

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Founded 1974

P.O. Box 203, North Adelaide, S.A. 5006

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NEWSLETTER NO. 24

MARCH, 1979

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1. NEXT MEETINGS

APRIL Annual General Meeting

Date: Friday, April 6.
Place: State Library Lecture Theatre
Time: 8.00 pm.
Speaker: Mr. Robert Nicol
Subject: 'Grave History' - An Introduction to the Importance of Colonial Cemeteries.

Mr. Nicol lectures in history at the Adelaide College of Advanced Education. He is interested in mediaeval history and has also a keen interest in local history. He has become well known for his studies of colonial cemeteries and what they reveal to us about social attitudes. He is an entertaining speaker and his address will be an illustrated one.

MAY

Date: Friday, May 4.
Place: Railways Dining Room, North Terrace, Adelaide.
Time: 8.00 pm.
Speaker: Dr. Reece Jennings
Subject: 'Some Historically Insoluble Railway Problems in South Australia'

Please note the venue for this meeting. Members are invited to dine earlier in the Railways' Dining Room. Mr. Heino Lomp, in charge of catering, delights in turning things on for enthusiasts, and members are encouraged to make it a proper railways' evening by dining there beforehand. Dr. Jennings will give an illustrated address on a fascinating subject - those who have read his book on Webb will know of the great designs Webb had for the South Australian railways earlier this century, and of Dr. Jennings' bold study of the man and his work.

2. FIELD TRIPS

STRATHALBYN – BLEASDALE WINERY: April 28th, 1979.

Mrs. Elizabeth Ho has arranged the first field trip for the year, which will combine the serious business of history with sheer pleasure.

The bus will leave from the War Memorial in Kintore Avenue at 9.15 am and travel to Strathalbyn, where Mr. Colin Sibly will talk about the town and its history; members may also visit the museum.

Strathalbyn is an attractive, small, but important country town alongside the Angas River in the Adelaide Hills. It was established in 1839 by Dr. John Rankine from Glasgow, and still retains its Scottish associations.

The town's quiet historical character attracted the attention of the South Australian Film Corporation as it was used as the locale of the township "Woodend" in the film "Picnic at Hanging Rock".

Please bring your own lunch, which can be eaten at the Strathalbyn Gardens.

In the early afternoon the trip continues to the Bleasdale Winery. There will be a limited number of Historical Society of South Australia labelled cabernet-shiraz for sale in addition to the winery's usual range.

A member of the family will take the group on a tour of the cellars, a feature of which is the oldest wine press in South Australia, which is made from a gum tree.

The bus will return to Adelaide between 4 and 5 pm.

Cost: Members \$4.00
Non - Members \$5.00

Please contact the Secretary, Ms. Stephanie Moss to book for this tour or make further enquiries.

ST. PETERS

A tour of St. Peters' College early buildings is being arranged for Sunday 14th October from 2 - 5 pm. Further details will be available later in the year.

3. HISTORICAL SOCIETY AFFAIRS

NOMINATIONS FOR THE SOCIETY'S COUNCIL

The following nominations have been received for the Council of the Society for the year 1979 - 80:

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| President: | Dr. Peter Howell |
| Vice-President: | Mr. I.A. Harmstorf |
| Secretary: | Ms. S. Moss |
| Council: | Mr. P. Crush, Mr. R. Fisher, Mr. R.M. Gibbs, Mr. R.H.B. Kearns M.B.E., Mr. D. Manning, Ms. A. Marsden, Ms. S.E. Marsden, Mr. B.J. Samuels. |

Dr.J.D. Playford, as Editor of the Journal, is an ex-officio member of the Council.

No nomination has been received for the position of Treasurer. Under the terms of the Society's Constitution, the position can be filled without an election by the Council. Needless to say, the Council will welcome offers to serve in this capacity; members who could serve as Treasurer even for just one term will find their offers greatly appreciated.

Three current members of the Council are retiring: Ms. Elizabeth Ho, who has been a vital and hardworking member of the Council including terms as secretary and newsletter editor, for several years, and Miss Kath O'Doherty, who has been treasurer, and Mr. Alan Jones. The Society has gained a great deal from the involvement of these Council members, and thanks them for their work.

THE SOCIETY'S JOURNALS

Journal No.4, 1978 is at present being printed; Journal No.5, 1978 is also well in hand and should be ready for the printer in the next three weeks. Both Journals will be sent to 1978 financial members. The Society regrets that the Journals are a little later than promised.

Copies of No.2 and No.3 are still available. No.1 is out of print. The following articles are included in them:

No.2 Helen Jones: "Women at Work in South Australia, 1899-1906"
Ian Badger: "Horse-drawn Vehicles in South Australia"
John Lonie: "Non-Labor during the Great Depression in South Australia"
Royce Wells: "Early Mining in the Adelaide Hills"
Steve Dyer: "Farm Relief in South Australia during the Great Depression"

No.3 Sir Walter Crocker: "The University of Adelaide in the 1920's"
P.A. Howell: "Varieties of Vice-Regal Life"
Graham Loughlin: "Paris Nesbit, Q.C."
Elizabeth Warburton: "The Abandoned Village of Clifton"

Copies can be obtained on application to the Secretary. The price is \$6 per issue (\$7.50 for non-members).

