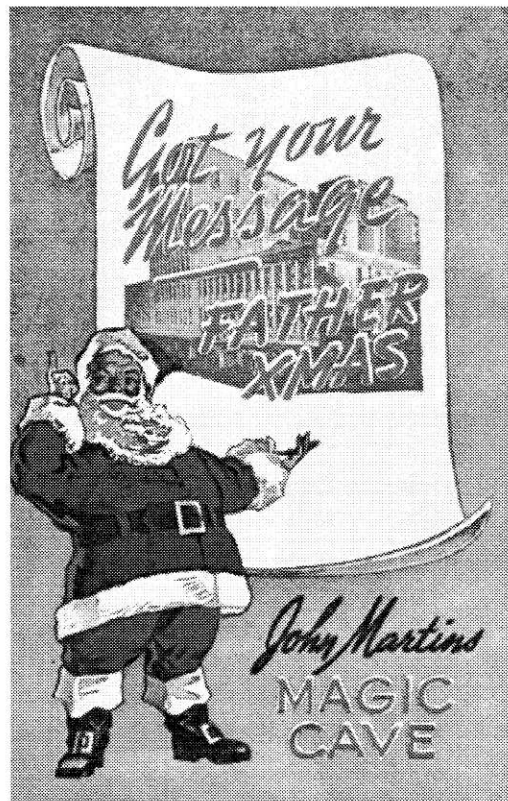
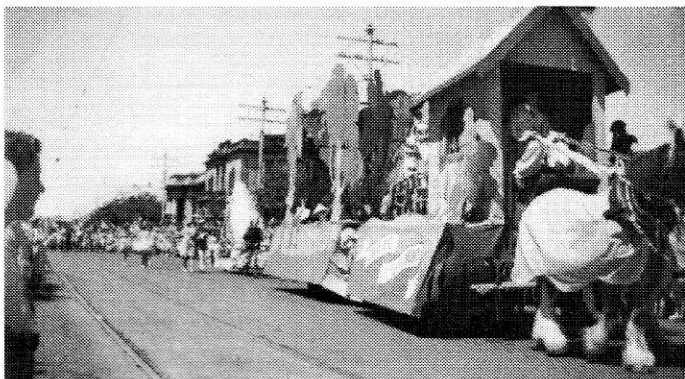
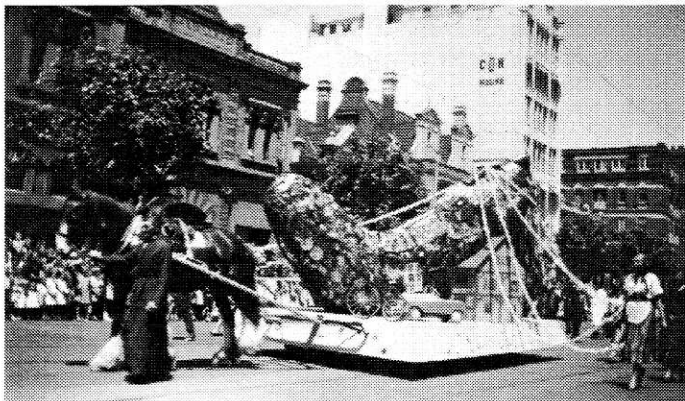


