trial; and the fourth (a single room) being appointed to the sick. Among the women there is no opportunity for the same kind of classification, there being only two wards, in one of which are 15 who, being young offenders, and supposed to be reclaimable, are placed apart from 12 others who are known to the police as prostitutes or hardened thieves. (pg 23)

A prisoner arriving in 1881 recorded his experiences in his journal.

We were presented with shirts and trousers, neat and tidy, a jumper, very seedy, and these with a pair of blankets and rug, constituted our outfit--My cell contents need an inventory. They comprised of hammock and blanket, pot, pannikin of water, wash bowl and towel, slate and pencil, salt box and bible, with the usual wooden stool---(pg 57)

Terrible conditions in the gaol were reported in *Smiths Weekly* 23 March 1929. A prisoner was disgusted to find that his job was to clean the lavatories and night buckets by hand. His report to the authorities was ignored and the article goes on to describe the weekly schedule for the bathing of prisoners with some controversial facts revealed. This book is indeed an interesting social document. The cost is \$20 plus postage.

History of the Brickworks Markets Site



Brief details of the history of this site have been sent to us from the Brickworks Markets. Hallett and Son purchased the site in 1910 from the Federal Brick Company where bricks had been made by hand. Halletts installed a Hoffman Kiln originally fired by coal and later by oil, then gas. The coal was stored on the southern side of the kiln under a lean to and transferred by conveyor belt to the upper level where it was fed into the kiln. The pug was first dug manually from the south western side and deeper holes were dug on the northern side near the Torrens, to a depth of nine and a half metres. The clay was loaded onto carts on rail tracks and towed by horses to ground level from the bottom of the hole. The clay was compressed and slabs of about ten bricks in length were cut into bricks by hand.

A total of eighty bricks were loaded onto a flat topped wheel barrow and wheeled into a drying shed where they dried for about eight weeks, covered by wet hessian bags in summer to prevent them drying out too quickly. They were then wheeled into the kiln and stacked in groups 16 bricks wide. These were known as wickets and were sealed with runny clay and slag. The coal was fed down through vents and fell on the tops and sides of the bricks. The fire was lit once a year and only put out at Christmas time when the workers went on annual holidays. On completion the bricks were stored in sheds at the site ready for delivery to customers. Methods were modernised in the 1960s and production ceased in the 1970s. Brick making is now a dying art as there are cheaper modern building materials.

Tours of the kiln are conducted on Sundays. The meeting point is in the food hall at the Brickworks Markets by the ATM. For further information contact ph 8352 4822. see <http://www.brickworksmarkets.com.au/History.htm>

The photo above is one of a number found on the Brickworks Markets web site.

By Neil Thomas

Recent additions include:

The diary kept by Catherine Helen Spence in 1894 has been purchased by the Library. Extracts have already appeared in *Forever Yours*, the new publication of her autobiography edited by Dr Susan Magarey. The diary is probably the only one to have survived from those which Spence kept from her late twenties on. She was travelling overseas from April 1893 and the diary covers her time in America, Britain and Europe, leaving Italy in November 1894 and her return to Adelaide on 12 December that year.

A typescript of the diary kept by *Protector* crew member George Frederick Jeffrey, August 1900 to May 1901, records his service en route to the Boxer rebellion in China and his return to Australia for the Commonwealth inaugural ceremonies. The Rev. Gordon Cuming kept a diary from 1903 to 1907 while engaged with the West Coast Mission, an area extending from Mount Hope along the coast line of the Great Australian Bight to Fowler's Bay. A letter written by Mary Anne Shepherdson at Plymouth on 26 November 1836, prior to embarkation for South Australia, describes her meeting George Fife Angas and David McLaren, the Colonial Manager of the South Australian Company. The family was due to leave on the *South Australian* that day but a change of plans meant they came out on the *Hartley* in May 1837. Her husband John Banks Shepherdson had been given a contract as Director of Schools by Angas and he spent five months studying teaching methods of schools in southern England before they finally left for South Australia.

An emigration story of the 20th century and a very different format is contained in the DVD presentation *Lennepe-Remscheid to SA* about 19 German migrants who arrived in this state in May 1952, and their subsequent work as contract employees of Wender & Duerholt, building cottages at Marion for the S.A. Housing Trust. It features still photographs, moving images, music and spoken commentary and was made in 2003. An album of papers relating to Phyllis Somerville (1904-1991) includes newspaper articles, letters about her book *Not Only in Stone* (1942), and personal details including articles about other family members Mabel and Dorothy Somerville. Papers of Dr Colin Ashton, amateur ornithologist (born 1917), have been donated. They comprise bird lists, notebooks and distribution maps, particularly for the Aldinga Beach area, personal diaries and his memoirs.