NEW MEMBERS

I am constantly meeting people who are fascinated by history, enjoy talking with others of similar mind, are interested in hearing speakers on the enormous range of subjects, people and events in South Australian history – and yet have never heard of The Historical Society of South Australia. Every single member of the Society has family members, friends, co-workers or students, young and old and in-between who would be interested, so please, please tell them and boost the Society by encouraging them to join, or simply come to some of the meetings. Bundles of membership forms are available from the Society!

FOR COUNTRY MEMBERS – TAPES OF MEETINGS

Since mid-1978 the Society has been taping the talks given at the monthly meetings. **Subject to the speaker's permission** being granted copies of these tapes can be made for members who have been unable to attend these meetings. Please send to the Secretary a blank 90 minute cassette, specifying which talk is required, and this will be copied and returned to you as soon as possible.

4. BOOKS

1. Ray Broomhill, "Unemployed Workers. A Social History of the Great Depression in Adelaide" (University of Queensland Press, Queensland 1978)

Those people who took part in last year's seminar on local history may well remember Ray Broomhill speaking about the uses and limitations of oral history. He also gave examples from the interviews he collected for the PhD thesis, which forms the basis of his recently published book "Unemployed Workers".

In his talk Dr. Broomhill made the point that conventional historical sources are limited in the information they can provide on the lives of ordinary people and, while oral sources also have their limitations they can provide essential information on living conditions, customs, attitudes and people's consciousness of the society in which they live. They provide an idea of the intensity with which people felt about certain issues and a feeling for that historical period. This is an important part of writing history. At the same time it should not be the only source for the writing of a history, but should be used together with other sources.

This book is an excellent example of such an approach. There is the carefully researched and presented context of the great depression, the nature and true extent of unemployment but the focus is upon the unemployed themselves; the problems they faced and their responses. Throughout the book through quotes from their interviews the people concerned talk directly of their experiences.

The depression dominates many people's recollections, and with good reason. Their interviews reveal the despair, the poverty and the sense of humiliation associated with being on the dole as well as the resourcefulness with which many people coped with their unemployment situation, men, women and families.

Ray Broomhill is also concerned with current unemployment. It is hardly necessary to point out that his book, focussing on the impact of unemployment on an earlier generation has implications for the present generation of unemployed people, who now actually outnumber the total numbers of people unemployed during the depression.

"Unemployed Workers", which is illustrated, costs \$15.95 and should be available at city bookstores and at the Adelaide University Union Bookshop. (Reviewed by Susan Marsden).

2. Two unpretentious but interesting studies of two South Australian towns have just been published. These are:

- (1) G.A. Bevan and M.E. Vaughan: "Mannum Yesterday" (Published by the authors, Mannum 1978) 48 pages. Available from Mr. M. Vaughan, Mannum High School, Mannum, at \$2.50 including postage.

This book includes material on the river trade and W.R. Randell, the town's industrial development and the Shearer Brothers (especially David), and the German settlers in the area. There are few studies of the river towns and their history, and this book provides a valuable introduction to the history of Mannum. It includes some highly interesting photographs.

- (2) Rosamund Duruz: "The History of Port Macdonnell" (PAP Book Company, Warrnambool 1978) 74 pages. Price n/a.

Port Macdonnell is probably little known to most South Australians. It has strong associations with the story of Adam Lindsay Gordon, while the author mentions that during the 1870's its customs revenue was second only to that of Port Adelaide. The book is illustrated with photographs and some pleasant illustrations by Marmion Taylor. Once again we have an interesting background story of a port whose history has been little studied. (Reviewed by Ron Gibbs).

Port Lincoln and District

A pictorial history of people and events on Eyre Peninsula



[View of Boston Bay, from Winter's Hill.—From a Drawing taken on the Spot.]

3.

SPECIAL PRE-RELEASE OFFER

\$8.50 (+ \$1.00 contribution for postage - if posted anywhere in Australia)
(RECOMMENDED RETAIL PRICE - \$10.00)

The people of South Australia - and of Eyre Peninsula in particular - will be delighted to learn that a pictorial record of Port Lincoln and its surrounding districts has now been produced.

The publication is the result of a life time collection of photographs by well-known historian, Mr. P. J. Baillie. Throughout his lifetime, Perc. Baillie has devoted much of his efforts towards the preservation of historical facts, material and locations, chiefly on or about Eyre Peninsula. This book represents a careful selection of 300 photographs from his vast collection. It will undoubtedly serve as a unique record for those who have in any way known Port Lincoln and the district around it. To those who wish to know more of the provincial city that was once named as the State's Capital, but now boasts the best holiday retreat in South Australia, this volume will no doubt provide an intriguing historical background.

The publication is bound in an attractive red hard-cloth cover, with the City of Port Lincoln insignia embossed on it. Dust cover in matching red carries an effectively centred photograph of the Old Mill at Port Lincoln. The book is approx. 175 x 245 mm., 240 pages of high quality gloss paper and contains a brief bibliography of the area. It also contains articles from very early newspapers published in or about Port Lincoln which provide both interesting and amusing supplement to the pictorial record.

P. J. Baillie, M.B.E., earned recognition from Her Majesty the Queen some years ago for his contribution to Australia's history. This publication must undoubtedly stand as a further tribute to his determined effort for the preservation of our valuable heritage.

We recommend this publication to members of the Royal Geographic Society, Historical Society and to all schools and libraries.

RESERVATION FORM

I wish to reserve copy/copies of "Port Lincoln & District", and enclose my cheque for \$ which includes postage and packing within Australia.