Christmas in Adelaide

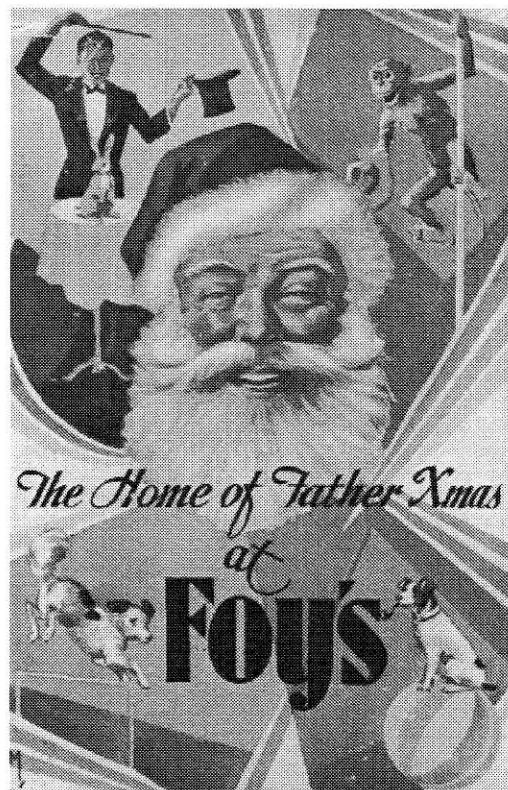
The images depicting Christmas in Adelaide are supplied by Philicia Antiques, 317 Goodwood Road Kings Park. This venue is a valuable one for those engaged in History research. Currently the premises are expanding and masses of post cards, photographs, calendars, programs, labels, and other ephemera are being sorted and catalogued. Badges, tins, boxes, medals, records and buttons are only some of the memorabilia which extends from the floor to the ceiling. Crockery, dolls, music, and toys also can be found. Even the costumes of previous Christmas Pageants are there for all to see. It is well worth a visit. If anyone can place the pictures below more accurately in time or place please contact the Editor.



above, The Magic Cave, John Martins, 1950s.

below, Christmas at Cox Foys 1940s

left top and left centre, John Martins Christmas Pageant, North Tce early 1950s, left bottom, John Martins Christmas Pageant, 1940s.



From the President

Welcome to the final edition of *History SA* for 2006.

With your copy of *History SA* you will also find the *Journal of the Historical Society of South Australia*, the 34th edition of the state's premier publication documenting the history of our state, reviewing books relevant to it, and recording the activities of the Society. I extend sincere thanks to the *Journal's* editor, Dr Jenny Tilby Stock, the editorial committee, and Philip Knight, our layout specialist, for their contribution in bringing this quality publication to you. Dr Stock will be on leave in 2007 and her place will be filled by Brian Dickey, and I welcome him and thank him for agreeing to edit the 2007 *Journal*.

At the September meeting Judith Rischbieth shared with us the story of Ross Smith, pioneer aviator and great South Australian. In these days of one hour flights to Melbourne and twenty four hours to London in the comfort of a jumbo jet, it was good to be reminded that in his Vickers Vimy aircraft it took seven hours to reach Melbourne, and the record breaking flight from London took twenty seven days. Thank you Judith.

I was unable to be present at the October meeting at which Dr Tran My-Van spoke of understanding Vietnam and overseas Vietnamese. From those present I have heard that her speech was particularly interesting, and thank her for speaking on a contemporary and still evolving aspect of our state's history. A special thank you to Glen Woodward, who kindly made available the raffle prize on the evening.

Since the last edition of *History SA* two very successful field trips have been undertaken. Our September mid week tour visited the historic collection at the Royal Adelaide Hospital and the North Terrace residence of HSSA members Rosemary and Ray Michell. Rose Wilson hosted half the group at the RAH, sharing with them the long history of the hospital and the characters who have contributed to the state's medical history. The other half of the group visited the Michell home, where they appreciated the opportunity to learn of the knowledge and skills Rosemary used to bring about an authentic and loving restoration of this unique property. The two groups then swapped. Thank you to Rose and Rosemary for making us so welcome.

Liz Sawyer conducted the field trip to historic Coromandel Valley on 8 October, sharing with the group her knowledge of this charming part of the Adelaide Hills. By all accounts a most enjoyable day was had by the group, with lunch in the delightful surrounds of the Gamble Cottage a joy. Thank you Liz for bringing this tour together.

At its October meeting Council considered the Society's budget for 2007 and has set membership fees in accordance with it. Some, but not all, membership categories will be subject to small increases to ensure the cost of providing key services are met within the budget. Council strongly believes that members of the Historical Society of South Australia receive outstanding value for their membership, with the opportunity to enjoy six issues of this publication, the annual *Journal*, and ten speakers as a part of their membership, with value for money outings being offered as well.

For sometime changes to the venue at Prince Alfred College have been looming. Council has considered a number of venues and I advise that all ten meetings in 2007 will be held at the Burnside Library, from where our Sunday tours depart. In looking for a new venue Council considered ease of parking, public transport access, member comfort, technology requirements such as sound system and date projection equipment, and the ability to continue our book sales and supper. We believe the Burnside Library option meets our requirements and I look forward to meeting you there for the first time in February 2007. I would like to thank Prince Alfred College for having hosted the Society for so many years.