A small group from the Victor Harbour Music Group comprises its constitution, minutes, reports, correspondence, programs, musical scores and newspaper cuttings over the period 1959-1995. Records of the Uniting Church-Roman Catholic Church (SA) Dialogue Group for 1994-2005 reflect the only inter-church dialogue group meeting regularly to build better ecumenical understanding between church members. Marisa Loren has added another volume 'Places of Worship, Part VI : Spirit of Jesus in the Catholic Archdiocese of Adelaide' to her collection about the parishes, churches, chapels and places of the Catholic Archdiocese of Adelaide.

The Royal Society of South Australia has added to its holdings with council and general minutes, correspondence and miscellaneous additions covering the period 1853-1992.

Deadline for newsletter articles and entries October 14, 2006.

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Coming Events

Brighton Historical Society

Meets at 7.30 pm on the first Thursday of the month in the Kingston Room, 24 Jetty Rd Brighton. On 5 October Andrew Klenke will talk about Glencoe Woolshed. On 2 November Richard Hartley will talk about Seacombe House. Contact ph. 8298 1959.

Burnside Historical Society

Meets at the Burnside Community Centre at 8 pm on the third Monday of the month. On Monday 16 October Win Haseloff's talk will be entitled "A Celebration of Older Australians." Contact ph.8379 4090.

East Torrens Historical Society

Meets 8pm at the Adelaide Hills Natural Resource Centre, Crescent Avenue Norton Summit, on the second Wednesday of the month. On 8 November David Wotton will speak about his career in State Parliament. The Annual Dinner will be held 22 November. Contact ph. 8390 3138.

Enfield and Districts Historical Society

Conducts evening meetings on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7.15 pm and day time meetings at 1.30pm on the second Thursday of the month. Meetings are held at the Enfield Community Centre, 540 Regency Rd, Enfield. On Sunday 22 October the district's largest community event ever, "Celebrate Sunnybrae 2006," will be held at the Enfield Heritage Museum to celebrate their fifth year. Contact ph 8263 9561.

History of Science, Ideas, and Technology Group

Meets at 7pm in the Ira Raymond Exhibition Room at the Barr Smith Library. On Monday 13 November Dr Rod Givney will talk about the Spanish Flue. Contact ph. 8361 8040.

Kensington and Norwood Historical Society

Meets at 8pm on the first Wednesday of the month in the Don Pyatt Room of the Norwood Town Hall. On 4 October Peter Howell will present "Talbot Smith." Contact ph 8363 9003.

National Motor Museum

The Gawler Veteran, Vintage and Classic Vehicles Club have on display until 14 October an interesting cross section of vehicles including a 1953 FJ Holden Sedan, a 1927 Oldsmobile Tourer, and a 1938 Morris 8 series 11 Utility. The exhibition is open 10am-5pm daily. Contact ph 8568 4000.

Port Adelaide Historical Society

Meets the third Wednesday of the month in the Semaphore Library at 8pm. On 18 October the continuing re-development of Port Adelaide will be outlined by Mr Phil Jones of the Land Management Corporation. Contact ph. 8248 2244.

Royal Geographical Society of South Australia

Meets in the Mortlock wing of the State Library. In October an excursion to the Lower Flinders Ranges will be held. Contact ph 8207 7266.

Salisbury and Districts Historical Society

Meets 2nd Wednesday of the month in the Folk Museum, Ann St. Salisbury at 7pm. On 11 October Rev. E Curnow will talk about "Living in Cornwall." Contact ph 8250 0763

South Australian Maritime Museum

A touring exhibition from the Australian War Memorial, entitled "Australia Under Attack" continues until 15 October. The exhibition looks at what happened in 1942 when at invasion of the Australian continent appeared imminent and how Australia responded. The "Wrecked! Tragedy and the Southern Seas" exhibition is currently at Whyalla and will be on show at the Port Pirie Regional Gallery 17 February-22 April 2007.

South Australian Museum

The final event in the 150th Year celebrations of the museum is a tour of the recently refurbished Pacific Cultures Gallery. Included will be a display of rarely seen ethnographic items from the museum's Netley Store. The tour is on 22 November 5.30pm-7.00pm.

Tea Tree Gully Historical Society

Meets alternatively Wednesday morning then Thursday evening. On 18 October at 10 am there will be a "Bring and Tell" at the City of Tea Tree Gully Library Learning Centre, 571 Montague Rd Modbury. Contact ph 8288 0195.

Walkerville Historical Society

Meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Walkerville Town Hall. Also History Sundays are being conducted on the first Sunday of the month at the Walkerville Library. Lyn O'Grady will be there to help with research, and any old photos of the district would be of interest. Contact ph. 8269 5982.

West Torrens Historical Society

Meets at "Kandahar", 327 Marion Rd North Plympton at 7.45 pm. on the fourth Monday of the month. Contact ph.8356 9768.