Please forward the book (s) to: Name

Address

Post Code

Cheque and Form to:

The Corporation of the City of Port Lincoln,
P.O. Box 127,
Port Lincoln, S. Aus. 5606.

4. Christopher Steele and Roger Wheaton, "Adelaide on the Move" (Tradition Society, 1978)

This is an illustrated history of early public transport - the trams, trains and buses used in Adelaide, many of which were on display last year as part of the State Transport Authority's celebrations.

The book is a paperback and costs about \$4.00.

5. Rosemary Burden (1978) "A Family Tradition in Fine Winemaking". One hundred and twenty five years of Thomas Hardy and Sons 1853 -1978 (100 + vi pp illustrated).

Published by Thomas Hardy & Sons to mark their 125th anniversary in the wine industry. The book tells the story of that company and of its founder Thomas Hardy I, surely one of our most remarkable early settlers who did so much for horticulture in this State. Of particular interest are the excerpts taken from his diary of the voyage to South Australia on the "British Empire" in 1850 and his early years in The Colony, prior to the establishment of his vineyard at Bankside, Underdale in 1853.

Printed by Gillingham Printers, Adelaide, and available from Thomas Hardy & Sons Pty. Ltd., 2-4 Henley Beach Road, Mile End Price - \$4.00 (postage extra) (Reviewed by Geoffrey Bishop)

6. K.G. McIntyre (1977) "The Secret Discovery of Australia", Souvenir Press (Aust.) Ltd., 17 Main North Road, Medindie S.A. (427pp, illustrated)

A thoroughly researched and fascinating account of the Portuguese ventures to the east coast of Australia 200 years before Captain Cook. The book covers, amongst other topics, the voyage of Cristovoa de Mendonca (1521 - 1525) and the Dieppe Maps. The Dauphin Map of 1536 which was the earliest of these maps showed the north west and the east coasts of the Australian continent. McIntyre poses the interesting question of whether Cook knew of or possessed any of the Dieppe Maps at the time of his Pacific voyages. (Reviewed by Geoffrey Bishop)

7. State Library Publications

- (1) "South Australiana". The State Library (Sales Office) is currently selling back issues of volumes 1 to 8 of its bi-annual journal for a reduced price of \$1.00 each (there are 2 sets to each volume). These cover the years from 1962 to 1969 (vol. 7 is missing) and provide much useful information as there are historical articles, publications of early letters and diaries (such as the letters of Sir Samuel Davenport) and lists of acquisitions by the library and the archives.
- (2) F.K. Crowley, "South Australian History. A Survey for research students" (Libraries Board, 1966). The State Library still has copies of this invaluable bibliography and survey for only \$4.00. Anyone who is doing research into any aspect of South Australian history would do well to refer to Crowley first, as his survey covers not only published books but also theses and archives research notes.

8. Elizabeth F. Ho, compiler, "South Australian Studies. A bibliography of material held in the Fulton Library, Adelaide College of Advanced Education." (A.C.A.E. August 1978)

While this bibliography is not available for purchase, copies have been sent to the State Library (South Australian Collection) and elsewhere and will provide a very useful reference

for researchers. Ms. Ho's abilities as librarian and historian provide a useful combination here as the material is divided according to various subjects and includes both books and theses. The A.C.A.E.'s history collection is fairly extensive and up to date, so, while public use of the library itself is not possible this bibliography will provide a guide to histories which are all available elsewhere, many of which have been written since F.K. Crowley's survey was completed.

9. "Back to Semaphore" (Committee of "Back to Semaphore Celebrations", 1930).

A handsome blue cover wraps a delightful "official souvenir" of Semaphore, complete with abbreviated history, photographs (of various worthies, scenes, buildings and the usual ships and industries) and advertisements. This booklet has been rescued from obscurity and reproduced as a facsimile by the Port Adelaide Historical Society and is available from that Society, at Box 254, P.O. Port Adelaide 5015 and at major city booksellers for \$2.95.

5. HISTORICAL SOCIETIES AND EVENTS

Oral History Association (S.A. Branch)

At the general meeting held on Monday February 5th the South Australian Branch of the Oral History Association of Australa was formed. An interim committee, with Dr. Vivien Elliott as President had carried out the preliminary work and a short bibliography on oral history writing and research was compiled.

At the meeting a new Committee was formed with Ms. Susan Marsden as President, Dr. Peter Cahalan as Vice President, Ms. Angela Woollacott as Secretary, Miss Valda Hemer as Minute Secretary and Mr. Paul Souter as Treasurer. A wide range of people are presently involved in collecting spoken information and impressions of earlier years from older people. They may be historians or writers or family members, students or folksingers. The South Australian Branch of the Oral History Association will provide guidance in techniques and the use of such interviews, locate holdings and current research and encourage the preservation of cassettes and transcripts.

As a first step, the Association will hold a one day seminar, — "Introducing oral history" on **Saturday May 5th at the South Australian Institute of Technology**. Anyone who is interested, whether a member or not, is welcome to attend.

Membership is available for \$10 subscription (which also includes membership of the National Association).

If you are interested in coming to the seminar or in joining the Association please contact the Secretary, Angela Woollacott at 30 Oxford Terrace, Unley (phone, at work 2126066) or President, Susan Marsden at 80 First Avenue, St. Peters, phone (at work, 2125555 ext. 387)

Fire Brigades Historical Association.