Council has spent a considerable amount of time developing the 2007 program, and I mention in particular Denis Harper for his drive in bringing the program together. I am confident that once again we have come up with a broad range of topics which will be of interest to you all. More details later!

Bookings for the Society's Christmas function at Clayton Wesley Church and The Acacias on 26 November are very strong and I look forward to welcoming you to this function. Not only is this the opportunity to visit two unique heritage properties and to enjoy the company of fellow HSSA members, but also your chance to win a Christmas cake baked by me in the raffle. The recipe is a deep dark secret, and I'd better get cracking so that the cake is cured and ready for the lucky winner to polish off at Christmas time!

On behalf of the Council of the Historical Society of South Australia and myself, I extend sincere best wishes for a very happy and safe Christmas and New Year. Thank you for your support in 2006 and Council and I thank you in anticipation of your ongoing participation in the Society in 2007.

Kind regards,
David Cornish

Our visit to the Royal Adelaide Hospital and the Michell Residence

On Wednesday 20 September about 40 members met at the main entrance of the Royal Adelaide Hospital. David divided us into two groups and while one group went with Rose Wilson through the bowels of the RAH to the Museum in the old nurses' quarters, the other half of the group went over North Tce to the Michell residence opposite.

Rose Wilson guided us up and down labyrinthine passages, up and down stairs, and in and out of huge lifts avoiding building sites on our way to the museum, situated awkwardly in four small rooms in the former nurses' quarters. Although the display is cramped there are various nurses uniforms which sparked some memories in members of our group, as did the photos of groups of nurses on the wall and in albums set out in the passage. There were badges and surgical and dental instruments of past eras, including eye lid retractors used in eye surgery. Some of us shuddered as the old dental drills recalled past experiences. Former nurse Mary Carver recalled the "black beds," which were a feature in the life of staff working in big medical or surgical wards where the intake of patients took place every third day. The permanent white beds were generally filled so other patients coming from casualty were put into black beds and placed in the middle of the wards. There were wheels under the heads of these iron beds so that they could be moved readily and little bits of wire stuck out from the wheels, catching the black stockings of the unwary nurse. The beds were wire based with hard mattresses and had no back rests to enable the patient to sit up. A patient's belongings were placed in a pillow case attached to the end of the bed. Nurses paid for their own stockings and greatly envied airhostesses, whose stockings were supplied. However, it was a comfort to be told that black stockings were flattering to the legs.

After the hospital we visited the house of Rosemary and Raymond Michell, 261 North Terrace, Adelaide. We were warmly welcomed by Rosemary who explained how as an architectural student she became interested in the house, and how they purchased the property in 1984. The house is 125 years old this year, and was designed as a town house in 1880 by architect William McMinn for Arthur Waterhouse. William McMinn also designed the current Mitchell Building at the University of Adelaide.

The foundations of the residence are composed of round water worn stones set in deep trenches. The walls, of hammered squared sandstone and lined on the inside with brick, are 55 cm thick. The steep tower on the roof is covered with slate. One small window provides a bird's eye view of North Tce but as the ceilings are four and a half metres high a long ladder is required leading up from the upstairs hallway. A similar but larger mansion, "Dimora," on East Tce, was also designed by William McMinn.

An interesting feature of the windows in the dining and drawing room are the circular brass registers on the wooden frames, each with a central brass knob which when turned opened and closed vents which enabled cool air from under the house to come up through the wall cavity and cool the room. A vent in the wall above the drawing room fire place allowed warm air from around the chimney to re-enter the room. The house was lit by gas.

Some of the interesting residents occupying the house over the years have been Herr Carl Puttman, conductor and composer who moved there to be near the Jubilee Exhibition Building as he was in charge of the musical program celebrating Queen Victoria's 50 years on the English throne. In the following year, 1888, Richard Minchin, Zoo Director, occupied the house

while his home in the grounds of the newly established Zoological Gardens was completed. Dr J.A.G. Hamilton, who established the Queen Victoria Maternity Hospital, lived in it for 5 years. In 1906 the premises was purchased by Walter Harvey Bagot, architect, who designed the Bonython Hall at the University of Adelaide. Since then it has been a boarding house and converted into medical rooms. It was from doctors' rooms that the Michells undertook the huge job of restoring the home to its former glory.