This association is to be formed later this year with some backing from the Fire Brigades Board. The people concerned are looking for a Victorian building in the suburbs and funds to rent the building and recreate a working fire station, with loans of vehicles and equipment, much of which is in danger of loss or destruction at present. In fact one of the last two metropolitan fire stations which stands in its original state also faces imminent destruction at Gawler to make way for another shopping centre.

Interested members please contact Mr. Richard Barrett c/- 12 Cushen Street, Smithfield Plains 5114, phone 2546010.

Medical Historical Society

On a recent visit to S.A. Dr. J. Pearn, a pediatrician, informed the H.S.S.A. Council of his wish to establish a Medical Historical Society. Members who might be interested are asked to write to Dr. Pearn, who is organising a Conference for next year. His address is: c/- Department of Child Health, Royal Children's Hospital, Hearston, Brisbane 4029.

**The South Australian Genealogy & Heraldry Society Inc.
P.O. Box 13, Marden, South Australia 5070**

PRESS RELEASE

The South Australian Genealogy & Heraldry Society is to host the Second Australasian Congress on Genealogy in Adelaide during the Easter weekend (4-7 April) 1980. The theme of the Congress will be "Our Colonial Heritage" and is planned to be of interest to both the beginner and the expert family historian.

The Registration fee will cover admittance to all lectures and seminars; morning and afternoon teas (except for Saturday during the bus tours); suppers on Friday and Sunday; buffet lunch on Monday and box lunch on Saturday; bus tours to places of historical interest in and around Adelaide (some will include winery tours) on Saturday; a souvenir programme and a copy of the proceedings. We also hope to have a trade display of items of interest to genealogists. There will be a Congress dinner on Saturday evening. Accommodation has been block booked in four different locations with prices ranging from \$A9 to \$A40 per person. More information will be given on the Registration Form.

QANTAS has been appointed our official international carrier and there is a possibility of group flights from Salt Lake City, Utah, U.S.A. and from London, U.K. ANSETT has been appointed our official domestic airline and group fares can be obtained through their convention service.

Since Adelaide is the Australasian centre of the Lutheran Church, Pastor H.F.W. Proeve, Secretary of the Lutheran Church in Australia, has tentatively agreed to present a major lecture on Lutheran Records in Australasia.

Mrs. S.E. Pritchard, Honorary Archivist of the Adelaide Hebrew Congregation, has also agreed to present a seminar on Jewish Records.

For further information please contact: MRS. K.B. QUAST, Chairman of the Organizing Committee, 206 Milne Road, Modbury Heights, South Australia 5092. Telephone (08) 2634074.

Historical Societies in South Australia

As one of its services the H.S.S.A. keeps a register of historical societies in the state and refers enquiries to the relevant societies. The following is a list of societies to date (excluding National Trust branches). The last complete list was printed in September, 1977 Newsletter.

If there are any additions or corrections to names and addresses please contact the editor and these will be printed in the next Newsletter.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF S.A., 213 Greenhill Road, Eastwood 5063
AUSTRALIAN MARITIME HISTORICAL SOCIETY, P.O. Box 33, Magill 5072
AUSTRALIAN ELECTRIC TRANSPORT MUSEUM (S.A.) INC. G.P.O. Box 2012, Adelaide 5001

AUSTRALIAN RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY (S.A. Division), G.P.O. BOX 507, Adelaide 5001

BAROSSA VALLEY ARCHIVES & HISTORICAL TRUST, c/- Mr. P. Houzenroeder, Box 51, Tanunda 5352

BROKEN HILL HISTORICAL SOCIETY, PO Box 212, Broken Hill 2880

GEOGRAPHY TEACHERS ASSOCIATION, c/- S.A. Institute of Teachers, 163a Greenhill Road, Parkside 5063

HENLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, c/- Henley Community Aid and Advisory Centre, 360 Seaview Road, Henley Beach 5022

HINDMARSH HISTORICAL SOCIETY, P.O. BOX 22, Hindmarsh 5007

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA, PO BOX 203, North Adelaide 5006

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WOODVILLE, c/- Municipal Offices, Box 1, Woodville, 5011

HISTORY TEACHERS ASSOCIATION, c/- S.A. Institute of Teachers, 163a Greenhill Road, Parkside 5063

KAPUNDA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Cogill Street, Kapunda 5373

KENSINGTON-NORWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY, 110 The Parade, Norwood 5067

KIMBA & GAWLER RANGES HISTORICAL SOCIETY, c/- P.O. Kimba 5641

LOBETHAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY, c/- Mrs.L.E. Miller, Lobethal 5241

LOXTON HISTORICAL VILLAGE SOCIETY, c/- Mrs. Krupa, 44 Wodonga Street, Loxton, 5333

MALLALA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, c/- P.O. Mallala 5502

MILE END RAILWAY MUSEUM (S.A.) INC., P.O. Box 21, Walkerville 5081

MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA (S.A. BRANCH) 480 Portrush Road, Linden Park, 5065

MITCHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY, 33 Albert Street, Mitcham 5062

MOUNT LOFTY DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY, c/- District Council of Stirling, Box 21, PO, Stirling 5152

MOUNT LOFTY RANGES & PRECINCTS REGIONAL PARK ASSOCIATION, PO Box 66 McLaren Vale, 5171

NATIONAL TRUST OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC., 288 North Tce, Adelaide 5000

NORTHERN YORKE PENINSULA CONSERVATION HISTORICAL SOCIETY c/- Mr.D.H. Clark, PO Port Clinton 5570

ORAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (S.A. BRANCH) c/- Ms. S.E. Marsden, 80 First Ave., St. Peters 5069

PICHI RICHI RAILWAY PRESERVATION SOCIETY INC., PO BOX 504, Pt. Augusta, 5700

PORT ADELAIDE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, PO Box 254, Port Adelaide 5015

PORT LINCOLN PIONEERS & DESCENDANTS CLUB, c/- Mrs. V.J. Dicker, 29 Eltham Avenue, Port Lincoln 5606

PRESERVE KENT TOWN ASSOCIATION c/- Daynea Hill, 29 Wakefield St.. Kent Town 5067

RIVERLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, c/- Mr. G.R. Woolmer, 1 Langdon Tce. Barmera 5345

ROSE PARK & TOORAK GARDENS HISTORICAL RESEARCH GROUP, c/- 8 Martindale Ave, Toorak Gardens 5065

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALASIA (S.A.BRANCH) INC., State Library Buildings, North Terrace, Adelaide 5000

SOCIETY FOR UNDERWATER HISTORICAL RESEARCH, c/- S.A. Museum, North Terrace, Adelaide 5000

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN GENEALOGY & HERALDRY SOCIETY INC., P.O.Box 13, Marden, 5070

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HORSE DRIVING SOCIETY, c/- Mr. P. Williamson, PO Box 83 Hahndorf 5245

S.A. GAS COMPANY HISTORICAL GROUP, c/- Mr. Graham Maloney, 35 Waymouth Street, Adelaide 5000

S.A. POLICE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, c/- Constable R. Clyne, Police H.Q., Angas Street, Adelaide 5000

SOUTH EASTERN HISTORICAL & RESTORATION SOCIETY INC., Box 235 Naracoorte, 5271

TORRENS VALLEY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY, c/- Mr. A. Phillips, Gould Place, Cudlee Creek 5232
UNITING CHURCH IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, c/- Mr. J. Everett, Uniting Church Office, 33 Pirie Street, Adelaide 5000
UNLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, c/- 15 Frederick Street, Unley 5061
WEST NORWOOD RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION, c/- Mr. R. Hammond, 23 Charles Street, Norwood 5067
WEST TORRENS HISTORICAL SOCIETY, c/- West Torrens Library, Brooker Terrace, Hilton 5033
WUDINNA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, c/- Mrs. E.G. Franklin, Yaninee 5653

HISTORICAL MUSEUM

In this section of the Newsletter there is usually notice of exhibitions at the South Australian Historical Museum.

Since 1976 when Dr. John Tregenza was appointed as Curator of Historical Collections at the South Australian Art Gallery he has organised historical displays of great quality and on a variety of themes, showing not only early paintings, drawings and photographs but also other artefacts. At present Dr. Tregenza is also involved in locating and researching for a major exhibition on George French Angas, which will be opened during the 1980 Adelaide Festival of Arts.

The most recent edition of "Tradition" (the Journal of the History Teachers' Association) February 1979, contains an article written by Dr. Tregenza "Illustrating South Australian History; the Role of the Art Gallery". This gives an interesting account of the exhibitions held there based on important themes in South Australian history, beginning most aptly with the exhibition "Land of the Ngarrindjeri", designed to stimulate thought about the impact of white civilization on the aboriginal population of the Murray Lakes - Encounter Bay areas.

Another important aspect has been providing photographs below the relevant scenes painted earlier by artists, "so that the visitor can both relate more closely to the subject and at the same time notice, sometimes with shock, what has happened to this particular piece of South Australian environment over time and thus be stimulated into thinking about the significance of the changes and what they portend for the future".

The Historical Museum is presently being used to accommodate non-historical shows while the main gallery building undergoes extensive alterations. However, in mid 1979 Dr. Tregenza plans an exhibition on Hahndorf and the hills, in collaboration with Father Brasse and Alexandra Marsden, who have been working on the "Hahndorf Survey" of the built environment for the Australian Heritage Commission.

In time, as Dr. Tregenza develops photographic indexes based on artist and subject, he hopes to provide a more efficient information service about pictures in the Gallery's and other collections which illuminate the visual dimension of the history of South Australia.

HISTORY IN THE NEWS

S.A. Museum's Operation to be investigated

The poor storage conditions of many of the Museum's collections, including what is the world's finest collection of Aboriginal artefacts, have been commented on for years, but it would appear to have taken an appointment of a new minister with a personal interest in such matters to achieve any action. The Advertiser 28/2/79 reported that the Minister of Community Development, Mr. Bannon had announced that Mr. Bob Edwards, Director of the Aboriginal Arts Board of the Australian Council, had been appointed to examine:

- The museum structure and functions and its present operation, including the housing and conservation of collections.
- Development of displays and exhibition policies and consequent facilities needed.
- The feasibility of reorganising the ethnographic collections.

Mr. Edwards is a former Curator of Anthropology at the S.A. Museum and is well placed to know the institution's needs. He is incidentally, a member of our Society.

Since the enquiry is long overdue it is to be hoped that the recommendations will be sufficiently strong and designed for speedy implementation.

SEMAPHORE CUSTOMS HOUSE

The Coast Protection Board has finished renovating the old Customs House at Semaphore and once more it is good to look upon. Yet many people must have wondered "What now?"