Thank you Rosemary and Raymond, and thank you also for the most welcome and elegant morning tea.

Mary Carver and Denis Harper

Christmas Function Sunday 26 November

For this event we meet at 2.30 pm at the cemetery of Clayton Wesley Uniting Church which is situated on the corner of Portrush Rd and The Parade, Beulah Park. Enter from the rear of the church via Union St. The visit will include a guided tour of the cemetery, Clayton Chapel (1856), Clayton Congregational Church (1882) and a recital on the 1896 J.E. Dodd pipe organ. We then move to The Acacias at Loreto College and meet at 4pm.

New Editor for the *Journal* 2007

As members receive their 2006 Journal I am happy to announce that Dr Brian Dickey has kindly agreed to be the guest editor for next year. In his most capable hands the Journal will continue to flourish and I will return refreshed in 2008. Dr Brian Dickey holds status as an Associate Historian at Flinders University. Inquiries about the Journal can be directed to him, ph. 8201 2375.

Jenny Tilby Stock

Setting the Record Straight

Many members of the Historical Society of South Australia undertook, without payment, the work of writing articles on the lives of an additional eighty South Australians for the *Australian Dictionary of Biography's* first Supplement, published in December 2005. It was disappointing that when a local paper (*Adelaide Review*, September 8-21) finally noticed the volume, its reviewer made factual errors about several of those whose lives had been recorded and also incorrectly transcribed some names and dates. When I sought publication of a letter or article correcting these mistakes, I was told that the *Review* could print a brief complaint, but only if I did not list specific examples of the inaccuracies. A letter of that nature appeared in the issue of the *Review* dated 6-19 October. Yet it was unsatisfactory as a remedy because historians are trained to illustrate with evidence their judgements about people as well as events.

In an article entitled 'The Quest for Truth in History', published in the *JHSSA*, Number 15 (1987), I argued that because our readers must be presumed to be in search of enlightenment, and because a prime task of historians is to explain a community to itself, we have a duty to the public to set forth and correct the mistakes of others—journalists and myth-making politicians as well as fellow-historians. I urged that this should be done without showmanship or pedantry, because we are all human. I also cited the observation of the late Sir John Barry, a Justice of the Supreme Court of Victoria who had written outstanding books on Australian history and biography, that 'Debunking aimed personally at a previous writer is one thing; the specific correction of errors is another and quite different matter.'

Contrary to the assertions of the recent reviewer of the *ADB's Supplement*, Lady Colton (founder of the YWCA)

had no involvement with the Adelaide Crèche. The Crèche's founder, Laura Corbin, had nothing to do with establishing the Children's Hospital, and famed preacher Serena Lake took no part in the foundation of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. Incidentally, from 1886 until the present, the first word in the WCTU's name has always been spelt with an 'a', not an 'e'. Ida Forsyth was not a founder of the Kuitpo Industrial colony though she did help publicize and raise money for it. She is better described as a nurse and community worker. Flag-designer Anne Dorrington was not a South Australian. A British migrant, she spent the whole of her time in Australia in other parts of this continent.

Again, the person who from 1907 until 1937 was the principal proprietor and manager of Metters Ltd, the famed stove manufacturers, was named Henry Spring, not Henry Metters. Neither by birth nor by marriage was he related to Fred Metters, who had founded that business in 1891. William Leigh was not an 'early SA settler'. He never set foot in Australia. This made all the more remarkable his generosity in rescuing from penury two of the Christian denominations that took root in Adelaide. Two other church benefactors, John and Mary Fennescey (who invariably included a 'c' in their surname), were not 'Walleroo pioneers'. That honour belongs to the graziers Robert Miller and Sir Walter Watson Hughes. The Fennesceys were to make their fortune as grain producers in central Yorke Peninsula, where John was long a farm-labourer before he began acquiring his own properties. His wife Mary was the daughter of a prosperous farmer at Maitland. In reality, the township of Wallaroo and the rich copper deposits in its vicinity had begun to be developed (with substantial investment by Hughes) before either of the Fennesceys was born — and John was