Usually conservation and restoration of an historic building invites these comments, and so it should. Buildings are not only representative of our history but are also current social assets. The proposal reported in The News, March 15th suggests a good combination of both historical preservation and current community use for the Semaphore Customs House. Mr. Bannon has announced that there are plans to make the house the first "branch" of the S.A. Art Gallery outside the city. He hopes this will be the first such decentralisation move and that others in the community development area would follow.

NEWSLETTER EXCHANGE

Since January, 1979, the following Newsletters and other publications have been received.

- "Environs", October, December 1978 (last issue, unfortunately).
- Royal Western Australian Historical Society. January/February, 1979
- "Torrens Valley Historical Journal" November, 1978 (received by the Editor).

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

"Australian Townscape: Hahndorf", I.Harmstorf and A.Marsden (a. October) pp7-10, illus. Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies, Bibliography of aboriginal history, archaeology and mythology - publications available from the A.I.A.S. (a. December) p4

"Blumberg - early settlement" B. Arnold (c.) pp 3-8

"The Gumeracha Railway" (an 1899 poem) (c.) pp 9 - 11

"History of Keaton Valley Church" (c.) pp 15-20

"Beginning of Wireless" part 2, E. Jamieson (c.) pp 21-23

6. LETTERS AND RESEARCH

H.S.S.A. RESEARCH REGISTER

As the Society receives many enquiries for historical information the Secretary, Ms. Stephanie Moss has been compiling a research register. The secretary contacts researchers on a particular topic and then passes this information on to the enquirer. Ms. Moss would welcome news of further research by members or non-members so that this register can be expanded and the service thereby made more useful.

AUSTRALIA 1788-1988 BICENTENNIAL HISTORY

Historians felt that 200 years of British settlement or conquest should be marked by publications with statements about the historical significance of that process, for the original population, the settlers and the land. The first discussion was held in February 1977, in the Research School of Social Sciences at the Australian National University. The historians present decided to aim for the publication of a set of reference volumes as well as five analytical volumes, each using a "slice" approach to the state of society in their specific years.

F.K. Crowley is general editor of the four volumes being prepared (Professor of History, University of N.S.W.)

1. Historical Statistics
2. Historical Geography
3. Sources Guide
4. Handbook of Australian History

K.S. Inglis (Professor of History, Research School of Social Sciences, Australian National University) is general editor of the volumes devoted to "slice" history:

1. Australia to 1788 (Convenors, Prof. G.N. Blainey, Melbourne and D.J. Mulvaney, A.N.U.)
2. Australia in 1838 (Drs. A.T. Atkinson, M. Aveling, W.A. & Dr. R.H.W. Reece, Murdoch)
3. Australia in 1888 (Dr. G. Davison, Melbourne, Prof. J.W. McCarty and Prof. J.M. Powell, Monash).
4. Australia in 1938 (Dr. W.L. Gammage)
5. Australia 1939-88 (Dr. A.W. Martin & Dr. C.T. Stannage, ANU, Prof. W.A. Bate, Deakin, Dr. A. Curtroys, N.S.W., Institute of Technology, Dr. J.B. Hirst, Melbourne, Dr. D.J. Murphy, Queensland)

The general editors welcome enquiries and offers. Progress will be reported regularly in the Australian Historical Association Bulletin.

The bicentennial project hopes to involve researchers and writers from a wide variety of disciplines and this demands co-operative effort throughout Australia. Most editor/convenors of each volume imagine a two-stage process. The first would be until about the end of 1981 during which ideas would be exchanged, primary sources, notes, articles and bibliographies published and contacts made. The second stage from 1982 to 1984 would see editors and writers appointed and material written for the final volume.

Interested people should be thinking about the project now. In Bulletin No. 2 of the 1938-1988 project an appeal is made for:

- Your ideas as to what should be included in a book about Australia in 1938.
- Knowledge of sources, written or otherwise, whether you know of any people, other public figures or ordinary Australians who might be interviewed about Australia in 1938.
- Theses or articles which might be written, or people who are looking for a thesis or article topic.

Any replies would be welcomed by Bill Gammage (who is also an H.S.S.A. member) c/- History Department at the University of Adelaide, phone 223 4333.

P.O. Box 13
MARDEN 5070
21st January, 1979

Ms. Susan Marsden,
Editor,
Historical Society of South Australia,
Box 203,
NORTH ADELAIDE 5006

Dear Ms. Marsden,

Herewith our Programme for 1979.

There are some speakers still to be arranged, but we always place an advertisement in Saturday's "Advertiser" prior to the meeting.

Hope your Society has a successful year.

Yours sincerely,

(sgd.) MELBA GREEN
GENERAL SECRETARY OF S.A.
GENEALOGY AND HERALDRY SOCIETY INC.

PROGRAMME 1979

| | |
|--------------|--|
| February 21 | Speaker: Daniel Manning, "History of Kensington-Norwood area" |
| March 24, 25 | Cemetery Field Day - West Terrace Cemetery commencing at 10.00am |
| April 4 | Speaker: Mrs. Ros. Patterson, "Cornish Influence in South Australia." (Autumn Magazine available) |
| May 16 | Speaker yet to be finalised |
| June 27 | Problem Night (Winter Magazine available) |
| July | Cemetery Field Day proposed |
| August 22 | Annual General Meeting |
| September | Annual Dinner |
| September | Cemetery Field Day proposed |
| October 10 | Cahalan, "Constitutional Museum" (Spring Magazine available) |
| November 28 | Speaker to be arranged |

N.B. In all cases (unless otherwise stated) meetings will be held in the State Library Lecture Theatre commencing at 7.30p.m. Enter the Newspaper Reading Room building via side entrance in Kintore Avenue and follow signs.

7. ARTICLES

Local History Publications in Nineteenth Century South Australia

Brian Samuels

A relaxed holiday-time feeling of having time to myself coupled with the pleasure of browsing through some Austaprint local history facsimiles led me to an impulsive decision to compile a chronological listing of our local histories. What did I hope to discover? Overwhelmed by the flood of 1970's country centenary histories and knowing of their many 1950's metropolitan counterparts, I was simply curious to learn what had been published previously and keen to see if any patterns emerged as the listing progressed.

To make the task manageable I soon decided my list would stop about 1920. This neatly avoided the flood of "Back to ... " pamphlets that began in the twenties and the centenary publications of 1936. However, it still left me with rather prolific gentlemen like J.E. Robertson, J.G. Wilson and the State Government.

To distinguish historical from descriptive works requires considerable time in locating and then perusing the publications, and that task is still in hand. Hence this article deals only with the nineteenth century. I have defined "publications" as books and pamphlets, and have excluded articles in journals and newspapers, except when they have been reprinted in pamphlet form. Publications consisting of photographs with no significant text have also been excluded. I hope I have not omitted any books, but there may well be other pamphlets which have escaped my notice.

The sources for the list are F.K. Crowley's "South Australian History", the State Library Reference Bibliographies on "South Australian Regional History and Geography" and the shelf lists of the South Australian Collection of the State Library. Pamphlets are designated by a "P" alongside the date of publication and an author's name in brackets indicates that authorship is not attributed in the original. The works by Loyau, Lee and Soward have all been reprinted recently by Austaprint.

Date of Publication

Title

- | | |
|--------|---|
| 1861 | [Dr. G. Nott] "Rise and Progress of Gawler" published in "A General and Commercial Directory for Gawler and surrounding districts . ." (Barnet, Gawler) pp55-72. Also reprinted in Loyau 1880 (see below). |
| 1871 P | [J.F. Conigrave] "The City of Adelaide". Historical Sketch of the Municipality &c. [S.A. Advertiser, Adelaide]. Reprinted, after revision, from "The South Australian Advertiser" and "Weekly Chronicle and Mail" newspapers. |
| 1878 | T. Worsnop "History of the City of Adelaide (Williams, Adelaide) 457pp + adverts. |
| 1880 | G.E. Loyau "The Gawler Handbook" (Goodfellow & Hele, Adelaide) 180pp + adverts. |
| 1883 | J. Lee "Glenelg Historic Guide and Directory" (Advertiser, Adelaide) 97pp + adverts. |
| 1885 P | Port Augusta Bible Christian Church "Memorials of Port Augusta" (Dispatch, Port Augusta) |
| 1891 P | Hindmarsh Congregational Church "The Latest Stratagem, with Short History of Town and Trade of Hindmarsh" (Vardon & Pritchard, Adelaide) |
| 1896 | [G.K. Soward] "Glenelg Illustrated 1836-1896" (Thomas & Co., Adelaide) 98pp |
| 1899 P | E.J. Stacy "Sixty Years of Port Adelaide. A Retrospect" (Thomas & Co., Adelaide) Reprinted from "The South Australian Register" |

What does this brief list suggest about South Australian history and culture? Gawler's reputation as the "Colonial Athens" is maintained, Glenelg's pride in being the birthplace of the colony is suggested. One would expect a history of Adelaide, though it must be significant that the queen city had to wait almost 100 years for another equivalent work. But what is the significance of the two Church pamphlets, and are there any others? I would be very grateful for additions to this nineteenth century listing.

Hazel Henning, E.F. Monk's account of the last two passages and loss of the ship "Carnarvon Bay" in 1910 (part 2)

We lay in Queenstown Harbour for several days awaiting instructions regarding our port of discharge, the ship looking her best with overside paint touched up and holystoned decks (the softwood poop deck, caulked in white had been varnished also and woe betide the unfortunate apprentice or seaman found walking over it with boots likely to mark the surface!) reminding one of hours of back-breaking and difficult work, so soon to be messed about once discharging commenced.

We received orders eventually for Dublin and were towed there by one of the Jolliffe tugs, making a fast passage assisted by our sails which had been set in a fair wind for the pleasure of two passengers who were guests of the Master (so fast did we sail with the wind on the quarter that we almost overran the tug and were obliged to reduce canvas). We towed up the river to Dublin and made fast at North Wall to discharge our cargo and from where the crew were paid off, my share being the princely sum of 4/3d. if I remember rightly.

We boys were sent on leave the next day and journeyed to Liverpool via Kingstown and Holyhead, all being seasick on the cross-Channel ferry steamer, which took some of the starch out of us in our still-creased apprentices' uniforms. The ship, on completing discharge in Dublin, was towed to Liverpool with a crew of "runners" and the owners were fortunate in obtaining a valuable general cargo for Sydney, intended originally for the White Star training ship "Mersey" which was late in arriving. This cargo consisted of several thousand cases of whisky, a large quantity of English chinaware, pianos and other valuable items. I have noted from the report of the Court of Marine Enquiry into her loss that on departure she was drawing 19'7" forward and 20'4" aft, which placed her in excellent trim for sailing and well under her marks. She was ready for a good dry run provided she received reasonable or seasonable winds.