born in 1866, not 1876! Botanist and entomologist Johann Tepper's dates were 1841-1923, not 1787-1875. The business Otto Ditter established in 1917 has never been called 'Ditters Sweets'. Ditter had a vegetable, fruit and nut stall in the old East End Market. After moving to a shop in Pirie Street in 1927, he added almond meal and marzipan to the range of products he sold. He then ventured into making crystallized fruits, trading as Ditters Nuts and Fruits until the firm was incorporated, first as Ditters Pty Ltd, later as Ditters Ltd. It was not until a couple of years after his death in 1967 that his widow and children expanded the range by making such treats as chocolate-dipped candied fruits and ginger, and the 'gourmet cakes' that are, Australia-wide, often called 'stained-glass window cakes'.

Physicist Richard Kleeman was very much more than an 'assistant to Bragg'. There were no grounds for recycling the very modern myth that Edmund Wright was the principal architect of all the buildings enthusiasts have attributed to him in recent decades. The entry on editor George Stevenson is not in the *ADB's Supplement* but in volume 2. Mary Thomas should have been described as a diarist and letter-writer, not merely as the wife of a newspaper proprietor and the mother of a surveyor. More risible was the identification of Anna Martin as the wife of a vigneron. When she was in her early twenties, Martin did agree to marry vigneron Henry Clark, but he died from tuberculosis before a date was set for their wedding and she remained single. She became a most successful and much-loved teacher. To commemorate her, former pupils endowed the Annie Montgomerie Martin medals and prizes, still awarded annually by SSABSA for outstanding performance in the public exams in French and history.

It's also sad to see an *Adelaide Review* writer joining the ranks of those who emulate one eccentricity of the Fairfax (and some Murdoch) newspapers' house-style. For generations, the wives of viscounts, barons, baronets and knights have enjoyed the title 'Lady'. Because it has never been anything more than a courtesy title reflecting their spouses' status, it should be used only in immediate conjunction with their husbands' surnames. That means it has always been improper to insert any of those women's Christian names *after* the honorific. Hence, for example, Sir John Colton's spouse should, in both speech and writing, be styled either 'Mary, Lady Colton' or, as is more usually the case, simply 'Lady Colton'. 'Colton' alone is acceptable in subsequent sentences where it is clear that it is she that is being referred to. The case of Audrey, Lady Tennyson is analogous. Only the legitimate daughters of dukes, marquesses and earls are treated differently, because they are themselves noble. South Australia has had some short-term residents of that rarer class, such as Lady Victoria Buxton, daughter of the Earl of Gainsborough. Yet they have been very few in number. Journalists as well as historians should observe the distinction. Even if it were not the case that many Australians consider the existence of a hereditary peerage is an affront to sweet reasonableness, there is no ground for encouraging folk possessing less exalted imperial honours to assume the privileges of those holding higher rank. Curiously, faulty usage was fomented by the bad example set by a republican, Manning Clark. When taxed, in 1961, to explain why he always referred to the wife of polar explorer Sir John Franklin as 'Lady Jane', it ultimately emerged that this was a spin-off of a *very private* joke Clark shared with his wife—and I was exhorted to read *Lady Chatterley's Lover!* In making similar errors when reporting the doings of the likes of Lady Renouf, but without any equivalent excuse of being humorous, the Sydney journalists have done Australians a disservice. No editor should permit the promotion of solecisms of that kind.

P. A. Howell



Dr Tran My-Van, guest speaker at the October HSSA meeting with Vice-President Geoffrey Bishop

BOOK REVIEW

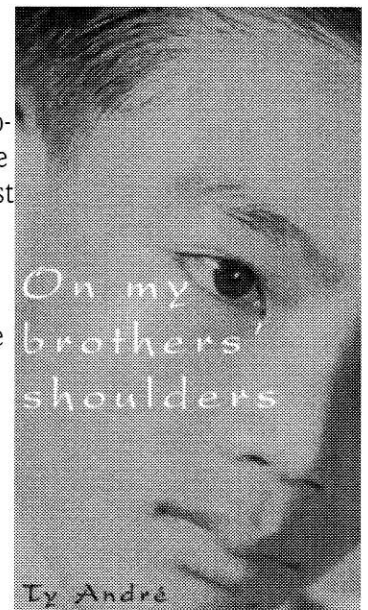
The book prize at the October meeting after the talk by Dr Tran My-Van Tran:-

On my brother's shoulders - an autobiography of Ty André, a Vietnamese who left Saigon as a youth on the last plane ahead of the Viet Cong.