The ship completed loading on Saturday, 18th June, and was towed to sea on the Monday by the Liverpool tug "Hannah Jolliffe" which was at that time one of the most powerful tugs operating from English ports. Our departure I am unlikely to forget as we boys had joined her a few days earlier (seven apprentices including three first voyagers) and had been busily engaged in getting the ship ready for sea prior to the signing on of the crew, which included a few "pierhead jumps" as some who had signed on failed to report. Most were dead drunk and incapable of any work and the ship was taken to sea by the "afterguard" who managed until the ship was off Anglesea when sail was made to a fair wind from the Nor'West and the tug cast off. The crew were still in a bad way and I remember well a man alongside me loosing the main upper topsail, asking me the name of the ship and where we were bound! It appeared that he had just paid off from a passage home from Australia and had been ashore for a few days only without any recollections of what had happened. The ship's complement consisted of the Master, three mates (first and second only certificated) seven apprentices, sailmaker, carpenter, cook, fourteen ABs, one Ord. Seaman and a boy, a total of thirty. We also carried a young man as a passenger and his well-stocked private larder soon made him a welcome guest on the half deck, where he spent most of his time. The passage to the Equator was slow and frustrating, especially as the ship was in such excellent trim. Poor and variable North/East trades following strong South/Westerly winds prolonged this to 40 days, or double her best time on previous passages, which had been 20 days. From the Line to Southern latitudes where she picked up the Westerlies, excellent time was made and this was capped by a remarkable run when making her Easting, which brought her from the Line to King Island in Bass Strait in the splendid time of 47 days - a total of 87 days out of Liverpool. There are many "ifs" and "buts" when reviewing a ship's

passage but a good run to the Line of 20 days would have shortened the passage to 67 days and placed this heavy but well-found ship well up amongst the flyers of the past. Running her Easting was a nightmare as I remember it as gale followed gale and she was driven recklessly, ending on one occasion in a "broach-to" that might easily have caused her loss. Canvas had been carried far too long and she was running under a reefed foresail, three lower and fore and main upper topsails but was still not keeping ahead of the seas, so the Master decided to set the mizzen upper topsail to give her more speed. This gave her too much canvas aft and she "broached-to", fortunately losing most of her canvas as she otherwise would have gone over. We were able to snug her down and she lay "hove-to" quite comfortably. A lot of damage had been done to deck fittings and most of the accommodation fore and aft had been flooded, the door from the main deck leading to the saloon and officers' quarters was torn off and these and the lazarette were in a sorry state with a lot of damage to supplies. Apart from this mishap, which was a terrifying experience as it had occurred at night, the run was uneventful. Land was sighted on the 87th day out about the time a landfall was expected. It became visible as a storm-beaten coastline on the port bow and the Master took this to be Cape Otway, in accordance with his estimated position, plotted after several days of "dead reckoning" due to the impossibility of obtaining sights. Being the only Australian aboard and busy with the watch trimming the mizzen yards under the break of the poop, I was invited by the Master to take a first look at my native land, which I did with great longing as it had not been an easy or a pleasant passage and I was anxious to get home.

It was soon after this, and when we were well up with the land, that the Master discovered it was King Island and that he was well South of his estimated position for reasons explained. It was now about 4 p.m. and Currie Harbour Lighthouse was sighted about ten miles off, bearing East approximately, the position being fixed by a cross bearing and requiring a quick decision as to whether to go North or South of the island. To pass to the North in the safe and recommended passage would have required a beat to windward as the wind was then about Nor'West and blowing a "moderate" gale, according to evidence given at the enquiry. The Master decided therefore to pass to the South of the island with the wind fair and to then set a course for Wilson's Promontory; this decision was doubtless influenced by his desire to complete the passage to Sydney in 90 days, which would have been possible with the wind holding from the West.

The ship was put on a course to clear Stokes Point by about three miles and on rounding the point was steered East by North to pass through the deep water passage to the South of the Island between Stanley Rocks and Reid Rocks. Stokes Point was passed about 6.20 p.m. and at about 6.30 the ship struck. She was running then at about 10 knots under the foresail, goosewinged mainsail, six topsails and main lower t'gallantsail in a fairly heavy following sea. It was nearly dark and I find it some-what difficult to describe immediate happenings following the stranding as so much seemed to take place at the one time. I was passing from the galley to the half deck with our so-called tea, consisting of what we had saved from the midday meal made into a cracker hash and warmed by courtesy of the cook! together with a billycan of weak tea. The ship seemed to rise under my feet and jar to a stop and I remember springing aft in a shower of falling gear, to be met by a heavy sea that had broken over the poop and had washed both men from the wheel, fortunately without hurting either.

The Master was on deck and must have realised immediately that nothing could save the ship and that the launching of the two boats from the after skids would be almost impossible with the ship still stern on to wind and seas. Most fortunately she commenced almost at once to pivot as though seated on a pinnacle of rock and in a very short time was head on to wind and seas, her back obviously broken but with masts still standing, although precariously. All hands were aft by this time and were busily engaged in clearing and swinging out both boats, the port with ease as she was then listing to that side. Remembering what I can of the scene, I could best describe it as "orderly confusion", but the boats were cleared in good time as they came away from the chocks easily despite encrustment of paint. The falls were in good condition and had been overhauled a short time previously, as had the gear in the boats although neither was stocked with food or water. A few tins of biscuits and sardines were brought up from the poop and placed in the starboard boat, as were two bottles of whisky, and these few provisions proved to be most useful, as will be told later. (To be continued . . .)