Ty was abandoned as a small polio baby in a basket with a billion-to-one chance of survival in a Catholic orphanage. Ty was rescued and reared by a Chinese family. Ty lived in Adelaide.

This is an amazing personal history. Published by Wakefield Press.

Glen Woodward



Can You Help?

The HSSA Council has decided to ask for help to distribute programs in 2007. As a member you get two copies of the program, one for yourself and one to give to a friend. Would you be able to place additional copies in appropriate places visited by people who may be interested in our Society? Local libraries are a suggestion. Free distribution will save money and increased publicity is good for the development of the society. We want interested audiences at each meeting and always welcome visitors and potential new members.

If you can help please contact Margaret Ford at a meeting, phone 0438838894, or email fsquared@internode.on.net

Margaret will develop a data base of the distribution network. The list will be available at meetings for information and amendment.

Police Remembrance Day 29 September 2006

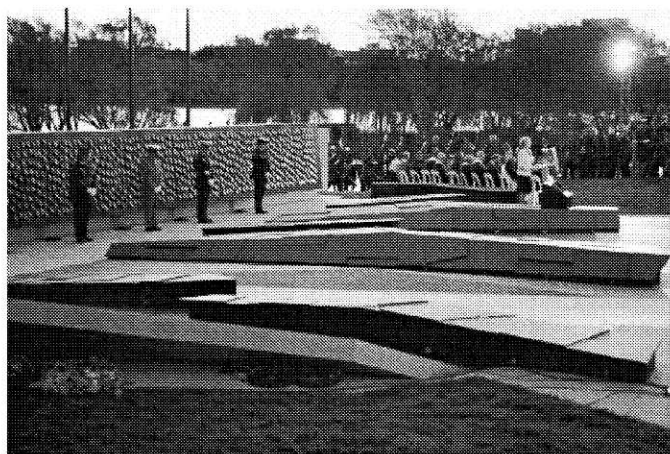
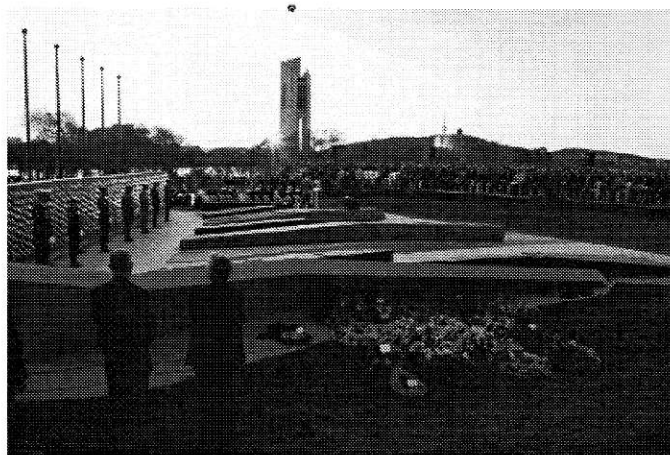
Dorothy Pyatt, former police woman and a member of our society, is an invited guest to the Dedication of the National Police Memorial in Canberra. Police Remembrance Day is held annually on 29 September to honour the police men and women who die in office. This year over 700 police men and women representing different patrols and traffic and mounted divisions, marched along Kings Avenue from Old Parliament House in Canberra to the Kings Park Memorial on the northern bank of Lake Burley Griffin.

The new memorial commemorates more than 700 Australian police officers, including 55 South Australians, killed in the line of duty in the last 203 years. The centre piece of the memorial, a 27 metre long, 2 metre high bronze wall, contains plaques inscribed with the officer's name, rank, date, and place of death. The design of the memorial allows for the inclusion of the names of officers who lose their lives in the future. At the ceremony the Prime Minister arrived by police launch recognising the nation's oldest form of policing. Premiers, Police Commissioners, and Members of Parliament laid wreaths and lighted candles were placed on the memorial.

Among those commemorated include John Dunning Carter and William Murray Wickham who drowned trying to cross the River Murray in 1847. They were the first South Australian officers to die in office. Henry Edmonds Pearce (photo right) is another South Australian officer commemorated. He died 18 May 1881 after a horse thief stabbed him 14 times on a deserted road near Kingston in the South East. His murderer was the last person to be hung in the Mt Gambier Gaol.

An exhibition of police history is currently on show at Old Parliament House in Canberra and will travel Australia wide in the next 12 months.

(information supplied by D Pyatt and adapted from an article in the *Police Journal* August 2006.)



Top photo by Mike Coombe, middle photo by Steve Lovegrove, both courtesy Australian Federal Police.

Left photo Henry Pearce from *Police Journal* August 2006

For more information see http://www.afp.gov.au/about/ceremonial/police_memorial

Migration Museum; "SA Water Workforce."

This exhibition is presented by SA Water as part of their 150 year celebrations. The exhibition is a tribute to the immigrants who have been a major part of the E&WS and SA Water workforce. Labour shortages in the 1940s and 1950s were addressed by post World War 11 immigration schemes. Among the more unusual tools on display are the pocket altazimuth,

the anemometer, and a surveying ankroid. The exhibition is open until 29 November 10am-5pm weekdays and 1pm-5pm weekends. Admission is free.

Also at the Migration Museum the 150th anniversary of the establishment of Caroline Chisolm's "shakedown" (shelters) is celebrated with the dis-

play of a three dimensional art work consisting of paintings, sculptures, textile art, photographs and digital production pieces. Caroline Chisolm's "shakedown" project provided immigrants with safe travel to the gold fields. The exhibition is open until 31 December.

By Neil Thomas

Recent additions include:

Papers of the William Randall family complement the group already held in the Library archival collection of his brother David and wife Eliza, author of the 1845 journal published by the Library as *And The Dog Came Too* in 2001. Eliza Randall and William's wife were sisters, nee Wickes, and some of the new papers relate to their parents Edward Walter and Ann (Girling) Wickes. The material donated spans the years 1800-1935 and includes letters, photographs, ephemera, publications, artworks of the Randall properties at Second Valley, *Randalsea*, and *Glen Para* at Mount Crawford, cuttings, an embroidered sampler and family portraits of Mr and Mrs Wickes. Papers of the Haslam family which built *Heywood* at Unley Park include legal documents, scrapbooks and photographs, some relating to the family's ownership of the Globe Timber Mills, and cover the period 1870-1966. Commander Robin Pennock (1935-2005) wrote *A Warship For South Australia* in 2001 about HMCS *Protector*; his widow has donated his research papers which relate to the history of the vessel and crew, including copies of many Government documents. Koch family papers include family histories of the Koch, Bussenschutt and Dohmeyer families, written in the mid-1960s, as well as an account of a trip from Lameroo to William Creek by train taking horses for agistment in 1914.

Small groups include photographs and other items relating to *Operation Babylift* at Saigon Airport, Vietnam in April 1975, involving the transport of 281 babies from Saigon orphanages to Australia by RAAF planes for awaiting adoptee

couples. It was part of an airlift of over 3,000 babies to countries including Britain, the United States and Canada. These papers have been collected by Suanne Prager, who was one of the orphan babies who came to Australia. Letters of the Theeuff brothers Charles and George relate to their work on Quondong Station between Burra and Broken Hill between 1894 and 1910. A manuscript musical score of *Poor Old Ned*, a song written by bass-baritone Peter Dawson about 1943, includes an account of how the song came to be composed, and some newspaper cuttings about Dawson's career.

The Monarto Residents' Association was started in 1992 as a communication focus for residents and landholders with State and local governments and other bodies, and papers donated comprise rules, minutes and correspondence up to 1997. The University of the Third Age organisation has donated its minutes of the steering committee in 1986 and later general meeting minutes to 1998.

South Australian Maritime Museum; 'Life on the Murray-Darling.'

An exhibition featuring life on the Murray-Darling river system, including that of indigenous communities, explorers, squatters, riverboat crews, soldier settlers, immigrants and tourists is on show until 4 February. It will then travel to Murray Bridge before being exhibited in New South Wales. Charts drawn by the river boat captains, scale models, photographs and early examples of tools, household items, and apparel recreate the life along the river.

Deadline for newsletter articles and entries December 14, 2006.

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ISSN 1444-8459

History SA is published with the assistance of a grant from the Federal Department for the Environment and Heritage. Articles may be reproduced without permission provided they remain unaltered and *History SA* is acknowledged.

Melanie Oppenheimer *Oceans of Love. Narrelle ~An Australian Nurse in World War 1.* Sydney, ABC Books. 2006

At the outbreak of World War 1 Narrelle Hobbes was the matron of the remote Brewarrina hospital in north-western NSW. Because she was keen to be an active participant in the war, in 1915, aged 36, she travelled to London to join Queen Alexandra's Imperial Medical Nursing Service Reserve (QAIMNSR). She nursed the sick and wounded from Gallipoli, and later served in Sicily, India and Mesopotamia (modern day Iran/Iraq). After becoming sick, she spent six months recuperating in the foothills of the Himalayas. According to the publisher's press release this book is a witty, evocative reminder of a remarkable period in Australian history based on an extraordinary collection of letters written by Narrelle home to her family, signed *Oceans of Love*. The author, a reputable historian, has written several books about women, war and volunteers.

Melanie Oppenheimer very effectively illustrates the futility, horror and inanity of war. Just one example is her account of the Battle of Bullecourt, on the western front, in 1917.

Bullecourt is viewed by historians as a costly and largely unnecessary battle in which thousands of Australian soldiers were butchered through inept British strategy. P 81

Records indicate that 2423 men went missing on this battlefield and their bodies were never found. To ensure that the significance of such statistics

has an impact, Oppenheimer provides personal details about one individual. A stretcher-bearer in Gallipoli, who became one of Narrelle's letter-writing patients in Malta, had been returned home to Parramatta. After he had recovered, he re-enlisted, only to die at Bullecourt. His identification disc could not be found. Such harrowing details about individuals are not pleasant to read.

I had expected letters from a nurse would provide some details about her work, the nursing methods used and the challenges presented by a war and unfamiliar medical practices. I was disappointed to find that although Narrelle was an experienced, well qualified nursing sister, no details about nursing strategies to cope with limited resources, before antibiotics had been discovered, are mentioned. Narrelle could have been any hospital worker. There are, of course, excellent histories of nursing which the author acknowledges in her bibliography. Still I am curious about how Narrelle managed without any of the modern equipment we regard as essential in hospitals today.

The letters themselves she wrote in order to remember the normal world which she had left and to create an entertainment, a happy façade, for her readers. Local customs, markets, villages, tented military hospitals, even the peculiarities of the weather, as well as the beauty of the various

locations in which she worked, often quoting travel books, are all discussed. Nevertheless, her commitment to her task permeated every page.

The boys tell such ghastly tales of how men have lain outside the trenches for hours & no one could reach them....it makes me feel that you can't do enough for them. p. 69

Unintentionally, the letters reveal a woman trapped in what were to her revolting situations with no honourable way of escape.

There are fascinating snippets throughout the text. The author provides a thumbnail sketch of each location, so the reader sees Narrelle's world as it was at that time. Some uninspiring aspects of British colonialism in India are illustrated such as the custom of English people being carried in a *dandi* on the shoulders of four *coolies*, or the explanation that a white woman *could not possibly go* (p 215) into a ladies carriage in a train because it was full of Indian women and children.

This book is very attractive, with an appealing cover design and skilful reproduction of old photos. However the colour of the print is very difficult to read, particularly for those with any visual impairment.

Marie Steiner

National Motor Museum: 'Great Journeys Relived'.

This new exhibition is open until March 2007. The stories of various characters who have journeyed through the outback for different reasons, are explored. For example the Talbot in which Harry Dutton and Murray Auger drove from Adelaide to Darwin in 1908 is on display. This was the first car to cross Australia. Tom Kruse's mail truck, used to deliver mail along the Birdsville Track, is another feature. Harry Monsoor was a hawker throughout the Flinders Ranges and as far north as Marree during the 1920s, 1930s and 1940s. His van is shown. Stories are related by Aboriginal people who saw these journeys from a different perspective. The museum is on Shannon St Birdwood, ph. 8368 4000.

Archives Alert

The opening hours of the Adelaide Reading Room of the National Archives of Australia, in Angas St., have changed. From October 2006 it will be open from 9.00am to 4.30pm on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.